

PIGEON WING

Spring 2018

Greetings from Hilltop

Dear Friends,

For the year round staff at Four Winds, life is cyclical. The year obviously revolves around the summer. Every year in September, we take a breath and begin the process of getting ready once again. Abby Rueb, our longtime registrar up until she retired about five years ago, and a very motherly person, used to equate it to a pregnancy. It just so happens that our preparation period for each summer last nine months.



This is the time of year when the summer starts to feel very real. When you can count the weeks until staff training on your hands, it's time to start wrapping up the winter projects, and probably kick a few of them to next year's list. We've gotten a tremendous amount done (as you'll see in this newsletter), but there always seems to be one more thing. If you want to get a knowing chuckle out of a camp director, just ask them, "Wait, if you only have kids in the summer, what do you do all winter?"

As with Abby's pregnancy analogy, the point of all this getting ready happens at the end of the nine months. All of the energy the year round staff puts in, working on our property, hiring summer staff, meeting with new and returning families, collecting and organizing information, and raising money is in service of those moments that will be happening in a few weeks. The summer staff will come together in those formative moments in the first few days of staff training, when we'll learn a ton and collectively commit to what kind of community we want to be this summer. Even more important are those moments when the boats clear

Victim Island, turn into Four Winds Bay, and deliver the campers to us to run up Greenie Hill and begin an extraordinary experience, whether it's their first summer or their seventh.

I've been at Four Winds a while now. This will be my fourteenth summer. But I never tire of those moments. I know that they are a critical part of creating a truly special community every summer. These young people, both the campers and the staff, will grow in amazing ways here this summer, and have the time of their lives, just as they have for over 90 years. I can't wait, just as I know many of you can't. I look forward to it, and I hope to see many of you on Orcas this summer.

All the best,

Paul

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul".

Winter Work Wrap-up

A look at a few of the off-season projects at Four Winds



Kitchen and dish room in the lodge



Above: Two rooms of the dish room floors. Below and right: Shiny new paint throughout the kitchen



Following the kitchen fire last summer, a tremendous effort was required to get the facility up and running again. Professional fire cleaners scrubbed every surface and every dish. The floor was temporarily repaired, and kitchen staff was able to begin cooking only one week after the fire.

During this off-season, FWWH maintenance staff and contractors have continued to make improvements and further repairs to the building. First, the fire alarm system (which performed admirably last summer) was upgraded with a modern auto-dialing panel (with 24 hour monitoring) and many additional heat and smoke sensors- particularly in the basement rooms. The kitchen walls and ceiling were thoroughly prepped, primed and repainted. The floors are getting re-covered, and as part of that project, some rotten areas were discovered in the dish room. This was no surprise, as the decades of summertime dishwashing (and the occasional water fight) had left some telltale 'soft spots' in nearby areas of the floor. After repairing or replacing sub-floor lumber, the last step of the kitchen and dish room project will be the installation of commercial grade vinyl to prevent as much seepage as possible. With all these repairs complete, the kitchen and dish room should be in great shape for years to come.

Cabin repainting

We are also repainting all the cabins on the girls' side of Camp. Since the cabins are so old, and get hammered by rain and wind during the winter months, it is crucial to paint them frequently to prevent damage to the wood. It's also nice to spruce them up every few years. The paint color will be identical to the current color, but you may notice the cabins looking "fresher" this summer.



A Suitcase full of Treasures



Above: the Helsell Suitcase and its contents; Below: Film reels, packaging, and a note

This winter, Jack and Jan Helsell came to the Four Winds office with an old suitcase full of 16mm film from the 1930's. Jack said that Ruth Brown gave him the films for safe keeping. Now he wanted to give them back to Camp so it would "be in the right hands".

As you may know, Jack was one of the original Westward Ho campers in 1932. He spent 13 years at Camp as a camper, counselor, skipper and became co-director in 1967 with his wife Jan. The Helsell family lives on Orcas Island just down the road from camp and they have

always had a strong connection with Four Winds because of their close friendship with Miss Ruth. The suitcase of films was a true treasure and absolutely fascinating to go through!



Jack and Jan Helsell



After sorting through the suitcase, I discovered 39 reels of 16mm films on Kodacolor Safety Film or Panchromatic Safety Film in cardboard boxes, and seven larger reels in metal tins. We have already begun the process of converting all of the 16mm film to digital files so we can share with our alumni and campers, and also so it is properly preserved for historical use. The films range in date from 1930–1936, they are all black and white, and do not have sound. Miss Ruth bundled a few films together and wrote a note on tissue paper stating: "Old Film- Various pict which could be used in duplicate reels or in case of 10 year reunion". Little did she know we will be adding an extra "0" to that date and pulling these films out at the 100th reunion!

—Linda Sheridan, Special Projects Manager

The Treehouse Gets Rebuilt

After more than a year of planning, camp's iconic treehouse has been completely rebuilt. No one is certain exactly how long the structure has been in the majestic old big leaf maple, but chances are it has been in that same tree for at least half of camp's 91 years.

Needless to say, the project has been well thought out, and every effort is being made to retain the character of the old structure—while insuring that the new one is also sturdy and safe. An expert team of builders, led by Jake Jacob of TreeHouseARTZ (formerly on TV as *"The Treehouse Guys"*) looked at every inch of the tree's large branches, or "scaffold branches". Consulting Arborist Scott Baker inspected the branches and used high-tech tools to measure wood density (similar to doing an ultrasound on the tree). With that information in hand, they were able to decide where to place special fasteners for platform strength and tree health.



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"It's an organic process," said Jacob, referring to the way a treehouse is constructed. "Even though drawings are made ahead of time, the shape of the final structure is largely dictated by the tree itself."

The platform lumber is almost entirely reclaimed from historic Seattle buildings, which is beneficial because of the density of the wood, as well as the content of naturally occurring pest deterrents in the wood itself. Using reclaimed lumber allows us to have premium quality lumber and is the eco-friendly choice.

For the railings, the decision was made to use natural balusters harvested from the camp's wooded acres. Maintenance staff painstakingly harvested and hand peeled over 300 small trees to make this detail a reality. The results were worth the effort, as the new platform is not only beautiful, but also blends in to the natural environment, and is very much in keeping with the look of the original.

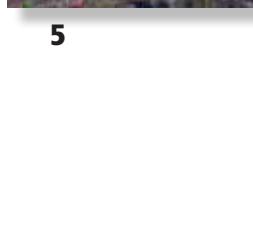
The final step in the project was creating a railing surrounding the "hole" in the upper deck where the new ladder passes through. With that, the new tree house is complete and ready to inspire and delight campers for decades to come.



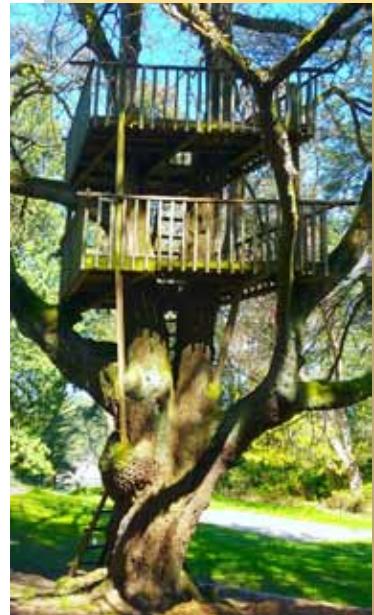
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Photo key:

- 1** Old treehouse
- 2** Old treehouse removed
- 3** Milling the railings
- 4** Wood for railings
- 5** Early stage construction
- 6** Half way done
- 7** New treehouse finished!

We've got some new stuff at Camp!



Each year we create a "Wish List" of equipment we need for Camp, and each year, generous donors help us fill those requests. So far this off-season we've been able to add the following items:

- Sea kayaks: 7 doubles and 2 singles to replace the previous fleet. We also added 16 spray skirts, 16 new life jackets and 16 new dry bags for those sea kayak trips next summer are totally dialed in with new gear!
- A new Mainsail for Rebel. Not only is it pristine, but check out the Gypsy Star logo we added to it!
- Five new bridles and three new English saddles. By adding the saddles, we will be able to expand our riding program. Read more details about that exciting news below.
- 15 sketchbooks. These are premium quality books for our Craft Court programs.
- 75 arrows and new sports balls—including new tennis balls, basketballs, soccer balls, volleyballs
- We also received donations for piano repair and tuning for both of our pianos.



Meet Charger, our new Morgan horse

Our Riding Program is Expanding

Horseback riding is annually among our most popular offerings, and because of that, there have been occasions when we could not fit all the campers who wanted to ride into classes. This year we are hoping to alleviate that problem by adding more horses, more equipment and more staff to the barn area.

Along with the saddles and bridles listed above, we will increase our horse numbers by five, which we will do by leasing four more than last summer and by acquiring another year-round horse—a Morgan horse named "Charger". By adding horses, equipment and staff, we will be able to still keep classes small (6–8 kids in general) but simply offer more classes per day.

Meet our new Head Groundskeeper and Gardener: Victor Hartney

27-year-old Victor Hartney has joined our year-round staff as Head Groundskeeper and Gardener. The Washington native has had a life-long interest in gardening, and first considered it as a career option when his mom started an outdoor permaculture food forest in Sequim, Washington. Victor recently completed a seven-month Permaculture Internship at Bullocks Farm on Orcas Island and plans to achieve his certification as a Master Gardener in the near future. At Four Winds, he will work in conjunction with the Head of the Garden to coordinate our garden classes.



When not digging in the dirt, Victor likes to hike and play music. His instrumental skills include the guitar, ukulele, didgeridoo and violin.



A Note from Danielle

It is unbelievable to think how much time has passed since the songs and bustle of the summer disappeared through the gates at Camp. And also, at the same time, I have the feeling that it all just seems like yesterday.

It is true to say that it has been an eventful year of firsts for me in my new role at Camp. My first time living on Orcas year round, my first summer in this role, my first Reunion, my first time organizing Airport Run in my middy and bloomers at SeaTac Airport and my first full off-season as part of the Year Round staff.

To say that I am feeling grateful for the experiences that I have had and the people that I have met, learned from and worked with over this past year would be a gross understatement. It has been one of the most exciting and magical experiences in my life so far and still at times feels so unreal to that 17-year-old AC from Australia who arrived for Staff Week back in 2005 for the first time.

The experience of these 'firsts' are some of the parts that I treasure most about Four Winds. Whether you are setting foot here for the first or the fiftieth time, Camp still has something new to teach you. A first experience of some kind is always in store that is sure to both surprise you and have a significant impact on your life.

One of the firsts that has been such an amazing part of this year's off-season has been the travel. In January and February, I embarked on two international journeys—first home to Australia, and then to Puebla, Mexico, to attend a number of camp hiring fairs to interview international staff candidates for Four Winds. It was such an amazing experience, meeting and interviewing potential staff members from other countries, who were both excited and nervous about their own first experience of working at a Summer Camp in the USA.

There were moments on the journey, while sitting in a cafe in Melbourne or exploring the underground tunnels of the Great Pyramid of Cholula in Mexico, where it all felt absolutely surreal. To be surrounded by other Camp Directors and potential staff members in an entirely different part of the world. It was yet another important first for me, realizing that Four Winds is part of a very special international Camp community doing important work with and for young people from all corners of the globe.

I am excited to report that 12 new international staff members, whom I was very lucky to meet and hire on my travels, will be arriving at the Gate House circle in two short months for their first summer at Four Winds. I am sure they are feeling the mix of enthusiasm and trepidation for their journey to Camp that is so eloquently expressed in the lines of Magic Ring poem *The House and the Road*.

—Danielle Bone, Assistant Director, FWWH

Meet Emily and Gerry's New Baby

Many alums know Emily Glass well. Emily was involved in Four Winds * Westward Ho for more than two decades, first as a camper in 1989; as a CT in 1996; an AC in '97; summer staff from 1998 to 2005; and then as part of the Year Round Staff as Assistant Camp Director from 2009 to 2015. It's safe to say that Emily shared time at Camp with literally thousands of fellow Gypsies. She even married a fellow Camp staffer: former *Carlyn* captain Gerry Santillan.

So it's with great pride that we share the latest member of Emily & Gerry's family with all our alums, and introduce you to Lucia Glass Santillan. Lucia was born on April 8th, 2018 (yep—just a few weeks ago!) and joins her sister, Penelope, who is now two-and-a-half years old, as future Gypsies. Congratulations to the entire Glass/Santillan family!



Penny with her new baby sister, Lucia

Molly Roberts retires after 18 years with Four Winds

Molly Roberts, Alumni Coordinator for Four Winds * Westward Ho since the year 2000, retired from Camp this winter and has moved on to a new venture running a secretarial and bookkeeping business out of her home on Orcas Island. While the transition was a bit nerve-wracking at first, Molly says she has settled in to a nice "post-Camp" routine.

"November was a bit of a shock to my system," she said. "Since graduating from college in 1960, I have worked every year but one! So the experience of waking in the morning without an alarm clock and letting the day shape itself was very strange...but nice."



One of the many fringe benefits of working at Four Winds has been the upgrading of my secretarial skills from the world of IBMSelectrics, multiple carbons, adding machines and ledger sheets. Joe Bisignano was eager to move us to an on-line data management system for keeping track of donations, so I was introduced to an increasingly interesting set of skills. In recent years Paul has steered us toward electronic documents, which has presented new opportunities. For one thing, this 90-year-old organization can now make a wealth of camp history easily accessible without hunting through boxes of old files and photos!"

With her home office set up and clients coming in, Molly has jumped full-speed into the next chapter of her life.

"So far, among other things, I've catalogued and photographed an extensive book collection, scanned an organization's minutes and other documents, taken minutes for another organization's BOT conference call, and entered a client's check register in QuickBooks. Molly's Secretarial and Bookkeeping Service is building gradually, and will allow me to continue to enjoy a bit of travel to the Irish music workshops I love!"

We all miss Molly in the Four Winds office, and often find ourselves calling her for help. She has been an incredible resource for Four Winds for so long, and will always be part of our Camp family. We wish her the best in her newest adventure.



Ways to Give



Your support helps make Four Winds * Westward Ho special.

Four Winds is a 501(c) 3 non-profit corporation, and as such we depend on the generosity of donors to help augment our annual budget. Donations are crucial to many of our programs—most notably **Financial Aid**: Camp provides financial aid to 20% of all campers each year. In 2017, we welcomed 65 Financial Aid campers from 9 different states (and Canada). 42 of those campers were returnees, while the other 23 were new to FWWH.

Donations are also vital to other areas, including our **Wish List**, where each year donors purchase items for Camp. This year we've been blessed to have donors purchase numerous things, including new sea kayaks (as well as spray skirts for those kayaks), English saddles, life jackets, dry bags, piano tuning for both our pianos, bridles, sketch-books, various types of sports balls **AND** a new mini-pony cart for Sassy!

We also have two annual fundraising events: **The May Match**, our one day phone-a-thon that will be May 8th this year; and "**Camp Moves Me**," an event created by the American Camp Association where members of our Four Winds team exercise for the entire month of October in exchange for donation pledges.

Finally, the **Ruth A. Brown Legacy Club** honors people who have included Four Winds in their wills, providing a source of funding well into the future. We currently have thirty members of the Ruth A. Brown Legacy Club. Please read the article on the next page for details about Estate Planning and how it can play a vital role Four Winds * Westward Ho.

We'd like to thank everyone for his or her loyalty to FWWH. Without your support, Camp would be a very different place.

The May Match

Our annual spring fundraising event known as "The May Match" is scheduled for **May 8th** this year. This one-day phone-a-thon event has been incredibly successful, and we thank you for the support. Last year alone we raised **\$81,271** on one day!

As with last year, **The May Match** will have guaranteed matching dollars—**20% of all donations gathered on May 8th will be matched**—and we will once again have incremental bonuses as our donation dollars grow:

- If we hit \$25,000 in donations, the bonus is \$1,000.
- At \$50,000 we get a bonus of \$2,000.



As with last year, we will process credit card and Pay Pal donations in house, meaning the processing fees will be less than 3-percent. Also, you can simply pledge on that day to mail us a check, reducing the fees to zero. If you would like to make a donation early, please call the office and we will take your information, but will hold it until May 8th.

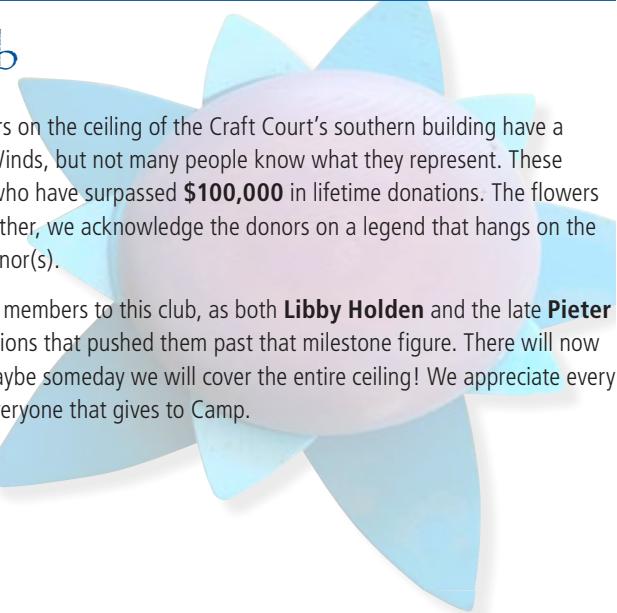
So mark your calendar for **The May Match on May 8th**. We will send out reminders before the event, and on that day you will receive a phone call from one of our volunteers asking for your support. Thank you in advance for continuing to be so loyal and generous to Four Winds * Westward Ho!



The \$100,000 Club

The painted wooden flowers on the ceiling of the Craft Court's southern building have a special meaning at Four Winds, but not many people know what they represent. These flowers are hung to honor people who have surpassed **\$100,000** in lifetime donations. The flowers do not have names on them, but rather, we acknowledge the donors on a legend that hangs on the wall, matching the flower to the donor(s).

This past year, we added two more members to this club, as both **Libby Holden** and the late **Pieter Van Zandt** made significant donations that pushed them past that milestone figure. There will now be **14 hanging flowers**—and maybe someday we will cover the entire ceiling! We appreciate every donation, and are so grateful for everyone that gives to Camp.



Legacy Giving

Adding Four Winds Camp to your will.

There are so many different ways to show your love for Four Winds in an enduring way through Legacy Giving. For example, an outright charitable bequest or gift through your will or trust is an easy and effective way to make a future gift to Four Winds. It can be as simple as asking your attorney to modify your will. This past summer, Four Winds received a generous donation in excess of \$58,000 from Pieter Van Zandt. The gift came to Four Winds shortly after Pieter passed away, because Pieter had planned ahead when considering his estate, and had included Four Winds Camp in his will.



"Another way is to name Four Winds as a designated beneficiary of a portion of your retirement plan, insurance policy, bank or brokerage account, or donor advised fund", says Bruce Coffey, a Trustee of the Four Winds Board. "This is also easy and you can simply revise the beneficiary designation documents you have previously executed."

Bequests or beneficiary designations are not permanent and you can modify them at any time. And, whatever amounts you might be considering can be private between you and your attorney or financial advisor/account administrator. It is helpful if you let Four Winds know that you are planning something so we can thank you and recognize you as a member of the Ruth A. Brown Legacy Club, but this is not required. And, remember that bequests and beneficiary designations do not affect the donor's current financial situation.

Finally, you could consider one of the tax efficient planned giving vehicles such as a charitable remainder trust. Coffey notes that "This type of vehicle is more complex and requires the advice of your attorney and tax advisor, but it allows for the leveraging of low cost but high current value assets into sizeable gifts to a charity like Four Winds. Assets such as stocks or property acquired years ago that have appreciated greatly are perfect for the charitable remainder trust vehicle, and they can provide for a means to have a significant impact on Four Winds."

A legacy gift to Four Winds does more than enabling you to make a significant and tax-efficient gift. It helps to ensure that we can continue to help campers strive for excellence and develop a respect for nature, family, and community, for generations to come.

—Bruce Coffey, FWWH Board of Trustees Member

Board Members



Jeff Stewart grew up visiting Four Winds as a child while his Grandmother, *Helen Roberts* (Miss Helen), was a board member herself. His grandmother was a dear friend of Miss Ruth and taught dance at Four Winds starting in the 1940's. Jeff's mother, *Marlyn Roberts Stewart*, was a camper and counselor for many years and was a long time supporter of camp. Jeff started attending camp in 1977 and spent 13 summers as camper, CT and counselor during the directorships of the Clarks and Mike Douglas.

Jeff's daughters, *Sydney* and *Ashley Stewart* are fourth generation campers and now staff members; Ashley will be on staff for the 2018 season. His youngest children Liam and Emma (age 3 & 5) are future campers.

Jeff, his wife Samantha and children live in Santa Rosa, CA where he is the third generation operating his family's 80 year old propane distribution business. There is a strong bond with camp that has continued with his daughter's attendance and his ability to be a board member will ensure that his family can continue to contribute to Four Winds in numerous ways for many more years. Jeff is on the facilities committee where he has already made some infrastructure donations in recent years.



Matt Murray attended Four Winds as a camper in 1986 and 87, was a CT in 1990 and an AC in 1991. Matt's brother, *Kevin*, and sister, *Anne*, also attended Four Winds for numerous summers.

Matt first returned to camp for the Four Winds reunion in 2012, which celebrated the 85th anniversary of Four Winds. He was reminded of so many great child and adolescent memories, as well as the impact Four Winds had on him then and continues to do so today.

While he is excited to reconnect to camp as a trustee, he is quite humbled to work alongside other trustees to insure that many other children, including financial aid campers, will be able to experience Four Winds for generations to come.

This summer two of Matt's children, *Shannon* and *Timmy*, will spend their fifth summers at Four Winds—and younger *William* will attend his second junior session.

Matt, along with his wife Nikki and their children, live in the Marina District of San Francisco. Matt's children attend San Francisco Day School, where Matt also serves as a trustee. Matt and his brother Kevin run Purcell Murray Co, a business founded by their father in 1981 that specializes in the importation and distribution of residential kitchen and bath products.

The Waitlist—a Happy Problem

Paul Sheridan
Executive Director

Talk to any Four Winds alum or parent for a while, and at some point the topic of the waitlist is likely to come up. Camp has consistently filled and had a waitlist for decades. It's a good thing for Four Winds to be so supported. Frankly, many camps have to hustle for every last camper, and sometimes it seems like they have to compromise what they perceive as creating the best possible experience for children in the service of catering to what the market wants. Since we fill every year, we can spend our time finding the families that understand and value what we offer at Four Winds, not changing what Four Winds offers to help us make our enrollment goals.

Still, there's no doubt that when it's your child who is on the waitlist, it's hard to see it as a positive. Particularly for the people reading this newsletter, who are likely to be alums, if Four Winds was one of the most influential experiences of your childhood, and now it's time to give that experience to your own child, being confronted with the waitlist can be devastating, particularly when your child has to be on the waitlist for a couple of years.

I understand this frustration. I've had many conversations with alumni who are in exactly the situation I described above. We've looked at this happy problem from many angles, considered lots of things we could do to change the dynamic, and implemented a few of them. In a recent conversation with a board member, we came up with the idea of writing this article. I'm mostly hoping to reach alumni parents of children that are a few years out from Camp. The reality is that enrolling your child at Four Winds at this stage of Camp's history takes either planning a couple years in advance or a bit of luck. As opposed to the latter, the former can be controlled, so I'm hoping to arm some of you with the information you need to best navigate the situation. I'll start with some history, I'll explain the details of how enrollment and the waitlist work, and lastly, I'll give a little advice. This article is a bit long, and for that I apologize, but it's really those that are genuinely interested, so I'm not going spare the details.

History: When people refer to our waitlist, it's often spoken of in a monolithic way, but the reality is that the waitlist situation changes over time. I've been with Four Winds since 2005, and just since then, there have been four distinct phases of the waitlist. When I first came to Camp, it seemed that Four Winds filled pretty regularly, almost automatically, sometime between mid-January and mid-February.

Then, of course, the financial crisis hit. We started to feel it in 2009, and our worst year was 2010, when we filled just before summer. After that, like the rest of the country, we got a little better every year. In those days, I was watching enrollment very carefully, and we filled earlier and earlier every year until we returned to our pre-recession normal, filling within a couple weeks of the start of February, in 2013.

Throughout this period, any parent who signed up their child before Thanksgiving was essentially guaranteed enrollment, and that's what I would tell families. Sure, if you called us up in April, you were likely to have wait until the following year, but didn't seem too onerous, as waitlists go.

The next phase caught me off guard. I had regarded our pre and post recession normal as some sort of equilibrium, but it wasn't an equilibrium at all. We continued to fill earlier and earlier. In 2015, Second and Junior Session filled on December 1st, the day we open enrollment to new families (more on that in a minute). In 2016, First Session followed suit, and this is where we find ourselves today. For the last three summers, including summer 2018, on the day our returning camper enrollment guarantee expired, all three sessions filled with new campers who have signed up prior to that. It's quite common to be on the waitlist for two, or even three years now, before getting enrolled. Some families are lucky and get in sooner. Some end up withdrawing from the waitlist, and don't ever attend.

How Enrollment Works: As I briefly mentioned earlier, returning campers are guaranteed enrollment as long as their families sign them up before November 30th. On December 1st (and I should say here that it actually takes us a couple of days to process everything), we enroll as many new campers as we can that have signed up prior to that day, in the order that they originally completed our camper application and gave us a deposit. It's a first come, first served system for new campers. That's the short version, but I know from many conversations with parents that most families need a few other pieces of information to really wrap their heads around the situation.

The first is that while we often refer to the waitlist as though it's one thing, it's really 44 different waitlists, one for each session/gender/grade combination. Or, to put it another way, we have enrollment targets for each session, gender, and grade, and when a First Session 7th grade girl withdraws from Camp, we need to replace her with another camper in the same category. It doesn't matter if the first First Session 7th grade girl on the waitlist enrolled last week, and there's a Second Session 8th grade boy that's been waiting for a couple of years. That's of course frustrating for families on waitlists that don't seem to be moving, but most people can understand it.

If a family is on the waitlist and does not get in for that summer, they have the option of rolling over to the next summer. We simply retain the deposit, and our office staff will prompt the family to fill out a new camper application for the following year. The family's effective date on the waitlist remains the original date that they first filled out the camper application and put down a deposit. If at any time a family on the waitlist would like to be removed from the waitlist, we refund their entire deposit.



Given that's there's a guarantee of enrollment to returning campers, and we're dealing with a situation of scarcity, we've had to get down to the nitty gritty of our definition of returning camper. Through many conversations, we've decided to go with a fairly expansive definition. Siblings of returning campers count as returning campers, and you can skip a year or change sessions without losing returning camper status. An immediate family should only have to deal with this frustration once.

A question we often get is why we don't give an enrollment advantage to children of alumni. It's a totally fair question, and one we've considered at length. There are two reasons, a logistical one and a philosophical one. The logistical one is in today's environment, if we did advantage legacy campers over brand new families, it would be come a requirement to be a second (or third or fourth) generation camper to be a new camper at Four Winds, and we still could not accommodate all the alumni families who want to come. The philosophical reason is that Four Winds has always attempted to avoid elitist airs, and we think it's healthy to have a mix of both first generation and legacy campers. A few alumni over the years have suggested that while this makes sense, we could give some alumni an enrollment advantage without giving all alumni such an advantage, recognizing that some families have a longer connection with Camp than others. While I respect this view, I don't want to engage in the exercise of ranking one family's connection to Four Winds over another. It's just not who we are. We take great pains in the summer to make sure that a first year camper has the same value to our community as a 7th year, second generation camper. That's an important part of who we are, and our actions need to match our values.

The last caveat I'll mention is that everything I've written about so far is in reference to our enrollment situation for families paying full tuition. Our commitment to our Financial Aid program, reserving 20% of our camper spots for families that need some help paying for Camp, remains as strong as ever. That program has a different application timeline and enrollment track, with Financial Aid applications due on February 1st, and our Financial Aid committee making decisions (based on financial need) by the middle of March. We commit to our Financial Aid families for three years, though their award may change if their financial situation changes.

Advice: The main piece of advice I can give families interested in having their child attend Four Winds is to think a few years ahead. Normally families have a sense a few years in advance that their child is approaching readiness for Camp. That's the time to call Mariah in our office, check in, and get a sense of things.



I do want to caution families against signing up their child before they're ready just to game the system, or get the earliest possible waitlist date. Obviously, sending a child before they're ready can lead to a bad experience, and sour Four Winds in the child's eyes for later, when they might have been truly ready. It's best to think of Camp readiness as a window, rather than a specific date. If, in a world in which you could call Camp and enroll anytime, you'd sign your child up as a 6th grader, then perhaps 5th grade would be a possible stretch, and 7th grade would probably be fine too.

If you have more than one child, it's important to think a bit about how to navigate that extra variable. The reality is that it's hard enough to get off the waitlist with one child. Asking that two or three spots open up simultaneously in exactly the right session/grade/gender combinations

reduces our chances of success dramatically. So, it's worth considering whether having one child be the trailblazer, and then in subsequent years, you can sign them up along with their siblings using the returning camper guarantee. Obviously, most families want that trailblazer to be the oldest child, but sometimes the spot that opens is the one for a younger sibling. Each family has to make that call for themselves.

The last bit of advice is to understand that this situation is fluid. Earlier, I told you that in my 14 summers at Camp, we've gone through four distinct phases with our waitlist dynamic. I'm asking you to think ahead, but if we're talking about a 3 or 4 year old, it's pretty likely that that dynamic will change again before they're ready for Camp. Stay in touch. Most alumni tend to lose engagement with us a little bit in the years that they've moved on from their summer staff experience and don't yet have Camp aged kids. That makes a sense, but in this waitlist dynamic, staying in touch and thinking ahead gives you the best shot at having your child come to Camp when they, and you, are ready.

Final Thoughts: Ultimately, the situation we're in right now is one of trying to allocate a scarce resource fairly. The market would tell us to either raise tuition very aggressively until the waitlist started to wane, or expand Camp. The former betrays our values, and the latter has significant logistical challenges and risks changing the community that we all have grown to love. Our Board, at least for the moment, has rejected both of those choices as inconsistent with Four Winds' mission and instructed me to do my best to manage this situation thoughtfully and fairly. I think we've done a good job of that, but the frustration of the families on the waitlist is still very real. I ask for their patience, and I'm happy to talk. If you're still a couple of years out from Camp, perhaps a little more knowledge will help you to navigate this dynamic a little better. Thanks for reading, and I hope to see many of you on Orcas soon.



90th Anniversary Reunion Recap

A three-day walk down memory lane for Four Winds Alums

In September of 2017, Four Winds * Westward Ho celebrated its 90th Anniversary with a three-day family camp reunion. More than 200 people came to the sold out event and enjoyed a chance to relive their camp memories, taking part in activities from sailing to horseback riding, pickleball to garden crafts, a folk dance and an Evening Fire. The event also served as a fundraiser for Camp's Financial Aid Program, as a silent auction brought in more than \$33,000 thousand dollars to help fund scholarships.

Throughout the sun-drenched weekend, alums wandered the Camp property – many with parents or children who are also alums. For many, it was a chance to go back to the days of peace and harmony that are so prevalent on magical Orcas Island, and soak in the memories of childhood days at Four Winds.

"I hadn't been back to camp since my last time as a staff member in 2008, and as if no time had passed," said [Jenny Mohler \(camper 97, 01, 03; CT 04; staff 07 & 08\)](#). "I jumped right back into the camp routine! Sleeping in Rocky Point and sharing a bunk with my mom, seeing the generations of campers share in the same timeless traditions, and reminiscing with old friends made the experience truly magical."



"My whole family made it to the reunion and it was a magical experience from start to finish," said [Valerie Corvin](#), a Four Winds Board of Trustee member since 2009, who attended the reunion with her husband, Scott, and daughters [Libby \(camper 07–09; CT 11; staff 13–17\)](#), and [Alex Corvin Walder \(camper 01–03; CT 04; staff 07–09\)](#) as well as Alex's husband, Eric.

"Not only was it special to share time at Camp together, but it was inspirational to be around so many fans of FWH."

"What an amazing weekend to celebrate my favorite place on Earth with not only my real family, but also many generations of my camp family," said [David Louchheim \(camper 82–85; CT 87; staff 89 & 94\)](#). "Four Winds shaped who I am today and to see that it did the same for so many others is truly moving. To know Gypsy magic is alive and well in my own children and the children of my fellow campers is so special. What a weekend... ending it with Doug Fleming's guitar sing-a-long in my cabin was an absolute dream!"

"It was an absolutely magical weekend filled with the Gypsy spirit in abundance!" said [Arden Hofler \(camper 83–85; Year round staff 03–06\)](#). "Everything was perfect—from opening Flags to the closing Evening Fire, and all of the activities in between. Wonderful to see old friends and make new ones—just like the summers spent as a camper."

"It was amazing to be at camp again," said [Alexandra Stimson Davis \(camper 80–82; staff 88\)](#). "So many familiar faces and fellow Gypsies from the good old days. From sailing on the Carlyn, to folk dancing and of course pickle ball, it was a memorable weekend. Seeing everyone and singing Camp songs and being there with my family, filled my heart."



As the weekend wound down, most attendees were already looking forward to the next reunion, which is scheduled for 2022—the 95th anniversary of Four Winds.

"It's almost been a year, and I still can't stop thinking about the reunion!" said [Caroline Wolf \(camper 97–04; AC '05; staff '09\)](#). "Getting to spend time in the most special place with the most special people was a dream come true. I can't wait to go back!"

"Being able to experience FWH as an adult is something I am so grateful for," said Mohler. "I can't wait for the next reunion!"

There are literally hundreds of photos from the reunion on the Four Winds website. Go to the

"Alumni" dropdown, and click "Photo Gallery." That will take you to the page with four separate reunion photo galleries. Check out the smiles and joy, see if there is anyone in there you recognize, and start planning to join us in 2022!



Alums visiting Camp—after many, many years!



Gloria Wyeth Neumeier (camper 1937–1940) came to visit Four Winds last fall. **It was the first time she had set foot on the property in 76 YEARS!** Gloria spent several hours walking the property, and also got to know some of the Junior Session campers. What a treat to see campers from such different generations sharing the same experiences.

Gloria told stories of taking the Gypsy Wagon on overnight trips, and riding in the large green horse buggy that is now retired next to the barn. After her visit, Gloria shared a few more memories of her time at Camp, and some of the feelings this visit brought back to her.

"In 1941 it was an adventure to set off by train from Pasadena to Orcas Island and Four Winds camp. This summer, 76 years later, airplanes made for a faster journey, but I amazed to find that the physical beauty and magic feeling of Four Winds remained much the same."



The Lodge, with its wooden panel and Mr. Norling's painted flowers, lacked only Miss Ruth, sitting by the fireplace to start a session of 'Magic Ring.' Campers, now both boys and girls, gathered for lunch around the same picnic tables on the porch. The only change to the view down to the bay was that the sight of the 'Westward Ho' had been replaced by the yawl Carlyn. The girls wore blue bloomers that could have come from my photos of long ago. Madrona Cabin, overlooking the island opposite, was still there.

My sisters, Carol and Patricia Wyeth, and I, were shaped by our time at Four Winds years in the '30s & '40s. Love of sailing runs in our family—Carol ended up raising quarter horses. It is reassuring—in our frantic, rapidly changing, 21st Century world—to know that some of those same experiences are still available to contemporary young people.

As for the old, try a visit back to Orcas for a taste of rejuvenation!"

Barbara Rubley Anderson (Staff 1967) was a crafts counselor who had not been back to the Northwest for 50 years. Last September, she and her husband came to Camp for a day, and Barbara spent part of the time drawing and painting this landscape as she basked in being back on Orcas Island.



"The visit to Four Winds was super!" she wrote in an email after that day. "It was all I remembered and more. I was especially struck by the scent of pine and the breeze off the sound. My husband and I spent several hours exploring."



Alumni News

Alison Yerxa (camper 62 & 63): I live in Colusa California, and Los Angeles Calif. I've calmed down, but not retired. Worked in Cinema Visual Effects as a Digital Matte Painter for 20 years, and designed various Productions for 40 years in Theatre design. I remember many things about Camp: Learning how to dig for clams when the surf receded and a small fountain of water shot up from the rocky sands. Learning the Laws of the Navy, and climbing the steps to Miss Ruth's Hilltop house to recite it, and receiving The Magic Ring poetry volume. Receiving my Gypsy bracelet, pin and ring. Reciting poetry at Evening Fire in the lodge while Miss Ruth sat on a little wood box by the fireplace. Searching for the two identical flowers painted on the ceiling in the lodge. Swimming in the sound for a quarter mile as part of the requirement to be able to sail the sunfish sailboats. Carving a gypsy stool. And many, many other memories.



Michael Hogan and friend

Michael Hogan (camper 62 & 63; staff 70, 74 & 78): I was a dishwasher one summer (along with some other great guys that played music and had a wonderful time), started the organic garden another summer, and was also a counselor. Amazing memories, never to be forgotten. Nothing beats sailing in the San Juans. I lived overseas in New Zealand for 25 years, and now have settled back into N California, where I farm and spend time with my lab and wonderful wife on 5 acres in Sebastopol. I hope to get back up to Orcas again real soon, (perhaps this summer) and gaze out on that wonderful bay. Best to all whom I may have spent time with up there over the years, the feeling of adventure and sharing camp instilled in me has never left.

Marion Mohler (camper 63 & 64; CT 69; staff 69 & 70; Board of Trustees

84–2009): George and I are still happily living on Mercer Island, WA and continue to enjoy adventures in our Sprinter van. Last fall we went to our favorite US destination (so far)—Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona. We particularly love hiking and biking amidst the spectacular red rocks of Moab, Utah. This past winter we went on a skiing adventure to Sun Valley, Grand Targhee, Jackson Hole and Whitefish, Montana. We are looking forward to another summer of sun and sailing in the Pacific Northwest and are so happy for all the lucky campers who get to spend part of their summer on Orcas!



George and Marion Mohler



Whitney and Joan Lane

Whitney Lane (camper 66–68, 74; staff/Weaver in Residence 77; Board 93–96): I live in Portola Valley CA and continue to work on a small remodeling project that has taken 3 and 1/2 years that I reported in the last PW! It's almost finished!!! I am excited to use the room as a workshop and start weaving again. It's been about 30 years since I have thrown the shuttle! I also continue to study the enneagram and be fascinated by it. I am fascinated with religions and especially the commonalities between them. Currently I am going to a synagogue and really like singing at Shabbat services. I enjoy hiking in the near by open space, working out at the gym with my trainer, spending times with friends and its been really a joy spending time with my mom, **Joan Lane (camper 1940–'43; Board 1968–86)** who lives near by.

Linda Good (camper 63; staff 72–77 & 98) and her husband, Leonard, are both still teaching music and science. This summer their daughter **Nancye (camper 74–79)**, her husband Paul, and their 16-year-old grandson Jason will be coming to South Whidbey again, from Brooklyn, NY. Nancye and Leonard will be leading a Science/ Wilderness Day Camp in August. Linda and Island Strings have a Music Day Camp in June.



Left: Calvin Mew and Mailsail, 1967; right: Calvin Mew today



Calvin Mew (staff 67): I was the tennis instructor and counselor of Mainsail in 1967. My time there remains vivid in my memories. I left my advertising career in 1999 (Executive Vice President, Managing Director Latin America, Bozell Worldwide, Inc.) and have consulted for nonprofit organizations since then. My nonprofit boards include Union Theological Seminary, James Lenox House Association, Community Partners, and the Harvard Business School Club of New York. My wife, Mary Crawford, and I became guardians of a 17-year-old young woman from Kabul, Afghanistan three years ago. Zohra will be a freshman in college this fall.

Bounous Family Still living in Sandy Utah, where Sue (**camper 68–71; staff 74 & 78**) is working in commercial real estate. Both my Gypsy daughters Ayja & Tyndall are now back living in the Salt Lake City area too. **Ayja (camper 99, 00, 04–07; staff 10, 14 & 16)** finished her masters in Environmental Humanities and is under contract to publish her first book with Torrey House Publishing by 2019. **Tyndall (camper 00–08; CT 09; HH 10; staff 12–16)** is working with children teaching skiing and coaching at Alta and Snowbird ski resorts besides working in ceramics and selling her pottery. Ironically, Ayja's significant other, **Colin Gaylord (staff 2009)** is a former Orcas Island resident and was a counselor at Westward Ho back when she was a camper. I think he was 18 and she was 14. They recently bought their first home together. Will wonders never cease!



Bounous family in Zermatt, 2017

Bailey Spitzenburg (camper & staff 70s): I was part of Four Winds for five years as a tent counselor and as Head of Boys. I also lived at Four Winds for four years in the late seventies as a maintenance worker and gardener. I was there when Miss Ruth was in Hilltop and was there for the 50th anniversary of the camp. I'm teaching full time at the Vancouver Waldorf School, history, English and a little Astronomy.



Andy Baxter (camper 74–79): After a wonderful career as a competitive oarsman, I shifted paddles and joined the USA Rafting Team. International whitewater rafting involves four disciplines: time trial, head to head, slalom and downriver. All are scored on a points system, both individually and cumulatively. In 2016 we won the silver medal in the downriver and the bronze medal for the overall at the World

Championships in Dubai. This year we raced in Japan on the island of Shikoku, Yoshino River, and finished eighth out of 23 countries. We had a fantastic adventure, made many new friends and were humbled by the kind and caring hearts of our Japanese hosts.

Aside from my competitive racing, I am a Medical Exercise Specialist; a consultant in the fitness industry; own and operate Baxter Fitness Solutions in Ashland, Oregon; and have written two books; *Racing Yesterday*, a memoir of my training for the 2008 Olympic Trials, and *The Exercise Prescription*, a book that provide exercise routines for people over the age of 50.



Andrea Trower Scharff (camper 77) owns and operates "Andrea Scharff Landscape Design" and is the proud parent of a CT! **Henry Scharff** (camper 2011–17) now will be a CT in 2018! Henry's sister, **Amelia** (camper 11–17), looks forward to following in her brother's footsteps next year. I am so grateful that my children love camp as much as I did! They look forward to going every year, to see their friends, unplug and relax after working so hard all year, it's the perfect break.

John DesCamp (camper 77–80; staff 81, 84, 87 & 88; Board 2007–present) I have lived in the Seattle area since coming to U o W in 1984 and still call it home. Right now I am living with my two boys, Michael and Tyler, in Bellevue where they go to Bellevue High School and play lacrosse there. Life is busy and fun. We ski and boat quite a bit and of course attend Husky football games in the fall. I have had the privilege and pleasure of being on the Four Winds board for several years and love my twice-a-year trips to Camp to attend the meetings. It always brings back memories of the fun and friends at that special place. On a sad note, my mother, **Julie Powers**, passed away on November 4th, 2017. She had been a camper from 1948 to 1951, and of course that is how I was introduced to camp. We always had that camp connection between us and always will. One amazing surprise after she died was the discovery of her Gypsy ring from 1949. A true piece of history I will always cherish. I would love to hear from any of my old camp friends especially the crazy crew from the 80's.



Andy as a camper in 1977



Julie Powers' Gypsy Ring

Alumni News, continued



Julie Teel Simmonds and family

Julie Teel Simmonds (camper 82–88; CT 89, AC 91): A highlight of this year for us was the Camp Reunion! We stayed with our kids Willa (4) and Wiley (6) in Madrona (my 3rd of 8 cabins/teepees at camp). So much Four Winds magic, old and new friends, and polar bearing! Otherwise, we're still enjoying the mountains and living in Boulder, CO, where Julie works for CU/Boulder (Julie) and Ray works for National Institute of Standards and Technology.

David Loucheim (camper 82–85; CT 87; staff 89) is the radio voice for the Utah Jazz. When he is not calling NBA games, he is getting in as many ski runs as possible on the Utah mountains. Even having an occasional chair lift ride with former FWWH campers and staff. David's wedding ring is a re-done version of his Polaris ring. David is married (Akemi) and has two children—Carter and Arden who have both attended camp. **Carter (camper 11–16)** is 15 and after 2 junior sessions and 3 regular sessions has turned his focus to his alpine ski racing. He will compete in the National Championships for the 2nd straight year. **Arden (camper 14–present)**, 13, is a current camper and has the Gypsy spirit running through her. She loves to ski, golf, play basketball or anything where they keep score.



David Loucheim and family

Barbara "Booties" Zeppenfeld (Staff, 1986) Hello from Germany to all FWWH campers and alums! We are also looking forward to our own camp sessions in August. There is a bunch of Orcas-inspiration in my children-summer-activities and the courses we offer to schools and kindergartens. Being outside, working with the land, water, plants, animals, arts & crafts has a great power. Sometimes we take walks with my rare-breed-sheep-flock. We all love it. We walk through our "Streuobstwiesen", a belt of mountain-orchards at the Schwäbische Alb and area of biosphere, the sheep help us to keep cultivated. Thanks for great times in the San Juans.



Shannon O'Brien Dumke and family

Shannon O'Brien Dumke (staff 89, 90, 93, 94, 99; Assistant Director 2000) lives in Missoula, Montana with her husband, Chuck, their 9-year-old boy, Carter, and dog, Rastro. Shannon recently served as education policy advisor to Governor Bullock, then dean of the local two-year college. She now is starting her own executive and leadership team coaching business. She also enjoys playing a few Camp tunes at a local coffee shop and Facebook-liking her old friends from the 80s and 90s. Look her up next time you're in Montana—a river really does run through it!

Chris Sheldon (camper 90–94): The Sheldon family lives in San Francisco at Ocean Beach, where we love the surfing, hiking and biking around Western San Francisco. Chris works in commercial real estate at Cushman & Wakefield, and his wife, Dana, is a family law attorney. We have two daughters, Vivian (age 5) and Isabel (age 2). Vivian will be attending Katherine Delmar Burke's school next fall as a kindergartner. Isabel is at Tiny Giants preschool. We look forward to sending both Vivi and Izzy to Four Winds one day to experience the magic!



The Wisdom Weinstein family

Katie Wisdom Weinstein: The Wisdom/Weinsteins are busy as usual! **Jess (staff 89, 90, 92, 94–98)** is working with Keen Shoes, an awesome, sustainable practices, shoe company and still creating Cana omg earthquake go-bags at JetPackBags.com. **Sky (camper 2007)** is driving a pop-up shop trailer for Keen boots all over the country for the next six months. He hopes to see more than the 45 states he saw last year when he did this trip! **Ruby (camper 07–13; CT 14; staff 16)** left Evergreen State College to find the world. She worked on the

Hawaiian Chieftain tall ship, explored Guatemala, Belize and Mexico and is now moving to San Francisco. **Katie (camper 78, 81–83, staff 87–90, 92, 94–98, Board 05 & 06)** is creating new art programs at Oregon College of Art and Craft for adults and kids. Katie created the youth programs in 1998 to feel like a Four Winds day camp! We are all still snowboarding, skiing, raising crazy pets and generally loving life!



Anna Hadley Johnson and her family

Anna Hadley Johnson (camper 93–97; CT 99; staff 01–05) lives in Big Sky, Montana where she has spent the last 13 years. She has worked for CIEE: Council on International Educational Exchange for the past 8 years promoting cultural exchange experiences. Since January 2017 she has managed a team across the Western US in the High School Summer Abroad department. We send more than 2,000 American high school students on 3–4 week academic study abroad experiences (language learning, service projects, and more!) in 40 locations world wide each summer. Kind of like camp! Her husband, Neil, works at Big Sky Resort and along with their daughters Cora (5) and Linley (2) they enjoy all that Montana offers including downhill and cross country skiing, mountain biking, hiking, camping, whitewater rafting, and golfing.

Danielle Kittleson Vincent (Camper 97–99; CT 01; AC 02; Staff 03–14): We live in La Conner, WA, in a small farmhouse where our two daughters, Emri (9) and Maci (5), are enjoying raising chickens, ducks and bunnies. Farm life is a lot of fun! I am still working for Anacortes Yacht Charters in Anacortes, WA, and my husband, Shawnn, works for the Dept. of Fish & Wildlife. Recently, I decided to go back to school to pursue Elementary Education. My days teaching sailing at FWWH were what sparked my interest in teaching, and I can't wait to start molding little minds. Soon our daughters will be attending FWWH and I can't wait to hear all the fun summer stories they come home with.

Katie Briskin Martin (camper 98–2000; CT 01; AC 02) My husband, Eric, and I welcomed identical twin daughters Cecily and Jasmine last fall. They were born in October. We hope they will be future campers!

Sarah Lewis MacDonald (camper 98 & 99; CT 00; staff 02–04) I am married to Graeme, and in December of 2017 we welcomed our second daughter, Grae Marie to our home in the Napa Valley, CA. Her older sister's name is Brooke. In the picture of Grae, she is being held by my mom, *Alice Sherman Lewis*, who was a camper in 1971, 72 and 73, and a CT in 1975.



Amelia and her new husband

Amelia Wachtel (camper 98–03, staff 04, 06, 09): I got married in October of last year to an awesome partner who shares my love of nature, music, and creative projects. I'm working as a home health occupational therapist where I help folks stay healthy, engaged, and independent. I still make it north and west at least once a year and intend to keep it a tradition.

Mattie Farrar McLean (camper 99–02; CT 03; AC 04; staff 05) and Andrew McLean were married in April of 2017 in a backyard wedding in Tucson, AZ. Family and close friends—including *Amelia Wachtel*—were in attendance.

The couple honeymooned in Stone Harbor, N.J. Mattie is a program quality engineer for Raytheon; Andre is the founder and chief executive officer for SeL Instrument Corporation. They live in Tucson, AZ.

Daniel C. Roberts (camper 07, HH 08): I'm a Communications Manager at Viacom International in New York where he coordinates international publicity for BET, Nickelodeon and Paramount Network; facilitates global influencer campaigns for awards shows; and organizes corporate social responsibility media campaigns. Before entering the world of marketing and promotion, I worked in Legislative Affairs and Communications at the Obama White House, and prior to that I worked in Federal Relations at the National Governor's Association, served U.S. Representative Elijah E. Cummings in Congress, and interned for First Lady Michelle Obama.

I earned a B.A. in Public Policy Leadership from the University of Mississippi, and finished my honors thesis through the Sally McDonald Barksdale Honor's College. With my free time here in New York, I mentor youths through the West Side YMCA.

"Four Winds will always have a special place in my heart. From the honor of being crowned Gypsy King to the amazing senior trip adventure aboard the to English horseback riding lessons, everyday was magical. I made lifelong friends from all over the world that gave me a global perspective that helps daily as I interact with my company's international offices. I wish I could rewind time and do Four Winds over and over again."

—Love, A Nostalgic Gypsy!



Alice Sherman Lewis and Grae Lewis McDonald



Danielle Kittleson Vincent, husband Shawnn and family



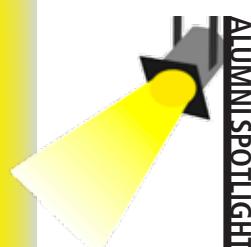
Cecily and Jasmine, Katie Briskin Martin's daughters



Mattie Farrar McLean and Andrew McLean



Daniel at the White House



Daniel at Nickelodeon

Alumni News, continued



Jamie Field's wedding

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Jamie Field (camper '00-05, CT-06, Staff-09) got married, and a whole slew of FWWH Gypsies attended. Pictured clockwise from left: Jamie Field, Peiter Verhaar, Heather Mohler, Nate Benjamin, Joseph Brown, Zizzy Chamberlain, Ben Field, Henry Begler, Oliver Field, Chris Begler, Allie Barbey.



Left: Nathanael in 2017; right: in 2003

Nathanael Schwab (camper '03): I graduated from Louisiana Tech in May of 2017 with a B.S. in Biomedical Engineering, and will graduate from Washington University in St. Louis with a Master's Degree in May of 2018. The Biomedical Innovation program at Washington University has proved to be everything I had wanted and more. When going in, I thought I'd be graduating to join an entrepreneurial venture in the medical device industry; instead, I am starting one.

The device I have designed, prototyped and am submitting to the patent office is a cuff-less blood pressure reader. It will reduce time, cost and patient discomfort in one of the most common procedures in health care. The conventional BP reader is essentially 1890s technology. This device uses a completely different method and does not cut off circulation. By completing this BP reader—which will be a finger clip—it lays the groundwork to build a device that goes in and around the ear to take multiple readings. Following the release of the cuff-less blood pressure reader, the company will then turn its attention to building a single device that will take five readings: Body Temperature, Blood Pressure, Heart Rate, Respiration & Blood Oxygen.

Sidsel Gadeberg (staff '05-'09): Learning to live the simple life away from Camp and coming to terms with the fact that the summers @ FWWH now is something I did in the past—that's where I'm at in life. I am currently teaching at a boarding school in Denmark—helping teens discover themselves and learn to love who they are. My daily life is still based on the core values I was taught at camp during my summers, and I pass them on every day. During this school year I left for 2 weeks to return to "my home away from home", Orcas Island—more specifically Four Winds—and even though it was just for a short time I was once again reminded of how much that island and the people have turned my life around and changed me for the better. It's in me for life and I'm SO proud of that. Besides my teaching I mentor and support young adults as they move on to becoming adults. I coach and play Handball. I enjoy spending time with friends, family and my cute little dog, Ollie—long walks are the best. I still travel, but my heart longs for adventure and new experiences—so that has to happen soon again. Life in Denmark is good, and there's no doubt in my mind that FWWH plays an important part in that.



Sidsel Gadeberg (center) at boarding school in Denmark with two of her students



Sydney and Charles Heath

Nicole, Sydney and Charles Heath: **Sydney** (camper 07-14) is happy to be headed back to the west coast to begin her freshman year at Claremont McKenna next fall! **Charles** (camper 10-16) is a sophomore in high school, trying to improve on last summer's AFS high school program in Argentina by volunteering in an urban squash program in Cartagena, Colombia this summer. **Nicole Blom Heath** (camper 66-68) is advocating for stronger gun laws as a Board member of Connecticut Against Gun Violence, her state's gun violence prevention organization.

Kai Rochester (camper 08-12): Originally from Sydney, Australia, then we moved to Beverly Hills. Kai's first counselor was Graeme Wallace Davies who was actually our Manny in Australia and how we found out about Four Winds. Kai graduated from Beverly Hills High and is now studying film at Santa Monica College, with plans to transfer to UCLA's film course.

Erika Bresee (Riding instructor—English, Western & Trail Riding—10 & 11): I have moved from the barn at Four Winds to a barn in Georgia! I live and work at a ranch that uses horses to help people heal from trauma. We specialize in working with military veterans with PTSD, but also serve local children in our community who have experienced childhood trauma.

Waypoint Ranch believes that connection to animals, the land, and each other helps people heal and I am so proud to be a part of this amazing organization. I am also a certified dog trainer am helping our organization develop a program to use dogs and dog training in our therapy model to help people build relationships with each other by finding effective ways to communicate with their dogs!

Savannah Spatafora (camper 11–15; CT 16; HH 17) won two major awards —The California Young Playwrights Contest, having her play professionally produced at The Old Globe Theatre for a week in January of 2018, and The Young Arts Foundation award for Play/Script writing, allowing her to do a week residence program at UCLA in March 2018. Exciting and Blessed!

Ethan Bankowski (camper 12–15; Carlyn 16) has had an exciting few months. Last summer, he travelled to Ghana to volunteer building an eco-compost toilet in a remote coastal village. For the fall semester, Ethan enrolled at The Island School in Eleuthera, Bahamas. He spent 100 exciting days studying water ecology, seas turtles, scuba diving, kayaking and being a student.



Orion Danforth

Orion Danforth (camper 2017 & 18): I've had a great 7th grade year at the Ashland Middle School. I picked up the clarinet and really feel like I found my instrument. The band program is awesome at my school. I've also been playing tennis all year and had a lot of fun in the UTR tournaments. We went to Mexico for Christmas, which was awesome. I rode a 4-wheeler and snorkeled and spent a lot of time with my cousins. I'm really looking forward to seeing everyone again this summer!!

Lise Waugh: The "Denli Bunch" was very happy to be a part of the 2017 reunion, and enjoyed greatly our time sailing on Martha and Carlyn (our group was split between both boats while sailing at the same time). Camp is such a wonderful place and always leaves us feeling more connected and happy. **Lise** (staff, 1981) owns "The Metta Center for Yoga and Healing Arts" in Bellingham, WA; **Etosha Moh** (camper 96 & 97) is Vice President of "The Consultancy PR", an L.A. based PR agency that specializes in interiors, lifestyle and fashion markets. Etosha is engaged to Justin for a May 2019 wedding. **Addeson Moh** (camper 96–06; CT 07; staff 11 & 12) lives in Vancouver, WA where he works on home renovation projects when he's not serving his clients as a Financial Advisor and Financial Planning Specialist. **Keana Waugh** (camper 07–13; CT 14) attends Idaho State University where she has completed the Massage Therapy program and is working towards a Bachelor's Degree in Health Sciences. We all look forward to the next reunion—with perhaps a bigger family in tow (Mom's can always hope to be grandmas!)



Erika and friend Major



Ethan Bankowski



Waugh family

Alumni News, continued

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

From LSP to the pro pitch: A gypsy playing professional soccer!



Celeste Boureille (camper 06–08): I remember my time at Four Winds so vividly because the memories I made there were some of the best memories I had growing up. I met the most genuine people who made me feel right at home. I remember my days jam-packed full of all my favorite sports including soccer, while also trying new activities including—sailing, rowing, canoeing, lacrosse and tennis. During my time there, I learned how to face my fears, build close relationships, live in the moment, and to try and make the most out of everyday.

As soon as I started playing soccer at age 11, it was a dream of mine to play professionally. Committing to UC Berkeley to play was the first real step in this process, although, I knew at the time a lot of work had to be done in order to make this dream into a reality and bring my game to the next level. Did I ever think I would end up at arguably the best professional women's soccer team and club in the world? No, but boy am I embracing every second of my time here as a Portland Thorns.

Being a professional athlete is amazing and all that I could have asked for. It is always a competitive atmosphere, where everyone must bring this continuous want to be better everyday. Playing soccer has been the best thing that ever happened to me because it allowed me to start to make a career out something I love doing. I get to travel around the country and the world every month, week, and year as long I

choose to play for—hoping for a long time. Traveling the world has also been a dream of mine. So, being able to play pro most recently in Australia has been an opportunity of a lifetime, while soccer has also given me opportunities to travel and play in Costa Rica, Iceland, and Spain.



Celeste and Sidsel at Four Winds in 2007



Celeste and Sidsel, reunited 10 years after being at Camp together.

My love for traveling all started with my time at Four Winds where I realized it's not so bad being away from home for long periods of time when you're surrounded by an incredibly heart-warming community who truly care about you and who push you to achieve your goals. One of my counselors, **Sidsel Gadeberg**, is one of those people who truly believed in me and encouraged me to never give up. She and the entire Four Winds community shaped me into the person I am today and I feel so lucky to have been apart of it. Gypsy love forever and always!

"Celeste was a rockstar camper," says Sidsel Gadeberg, who was one of Celeste's counselors at Four Winds. "She was a true inspiration and very true to herself. As soon as she touched the sports field, her eyes lit up even more. I enjoyed so many moments and talks with her. She shared her dream about becoming a pro soccer player with me during a moment on the sports field at Four Winds, and now she's living her dream. I'm proud beyond words."

A Few Alums That Passed Away in the Past Year



Prudence M. Miller (June 22, 1934–July 17, 2017)

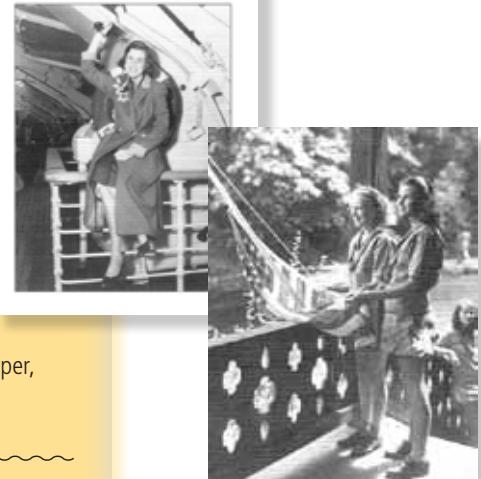
"Prue" was a **camper at Four Winds from 1944–1948**. She lived her entire life in Portland, except when attending Sarah Lawrence College, where she earned a BA in Early Childhood Education in 1956. She married Philip H. Miller in 1956.

Prue was active in many organizations throughout her life, and was most passionate about Stimson Lumber Company, The Catlin Gabel School, The Oregon Symphony, and Trinity Cathedral where she was baptized, married, and served on its Vestry.

Prue traveled widely around the United States and world. She was quick to lead, or join in, a new adventure, loved Oregon's outdoors, especially its coastline, its forests, and its climate. At the memorial service honoring Prue, the program included a photo of Prue as a camper, and two of her favorite poems from the Magic Ring.

In Loving Memory of
PRUDENCE MILLER

JUNE 22, 1934–JULY 17, 2017



Nancy Hoffman (April 13, 1958–March 4, 2018) Nancy was on **staff in 1978 & 79**. According to her sister, Karen, "Four Winds was transformational for Nancy. She was a gifted educator and it was her time at FWWH that helped her see her path forward. She got her Masters in Education at Stanford and spent 33 years working with young people in various school settings. She loved poetry, music & horseback riding, all of which were developed on Orcas Island."

Nancy was an avid reader with interests in Native American culture, children's literature and Russian history. She loved horseback riding, hiking in the hills of Marin County, Nordic skiing, Tolstoy, Mary Oliver's poems, her many canine companions and the red tailed hawks circling her Inverness, California home."



Briar Bates (January 29, 1975–June 28, 2017)

Briar was a **camper from 1989–91, CT in 92 and staff in 97**. She was diagnosed with cancer in 2016, but friends say the artist and designer never stopped creating—including her "final" project, a request to have her friends perform a water ballet titled "Ankle Deep" in the kiddie pool at Volunteer Park in Seattle.



According to an article about the event in the Seattle Times, *the idea hit her while lying in bed, fighting through the pain of cancer...looking up at a chandelier she'd made with Barbie dolls in swimming caps and a symmetrical Busby-Berkeley-style formation.* A few weeks after Briar died, her friends performed the ballet in sea-foam green swimsuits and ruffly caps. The performance perfectly summed up Briar's influence on the world with its creativity, flamboyance, adventurous spirit and true joy.

As one friend wrote on Briar's Facebook page, *she spent her last few months thoughtfully and focused on continuing to bring beauty to her world through her art. Her final hours were peaceful, surrounded by her loving friends.* To read the entire Seattle Times article about Briar's water ballet memorial, and to see more photos, please go to this web address: <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/friends-honor-artists-last-wishes-with-water-ballet-in-a-seattle-kiddie-pool/>





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A Gypsy Thank You to our 2018 Slide Show Host Families!

Our annual slide show tour takes us to alumni homes in five different states including Alaska this year! as well as the District of Columbia and Canada. It's a great way to spread the word about Four Winds Camp. If you're interested in hosting a slide show in January or February of 2019, please email Danielle Bone at Danielle@fourwindscamp.org.

Deer Harbor, WA	Bellevue, WA
Hosted by the Sheridan Family at Hilltop	Hosted by the Bede Family
Vancouver, BC	Washington, DC
Hosted by the Kincade Family	Hosted by the Penhoet Family
San Francisco, CA	Boise, ID
Hosted by the Foster-McDerby family	Hosted by the Papé Family
Saint Helena, CA	Eugene, OR
Hosted by the Crebs Family	Hosted by the Holden Family
Greenbrae, CA	Seattle, WA
Hosted by the Goodrich Family	Hosted by the Hofler Familly
Pasadena, CA	Anchorage, AK
Hosted by the Adams Family	Hosted by the Simonian/Brudie Family
Pacific Palisades, CA	Berkeley, CA
Hosted by the Havens Family	Hosted by the Todd/Alper Family
Portland, OR	
Hosted by the Matteri Family	

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Mission Statement

Four Winds * Westward Ho fosters a spirit of adventure and delight, cooperation and compassion, creativity and self-confidence within campers that will enrich and inspire them throughout their lives.



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