

BARNEY'S ARK

the alumni newsletter of

Camp Barney Medintz

Volume 03

www.campbarney.org

Winter 2008

Alumni Day 2008

**Were you there? When was the last time you were there?
Ten years ago? Fifteen? How about 46 years ago?**

This past August 24th, 249 people visited Camp Barney Medintz (CBM) to relive their time as campers and staff. Many had not been back to "Our Summer Place" for 10, 15, and for one group, almost 40 years! The trees appear a little taller, the cabins a little smaller, new and improved facilities are everywhere, and despite all that is new, so much remains the same.

Alumni representing every decade of Camp made the 75 mile trip up Georgia 400 to find their names on village porches, look for their plaques, find their old cabins, and show their children where they spent some of the best summers of their lives. After wandering through Camp and having a lunch consisting of burgers and hot dogs in the dining hall, many hit the pool, took a canoe out on Lake Louis, and rode the new "Hurricane" water slide. Everyone was a kid that day, especially the 20, 30, 40, and 50 year old alumni. It was difficult to tell who was having more fun - the parents reliving the days past or their children getting a taste for the days ahead.

I know that I felt tremendous pride watching hundreds of people enjoy simply being at Camp. When the day

ended at 4pm, I watched a number of families slowly and reluctantly leave. It's a special place that so many hold in their hearts. What a great joy, even if it was just for a day.

Sometimes it is hard to imagine that a "thing" or a "place" can have such an impact on people's lives. All in all, I only spent 10 months at CBM, but rarely a day goes by that I don't think about my time in the North Georgia Mountains. For the 249 people that experienced it "all over again" on August 24th, I'm willing to bet they feel the same. "As the light of each summer's day reaches its end..."

To top it off, my three year old daughter came home with a CBM alumni T-shirt and another souvenir that screams Camp Barney Medintz: a fat lip from an ill advised fall! If you missed Alumni Day, please visit www.campbarney.org, go to the alumni page and update your information so that we can see you next year! Be sure to check the Alumni Photos Album as we will have pictures from Alumni Day up very soon!

Josh D'Agostino, Alumni Chairman
Camper 1989-91, Staff 1994-98



LAKE WENDY

On May 14th Lake Wendy, one of the two lakes at Camp Barney, developed a "sink hole" around the determined 54 year old pipe 60 ft. below the surface of the water that spans the width of the (Category 1 - State monitored) Lake Wendy Dam causing this 26 acre lake to drain downstream (ultimately into the Chattahoochee River) in 14 hours. We were devastated. But, we also mobilized quickly.

We immediately contacted and hired the best "dam" engineers in the state of Georgia, communicated with local and state officials, emergency management people, neighbors downstream, banks and insurance companies, Board of Directors, numerous prospective foundations and funders, lots of media, our families, and staff who would help us problem-solve and literally shift virtually all activities from Lake Wendy to a quickly created new beach front on Lake Louis. And we trained our staff to recognize what has always been the essence of Camp Barney - the relationships and experiences created between staff and campers - and to focus on those countless and special moments throughout the summer. Incidentally, the dam engineering is nearly complete, dam contractors are being interviewed, construction should begin soon and we'll begin filling Lake Wendy this spring.

DO YOU GET TOGETHER WITH CAMP ALUMNI IN YOUR AREA? PLEASE TELL US ABOUT IT!
fran@campbarney.org • 678.812.3846 • www.campbarney.org

DID YOU KNOW:

- The swimming pool holds 180,000 gallons of water.
- 142,650 meals are prepared throughout the summer!
- Campers walk an average of 4 miles every day.
- About one out of four campers have a parent who went to or worked at Camp Barney Medintz.
- Each camper went down the new "Hurricane" waterslide an average of 52 times during a 4 week session!
- Over 1,000 gourmet meals were cooked with our Guest Chefs in our new Camper Kitchen.
- Barney Medintz was a former president of the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta.
- Camp Barney Medintz is over 500 acres of land and lakes.
- About 60 campers receive Bar/Bat Mitzvah coaching every summer.
- About 14,000 peanut butter & jelly sandwiches are consumed throughout the summer.
- An average of 7 counselor applications are reviewed for each one who is actually hired.
- Over 450 CBM campouts occur under "our own" stars, atop the Appalachian Trail, or within the Blue Ridge Mountains.....when it wasn't raining!
- Nearly 2,400 times this past summer, jet skis pulled campers skiing, tubing, wakeboarding, kneeboarding or riding the "Big Banana."
- We celebrated 168 birthdays at Camp between June 8th and July 31st.
- We baked 288,000 Cookies for Milk Line throughout the summer.
- Since we were established in 1963, over 38,000 campers & staff attended Camp Barney Medintz through 2008!
- In 1963, there were about 110 campers and 60 staff. In 2008, there were about 1,200 campers and 300 staff.
- The original river stones on the fireplace at Barney's Ark were saved and used to build the fireplace at the new Benator Cultural Center at Camp Barney Medintz.

COOL NEW STUFF AT CBM IN '08!

- "THE HURRICANE", the awesome new waterslide and "THE RAVE" water trampoline.
- New ropes courses and climbing adventures like "QUADROPHENIA!"
- New trips for every age group!
- New Sports Pavilion at the completely renovated Halpern Center Gymnasium including a ping pong center, marital arts/fencing/aerobics studio, fitness center...new Zalkin Softball Field and Teen Village "Ulam" (Rec Center)!!
- Renovated bathrooms.
- Babbit Center "tripled" in size, becomes the Rec Hall for unit programs, movies, dances, etc.
- New sailboats, mountain bikes, banana boats, mountain scooters
- Camp Jam "Battle of the Bands" and "Live Karaoke"!

- New "Camper Kitchen" for kosher food classes (KFC)!
- New games and tournaments in tennis, lacrosse, basketball and more!
- New programs at the Benator Center like "Sababa" (Israeli Culture), crafts, music, dance, radio, newspaper and movie-making.
- Play performances at the 950 seat Chippie Amphitheatre.



"I just wonder how many of the plaques still are up and can be read. I think I was there 13 years and towards the end some of the older plaques had already faded. One time I sat down at a cafe and a few ladies sat down at the table next to us, so I pulled out some chairs for them. I looked real carefully at one of them and it turned out to be one of my camp counselors. We were at a cafe in Brindisi, Italy! The next day we got out of a taxi cab and she got out of a cab on the other side of the street at the same time... and that was in Greece. Small world."
Richard M.

"Don't you think people over 40 should be allowed to go (back to camp) for a month each summer?"
Darren H.

"Some of my favorite memories to date, and the best friends I've ever known, all started at CBM! all the best to you guys!"
Jamie L.

"LOVED IT!!! Can't wait for my kids to go!"
Lori L.

"Even though I was just on the kitchen staff, I have to say that Camp Barney Medintz was a great experience. To this day, I still think about the good times I had there. Friendly people, good times, My horse for the summer, "Cinnamon". The biggest bass I caught in my life, Claws the snapping turtle, and Jaws the monster bass that chased the bluegill I had caught 2 ft below the kayak lake dock. I will never forget that summer, Thank you,

and I'm glad to have found this site."
Tony M.

"I loved my experience at CBM over 30 years ago. I met wonderful people, learned so much about the meaning of friendship, and became aware of issues of racism and sexism and caring about the world around me from counselors (like Nancy Zimler and Jerry Isikoff)."
Donna N.

"It was my summer place!"
Kim V.

"I wish I was a kid again, and go could back to Barney as a camper!!!!"
Lauren D.

"Barney was one of my best experiences. What I would give to be 10 years old again and do it all over."
Lori B.

"I really miss the good ol' days! I would love to come back and visit Camp Barney to bring back those great Camp memories. As a child, I didn't realize that Camp would be a short lived thing and that I would be stuck in an office for most of the time."
Tara G.

"If I could, I'd RIGHT NOW, go back in time, so that I could spend another summer at Barney. It was (and is) one of my favorite life experiences."
Sue B.

Every summer I reminisce about the three years I spent at camp and loving the experience. Sometimes I have dreams about

Overheard From Alumni

special people I met and I wake up thinking, 'I wish I knew where they are so I can tell them how much Camp Barney meant to me.'"
Terry F.

"It is the people I met, and the friends I made that make my memories of Camp Barney so special."
Tacy D.

"I just turned 36! I still consider the years I spent at Barney and the friends that I made the best years of my life."
Michael B.

"As the director of the boys camp, in the first year of operation, I'm delighted to see the marvelous development of the campsite. Marvyn Cohen MD, (a pediatrician in Columbus) and Vic Capalouto were the main directors of the camp. I look forward to my grandson in Birmingham attending the camp."
Dr. Alvin J.

"Summers at Camp Barney were the best! What great memories I have from my seven years at camp!"
Barbara G.

And our favorite:
"If anybody has seen my dolphin bathing suit: it is blue, I left it at the pool on June 24, 1985. Please call if you have it. Thanks."
Jeff A.

REMEMBER WHEN...?

My first recollection of being at Camp Barney is in 1974. As a camper, I recall watching movies in the dining hall on a big sheet, scorpions at my campsites, and Larry Melnick dressing up as a clown.

Moving down memory lane brings me to 1983 when I was a first year counselor for the youngest kids at camp. Memories of camp outs and campfires, making stew and smores, and telling crazy stories around the fire fill my head. Often I found myself walking from the bathroom to my cabin bare naked because some random person had ripped off my towel.

I remember all of the kids in my cabin would smell all of the different trees in camp because they saw me smelling trees and I told them that they all had different smells. For those of you who don't know me, I have Tourette's Syndrome. It manifests itself differently in different people but one of my tics is that I smell things. Knowing about my Tourette's, my campers were afraid to jump into the pool with me at first because they thought they might catch it. They got over that pretty quickly.

One of my better known talents was teaching the entire camp two songs: "Apples and Bananas" and "Once There Was a Wizard". To this day, people still come up to me and ask me to sing those songs.

Some of my favorite times were working with the Chalutzim unit as unit head for 8 years. Chalutzim (Hebrew word for "pioneers") is a remarkable four-week program for special needs campers completing grades 2 through 9 that offers all of the exciting CBM activities and opportunities under the supervision of a professional staff. Now recognized throughout the United States, this program enables these campers to blend with other kids and facilitates individual as well as group skill development. These kids definitely taught me the finer things in life. I am also very proud to have been involved in starting Cabin 20, the work program for young adults with developmental disabilities.

I give Camp Barney a lot of credit for some of the best times and people of my life. When I think of camp, what comes to mind is the beautiful scenery, the lakes, being in nature, the cool breezes, Shabbat in the chapel, sleeping in an open air cabin, showering with your nearest and dearest, eating more cheese in one week than one can stand, a good thunderstorm, a nice campfire, the camaraderie of friends, and the special feeling of My Summer Place.

Sammy Rosenberg
1973-1975, 1983-1990 and 1993-2001



WHO IS THIS WOMAN?



Some of you may be wondering: "Who is this Fran woman who has suddenly started contacting me about CBM Alumni efforts?" Mystery solved – Fran Harrell was hired in April as the Alumni Coordinator for Camp Barney Medintz. Thanks to a grant from the Grinspoon Foundation, we were able to hire her to be dedicated to all alumni business. She has been cleaning up our database and helped with our recent Alumni Day. Fran has a technical background as she used to be a computer geek and she actually attended camp herself a long time ago! Her son will be attending camp for the first time this summer and her brother's 3 sons from Savannah consider Camp Barney their "Summer Place" - one will be a JIT and another will be a counselor at CBM in 2009. In the future, we plan to have more alumni events so don't be surprised when you hear from Fran again! Fran can be contacted at fran@campbarney.org or at 678.812.3846.

"GOING GREEN" AT CAMP BARNEY IN 2008

That's right, we're trying to do all that's possible to educationally and functionally contribute to the conservation and use of resources at Camp Barney again this summer. E-mail me if you have more ideas you'd like us to consider or help us with: fran@campbarney.org.

- Changing over 1000 (of 2200) light bulbs to energy-efficient long-lasting coiled light bulbs.
- Eliminating plastic utensils when possible and using biodegradable utensils made from corn or potatoes.
- Recycling paper in our office and throughout camp, some brought to commercial shredders at Arts & Crafts where they'll be "re-made" into new paper and other projects or some taken to local recycle centers.
- Sorting and saving plastic, glass and aluminum for delivery to recycle centers.
- Providing greater storage of specific food and program supplies, diminishing the number of deliveries to camp and subsequent gas and emissions.
- Turning off lights in cabins and other buildings when we're not using them.
- Installing energy-efficient water heaters, water-saving shower heads and "quick flush" toilets.
- Signage around camp promoting water conservation.
- Composting grass clippings for mulch throughout our gardens in camp.
- Continue research into specific solar and wind-powered electricity.

ANNUAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS EACH WINTER MAKE CAMP BARNEY EVEN BETTER EACH SUMMER

Camp Barney Medintz is really one of the most beautiful summer camps in North America....I know, I'm a bit biased but I've visited and consulted dozens of camps and, well, it's still true! We're one of the very few camps to surround two private lakes and yes, we will once again have both lakes in 2009 after massive engineering and construction work on Lake Wendy following the sudden breached dam this past May.

Positioned amidst the North Georgia Blue Ridge Mountains, we have hundreds of unique and dynamic facilities which we annually renovate as well as so many new construction projects that make Camp Barney even better and more exciting every summer!

In recent years, we've dedicated the Zalkin Baseball Field in the Arogeti-Wynne Teen Village, the Brill Equestrian Center, Halpern Center Gymnasium and Sports Complex, "Chippie" Amphitheater, Eichel Tennis Center, Benator Cultural Center, Halpern Arts and Crafts Center, Marcus Family Cultural and Performing Arts Center (including our radio station, movie studio, newspaper, music,

dance and Israeli Center known as "Sababa"), enlarged the Babbit Center, added dozens of high-adventure ropes courses, built a cool new "camper kitchen" and our awesome 180 ft. "Hurricane" water slide, thanks to the Bart and Lupin families from New Orleans!

For 2009, we will be investing over \$800,000 on engineering and construction work to completely rebuild Lake Wendy, create a "Western Wall" and 1-acre "Old City" of Jerusalem within the Benator Cultural Center, entirely renovate several village bathrooms (again!), construct a very cool new zip line that soars into Lake Wendy, add adult lodging for more awesome artists and chefs-in-residence, purchase new jet-skis, mountain bikes and scooters, add fun new features at both of our beaches and much more!

As always, our goal is to hire the most awesome staff and to improve, renovate and create the very best, most meaningful and exhilarating experience for campers each year at "Our Summer Place!"

Jim Mittenthal, M.S.W., Camp Director
1977-1980, 1992-present

LIFE CYCLE EVENTS

ENGAGEMENTS/MARRIAGES

- Lauren Diamond and Travis Crites were married on October 27, 2007 in Baltimore, MD.
- Allison Kline was married on August 24, 2008.

FUTURE CBM CAMPERS

- Abigail Smith was born on February 28, 2007 to Allison (Bodner) and Jason Smith.
- Spencer Marcus was born on March 5, 2007 to Erin (Marcus) and Ben Gribbens. He weighed 7 lbs and was 19.75 inches long.
- Pace Kushner was born on March 20, 2007 to Ellen (Zeidweg) and Jon Kushner. He weighed 8 lbs 8 oz and was 22.5 inches long.
- Erica Nicole Citron was born on August 11, 2007 to Shayna (Isaac) and Scott Citron.
- Richard Joseph and Emma Rose Manne were born on September 16, 2007 to Jane Gross Manne and Burton Manne. Richard weighed 6 lb 9 oz and was 19 1/4 inches long and Emma weighed 5 lbs 4.4 oz and was 18 3/4 inches long.



- Judah Krisel was born on November 23, 2007 to Erica (Amato) and Howie Krisel.
- Brody Harrison Alterman was born on December 28, 2007 to Amy (Baron) and Louis Alterman. He weighed 7 lbs 6 oz.
- Scott Silverman was born on March 31, 2008 to Donnie and Suzanne (Reznick) Silverman. Scott shares his birthday with his brother Samuel who was born on March 31, 2006.
- Brett Satsky was born on May 1, 2008 to Elana (Sauer) and Mark Satsky.
- Harper Rose and Cameron Love Tishgart were born on July 6, 2008 to Teel and Jeffrey Tishgart. Harper weighed 5 lb 3oz and was 18 inches long and Cameron weighed 6 lb 7 oz and was 19 inches long.

DEATHS

Our condolences to the family and friends of David Alpert, a charter camper, waterfront head and lover of camp, who passed away on April 28, 2008.

We had old contact information for the following alumni and can no longer reach them. If you know how to get in touch with any of them, please either send their contact information to me or have them e-mail me at fran@campbarney.org.

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS...

Lisa Abend
Rachel Handler Adler
Julie Alterman
Debbie Bisno
Robby Braun
Michael Broudy
Jeffrey Cohen
Larry Cowen
Lisa Meyer Donaldson

Lisa Field
Staci Francombe
Sandy Garfinkel
Eric Glass
Steven Gold
Nancy Goldstein
Alan Gorowitz
Matthew Grocoff
Erika Kleigman

Susan Lasensky
Steven Meir
Lance Nicholas
Paul Oberman
Leonard Olim
Ted Petrovsky
Erin Warner
Erica Zuckerman



WHERE IN THE WORLD DO KIDS LIVE WHEN THEY'RE NOT AT CAMP BARNEY?

Some kids see each other all year long, even sitting in the same classes at school before sleeping in the same cabin at Camp Barney! Other kids come from all over and get to spend time together only when they're at camp. Here's where campers came from in 2008!

GEORGIA 63%
Mostly from Atlanta, East Cobb, Dunwoody, Roswell, Alpharetta, & Sandy Springs. Also from Savannah, Macon, and many other communities

TENNESSEE 9%
Mostly from Memphis & Nashville

FLORIDA 9%
Mostly from Tampa, Orlando, Sarasota/Bradenton & Ft. Lauderdale/Boca Raton

NORTH CAROLINA 7%
Mostly from Charlotte, Raleigh & Asheville

ALABAMA 3%
Mostly from Birmingham & Huntsville

LOUISIANA 2%
Mostly from New Orleans

OHIO 2%
Mostly from Cincinnati

SOUTH CAROLINA 1%
Mostly from Charleston

OTHER 4%
e.g. California, Texas, Oregon, Colorado, Indiana, Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Massachusetts, Virginia, Oklahoma, Connecticut, Washington, D.C., Canada, Switzerland, France and Israel

WHAT ABOUT SCHOOLS AND SYNAGOGUES?!

About 63% of our campers come from metro-Atlanta, so the schools and synagogues where most of our campers attend are also in metro-Atlanta! Here are the top 25 from 2008:

SCHOOLS:

1. Davis Academy, Atlanta
2. The Epstein School, Atlanta
3. Greenfield Hebrew Academy, Atlanta
4. Solomon Schechter, Memphis
5. Mt. Bethel Elem., Atlanta
6. Dickerson Middle, Atlanta
7. Walton High, Atlanta
8. The Weber School, Atlanta
9. Woodward Academy, Atlanta
10. Dodgen Middle, Atlanta
11. Waters Edge Elementary, Boca Raton
12. Pope High, Atlanta
13. Hebrew Day School, Orlando
14. Dolvin Elementary, Atlanta
15. Riverwood High, Atlanta
16. Tritt Elementary, Atlanta
17. Pineview, Sarasota
18. Vanderlyn Elem., Atlanta
19. Hightower Trail Middle, Atlanta
20. Cincinnati Country Day School, Cincinnati
21. NE Miles Jewish Day School, Birmingham
22. St. Francis, Atlanta
23. Pace Academy, Atlanta
24. Lousanne School, Memphis
25. USN, Nashville

SYNAGOGUES:

1. Etz Chaim, Atlanta (C)
2. Temple Sinai, Atlanta (R)
3. Beth Tikvah, Atlanta (R)
4. Temple Emanu-el, Atlanta (R)
5. Dor Tamid, Atlanta (R)
6. Kol Emeth, Atlanta (R)
7. Bel El, Charlotte (R)
8. Temple Israel, Memphis (R)
9. Or Hadash, Atlanta (C)
10. B'nai Torah, Atlanta (C)
11. Beth Shalom, Atlanta (C)
12. Temple Israel, Charlotte (C)
13. Beth El, Birmingham (C)
14. Gesher L'Torah, Atlanta (C)
15. Beth Or, Raleigh (R)
16. Ohev Shalom, Orlando (C)
17. Ahavath Achim, Atlanta (C)
18. The Temple, Atlanta (R)
19. Temple Beth El, Boca Raton (R)
20. Or Ve Shalom, Atlanta (T; S)
21. Beth Shalom, Sarasota (C)
22. Baron Hirsch, Memphis (O)
23. Chabad of East Cobb, Atlanta (O)
24. Isaac Wise Temple, Cincinnati (R)
25. Shearith Israel, Atlanta (C)

(R) = Reform
(C) = Conservative
(O) = Orthodox
(T; S) = Traditional; Sephardic

WHERE DO MOST CBM ALUMNI LIVE NOW???

1. Georgia
2. Florida
3. Alabama
4. California
5. New York
6. Tennessee
7. Texas
8. North Carolina
9. Washington, DC
10. Oregon
11. Colorado
12. Massachusetts

SEND US YOUR NEWS!

Please e-mail a brief caption and photo for just about any of your life's happenings!

fran@campbarney.org

2012
2012

WHAT'S NEXT FOR ALUMNI?

We're already talking about celebrating the 50th anniversary of Camp Barney Medintz in 2012. Send us your suggestions for gatherings, family days, alumni events, etc. prior to the big one! E-mail fran@campbarney.org or call 678.812.3846.

2012
2012