

BARNEY'S ARK

the alumni newsletter of

Camp Barney Medintz

Volume 12

www.campbarney.org

FALL 2013

WE ARE CELEBRATING



YEARS!

More than 700 members of the Camp Barney Medintz family gathered at "Our Summer Place" to celebrate 50 years of friendship, Jewish identity, individuality, and a connection to the great outdoors. From Shabbat services in the Zaban Chapel to the 50th Dedication Ceremony in The "Chippie" Amphitheater, the weekend was full of nostalgic moments. One of the highlights of the weekend was having four of CBM's Directors in attendance: Bubba Shachter, Larry Melnick, Steve Mendel and of course, Jim Mittenthal!

Weekend participants all contributed to a wonderful art installation that celebrates 50 years of our rich CBM tradition. The new piece will find its permanent home at Camp this summer!

Weekend guests also enjoyed a walk down memory lane in a museum-quality exhibit that was curated especially for the 50th

Anniversary Celebration with a generous gift from Arlene and Lee Newman Katz. Mr. Katz was on staff during the first summer as an Order Packer and still treasures his Camp memories!

"Our Summer Place" (the title of the exhibit) examines the camp's development, leadership, programming, community and Jewish spirit using pictures, copies of articles, speeches and plans from the early years as well as historic and classic CBM artifacts (a bent quarter, a dirt baby, Camp's original bell that hung outside the Dining Hall, and a t-shirt from 1963!) The installation was relocated to the MJCCA and will remain on display until the last week in October. Check it out!



Be sure to visit our 50th anniversary website at www.cbm50.org to see pictures and the awesome video from the event.



"Amazing weekend celebrating 50 years of Camp Barney Medintz!"

Margo Levy Marks
Camper 1980-1988
Staff 1999



"Exhausted and incredibly happy, lucky, and grateful to have just spent the most amazing weekend celebrating my favorite summer place."

Debbie Medintz Jacobs
Camper 1985-1990
Staff 1991-1997, 2008-present



"Thank you for a wonderful weekend. It was simply fantastic and we had tremendous fun. We were 21 again and it felt just like the good ole days!"

Josh D'Agostino
Camper 1989-1991
Staff 1994-1998



"My favorite place on Earth. Miss it every day. Made me who I am today. The other love of my life."

Adam Cohen
Camper 1995-2000
Staff 2001-2006



"I can't stop thinking about the amazing weekend I shared with so many special people at Camp Barney Medintz. We all share something truly unique together. I love you all. Thank you for an unforgettable weekend."

Traci Weinroth Flome
Camper 1984-1992
Staff 1993-1996



"It was such an amazing weekend I feel like the luckiest person in the world - I got to relive some of the greatest years of my life. I love my CBM peeps so much!!!! Love you all and can't wait to do it again."

Leslie Reicher Lubell
Camper 1985-1990
Staff 1991-2000





ENGAGEMENTS / MARRIAGES



Hannah Vahaba (camper 1989-1997, staff 1998-2001) and **Martin O'Donoghue** were married on Saturday, August 3rd, 2013 at the InterContinental Buckhead in Atlanta, GA. Rabbi Brad Levenberg of Temple Sinai officiated the wedding. Following a reception at the InterContinental Buckhead, the couple left for a mini moon in San Juan, Puerto Rico. They live in Atlanta, GA. Hannah is employed at Izzy Maternity as a General Manager for the Atlanta location, and she also serves as Marketing Director for the company. Martin is employed as a Senior Manager at Lanier Parking Solutions in Atlanta. After the wedding, they enjoyed the 50th reunion together at Camp Barney.



Elissa Blache (camper 1994-2001) married **Charles Haynes** on October 19, 2013 in Atlanta, GA. Elissa is a Personal Injury Attorney and Charles is a Social Security Attorney.



Staci Kinsler (camper 1992-93, Arts and Crafts staff 2010-12) will marry **Jesse Gelbaum** on December 29, 2013 in Atlanta, GA. Staci is a Special Education Teacher and Jesse is a Middle School Teacher.



FUTURE CAMPERS



Jake Eli Magyar

was born to **Joy** (nee **Klayman** and camper 1986-90) and **Chris Magyar** on December 12, 2012. He weighed 6 lbs 10 oz and was 19 inches long. The Magyar family resides in Okemos, Michigan.



Caleb Reid Iosco

was born to **Rene** (nee **Griffith** and camper 1991-1996) and **Charles Ryan Iosco** on June 22, 2012. He weighed 8 lbs 6 oz and was 20.5 inches long. The Iosco family resides in Palm City, Florida.



DEATHS

Our deepest condolences to the family and friends of **Neal Nodvin** who passed away on December 17, 2012.

Thanks to you, we continue to track down people on this list in the last newsletter. Unfortunately, people move and change email addresses so we are always adding people. If you know how to get in touch with anyone on this list, please either send their contact information to me or have them email me at fran@campbarney.org. Thanks again for all of your help with the last list!

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|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ken Brown | Dana Levi |
| Laurie Cohen | Janet Polsky |
| Lori Feller | Jennifer Rosenberg |
| Terry Furie | Julie Rosenstein |
| Denise Gabor | Elissa Graham |
| Jeff Horowitz | Saperstein |
| Brett Kornberg | Jeffery Tully |
| Kimberly Laterveer | Erica Wells |

Do you have old camp pictures?



We would love to have a copy of them to post on our website. Please e-mail fran@campbarney.org with photos or links.

CAMP BARNEY RECEIVES GRINSPON GRANTS

The Massachusetts-based **Harold Grinspoon Foundation** has again selected Camp Barney Medintz to again be a part of their matching grants program in 2014! Harold Grinspoon has long been an exceedingly strong supporter of experiences that immeasurably enrich Jewish life for children and families such as **P.J. Library** and **P.J. Goes to Camp**. Recently, they matched money raised for Camp Barney projects including rebuilding our **Lake Wendy Dam**, our Israeli/Teen Cultural Center **Mercuz Horesh**, and "**Sam's Deck**". The Grinspoon Foundation will once again match funds raised this year for specific major facilities.

HAROLD GRINSPON FOUNDATION



NEW SECOND POOL IN 2014

We are currently breaking ground and beginning construction on our brand new **Howard and Lynne Halpern Swimming Pool** that will feature over 3000 square feet of swimming areas, bath/changing rooms, waterslides, a "sun shelf" and a waterfall!

My Weekend at Camp

It was like I never left. After 15 years, instantly, I was back.

Since my final summer as JIT Unit Head in 1998, I have had the privilege to visit Camp about once per year, but I, like so many others, had not spent the night since being on staff. Even though some things are different, it was really just the same.

Close to 700 people circled August 23 - 25 on their calendar and made the trip to Camp Barney Medintz to celebrate 50 Years of Our Summer Place. I truly felt the same excitement I felt years ago driving up 400, heading down Long Branch Road, turning right at the "Almost Famous BBQ" sign, passing the Solid Rock Baptist

Church, and pulling into the Camp gate off of Highway 129 in the beautiful North Georgia Mountains. Even though I had great anticipation, I had no idea the emotion that the weekend would surface. It was such a wonderful opportunity to relive great moments with best friends, rekindle old friendships, tell stories, and summon memories that are as vivid as yesterday. I also had the chance to offer my wife, Annie, a glimpse into the special times I had at one of the most incredible places.

How can it be that generations of people, from 21 to 75 years old, feel so connected to a place and a time? Everyone had the same story, whether they went to Camp last summer or in 1963. It was a time in their lives where lasting friendships began, where spouses were met, where first times happened, and where memories were made. For me, I only spent 10 total months at Camp, but what a lifetime it created.

On August 23, I was truly back at Camp Barney Medintz. "Sugar Mountain," "Friend of the Devil," "Circle Game," "Father and Son." Cicadas singing through the trees; baby toads hopping along the road; the sound of gravel under your feet; screen doors screeching open and slamming closed; singing in the dining hall; praying at the chapel; voices across the lake; stars in the sky; breeze high in the trees.

Let's do it again!

Josh D'Agostino

Camper: 1989-1991
Staff: 1994-1998



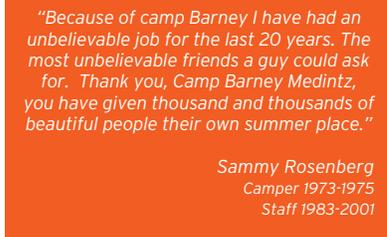
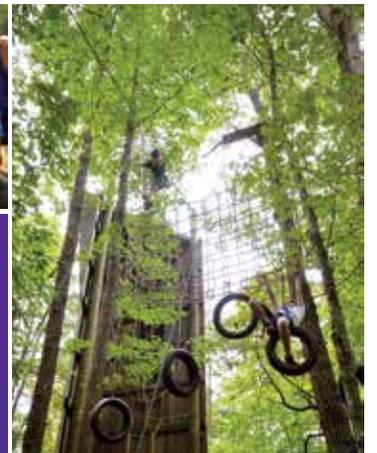
"50th Anniversary Reunion - 'Our Summer Place' -- Then and now!! Thank you CBM for amazing memories and for truly touching my heart!"

Jennifer Meir Meyerowitz
Camper 1984-1990



"Camp Barney Medintz is without question the best gift my parents ever gave me - and one that keeps on giving. I am so lucky and grateful to be part of such a special community."

Allison Boaz
Camper 1988-1993
Staff 1994-1998



"Because of camp Barney I have had an unbelievable job for the last 20 years. The most unbelievable friends a guy could ask for. Thank you, Camp Barney Medintz, you have given thousand and thousands of beautiful people their own summer place."

Sammy Rosenberg
Camper 1973-1975
Staff 1983-2001

CAMP BARNEY MEDINTZ, IT'S YOU THAT WE CHERISH!

Do you cherish your Camp Barney Medintz memories? Want to make sure that CBM stays equipped to deliver the most exciting, meaningful summer experience for years to come?

In celebration of our fiftieth year, CBM launched a \$3.4 million comprehensive Capital Campaign which will fund significant improvements to our facilities and infrastructure. Thanks in part to the generous support of a number of CBM families, construction on our SECOND SWIMMING POOL, **The Howard and Lynne Halpern Swimming Pool**, and new STAFF HOUSING will begin this fall!

FRAMEWORK
FOR OUR FUTURE
The Capital Campaign for the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta

Both of these exciting new elements will be ready in time for Summer 2014!

Help us meet our goal by making a gift to secure the Framework for our Future!

All campaign donors will be recognized. Additional recognition is also available to all donors making gifts of \$5,000 and above to the campaign.

We encourage you to contact CBM's Capital Campaign Director, Staci Brill (678-812-4150) with questions.

I am the person I am today because of Camp Barney.

Mom and Dad did a stellar job but like Allison Boaz said, attending camp was the best gift ever handed down from them to me.

I slalomed for the first time, got thrown from a horse for the first time, made a one match fire for the first time, learned to love the earth for the first time, felt a greater spirit move me for the first time, met my sweet love and one true soulmate, believed in magic for the first time, fell asleep on a dock with my soulmate in my arms for the first time, saw a shooting star for the first time, believed in something bigger than the collective we for the first time, kissed a girl for the first time, advanced a couple of more bases for the first time ;), believed in myself for the first time, conquered my fear of being alone for the first time, believed in another for the first time, took risks for the first time, stood up for another for the first time, was stood up for by another for the first time, understood myself on a deeper level for the first time, trusted myself without condition for the first time, trusted another just the same for the first time, felt really Jewish for the first time, made baked ziti on a campfire for the first time, fell in love for the first time, had my heart broken for the first time, fell in love all over again with the knowledge I learned and needed to be a better person, life partner and father for the first time, understood what it meant to have integrity for the first time, learned how to really keep a secret for the first time, became a leader for the first time, learned as a leader how to step back and follow for the first time, saw the world through the eyes of another for the first time, felt complete independence for the first time, really liked myself for me for the first time, comforted another for the first time, mentored for the first time, found a mentor for the first time, changed my belief and opinion for the first time on a major issue, convinced another to change their position for the first time, met a genuine life-long friend for the first time, did a back flip of a diving board for the first time, played spin the bottle for the first time, defended a woman's honor for the first time, learned to

be a bigger person for the first time, loved music for the first time, slept outdoors for the first time, saw the natural beauty of the mountains for the first time, won a fist fight for the first time, felt another's pain for the loss of another for the first time, felt like I belonged for the first time, understood where I came from for the first time, finished Leslie's sentence about us for the first time, realized that I was one of the luckiest guys ever to be pursued by and not given up on by the same woman for the first time, exposed my boys to camp for the first time, tried tomatoes for the first time . . . and I am just getting started!

David Lubell

Camper 1981-1987; Staff 1988-2001



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