



Camp Wayne for Boys & Girls
Est. 1921
Alumni Newsletter
Fall 2020



Good Things Come....

We are thinking of all of you and hoping you are safe and well. With the holiday season upon us, we reflect upon all of the things for which we are grateful. We are blessed to have such a wonderful and supportive Alumni community. As a Camp Wayne alumnus, you are forever rooted in our extended family and you inspire us to work diligently to keep the Camp Wayne spirit alive.

For the first time since 1921, Camp Wayne enters into the off-season without a summer of fun, sun and friendship to look back on. Summer 2020 would have been our 100th season at Camp Wayne. With the health and safety of our campers and staff at the forefront of our minds, we made the painful decision to postpone camp until Summer 2021. So now, we are once again approaching our 100th summer in camping. And for those of you who have trouble with math, '1921 – 2021' appears to make more sense anyway!

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Alumni Photo from Visiting Day 2019



CWG - 1947

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We are happy to say that preparations are underway for the summer and we cannot wait to have our Camp Wayne family back in Preston Park! Although no one can predict exactly what the world will look like in terms of Covid-19, we will spend the next seven months planning and preparing for every possible scenario. We have participated in several virtual meetings with other camps that ran programs this summer to learn about what worked and what improvements can be made to help us create a safe space for our children in 2021. Although the camping industry has always been a collaborative community, this year, more than ever, we are seeing camps come together to help each other succeed in providing kids the opportunity to be at their summer home with their camp friends.

With that being said, we have rescheduled our 100th Alumni Reunion for September 11-12, 2021! As we continue to assess the safety of holding an alumni reunion next fall, we suggest that you refrain from booking any travel to Preston Park until we can confirm our ability to hold the event. We will be sending out an eblast in the near future with instructions to RSVP and to join our Reunion Facebook group and Instagram page.

As we plan and prepare for a summer at camp amidst a pandemic, it is the breadth and depth of our rich history that keeps us focused and motivated. The common ties of summers at Wayne and the memories we have will remain untouched by Covid as our alumni community continues to grow and strengthen with each passing year. Thank you for your continued support and have a happy and safe holiday season.

The Corpuel and Brown Families



UGs '08 passing through Preston Park.

Alumni Buzz

We love hearing from our alumni. Please share any news and/or pictures via email to info@campwayne.com



Amy Smith-Schwartz & Chas Fricke
Congratulations to alumni Amy Smith-Schwartz and Chas Fricke on the birth of their daughter Lilah Rose, born 2/22/20.



Rebecca Corpuel
Congrats and best wishes to Rebecca and Stephen Lothrop on their engagement.



Jaimee Fischer
Congrats to Jaimee "Fish" Fischer on the birth of her son, Spencer Jordan Fischer, born on 2/16/20.



Josh Corpuel
Josh and Jennifer Corpuel welcomed daughter Parker Skye to the family on December 9, 2019. Parker looks forward to joining the girls in Bunk 1 in a few years.

Gabby Lorusso

Hi Matt and Adena!

It's great to hear that Noel and Georgeann are enjoying their well-deserved retirement in 'Sunny South Florida'. It's been a long time since they visited Florida to meet with my family and well over 15 years since I attended camp. In the early 90's, I (will never forget) was a bingo square my first summer attending titled 'youngest camper.'

I've been living with my boyfriend in Pompano Beach for the last few years working as a conservational data analyst during the day and an amateur stand up comedian by night. As you can imagine, the downtime is... persistent. We've watched every movie we've been able to recall. Recently, the 90's movie "Heavyweights" was featured on our suggested movies. Chris and I sat down with a bottle of wine to watch it and the nostalgia of my summers at Camp Wayne immediately started.

I jumped on my computer to check out the website. I saw your beautiful children, Noel, Georgeann, and of course, you two. I peeked around at the incredible changes and updates made to the campus. We went through the digital tour and were in awe at how beautiful it is there. I showed him the bunks I lived in (which was most of the bunks) and explored all the new buildings and activities. I told him how I would harass the head of the mess hall, Matt Brown, even after he was engaged to the camp Princess, Miss Adena. I bragged about doing the lake swim every summer and being one of the few campers allowed to swim it back. I showed him how amazing the gymnastics pavilion has always been, and how it was my favorite free time activity to join. I explained color war, talent shows and socials with boys. The MADD Art studio has become a MADD Art Museum, and after about an hour of blabbing I figured Chris had had enough.

I wasn't done indulging though. I thought about the friends I had made and the experiences I grew from. I thought about how problematic of a camper I was; How often Noel and Georgeann came to South Florida 'seemingly' to have a face-to-face discussion with my parents. But after regretting my past behavior long enough, I went back to thinking how lucky I was to have attended camp for 9 years. I was lucky to spend two months a year exposed to something completely different than the other 10.

Noel and Georgeann showed me a different type of mentorship than what I was used to at school, at home, in general. The patience they had with me, the encouragement they gave me, the warmth they shared in every interaction... their leadership and guidance in general, really shaped a huge part of my childhood in such a positive way. After spending hours reflecting on the fond memories, both good and bad, I had this overwhelming sensation to reach out to show my sincere gratitude. I was fortunate to spend so many summers at camp around such positively influential people, altogether. I can't measure the amount of gratitude I have for your family, the respect you've shown me or the opportunities provided by attending camp, but from the bottom of my heart I am truly thankful for every single summer I spent at the Nice People Place. Thank you, for everything. And thank you for being such amazing role models to young women, including myself, for so many years.

I know this summer must be wildly different than the last 20, 30, 40 have been, but next year will be better than last, and I wish you nothing but continued success! Please be safe and take care.



Noel and Alana (Ross) Waisbrot at the Camp Wayne Florida reunion in February. Alana's daughter will be a camper this summer!

Cookie Mellin Kissler

It is so strange and wonderful to view the video and see Camp Wayne in all its glory.

I loved camp and still have my closest friends who I met at camp. It is so bizarre to see the camp today "Is this my Camp Wayne?" My children went to the boy's camp and my grandchildren attended as well. What a lovely legacy you have created. Can't wait for the reunion.

Camp Erin NYC

Hi From Camp Erin NYC !

I wish I had pages to write, but the year we have all experienced has been slightly different. With no camp last season, our sights are set cautiously towards summer 2021. We won't have any answers until spring. Our decision to open will be based again on the ability to keep our volunteers and campers safe, along with the directives from our corporate office.

We can be hopeful. Never before has the need for Camp Erin been more urgent. Offering children the opportunity to grieve alone or together with others on the same journey, while coming off a pandemic and a different educational experience, would be invaluable. A *FREE* weekend full of hope and healing, laughing and crying, fun and reflection equals a magical weekend like none other for children in need.

If you know of any family that could benefit from Camp Erin NYC, please reach out to me, Ann Fuchs, Camp Director at afuchs@copefoundation.org.

If you have a big heart and would like to volunteer please reach out.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Make good decisions for all and stay safe.

Fingers crossed for 2021!

Warmest regards,
Ann



Don't forget to "like" us on Facebook to stay up to date on all things Wayne!
www.facebook.com/campwayneforboysandgirls



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CWG: [@campwaynegirls](https://www.instagram.com/campwaynegirls)

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