

THE TOWANDA TIMES

OUR 93RD YEAR ***PRINT AND READ!***

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CAMP TOWANDA, HONESDALE PA



For Boys & Girls - Established 1923
Nestled in Northeastern Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains
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Vol. 93 No. 2 New Year Issue

"Lego to Camp!"

©2014ToOh15!

PROGRAMMED FOR SUCCESS

Howie Schrage, our Program Director, delivered this sermon last summer Erev Visiting Day. Howie and his family, like so many others, are an important part of what makes the Camp Towanda Family special, meaningful and comforting. Howie, along with several others are working during the off-season to improve and enhance our program. You can expect an exceptional summer of 2015!

I am truly honored to be standing before all of you this evening in this very special place. If you don't mind me making a sports reference, being asked to deliver the sermon the night before visiting day would be the equivalent of throwing out the first pitch at Yankee Stadium. My path to Camp Towanda is much different than nearly everybody else's out in the crowd this evening. While most of you had your parents select Towanda for you, I was looking for the best possible place for my family to spend our summers.

Previous to arriving here at Towanda a few years ago, we had spent the summer at another camp, but it never felt like home. After that summer, I immediately started to look for a new summer home that my family would look forward to coming back to for years and years. I was fortunate enough to meet with Mitch while he was in South Florida for the Beach Reunion and after just an hour meeting with him and scanning the camp website, I knew Towanda was where my family needed to be. In the months leading up to camp, we received many emails from our future summer home, which made us feel comfortable even before we arrived at camp. We would also go on the website nearly every evening to learn our way around on the virtual tour

before we got here to become familiar with everything that Towanda had to offer.

When we first arrived here, we walked up the hill and reached the white rock, I looked around and knew that we had made the correct decision. Our first tour of camp was led by Kyle Maynes who had so much energy and I could sense how much love he had for Towanda. Besides seeing the smiling faces of the campers every day, what I enjoy most is becoming part of the traditions of Towanda. From arrival day and seeing campers jump into the arms of their counselors and seeing friends reunite after ten months apart, to the excitement we share at GIRLS SING, all the way to my favorite night of the year, ROPE BURNING during Olympics, that night is truly special. Rope Burning is the true definition of camaraderie. The way both teams support each other and root for each other is something that amazes me each time that I am lucky enough to witness it. But one of the greatest traditions of all takes place when your family and friends invade our summer home for Visiting Day. Seeing the cars lining up so your visitors can get a spot next to the charge of the light brigade rope, plus the creative signs is just another reason why Towanda is so special and fun.

There are so many things that make Towanda so incredible. In my position of Program Director, I love making my way around camp each day and seeing the smiling faces of campers as they conquer the climbing wall for the first time, score the winning goal in a Soccer game or watching campers do the strangest and most entertaining things on the stage. Sitting in the Dining Room and listening to the Dorm girls scream their lungs out which is almost followed by the Club Boys in their cheer always brings a smile to my face. These are just a few of the things that make this place so special and it is hard for me to explain to my friends at home who have no idea what they are missing out on, but I KNOW ALL OF YOU UNDERSTAND.

But most of all, what makes Towanda so special are the people I have met along the way. I love the time that I spend each day with Bob and Amy Miller, Michael and Lisa Pelton, Z, Robert Edwards and the weekend visits from Spiz and all

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NEXT ISSUE:
• Summer Weather Forecast!



LUCKY STRIKE REUNION

The November Reunion is always a crazy, overwhelming blast of frenetic friends! Walking into LUCKY STRIKE LANES is like entering a vortex of spinning campness (without the camp part). Familiar faces, awkward glances, happy smiles, wild activity, people dressed not for summer, parents watching, video memories, very thin pizza, catching up, wondering if you recognize someone, thinking of the summer and remembering how great it all was.

If you didn't get your DVD of the 2014 Friday Nite Flix Highlights, please let becky@camptowanda.com know.

And a big congratulations and THANKS to all that helped contribute over 100 lbs of food that we donated to our local food bank .



It was great to see everyone. Next stop is the Florida Beach Party on December 26. Those that signed in:

Jake & Jared Levy, Evan Lapidus, Audrey, Josh & Eden Gabbai, Randy, Jordan & Jake Silverberg, Addison & Jeremy Abramowitz, Sam & Bella Messer, Sydney, Ben & Madeline Wolin, Matt & Mikey Espinosa, Simon & Betsy Muller, Ben & Cooper Gallinson, Jared Weisler, Ari & Emma Rosenberg, Jacob Weisberger, Eric & Adam Abrams, Michael & Madison Mariam, Sam Grinberg, Sarah Klein, Jakey, Sophie & Alex Gerson, Grace Kisslinger, Matt & Amanda Merovitz, Gideon Abramowitz, Josh Romero, Avi, Brenen & Jayde Grossman, Mitch, Stephanie & Jared Reiter, Matt & Bob Miller, Lili Miller, Amy, Jillian & Jessica Horowitz, Jonathan Penner, Melanie Buck, Becky Schifffenhaus, Jason, Gabe, Daniel, Benjamin & Rebecca Charney, Noah & Jordan Nemirovsky, Morgan Korn, Jared, Heather & Mitchell Ginsburg, Ally & Drew Botwinick, Matt Gutkin, Luke & Remi Berliner, Jake Weinstein, Ryan & Lauren Forman, Sammy & Ava Schneider, Lindsay & Melissa Ilgner, Callie & Seth Krosin, Harrison & Elana Kane, Daniel "DJ" Rosenthal, Haley Davis, Jack Rothenberg, Grant Babyatsky, Evan Leggero, Emily & Sami Fox, Judson Levi, Jaren Smullian, Jordyn & Dylan Tish, Ross Tuchman, Sam Blatt, Maxwell Gelman, Izzy Berger, Jason Young, Caden Payones, Brandon, Jordan, Marnie & Craig Cooper, Kylie & Hanna Torine, David Leipsner, Maxine & Sam Herbst, Alex Klein, Josh Merlin, Gillian Bloom, Sam & Alanna Ross, Jesse Star, Zac Shaytin, Ruby & Henry Ellison, Ethan Tindel,



Zoe Birnbaum, Margo Fleishman, Brett Spivack, Robert Kayton, Madden Shuffler, Julia & Abby Roth, Ilana Feder, Hannah Seley, Riley Albert, Andrew, Ben & Alex Berk, Sarah Brandstaedter, Rachel Monastersky, Morgan Schachter, Sophie Krejci, Sari, Madison & Lily Dulman, Avery Gourvitz, Olivia & Josh Rubin, Brayden Serphos, Natalie Smith, Jack Gerber, Jack & Emma Boruchov, Jesse Grossman, Jacob Eichner, Danielle & Alexa Gault, Jenna Marcus, Kendall Gaynes, Emma Fetterman, Jordan & Parker Berke, Ella Barnes, Riley & Tyler Dembo, Ava & Jake Weiss, Eliza & Hannah Garmise, Carly Lapidus, Rachel & Sam Shulman, Syd Brown, Sydney "Skittles" Levy, Sami Rosenberg, Andrew Schwartz, Alyssa Heller, Emily Schwartz, Cassidy & Riley Kurzer, Carsyn Balter, Nikki & Ally Schachtel, Jeffrey Lowell, Sam Hecht, Jackie Grossbard, Hailey Bergman, Adam & Andrew Davis, Steven Finver, Molly Cohen, Judah Rosner, Adin & Ilana Kersh, Perry Axelrod, Carson & Cooper Crisp, Mollie, Ali & Michael Spiesman, Chloe, Evan & Dylan Sheinwald, Stephen Padilla, Zach Halperin, Ithan Zaslow, Robby Kurzer, Jack & Max Lipkind, Daniel Oliveri, Ben Stillman, Ben Fuhrman, Alexa & Daniel Milove, Caroline Kelman, Charlotte Shapiro, Bailey Hecht, Dylan Rosen, Zoe Herman, Ava Guzzardi, Kylie Cohen, Tyler & Lindsay Bisk, Brian & Serena Golden, Alex Wasserman, Bella & Samantha Freed, Alexa Caplan, Lauren Bosin, Ava Simon, Mark "Z" Zides, Mike "The Plumber" Notarangelo, Brian Klasner, Jillian Weintraub, Hayley Trichon, Nicole Salm, Eliza Davis, Erica Media, Max Gold, Rachel Holtz, "Chef" Ben Levine, Steph Simon, Luke Lawley and Dean Mitchell



AROUND THE WORLD



Mitch & Stephanie were traveling for most of November. We began in Spain and met up with Brandon (who was spending the semester in Madrid), The Bologs (who are living in Madrid for the year as B-Bo hones his incredible soccer skills), our beloved Tennis Director, Sir Robert and many of our Spanish families. A special shout out to “Piano Sara” for traveling over 4 hours to come to the MADRID REUNION. It was exciting and “Mucho Bueno” to feel the buzz and pride of our Spanish families coming together to meet with us.

Lots of “European Hugs” from those that signed in:

Maria Ibañez; Isabel & Natalia Porcuna; Jimena “Jimmy” Perelli; President Maria Ruesta, and first brothers Santiago & Ignacio Ruesta; Jorge & Nico Modet; Maria, Carme & Beatriz Conde; Juan Perez; Jaime Campos; Joaquin Duro; Sonia Parres; Alvaro de la Peña; Stanislas & Guillermo Sembinelli; NACHO Recarte!; David Casarubio; Brett & Tyler Bolog; Marina Sagredo; Carlos Perez; Sara & Maria Baquero; Enrique, Rossana, Yago & Jaime Silla; Mitch, Stephanie & Brandon Reiter and of course, Sir Robert Edwards!



We were then off to Paris to meet with potential Parisian families and staff, research incredible art projects and celebrate our 30th wedding anniversary. Nice Quality!

From there, we continued circumnavigating the globe and headed to Beijing, China to meet up with Jared. Our first night there we had dinner with Sonia and Victor Parres’ parents for some genuine Peking (aka Beijing) Duck!



For 2 weeks, we immersed into the culture and we met some fantastic families who would like to send their children to Towanda. We learned from these parents that they have the same concerns as Americans; who will take care of my child, will they make friends, what if they don’t know how to play a certain activity and so on. The excitement continued as they realized this opportunity to learn American culture. We were able to share how great the Spaniards have done at camp. We anticipate that we will have a few kids from China join our Towanda Family.

It was fantastic and a treat to tour The Great Wall, The Terra Cotta Warriors and all the incredible sights of Beijing, Shanghai, Xian, Guangzhou and Hong Kong; we not only met parents, but some wonderful potential staff, and even came up away with some programming ideas.

We returned back to New York about 48 hours before the LUCKY STRIKE REUNION and despite the 13-hour jet lagged difference, it was great to be home!

Continued from cover....

of the others, way too many too mention. Listening to stories of how camp was and how it evolved are both amazing and amusing, as we always seem to laugh. Seeing how people like Matt Miller who has spent his entire life here at camp and knows every Olympic team from every year and can tell anybody who asks specific details about Olympics and breakouts truly amazes me. Also seeing Jared and the passion he has for Towanda shows me that this place will be in great hands for many more years to come

I want to thank Mitch and Stephanie for welcoming my family into the Towanda family and who have always made us feel comfortable here. I hope that my children, Aaron who is a waiter and Hanna, Dorm of 2016 will always appreciate their time at Towanda and will continue to come back for many years after their days as campers come to an end. My wife, Terry who works in the office, tutors and helps out on campus along with myself truly enjoy the time we get to spend here each summer. The only regret I have about coming here, is that we did not find Towanda years ago. Towanda truly is the summer home for our family and all of the people with us tonight are a big reason why this place is so special.

-HOWIE

WHAT'S WHAT WITH THE *WOC

Just like our staff undergoes a thorough orientation prior to the start of camp each summer, the WOC is continuously educating ourselves too. We consistently work with Bob Ditter, our great camp consultant, in addition to participating in different conferences and trainings to help us learn and grow professionally. Much like we tell our staff and campers at camp, we believe that you never stop learning and that one can always get better at what they do.

EPIC

The Junior WOC are members of EPIC, which stands for Emerging Professionals in Camping. So far this year, we have attended an EPIC Roundtable and the EPIC Winter Conference.

The Roundtable allowed us to connect with other Young Professionals in the Camp Industry and share best practices and ideas for the future. This year's conference taught us more about Customer Service and how to best meet the needs of our campers, parents and staff. We were able to discuss these topics with other EPICs and also learn from some seasoned Camp Directors.

TRI-STATE

Coming up this spring, the whole WOC will be attending the Tri-State Camp Conference in Atlantic City. We go every year and we are always amazed that we continue to learn new things and come home with new ideas. We each go to many different sessions covering a huge variety of topics, as well as a large Keynote Session. This year's Keynote will feature Hillary Clinton, where she will discuss her work with children and families, which we are all really looking forward to.

QUOTES

A reminder that *WOC stands for our Winter Office Crew!

Z - "Laundry is so much easier for 10 of you." **MTP** - "The pool's cold this time of year!"

JARED - "Lego rooms lonely, when are the lunatics coming back?"

MEL - "I'm still here!"

PENNER - "I write the checks, which is good because my name is PEN-ner"

BECKY - "Can't wait to see everyone at camp!"

MATT - "Casper stop eating the garbage!" or
"It's good to be back inside, did you guys know it gets cold at camp in November!?"

STEPHANIE - "Where have all the flowers gone?"

ERICA MEDIA - "Smile"

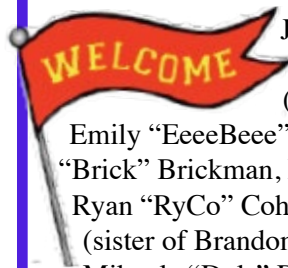
LAUREN ECKSTEIN - "It's there forever"

MITCH - "If I've said it once, I've said it a million times, the half court backwards shot needs to become a rule!"



"WE WELCOME YOU TO CAMP TOWANDA, WE ARE MIGHTY GLAD YOU'RE HERE..."

We welcome our latest group of FIRST YEAR CAMPERS. It won't be long until you feel comfortable, part of the Towanda family; making friends, having fun and just overall loving everything CAMP Towanda! To help ease with the welcome, we have given you a "temporary nickname"; don't you worry, it can change at any moment once you arrive at camp! All new campers should have received their welcome gift package by now. The countdown is on; we are so excited that you will be at camp this summer!



Joseph "A-Joe" Altman, Alex "Double A" Amorosino, Noah "Rum" Arum, Josh "The Babs" Babyatsky (brother of Grant), Alec "Barr" Barrocas (2nd gen dad Jason), Remi "Arby" Berliner (sister of Luke), Lexi "L-Bern" Bernstein, Owen "Obi" Blaine, Sarah "Esbee" Blatt (sister of Sam), Emily "EeeeBee" Blumhof, Jacob "Panda" Bockstein (brother of Sam, 2nd gen dad Andrew), Sam "Bo" Bodack, Max "Brick" Brickman, Matthew "MatCap" Caplan (brother of Alexa), Sky "Walker" Christman, Haley "Crow" Chroman, Ryan "RyCo" Cohen, Shane "Shake" Cohen (brother of Kylie), Emily "Officer" Constable, Jordan "LilCoop" Cooper (sister of Brandon, 3rd gen parents Marnie Hutner and Craig Cooper, grandma Rysse Katz), Emma "Dar" Darche, Mikayla "Dols" Dolgins, Alexis "The Dorf" Dorf, Ari "The Drake" Drake, Joseph "Tin Man" Entin, Matthew "Fetts" Fetterman (brother of Emma), Avery "Vree" Fox, Lilly "Trot" Fox, Nikki "Kit" Fox (sister of Sami and Emily), Dylan "The Girl" Freedman, Madeline "Free" Friedman (sister of Zach and Alec), Eden "Good Day" Gabbai (sister of Josh and Audrey), Jesse "The Gels" Gelman (brother of Maxwell), Caroline "Sweet" Goldberg, Jenna "J-Gold" Goldberg (sister of Samantha), Alexander "A-Man" Goldman (brother of Gabe and Charlotte), Hallie "HG" Goldstein, Romy "Shade" Green (sister of Allie and Sami), Griffin "The Habes" Haber (brother of Taylor "The Boy", 2nd gen mom Jen Diamond), Jake "J" Halperin (brother of Zach), Zachary "R&R" Herman (2nd gen dad David), Jett "The Jet" Himmelstein (2nd gen mom Lauren Miller), Ryan "Dude" Hirsch (brother of Sam), Farah "Real" Israel, Jack "Izzy" Israel, Alexis "A-James" James (sister of Spencer and Ryan), Ally "A-K" Kahne, Ben "B-K" Kahne, Elana "Cane" Kane (sister of Harrison), Emma "EfSkee" Kanefsky, Luke "Kretch" Krejci (brother of Sophie), Marley "Mar-K" and Sammi "Sam-K" Kurzer (sisters of Cassidy and Riley), Noah "Junior Kop" and Jaden "J-Leo" Leon (2nd gen mom Emily Koplik), Max "Lip" Lipkind (brother of Jack), Juliette "March" Marchlewski (2nd gen mom Debbie Mensch), Sadie "McSadie" McRae (sister of Findley), Brody "BroMo" Morningstar (brother of Dylan), Asher "Gather" Moss, Tyler "Toss" Moss, Matthew "Nemo" Nemerofsky (brother of Isabella), Ben "Jerry" Perry, Riley "Are-P" Person (sister of Sera), Jacob "Pie" Pion, Hailey "The Right" Price, Dylan "Raffles" Raffa, Jake "J-R" Restivo, Sari "Rich" Richards, Joey "Cheese" Ricotta, Juli "Cotta" Ricotta, Ava "Rosey" Rosenow, Ashlee "R-Berg" Rothenberg, Leah "Des" Rudes (sister of Ryan), Drew "Schneids" Schneider (brother of Marlee), Sophie "S2" Schneider (sister of Sammy and Ava), Dylan "Dees" Schwartz (2nd gen mom Beth Manspizer), Marni "Mars" Schwarz, Rachel "Shul" Shulman (sister of Sam, 2nd gen mom Amy Rosen), Ryan "Sez" Simon (brother of Ava), Justin "Star" Starr (brother of Jesse), Seth "Title" Teitelman, Brooke "BT" Telchin, Derek "BT" Telchin, Marly "MT" Telchin, Jenna "J-Tee" Tencer, Kylie "Tour" Torine (sister of Hanna), Zachary "Wise" Weissman (2nd gen mom Amy Schartzwald), Sydney "Wids" Widensky, Emma "Yed" Yedvab, Ethan "Vab" Yedvab and Dylan "Dizzy" Zaslow (sister of Ithan) !

ATTENTION LEGO LUNATICS

News from The Camp Towanda LEGO Room:
Contact jared@camptowanda.com to support his recent
"themed kit submission" to LEGO.

He needs your support to vote and also Jared wants
you to give thought to helping create a project for
Camp Towanda to submit to LEGO
this coming summer.



WIN OR LOSE, IT IS THE BEST!

Lessons From Rope Burning

Literally born and raised at Camp Towanda, Brandon Reiter has experienced it all from being pushed around in a stroller to the rarity of a day camper and of course from Jet to Club- LIT-CIT-GC to GLAGL and General. Getting ready for his 21st summer, Brando shares his perspective on The Best of Camp Towanda!

If you were to ask anyone who's ever been apart of the Camp Towanda family what the greatest night of the summer is, I'm sure most people would give the same response. Each summer is different in many ways, however whatever the case may be, regardless of what has happened through out the previous six and a half weeks; the third night of Olympics is always the most remarkable night. Rope burning is something you cannot possibly describe properly to someone who has never witnessed it before. There are no adjectives I can use to describe how special it is, so I am going to recount the various experiences in order to convey its importance it has had in my life.

The first Rope Burning I participated in came when I was a Middie Boy. My brother was a fire builder and I was beyond excited to help him try and win. I was nervous, unsure of what my task exactly was. Older people yelling and encouraging us to never give up. When we took the field I realized it was rather simple. Move the wood from point A to point B. What seems rather monotonous ended up being the most intense thing I had done in my young life. We won. Later, I walked into the Rec Hall along with my group mate, Jesse. The entire room filled with over 200 people gave us a thunderous applause.

It was the greatest feeling of my life, and I wanted to win a thousand more Rope Burnings. The next summer I was beyond excited for another chance, however I was not selected to participate. I was beyond upset and felt rejected. I was bummed for all but a day before I watched and cheered our team onto a victory. Being a part of that crowd was better than any sporting event I have attended in my life, and I've been to the Final Four.

On the third day of Olympics during the summer of 2009 I had a giant knot in my stomach. As a fifteen-year-old member of the Club it would finally be my chance to be a fire builder. After watching fifteen different Rope Burnings,



and over a hundred and twenty different builders take the field, I thought I was destined to be a builder, despite barely weighing 100 pounds at the time. I had no idea



why I was so nervous. I would either win with over 200 people cheering me on, or lose with 200 people giving me support. I couldn't even imagine what similar circumstance I would have had in my young life had I not been blessed with the good fortune of attending Towanda.

The horn blew and I watched as the first shift went out to start the fire. Jason was meant to be the lighter. His job was to build the box, get it lit, while Alec ran and supplied him the wood. I looked across the field to the other team. They had smoke and we had not even as much as a spark. I felt my stomach drop, I thought back to the previous year, the team I was on built a raging fire way before the other team even had theirs lit, but unfortunately it was not placed under the ropes properly and the wind carried the flames away allowing the other team to catch up and eventually win. I did not want to lose. Before I knew it the horn blew again, and it was time for my shift. I looked at our fire, but it was non-existent. During practice, we had not really gone over lighting. I had lit several matches in the past, but nothing could have prepared me for the amount of adrenaline and nerves I had flowing through my veins. My long time group leader, Marc Cormier, handed me the matchbox and I took out a match. My hands were shaking, as I knelt down to the bottom of the box of wood. My hands were shaking so much I broke the first one.

"Relax", said Marc. I took a deep breath and lit the second one. I held it up to the newspaper, let it catch and gave it some oxygen. After a few brief seconds it shot up. I heard the crowd chanting "Brandon and Lucas!" When you hear 200 people chant your name, you feel like you can accomplish anything.

I heard the sound of the bugle once more and our shift was over so I glanced back to the other team's fire. It was of great significance while ours could barely pass as a campfire. I refused to believe we would lose. I watched and I hoped for some sort of gust of wind that would knock their fire down, and boost ours up. Their fire seemed to not be directly under

the ropes, just like the year before. Eventually we caught up and our first rope burned.

We might win, I thought. But what seemed like a half a millisecond later their top rope went down. Impossible. I looked and with disbelief I noticed that their bottom rope was still attached. They burned the top rope down first. Did they win? Was there a place in the rulebook for a circumstance as peculiar as this one? Was it a penalty? Did we still have a chance? No. Less than a minute later their bottom rope went down, as well and reality set in. We lost. We didn't burn our top rope down for another eight minutes, which feels like 4 hours when you knew you've already been defeated.

Later that night my three Club brothers and me walked into the old hockey arena. We walked in to more than 200 people giving us applause, the same magnitude I had received when I was victorious just a few years prior. We had just lost, but all these people stood there waiting for us to finish showering. They knew we tried our hardest, as did they. Five years later I stood awaiting the bugle, but this time I was a coach and a general. I looked at the builders I had been practicing with the days before. They seemed to be far less nervous than I was as a builder. I envied them. The bugle sounded and I instructed Gideon how to place the box. Before I knew it, it was time to light and I handed him his matches. He was shaking, less than me, but it brought me back.

"You got this." I said. He lit the match and the fire shot up. The top ropes went down in what seemed like 2 minutes. It felt like we had just won the World Series. I looked at the joy on the builders face, and it gave me a great sense of peace knowing I was able to give these kids the feeling of victory that I was unable to capture when I was in their shoes. Once all the excitement settled down, the other team still looked to be having trouble. Their fire caught a big gust of win, and was pushed far away from the ropes. We watched and

encouraged them.

I noticed that they had ran out of logs, a tool that can be used to push the fire so I ran over and grabbed the ones that we had not used. I gave it to their builders, knowing that I was in the same situation just five years ago: the endless eternity that is trying to burn your ropes down after you have been defeated. Along with some of my co-coaches, we helped organize their woodpiles a little bit, making them easier to grab. Eventually they burned it down and we gave each other mutual congratulations.

Whether your cheering the names of the builders, whether your building the fire, or whether your a young ten year old not knowing what he's doing, you play a huge role in the whole event. When newcomers ask me why Rope Burning is so special, it really is hard to explain. But what I can say is that Rope Burning has taught me many things. It has taught me how to face rejection. It has taught me that second chances can be redeeming. It has taught me that winning must be done with empathy. But most importantly, it has taught me that losing with pride and people by your side really aren't losing at all. That's what makes Rope Burning, Rope Burning.

Brandon



IMPROVEMENTS

This off-season like all other years, we spend massive amounts of BIG BUCKS improving, enhancing, adding and up keeping the facilities at Camp. These projects below represent well over half a million dollars worth of capital improvements. We are proud of the look and feel of our camp.

- Improved lighting and sound system for the Drama Department (Phase 1 of 2)
- TreeHouse
- The Yurt
- The Hut
- Bathroom Renovations in B-15, B-8, B-9 and B-4.
- Shrubbery & Tree Plantings on Girl & Boys campus and the Flagpole
- The rebuilt pool (Phase 1 of 3)
- The reconditioned Soccer Pitch & Track (Phase 1 of 2)
- A new well at The Farm
- A new and improved phone and Internet system



10 Ways To Make Camp Shine on Your Social Media

by Lauren Eckstein Forman, Social Media Director

Did you know your experience at Camp Towanda could help you get into college or land your dream job?

Here are 10 great ways you can make your summer camp experiences SHINE on social media! (tip: Include any of the ideas below on your Google+ and LinkedIn pages, which are both highly searchable and interesting to colleges and employers.)

1. Make Camp Towanda part of your digital profile. If you are a camper, this could be "camper at heart" on Twitter or Instagram or if you were/are a staff member "worked at Camp Towanda".
2. Share the good you do at camp and post photos, videos or write blogs about your participation with our camp philanthropy programs like Vision Walk, Morry's Camp and SCOPE. Make sure you tag Camp Towanda and those organizations. Ask them to share your content.
3. Chronicle your camp experiences on a blog or make your college essay about camp. So many of you use camp as a subject for school projects. Get them published online. Some thought-starters: how has Camp influenced your life, your interests, your involvement in the community and your professional aspirations? Share a time that you were challenged at camp that changed you forever. Write a persuasive essay on why today's youth should spend a summer at camp instead of a desk internship. Share what has camp taught you about yourself that you could never learn in school.
4. Publish a camp-themed BuzzFeed article. Here's a fun one for inspiration!
5. Did you ever give a sermon at camp or write an article for the Towanda Times? Give us a copy and we will put it on our blog so you can share on your social media. Just ask!
6. Write a blog giving advice to first year campers or counselors about what life is like at summer camp. We'll share that too!
7. Create boards on Pinterest that are a tribute to your camp passions. Friendship bracelets, Legos, nature art, KitKats!
8. Write a Tumblr blog cooking show on YouTube documenting you making our camp recipes at home or camp-inspired food.
9. Create a series of art that is homage to camp. Share your projects on Instagram. Don't forget to tag @CampTowanda.
10. Create a camp tribute video. It could be funny, emotional or inspiring. Just have fun!
Or create a comic strip about camp adventures (look out Cheese, Milk & Pickle!) and publish it on Tumblr.



These ideas are just the beginning. Share with us how YOU make camp shine on your social media. If you have any questions you can always email our Social Media Director, lauren@camptowanda.com.

For more social media ideas and advice, check out this entire article and more under "Social Media Smarts" on our blog and on Pinterest.



DEPARTMENT NEWS UPDATED

BASKETBALL

They're Friends! Jesse Longmire and O'Neil Lubin will be back continuing with their incredible charisma, enthusiasm, and knowledge of coaching and teaching basketball. We are very pleased to announce that O'Neil will be the Department Head!



ARTS & CRAFTS

Linda Anderson has been working closely with Stephanie to develop new projects, added creative development and getting the finer arts prepared for 2015. Linda is attending the National Arts Education Association delegation in Finland this fall while Stephanie continues her fine art career (her work is in several galleries) painting and sculpting.

It should be noted that the Arts & Crafts porch has been renovated and Stephanie's tree sculptures have been varnished!



FARMING

Exciting developments with our nature, gardening, animal and farming programming will be announced later in the year; We are lovin' "Fork-To-Mouth"

CAMP COLLEGE CONNECTION

As many of our older campers prepare to choose a college, many families have found it helpful to contact a camp connection for insight and/or a personal tour. Please feel free to contact us if you would like to get connected. Here are some of the schools we currently have staff at:



Alvernia University
Ball State University
Barton College
Binghamton University
Bradley University
Chico State University
Community College Of Allegheny County
Dodge City Community College
Edison State College
Elon University
Florida Atlantic University
Georgia Regents University
Hillsdale College
Indiana University
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
James Madison University
Kansas State University
Keuka College
Keystone College
Knox College
Lafayette College
Lebanon Valley College
Lock Haven University
Masaryc University
Miami University
Middle Georgia State College
Misericordia University
Monroe Community College
Ohio State University
Ohio University
Palm Beach State College
Princeton University
Quinnipiac University

Ramapo College
Simpson College
Syracuse University
Tallahassee Community College
The Ohio State University
The Pennsylvania State University
The University of Georgia
The University of Victoria
Truman State University
University of Central Florida
University at Albany
University of Michigan
University of Alabama
University of Connecticut
University of Florida
University of Illinois
University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
University of Kansas
University of Maryland
University of North Florida
University of South Florida
University of Thomas Bata
University of Wisconsin
University of Wollongong
Vaparaiso University
Warner University
Wash U. St Louis
Cornell University
Vanderbilt University
Emory University
NYU
Lehigh University
Boston University

Umass Amherst
Tufts University
Columbia University
George Washington
Tulane University
Rutgers University
American University
University of Arizona
Duke University
Boise State
Temple University
Ryerson University
Roger Wiliams University
Univerity of Delaware
Wichita State Univerity
SUNY Oneonta
SUNY Albany
Northeastern University

LABOR DAY WEEKEND 2015

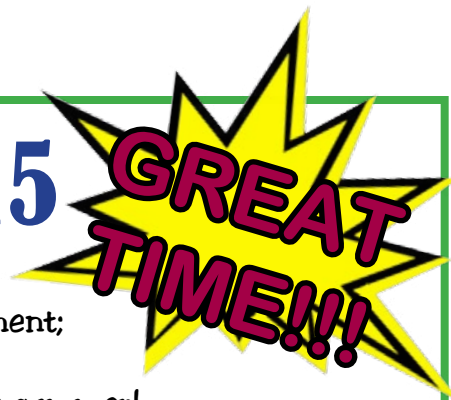
Parents, campers, alumni and your family and friends.

Rent a bunk; enjoy activities, events, relaxation, food and entertainment;
all provided. For more info [CLICK HERE!](#)

This is a great way to end the summer!

If you are interested, please contact mitch@camptowanda.com

September 4-7, 2015



FLORIDA BEACH PARTY



Everyone's welcome to join the fun: campers (old & new), staff, parents, alumni, friends, prospective campers and their families. If you'll be heading south for the holidays, we'd love to see you!!
Bring lotion, camera & towel! Rain or Shine, we will be there.

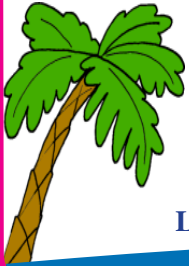
Friday Dec. 26, 2014 11:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Spanish River Park, Pavilion #1, Boca Raton, Florida.

DIRECTIONS: Spanish River Park is on A1A in Boca Raton, between Spanish River Blvd. and Palmetto Park Rd. Enter the park, follow the HOT PINK Towanda ARROWS to Pavilion #1. Park, gather your gear, go through tunnel to beach, lay down stuff and say 'Hi!'

Save your parking receipt to be reimbursed.

Lunch provided! Sandwiches, chips, drinks! If you haven't please rsvp to mitch@camptowanda.com



NEW CAMPER GROUP "SCOOP"

for all new for 2015 campers and their parents!

Sunday Jan. 11, 2015,
1:00 PM Sharp 'til 3 PM

at the Fort Lee DoubleTree on Rt 4 East.
Directions have been mailed.

Stephanie Reiter's

Book Club!

January 27, 2015

Homesick and Happy by Michael Thompson

Location: New City, NY Office

RSVP by January 10 to
Stephanie@camptowanda.com



SKI TRIP

MEET & SKI AT ELK MOUNTAIN

Sunday Jan. 18, 2015 at Elk Mountain, Scranton, PA, (Martin Luther King Weekend) - not too far from camp (a good day trip, or stay close by)
Call in advance, meet, ski and take a picture with JARED (jared@camptowanda.com)! Meet at Noon outside the main lodge by the big ski map.
Get your photo taken for the Towanda Times!



SENIORS 2015! WINTER SLEEPOVERS

(at The Mansion!!!)

Girls Weekend - Saturday January 17, 2015

Boys Weekend - Saturday January 24, 2015

Snow, sledding, frozen Ghost, toboggan, ice fishing and campfire in the middle of frozen Sunset Lake, sleeping bags in front of the Mansion Fireplace and a lot s'more!

Directions will be mailed in January!



Can you name everyone
in this picture???

Check out the last page for the answer!

COMING BY JANUARY 11TH:

*The ALL NEW
"EVERYTHING CAMPER"

online PACKING LIST
& CLOTHING CATALOG



***OPTIONAL** activities online to choose !

ANNUAL ALUMNI BBQ

SUNDAY July 26, 2015

(The day after Visiting Day)

11:00am - 3:00pm

→ We will be opening time capsules from Dorm & Club 2005 and any earlier years not yet opened. ←

All alumni visiting is restricted to those age 21 or older.

Those who are able to contribute to Olympics with Judgie and referee credentials are invited to inquire about availability.



Girls' Camp, late 1920s

2015 CHAT ROOM

Wednesday January 28, 2015

New Campers, Returning Campers & Staff

Instructions in Forms & Documents section of CampMinder or drop us an email for a copy of the instructions at

becky@camptowanda.com



MITCH'S BACKWARDS SHOT CHALLENGE

Download our App Update for an even better user experience with our new game and Spotify camp playlists!



What's your highest score on the Mitch's Backwards Challenge?

Mitch's is 1100!

He challenges you to beat his score!
Post your highest score on Instagram or Facebook #MitchsChallenge

Learn about the SCOPE - JLC

Hey Towanda Upper Campers!

Be part of helping to send kids in need to summer camp by being part of the
SCOPE Junior Leadership Council

WHERE

253 W. 35th Street between 7th and 8th Avenues - 4th floor

WHEN

Saturday, January 31st from 1:30pm - 3:30 pm *snacks will be served

HOW

Parking available on W. 36th Street or easily accessible via mass transit



For more information or to RSVP
please contact rachael@scopeusa.org
Check us out at scopeusa.org



Earn Community Service Hours

The Adventures of Cheese, Milk and Pickle



cheesemilkandpickle.com @chsmilkndpckl

© 2014 Jared Reiter CMP

SPECIAL T-SHIRTS!

- VisionWalk Team Towanda 2015 T-Shirts
 - Highly acclaimed Tie-Dye Camp Towanda T-shirts
 - Exclusive Cheese, Milk & Pickle T-Shirts & Tank Tops
- \$25.00 each; contact: becky@camptowanda.com



97 posts 345 followers 245 following

Following

Camp Towanda

I like chasin golf carts, ghost balls, stealin pizza boxes, eatin crazycreeks, chewin my toys, and waggin my tail n pantin at the same time! Squirrel!

www.camptowanda.com



Follow
@casperthedawg
on Instagram!

15 Year Club Answer:
L-R: Brandon Reiter, Matt Miller, Bob Miller, Michael Pelton, Lisa Pelton, Sir Robert Edwards, Jared Reiter, Stephanie, Mitch, Z. Front Row: Amy Miller, Alex Neff, Casper.

HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR WISHES!

CLIP & SAVE

2015 CAMP DATES

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Florida Beach Party | December 26, 2014 |
| New Camper Group Scoop | January 11, 2015 |
| Senior Girls Sleepover | January 17, 2015 |
| Meet & Ski at Elk Mtn | January 18, 2015 |
| Senior Boys Sleepover | January 24, 2015 |
| Stephanie's Book Club | January 27, 2015 |
| Chat Room | January 28, 2015 |
| NYC VisionWalk | Spring TBA 2015 |
| Flying Campers Arrival | June 26, 2015 |
| First Day of Camp | June 27, 2015 |
| S'More Tours | July 11, 18 & Aug 2, 2015 |
| Visiting Day & Sibling Sleepover | July 25, 2015 |
| Alumni BBQ | July 26, 2015 |
| Last Day of Camp | August 14, 2015 |
| Family & Friends Labor Day Weekend | September 4-7, 2015 |

