

Vol.91 No.3 Mid-Winter Issue

"Imagine All The People"

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From The Great White North

Karen Gormley, one of our Assistant Girls Head Counselors, lives in Northern Canada (we think in an igloo), is a teacher in the off season and makes her way to camp each summer with her larger than life smile, quick wit, tremendous range of talent and incredible enthusiasm; shares and reflects on her time. We look forward to her 11th summer in 2013:

My Towanda experience began 10 summers ago in 2003 driving up the camp road with my best friend from home. We were scared and excited all at the same time, not knowing what the summer would hold. The thing was I wasn't a camper, I was coming as a first year staff member. Orientation ended and I was placed with the Dillie girls in bunks 2 and 3. I was so excited for them to arrive but had the same fears that many of you have all faced...Will they like me? Will I be a good fit? Will I want to come back for another summer? These were all questions I would soon find my answer to. One of the best memories I have was when the first camper arrived; she was definitely ready for camp to begin. There are many vivid memories I hold dear from my ten years here at Towanda; like one of my campers learning to ride her bike for the first time or to finally tie her own shoes. There are lots of major events that have happened throughout the years here at Towanda but it is definitely the small things that I hold onto.

I have had the opportunity to see many campers grow from very small boys and girls to the adults that lead camp today. I have celebrated graduations, engagements, baby showers and weddings with my camp friends. I have also gone through difficult times always with camp friends close by.

You come to rely on your camp friends as they always understand your home life but your home friends never get your camp life. It is hard to believe that even though we are only here for 7 short weeks the connections you make are forever.

I had the opportunity to live and grow each summer with 31 amazing girls from their Dillie summer to their Dorm summer. We laughed, we cried, and most of all we learned from each other. It is amazing to see many of these girls here at Towanda this summer as first year staff members. The lessons that I once learned from Lisa Pelton and Amy Miller (and there are many) I can now pass on to them. It is amazing to see that as one door closes here at Towanda another one opens. I have no doubt that as these young ladies head off to college they will do great things not only here at Camp Towanda but in whatever path they may choose for the rest of their lives. As another door opens for my time here at Towanda I know that these past ten years will never be forgotten (although I plan on returning for years to come).

For the rest of the summer try to remember the little things that happen that make you happy. Remember the smiling faces, the little Pelton's running around, the friends you have made, Bob and Amy, Michael and Lisa, and your Camp Parents, Mitch and Stephanie.

- As I leave you here tonight I leave you with My Top Ten of Camp Towanda:
- 10. Hearing the Dorm and Club Cheer on the first day of Camp.
- 9. Hearing "Towanda....this is Olympics (whatever year it might be)"
- 8. The running hugs when you first arrive each summer.
- 7. Meeting new friends and catching up with old ones.
- 6. Walking into the Field House for the first time (awesomeness)!
- 5. Watching the CC's being called at Break-out.
- 4. Porch talk time.
- 3. Driving up the camp dirt road.
- 2. Friday Night Services.
- 1. Being in a place that I love with the people I care about.

NEXT ISSUE

What To Expect The First Few Days Staff of 2013

What We Hear From The Mansion Porch!!!

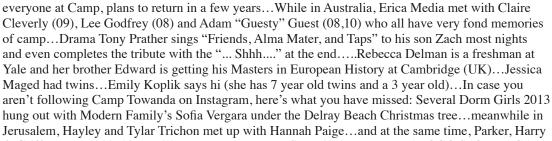
Our Boys' Assistant Head Counselor, celebrating his 21st year at Towanda, Michael Pelton is named Kansas Teacher Of The Year!...The miniature horse (Hidgit?) is pregnant; not from Donkey Oti... Camp Mom Barb Shields & Program Director Howie Schrager met up with Bob Miller & Mitch on 42nd Street for some pizza... Ben Sabin going to Emory...Logo credit to Lindsay Shatz for wearing her tyeDye Towanda T while riding an elephant in Thailand (not pictured because the elephant crushed the camera)...Rachel Goldberg & Skittles Levy donated their winnings from the Mount Snow raffles to Youth Enrichment Services who bring inner city kids to the ski slopes...Mitch, Stephanie & Jared enjoy a special dinner with coach Jack Kaminer of Focus For A Future (see pix), a wonderful organization that helps provide the camp experience to those who might not otherwise experience it...Simon Sez Steve



Max performed at halftime recently at The Syracuse University Carrier Dome...Vinnie from Holland (O&A, 2011) will stop by this summer to pick up his Rookie Of The Year Trophy (He must've been at Turtle Rock)...The Alumni Fever continues...Juan Nutt from Venezuela is proud to be sending his 2 boys this summer (see pix of Juan with Golf Pro Tres Kiegler, 1985)...Many Dorm/Club 2003-2006 got together n NYC in December (see pix)...Congratulations to Eric Lense on his Wedding Day; which was the same as Alums Marc Penziner & Shira Weiner (see pix); what a special "quvelling" moment as over 30 CTers from the late 20th century celebrated this wonderful occasion...Dr. Jasmine Riviere has a baby boy and is doing her residency/fellowship at the Mayo Clinic...Louis "Dilly" Dally and her son, "Rue Rue" Ruben



Jasmine Riviere has a baby boy and is doing her residency/fellowship at the Mayo Clinic...Louis "Dilly" Dally and her son, "Rue Rue" Ruben plan to return to camp within the next few years...Ponchos in Panama; Rose, Stephanie & Aaron Fishbein meet Ali Spiz & Alexa Birnbaum while touring the canal (see pix)...At the Dead Sea in Israel, Dana Krause, Elyse Leff, Ali Sussman, Sami List and Dave Goldblum went for a swim together while another mini-reunion in Madrid brought together Javier Zacate, Angel Vilchez and Sonia Parres...and way over in Kansas, Prague's Jiri Eischmann met up with Shelly Field..."Friday Nite" Chris Loehrer was in NYC and met with Stephanie, Mitch, Jared & Adam Shelly...Israeli Counselor Alon Artzi sends his very best to













& Griffon Weber skied into Dillon Krouner at Mount Snow in Vermont...and LOGO SPOTTING has reached a new level (You Gotta Go to our Instagram page to check out these Logos)...The magnet on the Goldstone's car in Florida; In the deep snow of Dodge City, Kansas (Pelton's Clap-Clap)(see back page); Ben "JR" Berk's backpack in the airport; Baked into the cake by Dylans' Ettinger & Rosen; and Andrew Rowan's larger than life logo on the EPCOT Sphere; Dylan Zgodny's phone case; and Legos everywhere....although not on Instagram, there is a bonus AUDIO logo-spotting shout out to Aunt Jo, poolside at Hunter's Run in Boynton Beach, Florida!

The Adventures of Cheese, Milk and Pickle



FLORIDA BEACH PARTY

The Florida Beach Reunion was incredible; over 250 people (old & new campers, parents, staff, alumni, and Friends of Camp) stopped by, relaxed on the beach, ate lunch, made sand castles, swam, met up with camp friends, met some new ones and dreamed of camp. This is always a special day; this year, once again, the weather cooperated. The following signed in:

Brian & Emily Josephson, Drew & Marlee Schneider, Tyler & Lindsay Bisk Jakob & Ethan Schneider, David & Lindsey Maschler, Forest & Savannah Weiss, Arielle & Gillian Bloom, Carl Gold, Brett Spivack, Samantha, Emily & Nikki Fox, Avery

Kaufman, Aidan Neidoff, Juliet & Jenna Bell, Rayna & Alex Silver, Jordyn & Dylan Tish, Emma & David Leipsner, Charlotte & Hannah Kriftcher, Carly & Evan Lapidus, Barret, Bailey, Jeremy & Addison Abramowitz, Ava, Liza & Stacy Goldstone, Lucas Feigenbaum, Skyler & Bryce Brandfon, Jamie & Aly Strauss, Spencer & Ryan James, Eve Goldstein,



Sam Hirsch, Ben & Alex Berk, Harrison & Elana Kane, Ally Ignasiak, Lindsey Kaplan, Hallie Abish, Mitch, Stephanie, Jared & Brandon Reiter, Jessica & Jillian Horowitz, Amy Miller-Horowitz, Cara Naimi, Sam Ross, Sara Friedman, Ethan Schwartz, Dylan Morningstar, Jamie Levine, Lily & Spencer Waldshan, Logan & Mackenzie Behlman, The Buckstein Family, Mallory Edelman, Allie Green, Jordan & Kyla Finkle, Madison Mariam, Jenny Winkler, Jamie Hammer, Rachel Labarre, Rachel & Emily Hoffman, Michelle Feigenbaum, Michael, Meredith, Melissa & Molly Buzin, Amanda & Jenna Kravitz, Madison Mariam, Matthew & Alec Dubin, Randi Morgenstern, Kelsey Euler, Callie Pines, Jessica Hochman, Mikey & Kelsey Austin, Ben Ostrow, Alex Klein, Hannah & Corey Frydman, Dr. Magoo, Toby Eichas & Adam Shelly's Dad!





Camp Towanda has some great traditions; this is an awesome one! Mitch & Stephanie love having the incoming Seniors at camp in the winter at The Mansion! It was two wild weekends of sub-zero temperatures, snow, ice fishing, s'mores on the lake and snowmobile rides! The boys even got in the first game of Ghost for the year! Keeping with tradition, Mitch's fantastic spaghetti dinner was only outdone by his famous hibachi breakfast eggs! Senior Sleepover is a fantastic tradition and a great opportunity to fortify the special bond of this years' Seniors! Special thanks to the Dads who helped out!







MILLER TIME

Amy Miller-Horowitz, our Girls' Head Counselor, will be celebrating her 20th year at camp this coming summer! She is part of the 4 generation Miller clan that is woven through every bit of Towanda! Our camp is a better place, Girls' camp is a better place, because of Amy Miller! Stephanie can often be heard claiming "Amy was born to be The Girls' HC of Camp Towanda"! We are proud to share her moving sermon she presented duringthe first week of camp last summer.



Hi everyone. Welcome to your first Friday Night Service of the summer. I was so touched to be asked to do the sermon tonight. Through my 19 summers at camp, as a camper and a counselor, Friday night services were always and still are a favorite of mine. Whether I was sitting in the very front row as a young camper, sitting towards the back as a Dorm girl or sitting with my campers as a counselor, it is a time to reflect on the past week, remind ourselves how lucky we are to be here and a time to just be thankful. Thankful for the amazing opportunities camp gives us, and the lifelong friendships we make here. Thankful to be a part of this very special family: The Towanda Family.

When you think about family, I am sure most of you immediately think of your mother, father, grandparents, brothers and sisters. I am sure you also think about how being with your family makes you feel loved, accepted and safe. Unconditional love that sometimes is hard to describe.

Well, whether it is your first, second or your 22nd summer, you are now part of the "Towanda Family".

Some of you know how lucky you already are and some of you are just starting to understand. The Towanda Family is a large group of people that all have one very important thing in common; we all love this very special place. The love that people have for Camp Towanda and being part of this community creates an immediate bond, a closeness that is sometimes very indescribable.

Even though camp is only 7 weeks over the summer, the Camp Towanda Family includes over 90 years of people, friendships, traditions and memories. I want to share with you, who and what my Camp Towanda family includes...just so you can imagine what your camp family might look like:

- 1. Let's start with my life-long friends I grew up with here. We have since spent Bat Mitzvahs, weddings and even now our children's celebrations together.
- 2. All of the campers I was lucky enough to have as a counselor.
- 3. My old campers who are now my friends; whose many children are in camp today and I get the privilege of watching them grow up.
- 4. All my new friends I continue to meet, summer after summer.
- 5. Lisa, Michael, Gracie, Andrew, Jonathan and Emma, who I couldn't wait to meet!
- 6. My Aunt Phyllis and Uncle Bobby who are my rock, my amazing cousins and of course my beautiful, wonderful two daughters!
- 7. Mitch and Stephanie, Jared and Brandon, who make so much of this possible for all of us!
- 8. And of course you!! The adorable new little faces in the front rows to all of the grown up faces in the back!

I feel lucky, grateful and thankful to include you all in my amazing Towanda Family. I am a better person for having Camp Towanda in my life. Thank you.

"WE WELCOME YOU TO CAMP TOWANDA, WE ARE MICHTY CLAD YOU'RE HERE.."



A very special thanks to CLUB & DORM 2013 who chaperoned the New Camper Group Scoop Orientation session for many of our new campers. They were all great! Warm, welcoming, caring and fun! Thanks to those counselors who also lent a hand! Since our last issue, we would like to welcome the following new campers to our Camp Towanda Family. These silly, just-for-fun nicknames are temporary...until you arrive at camp, where you will probably get a new one!

Forest "Ranger" Weiss, Savannah "Geordia" Weiss, Carly "Miss A-O" Miseo, Samantha "Wish" Wishnow, Gabi "G2" Goldsteen, Sean "Fry" Frydman (brother of

Steven), Juan "Wall" Nutt (2nd generation dad Juan), Lorenzo "Cashew" Nutt (2nd generation dad Juan), Jessica "J-stein" Smelstein, Jenna "J-Bell 2" Bell, Juliet "J-Bell 1" Bell, Riley "Ri-Bo"Dembo, Tyler "D-Bo" Dembo, Gabby "Dinah" Kitchen, Shelby "EssBee" Buckstein, Devyn "D-C"Crone, Remy "RemCro" Crone, Logan "Lo-Ma"Maklan, Skylar "Sky-Ma" Maklan, Sophie "Sole" Levine, Chloe "Glow-E"Schlam, Ethan "E-Slam" Schlam, David "Doc" Romero, Josh "Romeo"Romero, Brett "Hub" Huberman, Cooper "Coop" Pollack

STAFF REORUITIAG

The world gets smaller while Camp gets stronger! Towanda-ers surround the globe; we actually can't keep up with all the correspondence (calls, emails, mails, instant messages, etc) from those who have spent at least one summer at Camp Towanda! Know this, though; wherever you may go, chances are you are not far from a Towanda-er!

From our reunions, sleepovers, orientations and conferences, to our social media and planning meetings; camp is active all year round.

We feel it! We sense it! We hear about it! We witness it! The special love, camaraderie and comfort of what we all experience here is sometimes larger than one can describe; just know that you are part of something really special.

I DON'T WANT TO BE A "BUDA-PEST", BUT OUR STAFF IS THE BEST!



Mitch, Stephanie & Jared met with Szofi Erdelyi 2012', Zsuzsanna Banyai 2011', Regina Schwartz 2010, 2011, 2012', and Tamas Horvath 2011, 2012'

In Prague, we met with Tomas Rais while Jakub Havlicek gets credit for trying! Everyone at Camp Towanda is integral, important and inspirational to the impact

on the summer experience for all members of the Camp Towanda Family. From campers, bunk counselors, qualified instructors and specialists, leaders and senior staff to those behind the scenes who cook, clean and maintain our beautiful camp.

Everyone, one way or another, interacts with our kids; from the guy who cuts the lawn, picks up the garbage, cooks our food, mops the floors to those who work in the laundry, housekeeping or maintenance departments.

It is important, as Owners and Directors that we know everyone at camp...and they know and are comfortable with us as well.

We recently returned from an inspiring support staff recruiting trip to Prague and Budapest. Stephanie, Jared and I met with alumni and returnees; seeing, learning and experiencing their culture while interviewing and hiring new staff members to join the 38 returning KMP! KMP is our term for Kitchen & Maintenance Personnel.

38 returnees; that says a lot about how we care about our KMP Support Staff! Our Operations Director, Mark "Z" Zides, is legendary in the camping industry for overwhelmingly taking care of the KMP; just like Bob & Amy, our Head Counselors, take care of the counselor staff! Z has raised the bar each of his 18 years at Towanda!

One goal is for our international staff to feel safe and happy while they get into their responsibilities; enhancing, improving and positively impacting the summer's experience for everyone at Camp Towanda, even though they are so far from home!

Respect, cultural exchange and opportunity is what sets Camp Towanda apart! Our KMP get involved in our evening activities, special events and exchange of cultural information. Towanda is woven through people from over 25 states and 17 countries and that empowers us all to be ambassadors of our hometowns.

The Americans, former campers or not, welcome, get to know and work side by side with our international staff; adding to the already incredible dynamic experience at camp!

We are very excited about the wonderful staff we have assembled; pretty soon we will all come together! Our staff make life long friends around the world; which evolves into a great itinerary in their future!

Successful recruiting extends this year to England, Australia, Canada, Israel, Colorado, Massachusetts, California, Kansas, North Carolina, Texas, Florida, Wisconsin, Louisiana and on and on and on.

LUCKY 2013 is going to have a great staff; in the bunks, on the fields and behind the scenes!



1. Bonus Pix and Friday Nite Flix!

2. Daily Live camp updates!

3. It's camp year round!

4. Share your photos and memories!

5. Live Camp Cam!

6. Camp news, birthdays, events!

7. Reunion Recaps! 8. Towanda Tunes!

9. Insights and inspiration from our amazing staff, parents, campers and alumni!

10. It's like one big social...without actually being "under the lights"!



CITS

Special training conference Sunday April 28, 2013 in NYC. Please contact jared@camptowanda.com for more details.

SPECIAL SHUTTLE BUS

If you haven't, please send mitch@

camptowanda.com an email so we can properly plan for the great school/camp transition!

YOU GOTTA GO TO

CAMPMINDER!

PARE





Thanks to Andrew Rowand for this fun Casper graphic!

Enter the create your own Cheese, Milk & Pickle! contest!

Details on the Cheese, Milk & Pickle

Facebook!

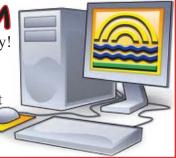


CAMP TOWANDA!!



CHAT ROO

The Chat Room was crazy! Always is and will be! Not sure what we talked about; but still a fun night of getting psyched for camp!



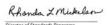
Certificate of Accreditation

Towanda

For the year 2013 based upon on-site visitation during

ACA Camp Number: 4296

To maintain accreditation, this camp annually reaffirms its continued compliance with applicable ACA standards, codes of ethics, and state and federal laws, and is revisited at least once every three years.





SPECIAL T-SHIRTS!

If you want one of the CT Tie-Dye, VisionWalk Team Towanda or Jared's Cheese, Milk & Pickle T-shirts, please email your size to

jared@camptowanda.com by March 20.

The shirt is available for alumni and friends (but you need to add \$5.00 for delivery).

Please order by March 20, 2013.





Enriching Lives, Changing the World

SOCCER MASTER CAMP

Our Head Soccer Coach of 4 years, Sean Smith, is proud to offer **The Camp Towanda Soccer Master Camp Clinic!**

The success of our Tennis Master Camp has spawned several focus clinics (art, basketball & gymnastics); and now we add SOCCER!

Sean says,

"This will be high level and high intensity individual training sessions for the serious soccer player. Our very experienced staff includes former and current college players and coaches, as well as players with professional playing experience. The training sessions will help improve technique, skill, and overall knowledge of the beautiful game, as well as a strong emphasis on fitness."

There is no charge to participate in these, you just need to sign up by April 1st by emailing jared@camptowanda.com

Just write
"I want to participate in
Soccer Master Camp"!
Please note, if you are
interested in any of
the other Master Camp
Clinics, please let us know.





Saturday April 20, 2013

Still Time to get your TEAM Towanda T-Shirts. Contact *jared@camptowanda.com* by March 20.

Date: Saturday, April 20, 2013 **Location:** Central Park Bandshell

Time: Check-in at 8:00am, walk begins at 9:00am

One of the charitable organizations that *Camp Towanda* supports is the Foundation Fighting Blindness. Over the years, campers, staff, and family members have supported FFB by attending the annual VisionWalk.

Camp Towanda usually has one of the largest teams in

attendance, and we want to continue that tradition this year. This is a great opportunity to see your camp friends and support a great cause; that is working hard to find cures for blindness. We want to thank the LITs of 2013 for helping make this a great event.



SENIORS-DORM-CLUB-LITS

Dave Mathews Band at Bethel Woods

GAMPAPALOOZA

The Liza Colby Sound



FRIDAY NITE FLIX BAND

We have guitars (acoustic and electric), piano, keyboard and drums!
Please bring other instruments (let Mitch know in advance).

HAPPY BIRTHDAYEE

February: 1:Caroline Lerche; 2:Dana Krause, 3:Jake "Skittles" Silverberg, Adam Steiner; 4:Jordan Brett; 5:Sera Person, Randi Morgenstern, Ali "Medium Spiz" Spiesman, Kinga Houszka; 6:Brandon Cooper, Garrett Salem; 7:Jenna Marcus, Timmy Notarangelo; 8:Juan Larraz; 9:Sari Postal; 10:Melissa Romero; 12:Sean "UK" Clarke, William Roberts; 13:Max Peretson, Peter Szakonyi; 14:Madison Dulman, Jordan Nemirovsky, Nicole Seiden, Dr. Staci Berke-Pollack, Lisa Pelton; 15:Andrew Shaffran; 16:Taylor "girl" Haber, Brian Josephson; 18:Shari Crone, Sam Kaplan; 19:Riley Dembo, Tyler Dembo, Sami Green, Coach Dave Krug; 20:Derrick Cohen, Kaitlin Juno; 21:Gabriel Charney, Corey Frydman, Andrew Schwartz, Szilveszter Incze, Gabriela Junkova, Trevor Martin; 22:Melissa Welger; 23:Ben Fuhrman, Joey Goret, Brahm Wieseneck, Paul Greenfield; 24:Alexa Caplan, Ava Goldstone, Stephen Elwell; 25:Ethan Kripke, Bella Messer, Jordan Sharaf; 26:Cory Weintraub, Jamie Weintraub; 27:David Romero; 28:Jonny Shaffran, Ellie Spierer

March: 1:Jonny Wiener, Emma Belton, Lee Gielen, Steph Simon, Tris Stafford; 2:Jayne Jay, Jan Pokorny, Lewis Young; 4:Adam Albert, Jessie Radfar; 5:Jarrett Margolis; 7:Mallory Edelman, Chloe Housden; 8:Jayde Grossman; 9:Raul Juarez; 10:Brett Spivack; 11:Jason Carlson, Simon Muller, Randy Silverberg; 14:Sydney Levy; 15:Grace Lang; 17:Avery Kaufman, Olivia Plotnek, Dane Rucker; 18:Blake Axelrod; 19:Bari Yorke; 20:Nicole Lehrhoff; 21:Sam Hirsch; 22:Zoe Lanel, Noah Platte, Hanna Schrager, Kourtnie Hicks; 23:Amanda Gershowitz, Madison Holm, Chloe Schlam, Mark Onorato; 24:Ben JR Berk; 25:Jesse Perel, Jill Gittleman; 26:JJ Gary, Drew Schweibel, Jordan Lee; 28:Shelby Buckstein, Jack Gerber; 29:Brenen Grossman; 30:Daniel Charney; 31:Rachel Slater

Secting Closer!

Winter Address

4 York Court

New City, NY 10956-4418





NYC VisionWalk

Flying Campers Arrival

First Day of Camp

S'More Tours

Visiting Day & Sibling Sleepover

Alumni BBQ Day

Last Day of Camp

Fall Foliage BBQ

NY/NJ Reunion

Florida Reunion

New Camper Group Scoop

April 20, 2013

June 21, 2013

June 22, 2013

July 6,13,24, 2013

July 20, 2013

July 21, 2013

August 9, 2013

September 28, 2013

November 13, 2013

December 26, 2013

January 12, 2014

Logo Spotting on Instagram!



Details Inside!











