A PUBLICATION FOR YMCA CAMP CONISTON ALUMNI AND THE CAMP COMMUNITY

YMCA CAMP CONISTON CHRONICLE



SPRING 2025



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Thank you to our generous community for giving back.



DIRECTOR'S TWO CENTS

FADS COME AND GO

Like most clichés, this one doesn't always ring true.

This spring I spoke at an adult learning class at our local college. It inspired me to re-investigate the founding of Coniston for the first time since Camp's Centennial in 2011. This year, I was struck by how differently I perceive the same information. Local YMCA work is detailed weekly in the century old newspapers and magazines, and the term "group work" is often found in the articles.

Group work is the idea that individuals grow and benefit through working with others.

I love the apparent contradiction in this definition - learning to work in a group creates more resilient individuals. I am especially attracted to the notion that selfreliance and working with others isn't an either/or proposition. A full life requires both.

The idea that a young person learns selfreliance by facing tasks with a group of friends is not a new thought for most of us. What is interesting is that this has **always** been a central motivation for Coniston.

I have realized that it was the reason our founders did **everything**. I found Perley A. Foster, the Camp Director or "County Secretary" as he was known, organizing activities between boys and girls from the different areas of Enfield, NH in 1915 for "organized play" to accomplish this exact goal. I have seen where he helped the



SEND US AN EMAIL

Scan the QR code to share your thoughts on what Camp means to you.

local schools agree upon rules to begin inter-scholastic sporting events, such as basketball. He organized parks, built playgrounds, and spoke with local groups all with the idea of producing resilient individuals **and** creating community.

In today's world, campers come to Coniston and "unplug." This allows them to grow individually because they interact and solve problems with others in their cabin. This ranges from simply cooking dinner at an overnight to agreeing to rules as they play Gaga.

Last year, we reported on research studies from Harvard that show those with better relationships live longer, happier lives. We know from neuroscientists that each of our brains are "wired" through these relationships.

So, what's old **is** new and what began as Camp was not a fad. Research tracks it. Science proves it. Coniston delivers it.

I hope as you read this issue of the Chronicle you will keep this in mind. I hope that it helps clarify why a summer away at camp is life-changing for so many Conistonians.



JOHN TILLEY CAMP DIRECTOR

FROM MIDDLERS TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

A CONVERSATION WITH MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL KARTAL JAQUETTE





"I don't think Denver Green School Northfield exists as a school without Coniston."

When starting his career as a teacher, Kartal Jaquette said he instinctively used his Coniston experience. He brought in aspects from Camp to create positive and energetic experiences.

When he transitioned from teacher to Principal of Denver Green School Northfield (DGS) in Denver, CO, Kartal realized just how much he had been taking from Coniston. In his new role, he decided to double-down. He would maximize joy the same way he had at Camp. Because middle school is a lot like camp - if you make it that way.

"Middle School is this huge crossroads where students are just starting to understand their identity and they're so socially sensitive, but they don't even know that they're socially sensitive. So they're just really vulnerable, and that's why a lot of them struggle. What we needed to do was create something where kids could be their authentic selves," said Kartal.

How did he do it? One of the things

Kartal described is called Friday Celebration, which consists of games and competitions designed to get kids having fun and being comfortable in front of their peers.

"There's all this positive energy and then it feels like it's a safe place to take risks. Whereas the traditional school model feels like it's a very unsafe place to take risks and be your authentic self. *Will I get teased? Will I get made fun of?*

So we do a karaoke contest because, yeah, middle school should have more karaoke contests! The idea is to get people to cheer, just like they would at summer camp."

Kartal said that kids participating in these games, and feeling brave enough to do so, directly translates to the classroom. A kid who sings in front of their friends is more

likely to raise their hand in front of them too. That feeling of confidence among one's peers is vital for real learning to get done. Kids often feel weighed down by expectations. They think they should know everything already and get everything right on the first try. But when shown in a safe environment that they can try *and* fail, then learn how to succeed, they become better students, peers, and leaders.

"I think there was always the assumption that surely the more established school that's been around longer, that doesn't identify as 'the fun school', is the more serious academic school," said Kartal.

But that assumption has been proven false. Out of 77 secondary schools in Denver, DGS scored the highest in the most recent school report card with 94.7 out of 100.

"I would just absolutely give Coniston a lot of credit for that as well. I don't think Denver Green School Northfield exists

> Coniston." Academic

94.7

out of 100

DGS's School Performance Framework score -

the highest of the 77

secondary schools in the

Denver area

success is important, but behavior is another pillar central of schooling. One that is often the hardest to build during the middle school That's vet years. another question Kartal answered using Coniston. He calls it an attitude multiplier effect.

as a school without

"The big thing that we get, the big thing that Coniston gets, is that it's not that Cabin Night was a victory, and it's not that Opening Campfire was a victory. [The victory was] the way that they shifted people's mindsets so they then could be a better version of themselves. Then they're connecting with someone else who's a better version of themselves. I think that sometimes people think that if you're not getting the result you want with a middle school age student that you need to restrict them more. And the answer is actually no. If you're



not getting the answer you want with a middle schooler, you need to compel them more. Engage them and excite them more. Because they're totally willing to be bought in, they just have to believe it."

Kartal put this theory into direct action. Before the start of classes, each grade has a week of what he calls "excursions."

"We do overnights. We roast s'mores. We do camping, you know? And you think back to Coniston, and you do your cabin overnight, and you do those things, and everyone's a little nervous, but then you end up staying up and telling stories and having fun. People are nice to each other when they're roasting s'mores, but they're not necessarily nice to each other when they're passing each other in the hallway. So you want to create those positive moments." It takes time, but there is a slow momentum that Kartal captures.

"The kids are nervous, but like many things in life you feel nervous before you do something important and cool."

By the time school is in rhythm the students are bought in. Kartal watches for smiles and relaxed shoulders in the halls. He laughs, jokes, and says hi to students. He does just what he would do at Camp.

"I've become increasingly reflective of what did Coniston do? What does a camp do? My feedback to schools would just be that you should think more about a different model, like a summer camp. There's probably more ways that you could make your school similar to a summer camp if you really thought about it."



CONISTON CARES FOOD DRIVE

Bring non-perishable food items to check-in or checkout to help those in need.

All items will be donated to local food banks through out the summer.

Help us fill the camp bus every session!



ORAL HISTORY

John Tilley recently participated in the YUSA Archives oral history project. Tilley was one of 40 people interviewed by Archivist Ryan Bean whose project combines narratives from those who "align strongly with many of [the YMCA's] historical leaders." Together these perspectives will provide insight into what the modern YMCA does and why it does so. The YMCA is approaching its 175th anniversary and together the more than 2,700 YMCAs represent one of the largest nonprofits in the US. YUSA's archives are housed at the University of Minnesota.

CONISTON HAPPENINGS

FELLOWSHIPS

We are excited to announce **Talia Adelsohn** and **Hayden Herrick** as this summer's fellows! Both Talia and Hayden will be working in the infirmary alongside our nurses. Each summer, Coniston provides financial aid scholarships to staff members to apply their studies in Camp. These scholarships enable staff to learn from our community while also sharing the perspective their age brings both to younger campers and long-term staff.

Talia is studying Nursing at Rutgers University while Hayden is studying at Middlebury College and is considering medical school. Both will assist the nurses in day-to-day tasks and get to learn the ins and outs of caring for hundreds of campers and staff!



"I saw a fellowship in the infirmary as the perfect way to gain experience in a medical setting while still being at Camp," said Hayden. "I am super excited to help out!"

This marks the second year running of two fellowships taking place in the infirmary. Camp nurses work long hours and handle a multitude of cases while at Camp and we are so proud to see summer staff express interest in helping out. Taking care of those in need is something ingrained in the fabric of Camp. This fellowship program is a continuation of this lesson which we teach every camper and staff member.



NEW ADVENTURE

2025 will see the West Coast CITs venture to the Pacific Northwest for the first time. Over the course of nine days the group will explore Olympic National Park where they will immerse themselves in the great temperate rainforests of the region, walk along awe striking cliffs and beaches, and maybe even catch a glimpse of some whales! The trip is the next evolution in the West Coast CIT program which began in the 2000s. The dozens of trips ranged across California, Arizona, Colorado, and South Dakota and each provided unique lessons, challenges, and memories. We can't wait for this next chapter to begin!



NEW LEADERS

Get excited to have **Millie Wallach** and **Nate Smith** as our 2025 Girls and Boys Camp Directors! Nate spent the last two summers as a CIT Director while Millie was one of our Program Directors last summer. Both bring years of experience on Coniston Staff and are looking forward to the summer!

"I can't wait to share the magic of Camp with the newest members of our community," said Millie. "And I can't wait to see all the familiar faces again. Let's have the best summer yet!"

"I'm super excited to put my spin on this role at Camp this summer!" said Nate "I can't wait to kick things off!"

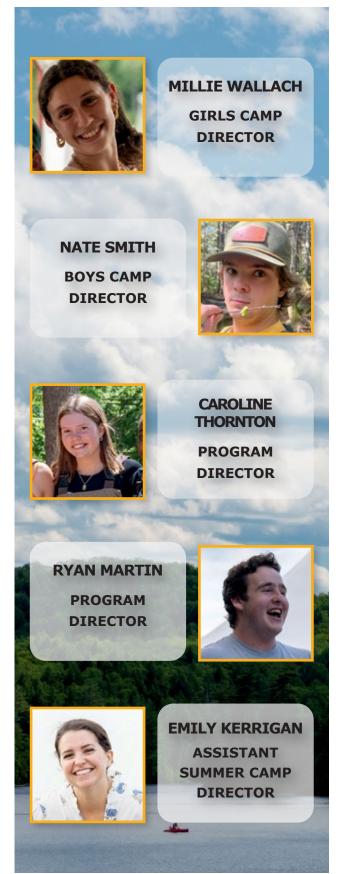
Joining Nate and Millie in the Program Office are our new Program Directors, **Caroline Thornton** and **Ryan Martin**. Both are experienced staff members who bring endless energy and creativity to Camp every day. Welcome to The Prog, Caroline and Martin!

"I'm super excited," said Caroline. "I can't wait to be back in Croydon and see all your smiling faces!"

"I can't wait to work with the LITs to create awesome evening programs," said Ryan. "It's going to be amazing to bring new ideas to life and see everyone having a blast!"

Further boosting the ranks is Assistant Summer Camp Director, **Emily Kerrigan**. Emily last worked in this role during the summer of 2022 and before that was on staff from 2009 to 2013.

The Assistant Summer Camp Director is a vital role that both supports and mentors summer staff and helps campers throughout the summer. We can't wait to have Emily in this role again!



THE LODGE

BUILDING THE FUTURE

Buildings can make you feel part of a place. Camp buildings are symbols of the friendships we had. This is why we are preserving as much of the Lodge as we can while updating the space to better serve the campers of today. We hope that this new space gives kids the same magical memories you have from your days at Coniston.

The culmination of years of planning, work, and generosity is almost too much to put into words. The renovated and expanded Lodge will help more kids than ever find friendship and community on the lake. As excited as we are to see the space completed, we are far more excited for it to be filled with campers and to see those first new memories made.

The space opening to staff and campers in 2025 offers a new dance studio, renovated staff housing, two bathrooms in the heart of Main Camp, plus an increased capacity to fit all of Camp on rainy days. Crews have been hammering away all offseason and the new additions will be ready for their debut when Camp opens. We are brimming with excitement for everyone to see these renovations for the first time.

As this phase nears completion, we are equally looking forward to the completion of the entire project for the summer of 2026. The next round of renovation will include a renewed New Hampshire Hall with the addition of a wraparound porch, and an indoor/outdoor stage so that the entire Coniston community can attend events together.

The opening of the completed Lodge is still a year away and we can't help but count down the days. Thank you to everyone who helped make this dream a reality. Keep your eyes open for news of a community-wide celebration!











FAMILIAR FACES

Over the offseason we met up with so many old friends at events around the world! Nicole hosted over a dozen former staff while in London in February. Later in the month Carter and Brackett joined her in Boston and met with campers, staff, and parents. Carter traveled to Arizona with John Tilley to visit former board Chair, John Calcutt. We couldn't forget our New Hampshire friends who we met up with in Manchester in March. Carter and Nate headed to NYC in April. To close out the spring, Brackett, Nicole, and Nate were in Burlington, VT in May.

It is always a treat to see Conistonians out in the real world. Camp magic follows you all wherever you go and no matter the setting we all seem to revert right back to our old Camp selves.



Missed us this year or want us to come to a town closer to home?

Email carter@coniston.org to organize an event!

CAMP CLEANUP

VOLUNTEER AT CAMP!

Saturday, June 7, 9:15 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Get Camp ready for the summer. Many hands make light work and we need yours to make Coniston camper-ready! Come for the raking, stay for the free lunch!



▲ **COMING TO AN EVENT?** Scan the QR code to RSVP on our events page!

CIT REUNIONS



1995 CIT 30 YEAR REUNION

Sunday, July 20, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Check in with Session 3 and the rest of the '95s! Tour camp, eat some food, and hangout with your fellow CITs at Bigelow!



2005 CIT 20 YEAR REUNION

Thursday, July 31, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Join your fellow '05s for a Camp tour, vespers, and a BBQ at Bigelow to celebrate 20 years together!





IN MEMORIAM

These are people who will be sorely missed, not only by their families, but by our community. What I find most striking is the differences in the contributions they made. Dave worked directly with campers. Bert worked in the leadership of the organization. Bill was key to Coniston's finances and helped create our endowment. Ace was overwhelmingly charitable. Nancy was a parent, then grandparent, of campers and staff. Each of these individuals leaves a tremendous gap in our community. I hope that their legacy will inspire others to fill the roles they have left vacant.

-John Tilley

<u>E</u>

BILL SLOAN

Bill found Coniston when his grandchildren started attending the camp. He quickly recognized the value of Coniston's mission. He joined the investment committee on which he advocated for keeping

Camp affordable and ensuring it remained a place where children from all backgrounds could gather and live together.

"Bill's participation on the committee has been a highlight of my career," said John Tilley. "Bill advocated for more aggressive strategies in an attempt to maximize the amount we could use to help children. The discussions were some of the most lively I have experienced. I love how much he cared. I will miss him a lot."

NANCY JOHNSON



Nancy served as a sparkling reminder that the campers who fill Coniston and become staff are the backbone of what we do. Nancy's impact on Camp spanned three

generations. Board member and daughter, Catherine Johnson, and her granddaughter, Sarah Donahue, attended Camp and worked on summer staff. Next year Nancy's greatgrandson hopes to attend for the first time. Nancy believed there was no better experience for a child than Coniston. In 1964 her husband, Bill, represented the Dudley family during the sale of the land where Camp now sits. Thank you to all who donated in Nancy's name.

BERT MYER



First and foremost, Bert was a beloved parent and grandparent of Coniston campers, but he shared his passion for others most through his leadership on the board of YMCA Camp Coniston. While serving on the Coniston board, Bert

was the chairman from 1992 to 1998. During this time, Camp built the current dining hall and became an independent association of the YMCA of the USA. The independence that Bert sought and achieved has been the key to Coniston's continued success and operation.

"His work is something for which we are all eternally grateful," John Tilley said of Bert, "Not only did he deeply care for the camp and the campers, he was easily one of the most influential board members in the 115 history of the organization. He leaves a legacy that will be impossible to fill." Thank you to those who donated to Coniston in Bert's name.

AUSTIN "ACE" EATON



A much-beloved grandfather of several Coniston campers. Ace was an active part of philanthropy in the Sunapee and New London communities. He spearheaded efforts to give

more kids the gift of Camp. He will be missed by his many friends around town and all the staff and family who loved him. We thank everyone for the gifts to Coniston in Ace's name.

DAVE BARDEN



Dave was one of Coniston's first program directors at the camp's present-day site. He worked on senior staff from 1970 - 1978. In those years, he left an immeasurable impact. Dave continued to

visit Coniston every year after leaving and never ceased his support for the place where he spent so many summers. His memorable storytelling and care for young people make him one of the most beloved staff members in Coniston's history. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

JESSE AND COLIN

\$80K RAISED FOR TWO NEW CAMPERSHIPS IN PERPETUITY

Recently, Camp lost two members of the Coniston Family: Jesse Barden and Colin MacQuarrie. Their passings came too early and left those close to them searching as loss leaves us with so many questions. So much left undone or unsaid. For Colin's parents, Scott and Debbie MacQuarrie, the question was, what made my son happy? For Jesse's family and friends, it was, what would Jesse want us to do for him? The answers to those questions were the same: Camp.

Coniston was the place where Colin found joy. He made friends, explored passions, and could truly be himself. As Colin once said, "We didn't realize we were making memories, we just knew we were having fun."

Coniston was the place where Jesse made lasting friendships. The proud recipient of a campership, Jesse often spoke of how the experience changed his life. Jesse went on to work on staff and mentored children, sharing with them his love for the outdoors.

Jesse's parents, Eileen and Joe Barden, made it their mission to give more children the kind of joyful moments Jesse experienced. Inspired by that spirit, Jesse's friends and family continue to give other kids the same opportunities he once had.

Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of donors two new camperships in perpetuity were created. \$40,000 was raised by each group, ensuring that two campers will attend Coniston free of charge in perpetuity in Colin's and Jesse's names.

The fundraising success is a reminder that Camp is a lifelong experience. The community is built two weeks at a time but lasts for a lifetime. When called upon, those who spent their summers on the lake will always show what it means to be a Conistonian. The heart of Coniston's mission is, and always has been, to provide a space for kids to learn, grow, and develop among a caring and joyful community.









ALUMNI NEWS



NATHAN IS OUTWARD BOUND

Nathan Levine (CIT 16) has spent the past 15 summers at Coniston and has been on year-round staff for the past two years. This spring the two-time CIT Director and two-time Boys Camp Director accepted a job with North Carolina Outward Bound School as an assistant instructor. Nate will be putting the skills he learned at Coniston to use, leading students across the mountains and rivers of North Carolina! Good luck, Nate!



THE BOYS ARE BACK IN TOWN

Will Kavanaugh (CIT 01), Jesse Schoonmaker, Ben Mark (CIT 03), Will Short (CIT 05), Colonel Mark Noll, Eric Rightor (CIT 02), Brian Donovan (CIT 00), Brian Doucet (CIT 00), Eben Gannett (CIT 00), and Zach Zimmerman (CIT 00) met up in Providence, RI to celebrate a loose conglomeration of recent birthdays!



PUT A RING ON IT!

Katie Perry (CIT 94) and **Mark Hrubala** announced their engagement this past fall! Congratulations Katie and Mark!



OI, MATE! IT'S OFFICIAL

Savannah Rooney and Aaron Colbourne are engaged! Way to go, Saz!



'LIV', LAUGH, LOON

Liv Rasmussen (CIT 16) is starting a new job as a strategist for Reach Agency based in Venice, CA! While working remotely she's in the midst of a four-month road trip across the United States. Liv has ventured to Austin, Santa Fe, Denver, Bozeman, Portland, San Diego, and more!



GONE (NOT A MOMENT) TOO SOON

Originally coming to Coniston for a twomonth stint as Aquatics Director, **Brackett Lyons** is finally leaving after two years of trip leading, in-cabin counseling, offseason maintenance, marketing directing, and of course, lifeguarding. Brackett authored two Chronicles (this one included) and this past year's Annual. He trained over 200 lifeguards and managed the lake for two summers. He also constructed several trash huts. Brackett is moving to Boston to spend more time with his cat.



MIDDLER MITZVAH

Camper **Cameron Reznikow** celebrated his Bar Mitzvah on March 8 and was joined by his B4 bunkmates, **Dylan Sweeney**, **Landen Foy**, and **Asher Monro**!



THE ELGERT-WOLF PACK GROWS

Caitlin Elgert (CIT 02), her husband **Dan Wolf**, and big sister, **Lucy**, welcomed baby **Julie** to the family in November. Julie and Lucy can't wait to go to Camp in a few years!



SUCCESSFUL COURTSHIP

Courtney Blum (CIT 05) and **Harry Rossof** are married! The happy couple were wed last October. Congratulations you two!



APRE SKI SERENDIPITY

Carter Bascom (CIT 07) and **Patrick Noble** (CIT 13) had a chance meetup at Alta Ski Resort! Hope you enjoyed the slopes, fellas!



BARB'S BAND

Barb Hawley has been busy this offseason recording her new EP "Such A Good Feelin" with her band The LoveSways. She's also continued work on her art tutorial app "FindYouArt" and is publishing three new books! Keep doing your own thing, Barb!



RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

In January, **Emily Kohlberg** (CIT 13) and **Austin Gardner** (CIT 14) declared their undying love and intent to be wed!



BACK TO SCHOOL

Emily Kerrigan (CIT 07) recently started her Masters in Education Leadership at Harvard University! Congratulations Emily!



C - I - TOURGUIDE

Reagan and **Carly Lorio** (CIT 24) toured Villanova and got a tour from none other than West Coast CIT Director **Kaitlin Braun** (CIT 20).



HOWDY PARTNER

Shane Goodrich (CIT 05) made partner at his Boston based law firm Morgan, Brown & Joy LLP!



EVERYTHING IN MODERATION

Matt Comstock (CIT 08) won the election for Amherst, NH School District Moderator!

After serving as the accreditation chair of ACA New England, colleagues from across New England elected **John McNair** (CIT 98) to the Board of Directors! Congrats, Johnny Mac!





PICK UP THE PACE

Brian Doucet (CIT 00) recently learned he has high cholesterol and has now taken up jogging to manage it. Remember to stretch, Deuce!



BEANTOWN RUNNERS

Shannon Beale (CIT 97), **Ben Mark** (CIT 03), and **Chris Mario** (CIT 06) ran the Boston Marathon this spring!



RUN, BRIDGET & CHARLEY, RUN!

Bridget Schambers (CIT 16) and **Charley Miller** (CIT 16) completed the NYC Marathon this past November! Several unreliable sources say that the duo tied for first place! Congrats, ladies!



POETRY IN MOTION

Camper **Ayla Gill**'s poem 'Why' won first place for elementary submissions from the Inkwell Writers Alliance and the Newbury Public Library! Keep writing, Ayla!





Sammy Royalty (CIT 05) and her husband **Ryan** welcomed baby **Alder** this past October. According to his mom Alder already loves both dogs and eating.



BABY ON BOARD

Jill Lenson (04) and Savannah Knell announced the arrival of Noa Bennett Lenson-Knell. We can't wait to have Noa at Camp (in 8 to 10 years)!



ARIA READY FOR CAMP?

Rachel Adler (CIT 10) and her husband **Alex Dixit** welcomed baby Aria! Good to see her already decked out in Coniston swag!



HOMEWARD BOUND

Zach Zimmerman (CIT 00) and his fiancé **Sarah Parker**, and their daughter **Hadley** bought a house in Portland, Maine!

LIFE EVENT?

Tell us about it to be featured in the next Chronicle! Send your updates to cait@coniston.org

> P.S. Expecting a future Conistonian? We'll send you a free onesie!



SPECIAL THANKS TO:



NEW HAMPSHIRE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION CARL T. WITHERELL FUND

Newport Community Trust



Trust

GIVING HISTORY

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Annual Fund and continues to support Camp. I am overwhelmed with gratitude as I sit and reflect on how many people have helped to shape Camp and make it what it is today.

For over 100 years, the Coniston community has supported a spirit of philanthropy and stewardship to allow more kids to come to Camp. Without the generations of support from families, alumni, community members, businesses, and organizations who donate to Camp, we would not be where we are today.

The dedication of previous donors, countless volunteers, and camp directors have helped move Camp from Rand's Pond to Lake Coniston, upgraded Camp's facilities, protected 1,200 acres surrounding Camp, and supported 11 camperships in perpetuity to continue a permanent legacy for future campers to have a Coniston Experience.

In the following pages of the 2024 Annual Giving Report are some examples of the many contributions and impact to the Coniston legacy. As we embark on the next phase of Coniston's future, we hope you will continue to support the work of many of those who have come before us.



CAIT'S OUT OF THE BAG

We are thrilled to announce Cait MacBrien as Coniston's new Marketing and Alumni Development Director! Cait is excited to join the year-round staff and continue her work supporting non-profits in New Hampshire. With deep roots in strategic communications, digital optimization, and community building, Cait is passionate about facilitating meaningful audience connections and driving impactful, mission-driven campaigns. She looks forward to helping expand Coniston's mission of giving more kids the chance to experience Camp and helping them grow into kind and caring adults. If you see Cait in the Camp office this summer be sure to ask about her dog, Dale!



CARTER BASCOM DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

2024 ANNUAL GIVING

CUMULATIVE GIFTS FROM THE 2024 CALENDAR YEAR

THANK YOU

Thanks to the gifts of 890 donors over the past year Coniston raised \$830,029. These generous donations do more than just ensure Camp is able to repair buildings and maintain the grounds. They make certain that the Coniston we all know and love remains a place where children of every background have a chance to make friends, try new things, and grow into kind and caring adults.



- In Honor of Mary O'Rourke & Richard Altman
- Caroline & Bob Beale
- Ann & John Calcutt
- Gulf Coast Community Foundation

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation

- Carl T. Witherell Fund
- Mary Helen & Robert Morris
- Marlene Penn
- Ali & Brian Sung
- Newport Community Trust
- Cindy & Chris Winship



Anonymous

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Anonymous

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Bank of America Charitable Gift Fund Schwab Charitable Fund

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Charitable Fund

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Anna F. & David W. Clark Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

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John Aaron Elizabeth Bankert Babs & David Barber Nancy & Stephan Braun Linda & Gary Brenner Corey Brown Sheryl Carruthers Donna Craft Lisa & Jeff Donahue Chris Dubrowski Elizabeth & Bruce Durkee Abby & Matt Edling Annie & Charles Ernst From the early 1900s during Camp's foundational days, local community members valued the importance of giving to provide opportunity for children to attend Camp.

Y. M. C. A. Appeal

Keep the Home Fires Burning --- Y. M. C. A. Needs Money and Workers

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New Hampshire Argus And Spectator, Newport, New Hampshire Friday, February 8th, 1918

Blondena Ferguson Greenbaum Family Foundation Sanborn Family Foundation Mother West Memorial Fund Linda & David Gillespie Elizabeth & Peter Glenshaw Kathy & Judd Gregg Megan & Bruce Hammond Savanna & Don Jabro Slater Kirby Katherine & Todd Lawrence Clean Yield Asset Management Linda Maynard Nona & Rick McCown Katie & Tom Miller Maura & Tom Miller Elyssa Nadler Kyle Olson Katie & Jeff Pierson

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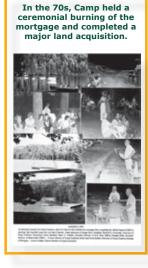
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In 1963, George Dorr located the property, negotiated the price, and donated over \$50,000 of his own money to secure Croydon as Camp's new home.



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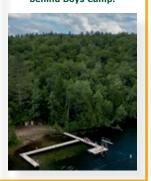


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A generous donation from Mildred Fristedt, a local landowner, helped to protect over 200 acres behind Boys Camp.



Glenn Floyd Elizabeth Foley Roseanne Forslund Carol & Charles Foss Sara Foss The Plymouth Rock Assurance Foundation Maria & Jorge Fradinho Ann Marie Francia Judy & Jeff Freedman Emily Friedman Patti Friedman Caitlin & Steve Friree Woods/Hall Family Fund The I'm thiRD Fund Campbell Family Giving Fund Hutchinson Family Fund Virginia Gajdorus Karen & Jamie Gallagher Diana Blazar & Matthew Gallon Joseph Galluzzo Maria Ganong Hazel Garrity-Hanchett Cotton Cleveland & John Garvey Margaret Garvey Liz Garvey Anna Gates Amy Gemmiti Annabelle George Stuart & Rolf Gesen Alison Lazarus & Cliff Gevirtz

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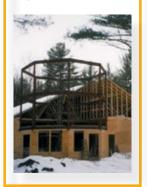
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In 1978, Carl T Witherell bequeathed \$241,000 to send kids to Camp from the Lebanon area who otherwise couldn't afford it. As of 2025, he has sent over 2,000 children to camp.



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In the late 90s, the Board of Directors, with the generosity of donors, built a new Dining Hall to allow all of Camp to share a meal together under one roof.



Elisabeth Knudsen Helen Koehler Russell Kohl Elisabeth Koury Andrew Kowles Courtney Labb Liz & Steve LaBelle Cara LaMonte Kara Baskin & Brian Lapseritis Camlin Tierney & Michael LaValley William Leahy Rebecca & Mike Lecaroz Susan Lemay Kat Galligan & Brian Lenhardt Keith Leveille Kristina & Leigh Levine Hannah Lewis Elaine Yu & Jon Li Heidi & Geoff Ligibel Sylvia Limm & Eric Brown Kate Blumenreich & Ken Lind James Lipscomb Julie Livingstone Contact Grantham, Mayo, Van Otterloo & Co. LLC Mrs. Theodore C. Lockhart Kirsten Lodal & Jeff Himmelman Peter Logan Leigh & David Long



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In 2016, the Board of Directors adopted a bold plan to advance the mission focused around the idea that any child should have access to a camp opportunity regardless of financial means. This focus has resulted in raising over \$7.5 million for endowment, buildings, and camperships.



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Vanguard Charitable

Woods/Hall Family Fund

YMCA Alliance of Northern New England

YourCause, LLC

CAMPERSHIPS IN PERPETUITY

The following individuals, families, and foundations created a permanent legacy in their name for the Coniston Experience through an endowed gift

of \$40,000.

Anonymous Gmeiner Family Grip Family Forrest M. Leach Nell & Dick Leach Nelson McLean Jocelyn B. Tetel In Memory of Anna Raeburn In Memory of Catherine Malatesta In Memory of Colin MacQuarrie

In Memory of Jesse Barden

ESTATE GIFT CAMPERSHIPS

The following individual made provisions in his estate for a gift to Camp Coniston. Planned gifts ensure the continuation of a personal legacy by changing children's lives in future generations.

Carl T. Witherell Foundation

CAMPERSHIP & PROGRAM COLLABORATION

The following schools and organizations help provide campership and program opportunities to children. Schools identify and recruit campers while organizations and endowments fund camperships and provide services. Coniston's Annual Fund serves as the primary source of funding for camperships.

American Camp Assoc. of New England

Bernice A. Ray School

Bio X Cell Fund

Bradford Elementary School

Carl T. Witherell Fund

Childhood Cancer Lifeline of NH

Claremont Middle School

Concord, NH School District (Refugee/New American Program)

Cornish Elementary School

Croydon Village Elementary

Disnard Elementary

Eastman Charitable Foundation

Frances C. Richmond School

Grantham Village School

Hanover Street School Kearsarge Regional Middle School

Lebanon Junior High School

Lempster Community School

Listen Center

Lyme Elementary School Maple Avenue Elementary

Mt. Lebanon School

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation

New London Elementary Newport Charitable Trust

Newport Middle

NH Department of Corrections

Richards Elementary

Simonds Elementary

Sunapee Central Sunapee Middle

Sutton Elementary

United Way of Massachussetts Bay & Merrimack Valle

Unity Elementary YMCA Alliance of Northern New England

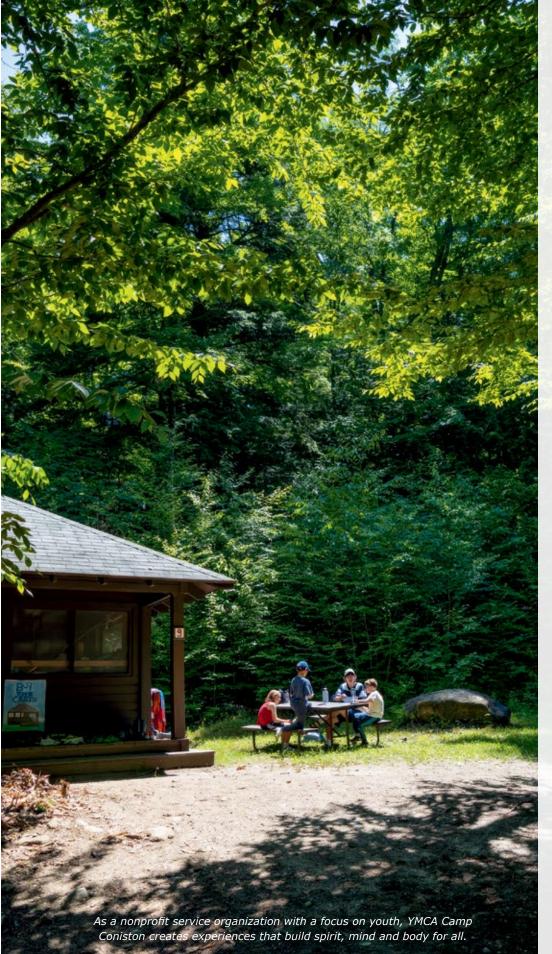
YMCA of the USA

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