Winter 08/09







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#### **Presidents Message**

This year was the largest reunion ever at camp. More than 200 camp alumni, both circle and non-circle members, gathered once again on the mountain. As always, it was a time of reconnecting and renewal. Many old friends greeted each other for their annual reunion gathering. I witnessed one Louiser who had not returned for 20+ years who was overcome with emotion. I listened to Rabbi Elissa's beautiful talk at Saturday services about forgiveness, which has stayed with me. Within the few weeks following reunion, I have experienced the vicissitudes of life: the deaths of my father and primary care physician, and the announced pregnancies of a close friend and a co-worker. During this same time, Camp Louise Director Alicia Berlin delivered a baby girl, Elianna.

Why do I mention these in my message? Because as I write this I am struck by the importance of the moment, and the gut-level recognition that we never know how long we have on this earth. That we never know which visit to Camp or conversation with a friend or family member may be the last; or what unexpected good may come out of a tragedy.

In the busyness that has become day-to-day life for many of us, our priorities can become confused. We can get caught up in responding to every E-mail or reacting to pettiness at work, and we can lose track of what matters in life.

With this in mind, I urge all of you to take time to be kind to those around you, to yourself, and to support the people and causes you care about most. If you have meant to re-connect with old friends – perhaps from Louise, perhaps not – I suggest you do it very soon. If you have intended to come to Reunion, but haven't made it yet, try to join us next year.

Rita Drapkin Circle 1988 (or, if I had kept coming, '71)





"Live the good you have learned here"
- Aunt Lillie

#### **MINUTES**

CIRCLE BOARD MEETING MINUTES September 20, 2008

Members in Attendance: Rita Drapkin (President), Elissa Sachs-Kohen, Jane Abraham, Shira Kahan, Lisa Blatt, Andi Abrams, Leslie Salters, Joan Bornstein, Sara Marcus, Karen Gerton, Lisa Yarmis, Jay Kinney, Julie Little, Rebecca Stewart, Stephanie Grossman Veiss, Amy Corbman, Rachel Sanderoff, Genevieve Conway, Robbin Myerberg, Karen Levin, Reesa Pearlman, and Sandy Bodine

Non-members in Attendance: Alicia Berlin and Bobbie Miller

Prior to the opening of the meeting, Rita Drapkin announced two open Board positions. VP of Fund-raising and Treasurer.

#### I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Minutes from June meeting accepted and approved.

#### II. TREASURER'S REPORT

Sara Marcus reviewed the report with the Board members.

#### III. CAMP UPDATE

- Alicia Berlin reported a successful summer, enhanced by a strong staff and team of counselors. Lisa Blatt noted that the new policy regarding unlimited CIT program enrollment that was instituted this year, puts camp in a strong staffing situation for next summer, with a large, enthusiastic new counselor base.
- Jane Abraham commended Leslie Salter for creative water solutions to an inaccessible pool for the early part of the summer.
- Andi Abrams commended the new ideas emanating from the Photography Department, including a "Candid Camera" addition to the program.
- The new Israeli Martial Arts Program was noted as a successful addition to this summer's programming, as was the addition of a N.Y.C. sightseeing/

theater bus excursion, as reported by Bobbie Miller.

## IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS REUNION

- Andi commended Jay Kinney (Reunion Programming Chair) for the excellent program, and remarked on the quality of the catering for this year's Reunion.
- Karen Levin reported that over 213 attendees (20 more than previous years) were expected.
- Stephanie Grossman Veiss informed the Board that the new tote bags had been selling very successfully online, however sales at the Reunion itself, were slow.
- Reesa Pearlman reported that scheduling for next year's Reunion was limited (due to holidays) to only one weekend: September 11-13, 2009

*Motion:* Andi Abrams move that next year's circle reunion to be opened to non-circle members. The motion was passed unanimously.

Motion: Marcia Kolko moved that a committee be formed to study the pricing structure for future reunions and report their findings to the Board at the Spring meeting. The motion was passed unanimously. Amy Corbman offered to Chair, with Ellen Weiss and Becky Gutin having already volunteered to sit on the committee. (Bobbie Miller will provide input.)

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

- Leslie Salters stated that in an attempt to promote Camp Louise to the uninitiated, she was spreading the word in her area, especially in her synagogue, and encouraged other Board members to do the same.
- History Day Lisa Blatt remarked on a very successful History Day up at camp this summer. She reported that this summer marked the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the modern day Color Games which were celebrated with History Day Water Games. She also remarked on the success of Alumni Story Telling. Rita requested that the date for future History Days be set in

- advance and promoted, so individuals interested in participating can plan accordingly. Alicia responded that the administration would do all they could to comply.
- Louise Lighthouse Robbin Myerberg reported that 835 copies of the Louise Lighthouse were sent through the mail. Twenty-six recipients responded that they wanted to continue to receive their copy through the mail. She proposed however, and it was agreed, that we continue through the upcoming year to send the newsletter out via the mail, before switching over to an email version. She also stated that so far, only one person has chosen to buy an advertisement in the Louise Lighthouse; Robbin will continue to promote this option in upcoming issues. Motion: Rachel Sanderoff moved that when we make the switch to an e-mailed newsletter, only those circle members who have an e-mail address in our database be e-mailed (barring notification otherwise): those without an e-mail address should receive their newsletter via mail. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Directory Speaking for absent Board member Henri Goettel. Rita said that Henri would continue to maintain the Membership Database (Directory), which currently has 1,100 entries.
- Nominating chair Karen Gerton, oversaw the nominations and elections of the seven new Board members announced at the close of the Town Hall Meeting: Joan Bornstein, Genevieve Conway, Amy Corbman, Karen Gerton, Rachel Gertz, Shira Kahan, and Lisa Yarmis

It was decided that in order to make the nominating process more efficient in the future, the names of the nominees be given to Rachel Sanderoff before the summer Board Meeting, for dissemination on the listsery so nominees would have notification. Those, and any subsequent nominees, can write up their bios and reasons for wanting to serve on the Board. These bios can then be projected on a movie screen during the Town Hall Meeting to expedite the nominees' presentations and the membership voting.

- *History Book* Coordinator Joan Bornstein announced that after all the material for the "book" is gathered, a decision can be made whether or not to have it formatted as a CD.
- *Tours* of camp continue to be successful Alicia stressed the need to have tour leader volunteers who are familiar with the current policies and practices of camp.
- *Open House* Sandy Bodine reported the sixth successfully completed special project at Open House. There will be another Open House on September 28<sup>th</sup> from 1-4.
- *Volunteer* Opportunities Alicia and Bobbie discussed the fact that volunteers are needed during the summer, with telephone duty being a high priority. It is important that volunteers recognize that the needs of the camp dictate what volunteers will be doing during their visit. It was requested that those interested contact Alicia or Bobbie during the off-season so they can be informed of volunteer procedures (e.g., fingerprinting/health screening).
- Website Sanderoff announced she will be switching the server she uses; for now, all Circle announcements or ideas can be sent to her for uploading on the Circle website. Rita mentioned that a meeting took place earlier today to improve collaboration among the people who are involved with the data base (Henri, Robbin, Sanderoff and Karen). Information will be shared via email.

#### **FUND-RAISING**

- *Bake Sales* The second half of the camp season proved especially profitable, Stephanie and Amy reported, with \$300 revenue as an all-time high.
- Scholarship Fund Elissa stated that 10 individuals requested scholarship monies this season, probably due to the fund's higher profile. There is still money left in the fund.

- *Plaques* Joan reported that sales on plaques are flat. Discussion ensued on the fund-raising "bricks" and ways to make the display more aesthetically pleasing. Alicia volunteered to discuss possible improvements with Kip. Continued conversation on the matter was tabled for a subsequent meeting.
- *Mitzvah Cards* Beth Bugnaski announced she would be stepping down from the Board. She also reported netting \$850 this year with sales of Mitzvah Cards. The members of the Board thanked her for her exceptional work.

#### V. NEW BUSINESS

### ELECTIONS AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

- Joan nominated Amy Corbman as VP for Fund-raising. The nomination was seconded and Amy was unanimously voted in.
- With no nominations before the Board, Reesa Pearlman volunteered to be Treasurer.
- Shira Kahan volunteered to Chair the Programming Committee for next year's Reunion.
- Stephanie resigned her post as Parliamentarian and Lisa Blatt volunteered to take over
- Lisa Yarmis volunteered to take over the Mitzvah cards and to serve as a liaison with a playground builder/ designer consultant.
- It was agreed that in the future, all committee chairs send Robbin a recap of accomplishments for dissemination in the Lighthouse.

#### **PINNING CEREMONY**

Initial discussion began on this issue in the Town hall Meeting. Tradition has been that Circle inductees be pinned by a Circle member from a previous year, but this tradition was questioned la during the To a lack of time, a motion was made ( and passed unanimously) that discussion on the matter be tabled for a future Board meeting. Missy Sachs-Kohen has begun work on a

comprehensive pinning ceremony chart, which breaks down Circle inductees by their year, and the individuals who pinned them. The project is ongoing.

A motion was passed (unanimously) to table discussion on proposals for an anniversary gift for Camp Airy until the next Board meeting.

Rita stated that she would contact Board members in October to pick a date for the spring meeting.

Meeting adjourned – 2:30 p.m.

Submitted by Marcia Kolko

#### **Board Members**

Each Fall Reunion at the Circle Town Hall Meeting, new board members are voted onto the Circle Board. Initial terms are three years in duration with the opportunity to run for an additional three year term. Board members must take a one year hiatus after their sixth year on the board.

This year I want to thank the following board members who have completed their terms on the Circle Board: Beth Bugnaski, Jolene Fabricant, Elissa Sachs-Kohen, Sara Marcus and Becca Stewart. All of them gave their time generously to the Circle Board. I also want to welcome Joan Bornstein, Amy Corbman and Karen Gerton to their second three-year term and Genevieve Conway, Rachel Gertz, Shira Kahan and Lisa Yarmis to their first three-year term on the Circle Board.

We all look forward to their fresh ideas and help on the many committees that the board has available in the general areas of Reunion, Membership and Fundraising.

In the spring we will be looking for new nominations for the positions that will open fall 2009. Please begin thinking about whether you might be interested in becoming part of the Circle Board or know someone you would like to nominate. What better way to see that the spirit of Camp Louise continues to grow from generation to generation.

Karen Gerton Circle Board Nominations Chair

#### **HONESTY**

I have lost count of the number of years that I have been fortunate enough to spend the summer at camp. Each year there are new things that are added to the pleasure for campers and counselors. This year in addition to the new slide at the pool, there were program changes and many more choices for the campers. My role was to walk around the camp, not only to take pictures but to find the campers or counselors that needed a little boost to be happy and to overcome some of their problems. For the most part, the problems were minimum.

I must tell my favorite story. I was called to Bunk 19 by a fabulous counselor. She said that one of the campers was having a difficult time. I went to visit after lunch. The counselor was sitting on the floor of the porch playing cards with a camper. Looking at the camper, she was easily the one I was to help. I sat down and asked if I could play. I got a nod, I asked if she would tell me the rules of the game. She did, and we played. I "accidentally" kept seeing her at her activities and would stop to talk to her. We still played games while sitting on the floor. She never really smiled.

Six days letter, we were walking together and she gave me a big smile and said. "I think I am having a good time" I said "Great, now we can call your Mom. We did and she told her mother that she was having a wonderful time and it was because of this person, Joan. She said "Joan made me see how good camp was and you know Mom she is old but in good shape". After she hung up, I asked, "Why did you say I was in good shape?" "Well", she said, "You sit on the ground and play games with me and then you can stand up again. My grandma can't do that".

The amazing honesty of children.

Joan Bornstein



#### **REUNION THANKS**

It was wonderful seeing and being with over 200 of you at this year's reunion. I would like to thank all of you for coming and taking part in the wonderful weekend. The weather could not have been more perfect and the beauty of camp was breath taking.

I would like to thank the following people for all of their hard work in making this reunion as wonderful as it was: Karen Levin – housing, Jay Kinney – Program, Bobbie Miller and Jane Abraham – Food.

The following people are to be commended for stepping up to the plate and leading activities during the weekend: Missy for a wonderful session for book club, Marcia and Peggy for their folkdance expertise. Elissa for services and Havdallah, Reesa for leading the Town Hall Meeting, Judy, Lawrence and Francine for Copper Enameling and Pottery, Rachel for Softball, Margie for Poetry writing, Ruth and Phyllis for Piano playing and Show Tunes, Marcia and Rita for the Sing Down, Reesa and Corbman for getting the bags as mementos, everyone who brought items and sold tickets for the raffle. and Sanderoff, Gertz, and Margie for joining me to lead the campfire. It takes everyone to make a great weekend and a great weekend was had by all.

Next year, reunion will be September 11-13, 2009.

Mark your calendars and contact a camp friend to bring to reunion next year!!!

Hope to see all of you real soon.

Andi



#### **VOLUNTEERS**

Calling all volunteers. We will gather for our 7th Annual Circle Service day on the Saturday of Open House in May 2009 at camp from 10am–p.m.

This year's project is still to be determined, but if you would love a chance to see camp and all the wonderful new additions, come on up and lend a hand! Past projects have included sprucing up the ropes course, adding games to the blacktop areas, and re-painting lines on the Unit A court. Feel free to bring your friends, as it is open to anyone interested, Circle Member or not. We may also enjoy a camp lunch or perhaps plan an outing to another fine local establishment.

Please contact me with any questions or to reserve your spot.

Thanks!
Sandy Bodine,
Special Projects Chair
sandyb@camplouisecircle.org

"Home is where the heart is /
No matter how the heart lives /
Inside your heart where love is /
That's where you've got to make
yourself / At home"
"Home is Where The Heart Is"
by: Peter, Paul, & Mary



#### Camp Update – Summer 2008 By: Alicia Berlin



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.camplouisecircle.com



Camp Louise License Plates

What a fantastic summer we had at camp! Hopefully, you had a chance to see some of our pictures and read some of our updates from the summer. If not, you can still log onto the camp website: <a href="www.airylouise.org">www.airylouise.org</a> and see what you missed. Just click on the Quick Link – Summer Photos/Updates on the right hand side. You will need to register and you will also need to know the special code – which is funatlouise (all one word). Enjoy!

A highlight of the summer was our new waterslide at the pool. You could hear the joyous screams from both campers and staff as they enjoyed this new attraction.

As always – the drama, dance, music, and folkdance departments put on phenomenal productions. Some of the big shows included Wizard of Oz (with an updated twist using songs from the musical Wicked), the classic show Grease, and an all-female version of The Odd Couple. Many campers also participated in the amazing Dance Concerts and Folkdance Festivals. We are so proud of all of our performers and choreographers.

Our Outdoor Living Department continues to be very popular with the campers. In addition to the ropes course located at camp (back across the road from the Dining Hall), our wonderful outdoors staff takes campers on great trips - caving, rock climbing, kayaking, canoeing, white water rafting, tubing, night hikes, and so much more!

These are just a few highlights from the summer, but one more that we are so proud of is the incredible number of people who made Circle this year -36. Isn't that just truly wonderful? We hope you had the chance to meet some of our new Circle sisters and brothers at Reunion this past September.

We are looking forward to another great summer in 2009! The White House renovations are complete, and we can't wait to move into our new space.

Thank you to all who volunteered their time to help out at camp – pre-camp planning, Circle project during Open House weekend, Bake Sales, History Day, Opening and Closing Days, and so much more! We couldn't do it without you!

Keep sending us your children, your friends' children, your neighbors' children, etc. because you know better than anyone else how great camp is and how much of a positive impact it has on young women!

We are almost there! We need a minimum of 25 cars to order Camp Louise organizational license plates. License plates are available for almost any Maryland-registered vehicle (sorry, no motorcycles!). These plates are NOT vanity plates and do NOT require additional renewal costs (the fee is the same you pay for your plates now). The ONLY fee is the one-time donation of \$50 to Circle (\$25 is tax deductible). More details are available on the Circle Website - <a href="http://www.camplouisecircle.org/licenseplate.html">http://www.camplouisecircle.org/licenseplate.html</a>.

If you do not have access to the internet or have any other questions, feel free to call me and I can answer your questions and/or send you the form through the mail. Thanks! Neil Berlin (410) 363-3877

#### Camp Louise Circle Board, 2008-09

Andi Abrams VP of Reunion Circle 1968 Rita Drapkin President Circle 1988 Marcia Kolko Secretary Circle 1972

Leslie Salters VP of Membership Circle 1987

andia@camplouisecircle.org

Karen Gerton Circle 1974

Karen Levin Circle 1978 Rachel Sanderoff Circle 2000

leslies@camplouisecircle.org

lisab@camploiusecircle.org

Sandy Bodine Circle 1990

Lisa Blatt

Circle 2005

kareng@camplouisecircle.org

ritad@camplouisecircle.org

Rachel Gertz Circle 2000 karenl@camplouisecircle.org

marciak@camplouisecircle.org

Julie Little Circle 2000 sanderoff@camplouisecircle.org

stepaniev@camplouisecircle.org

Stephanie Veiss Parliamentarian Circle 1998

sandyb@camplouisecircle.org

Joan Bornstein Circle 1950 gertz@camplouisecircle.org

Shira Kahan Circle 2004 juliel@camplouisecircle.org

Robbin Myerberg Circle 1977 Lisa Yarmis Circle 1977

joanlborn@camplouisecircle.org

Amy Corbman VP of Fund raising Circle 1998 shirak@camplouisecircle.org

Jay Kinney Circle 2004

3975 McDowell Lane

robbinm@camplouisecircle.org

Reesa Pearlman Treasurer Circle 1998 lisay@camplousicircle.org

Advisor to the Board

Alicia Berlin Circle 1990

**Standing Board** Jane Abraham

Circle 1970

jayk@camplouisecircle.org

amyc@camplouisecircle.org

reesap@camplouisecircle.org

aliciab@camplouisecircle.org

#### Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Camp Louise Alumnae Communications

- Henri Goettel keeps the master database of Circle members, former camp staff and former campers. The master database creates the annual directory and the mailing labels for all alumnae mailings, including the reunion packet.
   E-mail: <a href="mailto:hgoettel@publicnetworking.org">hgoettel@publicnetworking.org</a>
- 2. Bobbye Gilden keeps the listserv for all alumnae with E-mail.

E-mail: pbdag@dol.net

3. Robbin Myerberg produces and sends out all alumni mailings except for the reunion packet. E-mail: <a href="mailto:robbinm@camplouisecircle.org">robbinm@camplouisecircle.org</a>

L-man. <u>1000mm@campiouiscencic.org</u>

4. Karen Levin produces and sends out the reunion packet.

E-mail: karenl@camplouisecircle.org

5. Rachel Sanderoff is the webmaster for the Camp Louise Circle website camplouisecircle.org.

To register as a member of the forum, contact Rachel at <a href="webmaster@camplouisecircle.org">webmaster@camplouisecircle.org</a>.

Henri, Bobbye, Robbin, and Karen are in contact with each other throughout the year. We provide each other with all additions and updates to camp alumnie information. Contact any one of the four of us to change any of your information or to add someone new. Your information will get to all four of us.

#### Mitzvah Cards

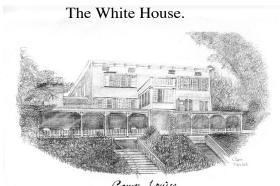
...for Birthdays, Anniversaries, Special Occasions ...as Get Well wishes of love and support ...to express Sympathy and Condolences in times of loss

What a wonderful way to honor and celebrate significant life events. Support the ongoing work of the Camp Louise Circle, and honor/celebrate/acknowledge life cycle events. Questions? Call Lisa at 443-690-4770

Inside of card: A Contribution has been made (In Honor of...In Memory of...To Celebrate...You tell me what and who to commemorate) to the Camp Louise Circle Fund by (Your name will go here)

Card Order Form ibution Amount
\$18.00\$36.00 Other
able to Camp Louise Circle Fund
Yarmis, 8402 Winands Rd, Baltimore, Md. 21208
Send Card to
Address
City
State Zip
on Mitzvah card (please print clearly)  our Name Goes Here)

Also available as *unlined note cards* White House or Library illustration \$2.00 each or 10 for \$18.00



Camp Louise



CAMP LOUISE



Contact Rachel Sanderoff@camplouisecircle.org for www.camplouisecircle.org

Want to help save the planet (and a little money too)?

Go Green to Save Green!

Join the Circle member list-serv and receive the Lighthouse and other mailings through your e-mail!

Just go to WWW.CAMPLOUISECIRCLE.ORG and look for the "Join the Circle Member List-serv" link!

# Don't have an email address? Complete this form! No need to reply if you already have.

Yes, I want to continue to receive a printed version of the Louise Lighthouse in the mail.

(Please Print Clearly or use an address label)

My Name / Circle Year	
Address	
City, State, Zip code	
Country	

#### Circle networking

Have you recently stated a business? Do you want Circle Members to know about your business? For \$20.00 per issue, your business card can be seen by all Circle members on our newsletter.

Send your business card to Robbin Myerberg at: 17382 Taramino Pl, Lewes, De 19958

#### PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

Send your check for \$20.00 payable to Camp Louise Circle to







We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.camplouisecircle.com