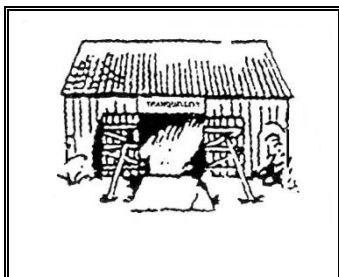


Friends of Tranquillity Camp



ECHO

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Alumni
News

Fall 2014 ***
www.FriendsofTY.org

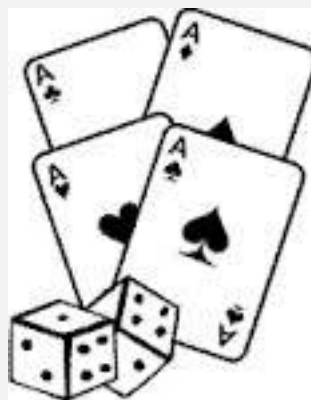
Friends of Tranquillity Camp

P.O. Box 378, Woodmere, N.Y. 11598
email: info@friendsofty.org

Friends of Tranquillity Camp 63rd Annual Dinner Dance & Casino Night March 21, 2015

**JOIN US FOR
A GREAT
PARTY!**

**DRINKS ARE
ON US!**



**MANY
VALUABLE
RAFFLE
PRIZES!**

**MUSIC,
DANCING,
AND TABLE
GAMES!**

Join us as we celebrate the 96th year of
Tranquillity Camp!

East Meadow Jewish Center

A Call to Action from your PRESIDENT

Alan Abramson

Dear Tranquillity-ites:

In last year's Echo, Richard Lawrence addressed the question, "What if Tranquillity went away?" This is a simple yet powerful question that asks us to ponder the unimaginable. In addition to its being a summer home serving those in need, it is also a business that requires diligence and occasional special support, especially in rocky economic times.

To ensure a secure future for Camp, I will explain the evolving role that Friends of Tranquillity Camp must play. I speak as your President, armed with the insight gained by being a Board member of Tranquillity Camp, Inc.

The business model for Camp depends on the financial contribution of Cohen Family entities, and the Friends of Tranquillity Camp, to offset the negative funding gap between Camper fees and operating costs. This arrangement is typical in charitable entities, which is why they are called Not for Profit organizations. When Camp losses (the gap) and available donations are predictable and in balance, this is a perfectly fine business model that has sustained Camp for most of its existence. Over the past 63 years of the Alumni, since Elias A. Cohen's passing, and even before that, there have been periods of time where this model has become unbalanced. It necessitated unusual fundraising efforts and changes in the operation of Camp that were expertly managed by Pearl and Henry Miller, with other Cohen family members, behind closed doors. In 1951, the very origin of the Friends of Tranquillity Camp, born as the Tranquillity Alumni, occurred soon after the passing of Mr. Cohen as a **Call to Action** to raise money as Camp teetered financially. That group of original alumni formed an organization to ensure Tranquillity's ongoing existence. It was Noblesse Oblige in action. Those who benefited from Camp's opportunities and Mr. Cohen's lessons answered the call then and over the successive years. We are their descendants and must carry the torch when warranted.

We are now at a new point of financial imbalance that requires a new **Call to Action**. My goal is to promote understanding so that you will respond to our fundraising actions appropriately and confidently.

Let me explain how conditions have changed. It all starts with Camp operations. As a Not for Profit organization, the financial gap due to lower camper fees and higher expenses has widened and must be supported by increased donations. There are many reasons for this growing gap that are being addressed, but the fact is that the shortfall has grown and Camp needs more money to operate going forward to maintain our financial balance.

One set of entities filling this growing gap consists of the individual donors, foundations, endowments and funds provided by the descendant families of Elias A. Cohen, our founder. They and their funds have borne the financial brunt of the recent increase in Camp expenses and, in the background, they have continued to make major financial contributions to capital projects and Camp operations. The Cohen family entities cannot address this unusual circumstance alone, since many of the reserves that they have set up for long term health are being depleted far more rapidly than ever expected. Once again, like in 1952, they rightfully turn to us for help.

Finally it rests on us to step up, the members and benefactors of the Friends of Tranquillity Camp. So many of us have benefitted from the generosity of those who preceded us. While our generosity in fundraising has been successful by any measure, our targets must grow significantly under these circumstances. Our contributions ceased being purely project-related many years ago. Our contributions have become an integral part of the funding that helps pay the bills to ensure the children's happiness and safety. They will always serve that purpose going forward.

This is an opportunity and a responsibility to which we all must be committed. Our fundraising must increase, and we will reach our goals through better events and programs. We must also increase our outreach to many more generations of Tranquillity-ites and to outsiders who care about our mission to serve deserving children and families in need. While we all serve Tranquillity for our own personal fulfillment, ultimately, it's all about the children. I hope that my candor has awoken something in you that helps us collectively understand our role. How far we have come and how far we must continue to go. Thank you all, and may our talents, time and resources lead to a better future.

Yours in Noblesse Oblige,

Alan

On behalf of my family, the entire Board of Directors of Friends of Tranquillity Camp, and myself, I would like to wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year.

I'm delighted to report that our infirmary project is getting closer to our goal; however, we are still fundraising for this important development. As soon as we obtain the necessary funds, we will proceed with construction on the building.

Our Alumni Day this past August was a huge success. There were many former campers and counselors who traveled from far away places to be with us. What a thrill to see old friends!! Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with serving. And a special thanks to Justin Pettit, who barbequed for all. Great day at T.Y.!

When I first attended Tranquillity Camp in 1956, I had the great fortune of meeting some wonderful people. I will always remember Fran Berson. She was Pearl Miller's right hand. Fran cared about all the campers and in turn was loved by all. Her husband, Abe Berson, was one of the founders of The Tranquillity Alumni that is now Friends of Tranquillity Camp. I'm sorry to say that Fran passed away this year. Our sincere condolences to her sons Andy and Tom and their families. She will be genuinely missed.

My heartfelt thanks to Paul Cohen and his daughters and sons-in-law, Stacy and Bruce Budkofsky and Robin and Andrew Gozinsky, for organizing the Jan Cohen Memorial Golf Outing, held at The North Shore Country Club in Glen Head, NY, in memory of his late wife and their mother. It was a wonderful event. All those who attended had a delicious breakfast, lunch and dinner and an opportunity to win beautiful raffle gifts. All the funds that were raised went towards Tranquillity Camp.

I am pleased to announce that our 63rd Casino Night Dinner Dance will be held at the magnificent East Meadow Jewish Center, East Meadow, NY on Saturday, March 21st, 2015. It is a fun night with great dancing, a cocktail hour, a fantastic dinner, open bar and games – blackjack, roulette, craps and more! All attendees receive a complimentary set amount of TY bucks to gamble with. It is sure to be a great evening, and I hope to see you all there.

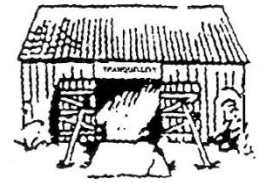
My sincere appreciation to the Florida Chapter, headed by Robin Kessler. Thanks for their continuous financial support. Keep up the good work!

Special thanks to Wendy Seslowsky for keeping us posted on the Friends of Tranquillity Camp Facebook page. Thanks, too, to Amy Abramson, Daniel Flaxman, Cheryl Janer, and Wendi Weinman for their constant help.

In closing, my gratitude to you, the members of our organization. Your membership is one of the main reasons that Tranquillity Camp still exists. I thank you for your commitment. Please continue to support our goals through your financial donations.

Harold

In 1952, The Tranquillity Alumni was created. Pearl, along with a group of former campers and counselors: Al Rukin, Abe Berson, Nat Menis and Leo Skolnik, recognized the need to create an organization to ensure the preservation of TY. For over six decades the Alumni, now called Friends of Tranquillity Camp, has been instrumental in helping to fulfill Tranquillity Camp's mission to provide a safe haven for deserving boys and girls. We count on your continued support in the years to come.



Preparations for the ninety-seventh summer of Tranquillity Camp are well under way. Applications have been mailed and new campers are being interviewed. The children's unofficial motto at TY is "We live 10 for 2". The same can be said for all the preparation that goes into making the summer a success. Soon the quiet and emptiness that is Tranquillity today will be replaced by the joy and exhilaration of several hundred delighted campers. In 2014 the children, as well as the staff, were rewarded with a memorable Tranquillity experience that can only be appreciated by those who have been privileged to attend TY. Noblesse Oblige, and the ideals that Mr. Cohen and Pearl instilled in us, are the cornerstones of the continuance and success of TY.

From the ten boys Mr. Cohen brought to his farm in "Urlton" in 1919, to the thousands of children who attended camp throughout the years, we certainly have grown. Tranquillity now has over a thousand acres of land, and thanks to the devotion of so many people, Tranquillity's facilities have improved: swimming pools, tennis courts, the Dining Room, Overlook Lane, Frindel Lane, the Pearl C. Miller Sports Center, The Hills and many more projects were completed. Yet we continue to hold fast to the traditions and lessons we learned at TY.

Our newest project is the rebuilding and enlarging of our infirmary. It was originally built in 1952, and our camp population has grown, as well as our need to deal with a myriad of medical issues. Nothing is more important than the care and well-being of our campers, and this project is paramount to that goal. We are counting on the generosity of our thousands of Tranquillity-ites to make this dream a reality.

It is only through the collaborated efforts of the Cohen Family, The Elias A. Cohen Foundation, The Charles Cohn Foundation, The Schlang Foundation, the Lawrence family and Friends of Tranquillity Camp that our success has been possible. Their support throughout the years has been resolute and steadfast. Whether you can help us financially, with goods or services, or volunteering your time, we need your assistance. As we move forward towards the 100th anniversary of Tranquillity Camp, we are dedicated to the continuance of Pearl's noble work.

Recently you may have received information enlisting your help in finding deserving children who might benefit from our camp. Many families are not aware of Tranquillity or do not believe they can afford sleep-away camp. As a member of the Tranquillity Family, you are in a unique position to share your experience with relatives, neighbors and friends who deserve an opportunity to become part of our special family. Please have them contact me.

We look forward to seeing you on Alumni/Visiting Day August 2, 2015. It is an opportunity to see camp at its best... filled with happy children.

Best regards to you and your family, from Sherrie and me.

Richard & Sherrie

Upcoming Camp Events

May 25th, 2015 – Memorial Day at Camp
July 1st, 2015 – First Day of Camp
August 2, 2015 – Alumni Visiting Day

What if Tranquillity went away? What? Did I read that correctly? It couldn't possibly be. How could that have happened? How could they let that happen? It's easy. Let me tell you.

Too many Tranquillity-ites didn't take to heart the lessons which have been passed on for 96 years. They took the easy way, figuring somebody else, anybody other than they, would expend a little personal effort, or maybe go a little out of their way, to do their part, helping to keep Tranquillity going. Each year, they sit back and watch. They think, "See? Tranquillity doesn't need my help. Another summer went by and it's still there!"

If you are reading this Echo, you are part of the Tranquillity family. Successful families work together. Every member does their share. No one is too busy to do something. If you don't know how you can help, ask someone. Harold, Alan & Alice, Cary & Lisa, Ira, Amy - and so many others - will be more than happy to give guidance, assign a task or ask for your assistance. You don't have to "write a check." There are numerous other ways you can help raise funds to ensure Tranquillity's future.

The Friends of Tranquillity Camp's Casino Night Dinner Dance at the beautiful East Meadow Jewish Center is just around the corner. It's a great evening - T-Y friends getting together to catch up and enjoy games of chance, great food, music, dancing, raffle prizes and our fundraising journal.

This year, more than ever, we are looking TO YOU to give back and HELP Tranquillity. Even if you can't make it to Casino Night, you can do something. Sell ads for our Journal. Tell your local merchants about Tranquillity; ask them to place a business card (or larger size) ad. Ask them to put up a "Friends of Tranquillity" supporter card and let them see just how many Tranquillity families patronize their business. Sell Raffle tickets. There are fantastic prizes.

Please do your part and HELP. Express your pride and join us as we celebrate 63 years of the Friends of Tranquillity Camp.

Best wishes to you and your families for a healthy, safe and prosperous New Year.

Richard Lawrence

On the Marriage Go Round

Allison Izen married Brian Goldblatt
Heidi Gorman married Brodie Hannah
Dana Leff married AJ Doucet
Gary Vider is engaged to Allie Colello

Whitney Phillips is engaged to Peter Schweppy

Brandon Pflaum married Amanda Bestany
Nicole Kleinert married Brian Ostrosky
Ilyssa Kleinert is engaged to Jason Kritz
Ian Sheinheit is engaged to Melissa Chumsky

MAZEL-GRAMS

Congratulations to David Heitner and his wife Alexandra on their newborn, Hattie.

Congratulations to Jessica Winters and her husband Eddie on their newborn, Isabella.

Congratulations to Marisa and Doug Regal on their newborn, Theo. Grandparents, Arlene and Len Levine.

Current camper, Matthew Menis, and former camper, Jackie Bukzin, not only participated at the JCC Maccabi games in August held in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, but they brought home medals! Matthew won four Swim medals! Bronze in the 200 and 400 Meter IM Relay, Silver in the 400 Meter Freestyle relay, and Gold in the 200 Meter Freestyle relay, winning that race by 7/100 of a second! Jackie competed against players from all over the world in the 13-14 age group and swept all of her tennis matches, winning Gold in the Singles events!

Gary Vider was on The Conan Show on Monday, June 2nd. He recently won the Annual "Caroline's Comedy Madness" tournament.

Adam Spiegel's musical "Cloned" was recently named a New York Times Critics Pick as well as being named the "Best of Fest" at the New York Musical Theatre Festival. Adam wrote the music for the show as well as worked on the additional story.

A Big Mazel Tov to Emily Karp on her recent Bat Mitzvah.

Larry Palevsky stars as Tevye in a Northport NY Community Theater Production of Fiddler on the Roof.

Congratulations to Eric Spiegel, who also returns to the stage and reprises his T-Y role as Perchik in Fiddler on the Roof, at Harper College in Palatine, IL in November.

Congratulations to Alexandra Schildkraut who completed the NYC Marathon.

In Memoriam

Fran Berson passed away at 95, She and her late husband Abe had been involved with T-Y for most of their lives. Fran was a counselor, Head Counselor, nurse, song leader, and Alumni Board member until recently. Our sympathies to Tom and Dorothy Berson, and Andy Berson.

Arnold Novick passed away in the Spring. Arnold, an adopted Tranquillity-ite, was the husband of the late Susan Menis Novick, brother and brother-in-law of Heidi & Rob Begun and father of Ross and Kate Novick, and Justin Novick. He is also survived by niece Joanna Begun, and grandchildren Nat Novick and Sariah Novick. He was reputed to have hit one of the longest balls in TY softball history.

We are saddened to acknowledge the passing of **Sylvia Jaffess** (1918 -2014) on August 28. Sylvia has been associated with Tranquillity since 1949. Her children, grandchildren and great-granddaughters have attended Tranquillity for the past 65 years. Two of them were even Best All Around Campers. She was a special lady and she will be sorely missed

We mourn the passing of **Sidney Kessler** at 91 years of age. He was the devoted husband to the late Gloria for 57 years; loving father to Alison, Jerry and Eric and their spouses, Arthur, Ann and Marcia; adoring grandfather to Marc, Howard, Beth, Craig, Barry, Scott, Jason and Brandon, and great-grandfather to Sienna, Tyler, Gregory, Garren, Ian and Maya. Sid loved life, his family and friends. His gentle spirit, kindness and sense of humor touched all who knew him.

Maurice (Mike) Schlang

Last of a Great Generation

A Family Member, Contributor, Builder, Leader and Friend of Tranquillity

His Booming Voice and Warm Smile Resound in the Hills of Tranquillity

A Presence for All of His 105 Years

He will Live in the Hearts of His Family and Tranquillity-ites Forever

Friends of Tranquillity Camp

P.O. Box 378

Woodmere, NY 11598

Open Houses

LONG ISLAND

Hilton Long Island/Huntington • 598 Broad Hollow Rd., Melville, NY 11747

Sunday, November 16, 2014 at 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Sunday, January 25, 2015 at 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Sunday, April 19, 2015 at 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

MEET THE
DIRECTORS

LEARN ABOUT
FACILITIES,
ACTIVITIES
& CAMP LIFE

QUEENS

Bayside Jewish Center • 203-05 32nd Ave., Bayside, NY 11361

Sunday, March 15, 2015 at 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

FLORIDA

Marriot Courtyard • 2000 NW Executive Circle, Boca Raton, FL 33431

Saturday, February 14, 2015 at 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

WATCH
THE CAMP
VIDEO

HAVE YOUR
CAMP QUESTIONS
ANSWERED

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ARRANGE A
PRIVATE INTERVIEW CONTACT:**

Richard Lerner – (845) 638-6351 • CampTY@msn.com

To Introduce Your Friends and Neighbors and Learn About Tranquillity Camp