



# BROWN LEDGE CAMP

# ALUMNAE LEDGER

SPRING-SUMMER 2012

[www.brownledge.org](http://www.brownledge.org)

## DIRECTING BLC FOR THIRTY YEARS

By Lori Angstadt

For campers, Brown Ledge is a magical place that has stood the test of time. As alums, you may have returned to camp after skipping a few or many summers and realized that very little has changed. It is easy to think of camp as the place where you learned many life lessons, from how to hit a tennis ball, to riding a horse, to being a friend or dealing with homesickness and disappointment. The reality is that being the directors of camp involves more than any one who has ever not been in charge of everything can ever know. While camp is a great place, the actual reality of making the magic of camp happen has become more and more complicated as the years go by. When Barbara and the Brown Ledge Perpetuators hired Bill and Kathy to be the directors, she asked that they stay for three summers. This year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> year that Bill and Kathy have been camp directors. That is 10 years longer than Barbara and almost as long as HEB and MPB were the directors.

There is much more to the job than hiring staff and registering campers. As society has changed so have the rules and regulations and amount of paperwork for keeping the facilities and employee hirings up to date. All employees must have social security numbers which means that along with all their work visas, foreign counselors must be taken to the SSA office in Burlington to register. There are now more expectations for instant communication from parents before during and after the summer. We have gone from one phone line at camp which Fred and Twylla answered at night, to 8 different numbers that will get you into camp, as well as internet and wireless access. Of course



there is the added complication of keeping cell phones out of the hands of campers and campers offline while they are here with all kinds of new gadgets that do all kinds of things. There are also the demands of updating

information online and managing all the new technologies of keeping people in touch with camp and using it as a resource to introduce camp to new people.

Maintenance of camp alone is a full time job. With 71 buildings, there are 71 roofs and many screens, doors, smoke alarms, beds, mattresses and a vast array of maintenance with plumbing, gas and electrical lines. During the past 30 years, Bill and Kathy have overseen many huge structural improvements at camp. The addition of two tennis courts, the redesign of the riding rings, the dining room, the camper and counselor bathrooms, the theatre lighting project and the barn are big and visible improvements. Not so glamorous have been the redesign of the sewer system and burying most all of the electrical lines. These projects are largely overseen by Bill, as he does this while also doing the demands of registering campers, hiring staff, and maintaining communication with campers, parents, alumnae and current staff. There are meetings with architects and engineers and construction companies, subcontractors and local officials for permits.

If you have ever worked at camp, you know that hundreds of questions go to Bill and Kathy each day. They are actively but

### BULLETIN BOARD:

- \* Want to see photos from this summer? Go to [www.brownledge.smugmug.com](http://www.brownledge.smugmug.com). The galleries are password protected with this summer's password being *pothouse*.
- \* Want Brown Ledge Clothing? Go to [www.amerasport.com](http://www.amerasport.com) and enter Brown Ledge Camp!
- \* Contact Liz Bell with your email address if you want to be added to the monthly Brown Ledge enews to keep in touch with camp!
- \* Be sure to inform Liz bell of any address changes.

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Emily Maggs Orben

Having just returned home after my final Board of Directors meeting for Brown Ledge, I chuckle at how every time I leave camp, I find myself trying to figure out a sensible way that I can go back to Brown Ledge, and spend a summer working there. I always come to the same conclusion: my girls are there now, and it's THEIR turn. What a gift I had this weekend when I stole a moment with Grace after theater, as we paused for Taps together while we were walking down the point. It has been 30 years since my first summer at camp, and the traditions remain honored. The organization of a Brown Ledge day remains predictable in a comforting way, even with it's lack of a schedule!

The campers have a high respect for the traditions, rules, staff, and each other. In turn, they are treated with a similar consideration. Each girl learns to applaud the success of another, and everyone wins. The self confidence that the girls return home with after four or eight weeks at camp makes them stronger young women for the following 10 months at home.

Brown Ledge not only looks beautiful, with gardens, a renovated barn, and a new theater lighting grid, but it is ALIVE with healthy and beautiful young girls and women who are having the time of their lives.

"All is well with the camp you love".

### ➔DIRECTING BLC Continued from page 1

subtly involved in the daily routine. They walk around and know how departments are running and yet in the Brown Ledge way often allow departments to figure things out for themselves. Kathy also spends time using her skills to listen to issues and resolve conflicts. She writes the parent newsletters and does the impossible job of placing campers in cabins and honoring their bunkie requests. She is also responsible for the beautiful flower gardens all around camp. All the while, they oversee the equipment, boats, cars, horses and everything else that is needed to keep camp running. They have the fiscal responsibility of insuring that the budget is stuck to while keeping track of bills, petty cash, salary advances, store accounts and many more details. They actively work with the Board of Directors to plan for the financial future of camp.

When we had the American Camping Accreditation visit in July, we had to answer hundreds of questions to provide proof that we met the standards of the ACA. This process is rigorous and demands that we have validated training of staff and have policies for all kinds of scenarios that could happen at camp. Over the years, these policies have been developed and printed in a 27 page staff handbook. The training at pre-camp is largely unchanged but the amount of information given to staff in writing has grown exponentially in the past 30 years.

Keeping camp in line with the changes in society has also been a challenge. In the beginning the majority of campers were full season. Now, as campers need to go to soccer camp or do community service or split time between parents, more campers can only manage to come for one month. Campers who are serious riders cannot miss 4 or 8 weeks of horse shows with their pony club. There is also the added pressure of getting a summer job to begin saving for skyrocketing college costs. Real world interest in dance and soccer has added programs and teams at BLC to allow campers to develop their talents. While the programs at camp have remained solid, they have adapted and changed to the demands of the outside world.

Bill and Kathy have overseen these changes but

fundamentally have ensured that the camp that we all love has basically survived and flourished. Many camps in the area have closed over the years, but thanks to their leadership, camp is not only full but also has 47 JC's this summer. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Bill and Kathy to the Brown Ledge philosophy and all that it takes to run camp, we can continue to count on the patterns of Brown Ledge to continue for years to come!

### NEW DAYLILIES ARE BLOOMING

By Kathy Nielsen

**Andy Johnson (BLC 57-64)** was one of those alums I'll never forget....except that, before June, I don't think I ever met her! Our years just missed but her name was iconic. I started camp two years after she left but I was forever hearing,

"remember Andy Johnson? She was the so great, and she was the bugler!" I want to tell you that Andy Johnson Perham is still great,

and now we are indebted to her for something more than bugling. Through a surprise connection with **Emily Nielsen** at Johnson State College where they both work (Andy is chair of the Writing and Literature Department), Andy learned of our need for a new daylily bed and we learned of her lily farm in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. Andy came to camp with husband Dave and lilies in tow during work weekend and together they designed, dug, planted and watered. By the end of the day, we were the lucky recipients of a new bed of lilies along the side of the theater. They are thriving and we will think of Andy with gratitude every time we walk by the greensword.



## O'FISHEL NEWS

Here we are, another Brown Ledge Summer. To be honest, I've lost track and don't even know how many summers camp has existed or how many summers the Fishels (of one sort or another) have been here, but I know it's a long time! I am grateful that camp is still going strong and that I have an opportunity to reflect on these many years that have passed with Brown Ledge being such a significant part of my family's life. I count my blessings and Brown Ledge and our family's resulting friendships are near the top of the list.

I had the opportunity to spend time, just prior to camp, with some of my bunkies and Brown Ledge friends, which reinforced how fortunate I have been to have such great friends in my life. Most of whom I consider to be like sisters, people I know I can always count on and who I would also do anything for. Many of you have the same relationships and have stayed in touch with your bunkies over the years. My parents were very blessed to have had the relationship they did with Brown Ledgers and all those many who visited them and stayed in touch with them over the years.

I attended my bunkie, **Robin (Manookian) Fleck's** son, Steve's, wedding on Cape Cod (Dennis, MA specifically). He and Katie were married on June 16th and it was a beautiful



ceremony. Steve's sister, **Laura Fleck**, who attended BLC as a camper, JC and swimming counselor was a bridesmaid. **Lori Angstadt** and I were very honored to be a part of the special occasion. I flew in to Boston for the wedding and spent two nights in Weymouth with my bunkie **Nancy O'Day**. We've known each other since we were 10! It was wonderful to spend time with her in her neck of the woods. Her parents live right near me in Florida, so I get to see her whenever she's down visiting them. I even got to see her take a riding lesson and I'm happy to report she's still got it! After the wedding, Lori and I headed to Maine to spend a little more time with Robin and Steve Fleck and see their new home they had



built (which is in a beautiful setting with a view of the White Mountains). We managed an afternoon in Portland, Maine and had dinner with **Krista Irmischer**, which was great fun. Then we headed to North Conway for a few days with **Alena (Arent) McDonough**. **Cathy Brodie** and Robin joined us there, so we had our own little reunion and did lots of reminiscing and had a great time.

Eventually I arrived at camp to play camp nurse for another summer. What a job, but it allows me to remain a part of Brown Ledge. And my son, Andrew, also calls this home for the summer and is camp bugler once again. My father continues to decline and is living in South Carolina with my brother, Chip, for the time being. Fred wanted to visit Brown Ledge and so my



brother drove him up for a brief visit at the beginning of July. He was so happy to be here! He threatened to stay, which would have been possible if he weren't so frail. He made it to the plays on Saturday night and to Ledger on Sunday. They sang to him

and he loved every minute of it. And in true Fred fashion, he wanted to be at camp one morning a little sooner than my brother was ready for, so he went to the front desk of the hotel and had them call a taxi for him to bring him out to camp. My brother came out of the bathroom and Fred was gone! Fortunately, he arrived here safely by cab and we called my brother immediately to tell him what Fred had done. I said to my dad, "what were you thinking, that was not a very sensible thing to do!" And what was Fred's reply? "It's my constitutional right to do what I want to do!" I said, "now it's your turn for a Fred talk!"

Well, I'll close this article with the thought that we are lucky to have such a place to have been and continue to be a part of. Brown Ledge Spirit Never Dies!

On behalf of the Fishel family,  
Regards to all,  
**Melissa Fishel Mauer aka Fish**

P.S. Speaking of lifetime friendships, on behalf of Brown Ledge Camp, I would like to thank **Debbie Fox Roderer** for overseeing the camp library for many years. My mother was always thankful for Debbie's good care of the library. It is well used and many campers and counselors take advantage of this great resource.



## SECONDS AND THIRDS

You may have looked at this title and thought “food” (portion control perhaps?), but the subject is actually “generations.” The magic number for 2012 is 74. Seventy-four of us, including campers, junior counselors and staff members, are second or third generation Brown Ledgers this summer.

We went from table to table at the end of the first session and the beginning of the second to identify all the “legacies” at camp. Frankly, we didn’t want to just ask them to come to our table after a meal and risk that someone would forget, or take the chance that a prime spot in the store rush line might take precedence over our request! The results served as a wonderful reminder that, in so many families, Brown Ledge is part of a long and honored tradition. When we asked who at the table had a family member that had been to camp, the response was loud and proud.

“Me! My aunt went here”

“My dad taught tennis!”

“My mother went to Brown Ledge and so did her mother!”

It was great fun to connect with all 74. A few of the tables were coincidentally made up almost entirely of alumnae progeny. After thirty years as directors, and many alumnae gatherings, we are happy to report that we know many, even most, of the alums named. And that makes us feel simultaneously old and blessed. On the next page are the results

By Kathy Neilsen

of our informal survey. They are presented in random order. Our profound apologies if we missed anyone, but if we did let us know so we can update our list!



Pictured above are the third generation campers that are at camp in August. Seated left to right are Lea Stapper, Alma Alberghini, Brooke Naylor and Rose Shuker-Haines. Standing left to right are Sarah Title, Andrew Mauer and Sam Shuker-Haines.

## 2ND GENERATION SING AT LEDGER

By Lori Angstadt

The tradition of Sunday night Ledger is one of the highlights of camp. In many ways, Ledger has not changed over the years. There are skits and dances and lots of songs and letters written by my spider friend, Simpleton. The night ends



with a song by the Brown Ledge Choir, which is under the direction of **Kylie Mullins (00's)** this year. Frequently, we are fortunate to hear the original songs of **Hannah**

**Livant** (daughter of **Beany Richter**). Her group, PITL, is also made up of Lauren Aldoroty and Sarah Flanagan (daughter of **Caryn Daus**). Pictured above left to right are Lauren, Sarah and Hannah. During his visit to camp in July, Hannh dedicated the song she wrote entitled “Watching Clouds” to **Fred Fishel**. I wish I had taken a video of it to post on smugmug but the best I can do for now is to share the words with all of you.

## WATCHING CLOUDS

By Hannah Livant

### Chorus:

As I think here I lie watching clouds cross the sky though I can’t control the winds nor can I, choose my fate

### Verse 1

Over land and over sea I will have to wait and see though I try to hold them dear when they leave confirms my fear

### Verse 2

I feel as though I fight gainst the flow of time and though I’d like to roam I’d rather find my way home

### Verse 3

and though seasons pass and memories go by they shall never be the last though I know that time goes by so as I lie and feel rather old I know by thinking I’ve stopped the sadnesses toll



Camper or Staff (in Bold)	Alum Relatives
Kaitlyn Consolini	Ashley Gille (Mom)
	Bobbi Albright (Grandmother)
Brynn Gille	Ashley Gille (Aunt)
	Bobbi Albright (Grandmother)
Neala Sweeney	Elissa McMahon
Katherine Asbeck	Ellen Rome (Mom)
Mackenzie Buckman	Jeff Buckman (Dad)
Molly Goldstein	Tobi Domsy (Mom)
Grace and Gillian Orben	Emily Maggs (Mom)
	Sarah Maggs (Aunt)
Rose & <b>Samuel</b> Shuker-Haines	Franny Shuker (Mom)
	Alison Shuker (Aunt)
	Nancy Frederick (Grandmother)
<b>Franny Shuker-Haines</b>	Nancy Frederick (Mom)
Isabella Hardman	Laura Burris (Mom)
Annie Zanger	Joan Weiterer (Grandmother)
<b>Sarah Title</b>	Elizabeth Stedman (Grandmother)
	Marian “Freckles” Palm (Aunt)
	Bill Palm (Uncle)
<b>Amy Roderer</b>	Debbie Fox (Mom)
	Betsy Fox (Aunt)
Katie Harkness	Tim Harkness (Dad)
<b>Andeas Landin</b>	Anja Landin (Mom)
	Eva & Hans Nilsson (Aunt & Uncle)
<b>Emmie &amp; Ted Nilsson</b>	Eva & Hans Nilsson (Mom & Dad)
Henley & <b>Rylee Shull</b>	Jill Predmore (Grandmother)
Maggie Pierce	Mindy Badger (Mom)
Lizzy Pigott	Tammy Shaw (Mom)
Lindsay Jennings	Pamela Jennings (Aunt)
	Hilda Anderson (Grandmother)
<b>Katie Reynolds</b>	Edie Plimpton (Mom)
	Jan Plimpton (Aunt)
Emily Weintraub	Lucy Prager (Mom)
Olivia Pepin	Stina Olsen (Mom)
	Greg Pepin (Dad)
Callie Forzley	Cynthia & Cheryl Forzley (Aunts)
Maddie Mandeville	Sally deOliva (Mom)
	Meg & Pati & Amy deOliva (Aunts)
Anna Juskevich	Pati deOliva (Mom)
	Sally & Meg & Amy deOliva (Aunts)
Becca Freer	Meg deOliva (Mom)
	Sally & Pati & Amy deOliva (Aunts)
Sevie Brown	Lynda Kommel (Mom)
Ryley Scheer	Kat Yaroschuk (Mom)
Sadie Smith	Liz & Ann Smith (Aunts)

Camper or Staff (in Bold)	Alum Relatives
<b>Hilary Strimple</b>	Liz Smith (Mom)
	Ann Smith (Aunt)
<b>Franny Alston</b>	Catherine Alston (Aunt)
Sarah Flanagan	Caryn Daus (Mom)
Maile Jones	Nancy Weaver (Mom)
	Robin & Betsy Weaver (Aunt)
Alma Alberghini	Arianna Knapp (Mom)
	Judith Hallberg (Grandmother)
Serena Thorn	Denise Hill (Mom)
<b>Kyla Sener</b>	Julie Sener (Aunt)
<b>Julia Foster</b>	Nancy Pomeroy (Mom)
Sarah Klippel	Tracy Welch (Mom)
Jennifer & Hannah Kater	Patti Cassidy (Mom)
Alex Huffman	Patti Cassidy (Aunt)
Haley McCruden	Mona Neale (Mom)
	Randy & Grant Neale (Uncles)
<b>Melissa Fishel</b>	Fred & Twylla Fishel (Parents)
<b>Andrew Mauer</b>	Melissa Fishel (Mom)
Kelly Anderson	Kim Silverang (Mom)
Jaden Baum	Elena Barr (Mom)
Sydney & Laney Emerson	Lynn Benoliel (Grandmother)
Zabette Kerman	Lynn Benoliel (Grandmother)
Charlotte & Jackie Davis	Sally Short (Mom)
	Missy & Heather Short (Aunts)
Morgan Heinrich	Jenn Ackerman (Mom)
Zoe Ewing	Sara Tindall (Aunt)
Brooke Naylor	Robin Davies (Mom)
	Tori Davies (Aunt)
	Corinne Davies (Grandmother)
	Ann Greenlaw (Great-Grandmother)
Reilly Parker	Diana Kelly (Aunt)
Charlotte & Kelsey Proceller	Alexis Rosenthal (Mom)
Cheney Williams	Ginny Sharp (Mom)
Marie Stuart Morency	Lise & Suzane Demers (Aunts)
Simone Lavin	Lisa Greenwald (Mom)
	Linda & Vicki Greenwald (Aunts)
Grace Nimmo	Susie McKallor (Great Aunt)
Catherine Enkema	Wendy Enkema (Mom)
Anna Moretti	Polly Atkins (Mom)
Haley & Lucy Hauck	Robin Schneider (Mom)
	Martha Schneider (Aunt)
Lea Stapper	Jennifer Glickman (Mom)
	Sara Orton (Grandmother)
Charlotte & Catherine Jones	Jenny Jones (Aunt)
Hannah Livant	Beany Richter (Mom)

## SHEER JOY OVER BARN RENOVATION

As you all know, the renovation of the Brown Ledge Barn has taken place thanks to the generosity of so many Brown Ledgers who have helped to make it possible. From the moment that Molly's first hoof stepped into the barn, to the official ribbon cutting ceremony the first night of camp and beyond, there has been nothing but smiles and enthusiasm as both the campers and staff revel in the beauty and pleasure of the beautiful and functional new barn. We briefly interviewed some staff and campers (both new and returning) to hear their thoughts on the Brown Ledge Barn.

**Greg Pepin (1984-1991, mid 90s-2012):** Clean cut, modernized, better for the horses, has a rustic feel to it. It's amazing!

**Emily Knickerbocker (2007-2012; 1<sup>st</sup> Yr. Riding JC):** I was amazed! As a Riding JC, I'm so lucky to get to be one of the first JCs to use it. I feel privileged and so excited! I couldn't wait to share it with my friends who were coming second session. Every day I walk in, I see something new that I hadn't seen before. It will never get old!



**Sandra Garcia (current camper since 2010):** It looks cleaner, and everything is easy to find. The horses aren't squashed in anymore. It's organized, and so light and bright! The horses are happier. We all like it so much better!

**Lizzie Piggot (new camper; Tammy Shaw's daughter):** Amazing and exciting! It's great!

**Katie Mostek (new camper):** I live in a horse populated area, with lots of barns. None of those barns even compare to the BLC barn!

**Alex McClure (03-08, 2010-2012 Sr. Staff, current Riding Staff):** I love it! The campers are happy, the horses are happy; it's cool on hot days, well lit and aesthetically pleasing. But it's still the same old fun BLB! It's great!

**Jessie Hamilton (current camper since 2008):** I love the new barn, but miss being able to sign my name on the stalls and walls. Otherwise, I love it! It is so much nicer! No more shaking of stall walls when the horses kick, and the horses can't break out of the stalls. Even if you forget to lock the door, they can't break out!

**Zoe Jones (Sr. Staff, Barn Crew - 2012):** I think it is awesome! It's cool, the horses are happy, and it's easy to work in the barn. Also easy to keep clean! The campers come in relaxed, happy and enthusiastic.

**Kat Yaroschuk (Sr. Staff 92-94, 98-00, 2012):** Gorgeous! My daughter has been comfortable going into many stalls and has overcome her initial fear.



**Ducky Carter (04-09, Riding Staff 2011-12):** Yay! BLC horses and campers are finally getting the housing and facilities they deserve.

**Melissa Fishel Mauer (Riding JC & Counselor 70's, Current Camp Nurse):** It is a beautiful sight and it warms my heart to know that the horses have a comfy place to reside.

**Amanda Edson (Head of Riding 2010-11):** Refreshing to have clean, bright, roomy workspace for the girls to learn how to properly care for and ride our equine friends.

**Dr. Anne Finlayson, DVM (BLC veterinarian since 1997):** -You do know that this is the nicest boarding facility in Chittenden County, don't you? (upon arrival to do the annual checkup of the BLC horses)

And from the person who spends more time in the new barn than any other Brown Ledger, and who grew up in the old barn since 1991....

**Robyn Sonis (91-99, 2001-2005, 2012 - Head of Riding):** It is amazing! It is the nicest horse facility that I've ever been in, and I've been riding since I was 5 years old. There is a noticeable difference in the health and happiness of the horses, as well as the comfort level of the campers as they work both in and out of the stalls. The temperature inside the barn makes a huge difference, too. There is a sense of safety for the barn crew with watering and feeding the horses. I'm in awe each and every time I walk into the barn!

An enormous thank you to all who have donated to the BLB! We are still in need of more generous donations to reach our \$175,000 goal for the new facility. Please consider giving a gift today! [www.brownledge.org/donate](http://www.brownledge.org/donate).



By Liz Bell

## STAY CONNECTED TO BLC!

If reading the Ledger twice a year isn't enough to keep you connected to Brown Ledge Camp, there are many other ways to get your fill.

### \* Brown Ledge Enews

Aren't receiving the BLC Enews in your inbox? Liz Bell sends out news and updates about BLC and the alums every four to six weeks via an email message from the Brown Ledge Web Site. If you'd like to be added to the Enews recipient list, you can create an alumnae account on the web site ([www.brownledge.org](http://www.brownledge.org)) which will add you to the list. Or you can email Liz directly ([liz@brownledge.org](mailto:liz@brownledge.org)) and let her know you'd like to be on the Enew list.

**\* Facebook:** With 1350 viewers of our Facebook page, you can certainly keep in touch with hundreds of your Brown Ledge friends. Look for the Brown Ledge Camp page that has the camp sign as its profile picture. There are many BLC pages on Facebook, but the "official" page is Brown Ledge Camp with "non profit organization" noted below the name. There you can post photos, reach out to others and get current updates on what's new at BLC. *Please note that it is an open page, not a private page by invitation only.*

**\* Smugmug:** Current camp photos, and photos from previous summers, are up on our Smugmug page. For the smugmug gallery, go to [www.brownledge.smugmug.com](http://www.brownledge.smugmug.com). There are different passwords for different years. If you would like to see photos from the 2012 summer, use the password **pointhouse** to access the page. For passwords to previous years, please contact Liz Bell and she will provide you with the necessary information.

**\* Tumblr:** Take a look at the construction from start to finish for the various projects as they are happening. Go to our Tumblr web site and take a peek! [www.brownledge.tumblr.com](http://www.brownledge.tumblr.com) will give you a glimpse of all the exciting changes!

**\* Alumnae Search on the BLC website:** The Brown Ledge website allows you to create your own Alumnae Account and profile if you are a past Brown Ledger. Your account is created with your email address as your User Name and a password you choose to use. Please follow these steps:

- 1) Go to [www.brownledge.org](http://www.brownledge.org)
- 2) Go to the "Alumnae" drop down menu (right side, between *campers* and *contact us*.)
- 3) Scroll down to "Create/Update your alumnae profile"
- 4) On the right side of that screen you will see boxes with a red star that are required to be filled out. There you will enter your email address and password, along with a few other pieces of info.

By Liz Bell

NOTE: when you create your alumnae profile please check off the "Allow other alumnae to see my contact information" box (located just under the login frame) if you want your information to be visible to other alumnae. Please remember that if your contact information changes (ie: if you move or change email addresses) after you've signed up on this alumnae database, **you'll need to personally update your contact info.** The Brown Ledge office will not have access to your account due to the password assignment. Your password is not viewable by the office or the web site managers.

**\* BLC Travel Host:** Brown Ledge is fortunate enough to have a wonderful group of staff, campers and alums from all over the world. Often times they will travel throughout the United States and other countries once camp is over for the summer. They may need a place to stay as they travel on their journey! Are you interested in being a BLC Travel Host so that the traveling Brown Ledgers have a place to stay? Please contact Liz Bell so she can add you to the list of hosts. Sounds like a great way to meet other Brown Ledgers! For those of you traveling, simply contact Liz via email or phone ([liz@brownledge.org](mailto:liz@brownledge.org) or 877-252-2586) and she will give you the names and numbers of BLC Travel Hosts.

### \* Participate on a Committee for Brown Ledge

There are some wonderful ways to volunteer your time so that BLC doesn't lose touch with its enthusiastic group of alumnae. We have the following committees that you can consider joining this year:

**Alumnae Affairs** - -- help us continue to grow our various ways to keep in touch with BLC alums. Perhaps host a regional reunion or conduct some interviews with other alums for the next Ledger.

**Acknowledgment** - write personal thank you notes to donors; send a "Brown Ledge Baby" bib to new babies; send a congratulations card to newly wed alums, etc.

### \* Be a Brown Ledge Foundation Board Member:

The Board of Directors for the Brown Ledge Foundation consists of eleven members. The board meets three times a year to discuss financial, alumnae and fundraising items, as well as the success and future of camp. Board terms are three years long, and a member may sit on the board for two terms. If you are interested in sitting on the Board of Directors please contact Bobbi Collins Degan (atздеган@gmail.com) who oversees the Nominating Committee for the board. She will provide detailed information about the duties and responsibilities of a Brown Ledge Foundation board member.



## BLC HISTORY RECOVERY PROJECT

**Name of Alumnae:** Martha (Marty) Tuttle Shannon

**Interviewed by:** Liz DeOreo

**Birthday:** March 12, 1932

**Years at BLC:** Camper: 1945 - 1947, JC 1948. Sr. Staff: 1949-1950

**JC Department:** Riflery

**Sr. Staff Department:** Riflery, Riding

**In which departments did you earn your basics?**

Aquaplaning, Archery, Sailing

**Intermediates?** Canoeing, Tennis, Diving, Swimming

**Vanguards?** Riflery, Riding (including jumping)

**Which bunkies/friends do you remember?** Diane Dreves (the classmate who introduced her to BLC) Joan Weiterer, Elsie Parkhurst, Nonnie Richardson, Jane Richardson, Emily Shaffer, Helen Turner, and others.

**Of those, with whom are you still in touch?** Joan Weiterer Butcher

**In which cabins did you live?** Point House and The Hangout as a counselor. (Can't remember the others.)

**What were other BLC accomplishments that you achieved other than the awards?** Drill team co-captain as JC

**Accommodations/Facilities/Equipment:** Martha had been introduced to several other camps prior to finding BLC. She found out about BLC the way many of us did; a classmate brought the catalog to school and Martha "just knew it was for me. From the very first letter from Mr. Brown, I and my parents knew this was indeed special!"

Although Martha went back to camp several years ago and found it to be immediately "familiar" despite the physical changes, there are some differences. The activities remain about the same. Apparently the rule of not driving the boat through the swimming/diving area was routinely violated by HEB himself. Martha said that campers and staff alike learned to "watch out!" when HEB was taking people aquaplaning! There were three docks; swimming, sailing and canoeing. The diving boards and high tower came off of the swimming dock. Swimsuits were two pieces but were shorts and bra-style tops and, in 1945, might not contain elastic!

**Memories of camp:** The girls had uniforms when Martha started at camp - collared shirt, shorts and sweatshirt, although, for the most part, they were not worn. She doesn't recall uniforms after that first year or two. Flip flops were not yet en vogue but Martha and her friends wore moccasins. These shoes were perfect for "not slipping down the point and tripping on the roots." The cabins, though fewer of them, were still arranged as they are today and furnished with a single light bulb on each side. Martha does not recall writing on cabin walls. The dining hall was where it is now but was only the original structure prior to its expansions.

An interesting fact is that Martha's first year at BLC was the last year of WWII. She believes that prior to camp, parents of campers would have to give the ration cards to the Browns in order that food was procured for the campers. There was very little meat or sugar that summer and "a whole lot of peanut butter... but I don't ever recall feeling I didn't get enough to eat." The camp store existed next to the dining room and Martha recalls supplementing her diet with Milky Way Bars when available. There was no payphone so if you needed to make a call, you had to go to the Brown's cabin (which was apparently NOT something that people did!). In almost post war America, BLC cost \$400 for a full summer in 1945!!

Arriving at camp was mostly by car and train; no one was flying commercially at this time. Most BLers came from Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, etc. and either their parents would drive them or they would take the train from Grand Central Station into Burlington. Like the "plane party" of the 80s and 90s, the girls would all meet a counselor at Grand Central and ride the same train into Vermont. Martha and I joked that the train car passengers much like the other people on our planes were likely not excited to share several hours with "a bunch of giggling girls."

Leaving camp remains solidly unchanged; tears and adults tearing campers, counselors, JCs away from each other. Martha assured me she "was able to cry all the way back to New Jersey." The schedule of camp remains largely unchanged. There were bugles and meals in the dining hall. Martha recalls how great it was to wake up and think "I think I want to work on my tennis today or maybe I will go to riflery." It does appear campers were able to wake the counselors up if they wanted an early morning swim - this was a hazard of living in the Point House! There was a Saturday evening theatre but not to the degree we have now. There was no formal theatre the first couple of years, until the Recreation Hall with indoor stage was built. As she remembers, the first level of the Point House and the outdoor stage, next to the riding ring were used for the Saturday evening entertainment. No one dressed up. Martha believes the theatre took off when Barbara returned from Broadway. On Sundays, the campers and staff still wore white. Lunch was not a quiet meal as we have it now. The campers and staff could attend chapel and there were "Ledgers", which Martha thinks of as campfires. Providing the weather was good, the entire camp would taxi via canoe across the crib to Mosquito Island for a large campfire. This was a "quiet and reflective" time. Mr. Brown would speak "about peace, justice, treatment of fellow campers... it wasn't preachy, it was meditating and spiritual." Sometimes counselors would speak as well. There was singing and people brought guitars. Martha says they sang "traditional campfire songs" but we could not determine if they were similar to our Sunday Songs. Though they did not close camp events with our traditional

## THEATRE LIGHTING SHINING BRIGHT

By Lori Angstadt

After two years of fundraising for the new lighting grid in the theatre, the project became a reality this spring. To meet current building code, we had to install a support system which did not rely on support from the roof structure. The structural engineer of the project came up with the plan to build



an arch below the roof that supports the weight of the grid. This change has most influenced **Richard Currie** who has been lighting Brown Ledge productions for over 40 years. "The new grid is amazing. Two new double wide arches were added to the building to support it. They soar beautifully. On the top bleachers a long bench holds them apart and gives more seating. I can push a button and the grid lowers to within easy reach. We can stand on a chair or a six foot ladder to hang, focus and gel. There are four motors, one at each corner, each one can hold one and a half tons. They are attached to the grid and climb a chain to raise the grid. I asked the designer if we could fly someone from the grid and he said it was the owner's choice!"

And as this Ledger is going to print, the announcement was made in the dining room, that this year's musical will be *Urinetown, The Musical*. Richard was stationed outside the door of the dining room as a policeman as clues were given to the campers as they entered. We all look forward to the production and the magic that Richard can create with the new light grid. Thanks to all the alums who donated to this project. We hope you all get to come back and see the results of your financial support to this and all the projects at camp.



"Goodnight Song" both songs "There Is a Camp on Malletts Bay" and "When You Come to the End of a Brown Ledge Day" were familiar to her (as separate songs at that time). Rest hour existed after lunch. JCs visited campers. Unlike our first phone call home, since there was only one phone at camp, campers were required to write a letter home within the first week of camp, and cabin counselors ensured this was done.

**What are your fondest memories?**

Martha says that every memory could be a favorite and still recalls BLC as some of the best times in her life. What does stand out is HEB standing up in the dining hall and announcing to the camp that the Americans had dropped an atomic bomb on Japan. She cannot recall exactly what he said after that but recalls that she was impressed and moved by his words about what this could mean for the future of our world.

**What was the most significant positive experience you had at BLC?**

Positive experiences include the friendships, the sense of accomplishments and knowing the Browns.

**What impact has BLC made in your life?** "Brown Ledge was one of the two major influences in my life besides my family. Camp and Wellesley College shaped the adult person I became."

## RIDING STAFF AT BLC IN 1956

**Prue Gay Stuhr (54- 56 camper ; 57 JC; 58 Asst counselor; 60 counselor, riding)** sent along a vintage photo. "I was a camper in 1956 so not in the photo. I have more photos, and one day hope to write a short piece about the horses from 1954- 60...some of them, that is. I have the riding staff from 1958, I believe...will send that another time, but not now, off to the National Dalmatian Specialty dog show in Tulsa, OK."



Staff member—horse (Left to right): **Sue O'Leary**- Big Bamboo, **Cinnie Rich**—Cudjo, **Anne Hankins**—Late Date, **Natalie (Duffy) Davis**—Hash Knife, **Snooks Sawtelle**—Teufelstanz, **Pat Gilbert**—Up Front, **Bill Bryan**—Ceyanne, **Joanne Bedenk**—Roman Soldier, **Carolyn Place**—Reprint, **Sue Dorer**—Hurricane Hill, **Timmie Drosdick**—Super Juice, **Suki Kahne**—the Minor.

## NEWS FROM YOU

Early this past spring, **Chris Nee (80s & 90s)** wrote: "I'm looking for all the eyeballs I can get for my show on Disney Junior. We finally have a launch date of March 23rd. It's called Doc McStuffins. I created and Executive Produced it, and I'm really proud of it. Would love to have BLC watch along." Since it premiered, Doc McStuffins has become a household name! At Disney Junior, for the week of July 2, 2012, "**Doc McStuffins**" ranked as the #1 cable TV series for the 4th consecutive week in kids 2-5 and Girls 2-5.



Congratulations, Chris!

**Kate Dee (80-84)** was recently honored as one of Seattle's top doctors! She was listed as a top doctor in both Seattle Magazine and the Seattle Metropolitan. Congratulations!

**Anne Domit (78-86)** was named a Top Vet in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts by votes from her peers. And, to add icing to the cake, she got married on July 22, 2012.

**Alison Mixon (90-97)** performed in a workshop for Bill T. Jones' new show, Superfly, in New York City. She's also the cover girl and featured model in YMX for Yellowman's new catalogue. In addition to performing and modeling, Alison continues to teach dance. She is excited to be teaching ballet for Alvin Ailey's AileyCamp this summer.

**Janet Koppleman (70s, 80s, 00s)** has launched a completely new version of her website with some beautiful professional photography, a new Blog with all her recipes of the week along with lots of new gluten-free diet info. Still the same web address - ChefJanetK.com

Nomad Theatrical Co. presented the first NYC performances of

**Randy Neale's THE FOOL'S LEAR** directed by **Grant Neale** and performed by the Brothers Neale as part of The New York Avant Garde Arts Festival in June, 2012.



**Helen Feldman (02-09)** shared a wonderful story of a run in with a Brown Ledger: "I just wanted to tell you about a very funny encounter I had the other day in NYC. I recently joined this yoga studio called YogaWorks, and who should be the teacher the other day, but Sarah Bell (79-85,99)! As I was in downward dog, and she was passing through the rows, she tapped me on the shoulder, pointed to her ring, and then pointed to mine. A beautiful Brown Ledge moment! We spoke afterwards (I know who she is, but we had never officially met), and it was so nice to make that connection."

**Olivia Moskowitz (95-01)** shared a wonderful story with **Macy Wesson (97-05)** to remind all of us how much we learn and grow from summers at BLC: "I had my first riding lesson since, well since I was skipping my lessons all the time with you. They had me tack up my horse and all I could think was, 'Thank god Macy gave me so much grief about this when I was younger or I would have no idea what to do now!!' You saved me from a possibly embarrassing moment today."

From **Rachel Jackson (87-92)**: This past year Cody and I sold our house in Austin, TX and moved to Seattle, WA, so I could start a job with Red Dot Corporation. The opportunity presented itself, and I couldn't refuse, so starting July 1st I will be in the Supply Chain Operations division of Starbucks. Cody and I are so excited and love our new adopted hometown. While waiting for the biking season we decided to take snow skiing this spring and will be regulars on the slopes this season. It is amazing, we can ski in the morning and beach comb in the afternoon. I found an excellent doctor for my follow up cancer care, and this month I am celebrating 3 years cancer free!

**Cathy Ashley Muskus (64-65, 67-68)** sent some news after reading the Alumnae updates in the Enews: "As I read the last update about the first days of camp, I realized that I had been remiss in updating myself. My husband, Pat, our older daughter (Tricia, 94), and I moved to Ocala, FL last year. I arrived here in August 2011 living on my own for a bit (a first) and teaching nursing at Rasmussen College. Gradually the rest of the family including the 5 horses, 3 dogs, 5 cats, and a parrot trickled down. It was time for a change though I'll miss Vermont (at least during the spring, summer, and fall) and knowing that BLC was right around the corner."

An Evaluation of Developmental Outcomes at a Free-Choice Oriented Girls Summer Camp That would, of course, be Brown Ledge Camp! **Dart Schmalz (80s and 90s)** wrote a fabulous article about BLC after extensive research on the outcomes of spending a summer at BLC. If you would like to read her article, contact Liz Bell ([liz@brownledge.org](mailto:liz@brownledge.org)) and she will email it to you.

Congratulations to Thousand Islands Land Trust (TILT) trustee, **Elaine Vedette Tack (70s - waterskiing JC &**

## MORE NEWS FROM YOU

**Sr. Staff**), who has been elected to the Board of Directors for Parks & Trails New York (PTNY). PTNY, the leading statewide advocate for parks and trails since 1985, organizes programs and helps support local efforts to protect and improve parks and develop community trails in New York State. Elaine noted, "I am very excited to make this connection for the region and for TILT."

**Xandra Clark (01-07) & Lily Tandon (03-09)** are in a movie coming to theatres this weekend! They are in "Nesting" which opens on May 11th! Visit <http://www.nestingmovie.com/> for more information and to watch a trailer. Congratulations to both of you!

**Sarah Title & Sari Meltzer (00s)** - "Here are Sari and I together on the top of Table Mountain in Cape Town!!! Sari is studying at the University of Cape Town this semester and I am



doing a Semester at Sea and our ship stopped there for a few days in late February!"

Take a look at **Julia Foster's (00's & 10's)** amazing video sharing memories of Brown Ledge Camp! She made it for an English class freshman year at Miami of Ohio as a project for a narrative that she wrote. It will make all Brown Ledgers smile! <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XcZn1VZs0Sg> [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)



**Cheryl Luria (70-76, 84) & Sally Ross Davis (72-76)** reunite - Feb. 7, 2012.

Late breaking baby news learned on Facebook as the Ledger goes to press:

**Annabel Lukins Stelling (80's)** and

her husband Peter, welcomed their daughter, Lyric Sage Stelling into the world on July 27th. Congratulations! Also found a last



minute photo of **Melina Nacos (80's)** and her new daughter, Lola! Congratulations Melina and Derek!

**Julia Proctor** hosted a BLC potluck reunion in her Brooklyn apartment on March 16th. Twelve BLers gathered together around a delicious meal (Diana Kelly kicked off the singing of grace) and had a wonderful time catching up about their lives in NYC and reminiscing about BLC. There was a rousing rendition of the goodnight song. Julia and her fiance moved to Brooklyn last fall and look forward to hosting more BLC/NYC gatherings in the future!



Front: **Diana Kelly, Alison Mixon, Erica Amster, Hillary Amster and Julia Proctor.** Back: **Judith Dry, Rachel Ropeik, Whittemore Hall, Alla Frey, Laurel Devaney, Teves Brighton and Polly Whitker.**

From **Emily Silman (95-99)**: In winter 2012 I left my job and New York City to serve as a Peace Corps volunteer in Madagascar from March 2012- May 2014. I'll be serving as a community economic development volunteer, helping people in rural towns build small businesses. It was a tough decision to make this big life change, but I have wanted to serve in the Peace Corps since I was a teenager, and I realized that I needed to make it happen before it got too late. I will be wearing my BLC rings and necklace the whole time as reminders of camp memories, and I am hoping to work at BLC after I return from Madagascar, to help me transition back to living in the US! I had a great time



reconnecting with Brown Ledge in 2011: work weekend, my first alumnae camp (where former volunteer Erin Thompson Podvin gave me great advice on

the Peace Corps), the theatre fundraiser in New York, and I even took a yoga class with Sarah Bell at YogaWorks on the Upper West Side! I will be keeping a blog at <http://inarcadiaalso.blogspot.com> if anyone wants to follow my adventures in Madagascar." Attached is a fun photo from alumnae camp. L-R it's **Jennifer "T-spoon" Hart McLaughlin, me, Polly Witker, Macy Wesson, Liz Bell, Robyn Sonis.**

## MILESTONES

**Congratulations to the following Brown Ledgers for their new additions to the Brown Ledge family:**

**Merry Alderman Ritsch (89-94)** announced that Virginia Alderman Ritsch (aka Ginny) was born on January 26, 2012 at 8:05 am.

**Tammy Rayevitch Leitch (80s)** welcomed Arden Amelia Leitch...born on March 6, 2012 at 7:02pm. She is pictured to the left. **Sarah Ashworth (83-88, 90)** and her husband Polk welcomed Piper Preston Deters to their family in mid-June. Piper's older brother, Scout, is happy to have a little sister. Sarah wrote



that "Piper is already excited for 8 weeks at Brown Ledge!

**Tammy [Rayevich Leitch]** and I are signing Arden [Leitch] and Piper up as bunkies!"

**Flis Chadwick Haworth (97-98)** had a baby girl! Bethany Haworth. She was new to the world at 1:28 on the 10th of June weighing in at 7lb 12oz. Everybody is doing well.

**Melina Nacos Robinson (84-92)** welcomed a daughter into her family! Lola Alexandra Robinson was born on July 24, 2012.

**Congratulations also go out for recent weddings.**

**Taylor Strimple (97-01)** married Ryan Keenan on March 17, 2012. Along with her mother, **Liz Smith Strimple** and her sister, **Hilary Strimple**, there were other Brown Ledgers who shared in the celebration - **Siri Smith, Sadie Smith, Dan Simcock, Ann Smith Kaufher and Sarah Kaufher Englund.**

**Becca Dowd Olsen (99-03)** was married to Jared Bailey on July 23, 2012.

**We regret to inform you of the passing of these Brown Ledgers. Our thoughts go out to families and friends.**

A note from **Connie Birgel Haile (55-60)**: It is with great sadness that I write to inform you that my sister, **Terry Birgel Templeton (60s)** lost her courageous battle with cancer on July 28, 2010.

It is with deep sadness that we share the news of the passing of **Daniela Mottle (02-06)**. Our hearts go out to her sister, **Lauren Mottle (00-05)**, and the family during this difficult time.

Daniela passed away on June 9, 2012. Daniela was a Riflery JC and earned her Vanguard in 2005. After finishing her BS in Math at Rutgers University in only 3.5 years, she graduated in December 2011.



Daniela was working for CSL Services Inc. as a Statistical Analyst. In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made to The Marjorie P. Brown Scholarship Fund. You can send checks to the winter address on page 12 or you can donate on line at [www.brownledge.org/donate](http://www.brownledge.org/donate) and use the comment section to note the gift is in Daniela's memory. If you would like to read her obituary on line, you can do so at: <http://easyfhw.com/restinpeace.aspx?MemberId=106928&MName=Daniela%20C%20Mottle&FLVId=>

## MORE NEWS FROM YOU

**Alex MacDonald (70s)** shared some exciting news: "not really into tooting my own horn, I haven't said anything till now, but it would probably be of interest to those in the theatre department that a BLC Stock Company member won a couple of Academy Awards. For technical achievement in '06 and '11. For my flying camera technology. Credits are on my IMDB page and Facebook has some pictures. I actually was on the main awards show in our group for a few seconds near the best picture award at the end." Congratulations, Alex!

**Edie Plimpton Fleeman** wrote "We had a bunch of BLers at the March 25th Women On Target event at Sir Walter Gun Club



near Raleigh, NC. Instructing Smallbore were **Amy Roderer, Noel Keck** and **Ryan Dorety Gardner**. Instructing High Power was **Bill Soupy Reynolds**. Instructing Skeet were **Katie Reynolds and mom Edie!**"

**Peggy Mathauer** sent a recent picture of a rare gathering of her family. Left to right are **Kirtani, Monalika and Shanti** and their sons.



## WORK WEEKEND 2012

Thank you to all the fabulous volunteers who not only spread wood chips and trimmed branches, but also had a great time at Trivia Night while giving a donation to the Marjorie P.



Brown Scholarship Fund! Over \$400 was raised for the fund that evening. Congratulations to the "Union Rags" Team that came up from behind and crossed the wire by a nose!

We couldn't have asked for better weather, or harder working volunteers! Pulling weeds on the left is **Kerry Stroud Green** and painting the tennis backboard on the right is **Kathy Roberts Snedeker.**

Fun was had by all - and you now you can look at some pictures from the weekend by visiting our Smugmug page! Go to: [www.brownledge.smugmug.com](http://www.brownledge.smugmug.com). You will need a password to view the photo albums. The password is *vista (which is different than the 2012 summer photos)*.

We'll let you know when the dates for Work Weekend 2013 are set for next season. It's a great weekend for all who participate and a great way to give back to Brown Ledge!



## ADDRESS UPDATES

The following people have made a change of address since the previous Ledger. If you would like contact information on any of the alums listed below, please contact Liz Bell at [liz@brownledge.org](mailto:liz@brownledge.org) or 877-252-2586.

Abby Alansari (00s)	Melissa Fischer	Paula McHarg (90s)	Maria Rowley (90s)
Keri Allen (00s)	Jane Fox Crandall	Celena McLaurin (00s)	Whitney Russell (90s)
Hilda Anderson Jennings	Ally Frey Chizhik (90s)	Gwynne McQuilken Soheili (80s)	Samantha Schasberger (80s)
Rebecca Auster Pieper (80s)	Alison Gaffney (90s)	Sofie Medina (00s)	Shelley Schnaper Mazer (60s)
Reeve Ballard (00s)	Kelcy Gears (00s)	Garland Middleton (00s)	Kyla Sener (00s)
Gwynn Ballard (00s)	Susannah Geisler Extrom (90s)	Julie Midgley (00s)	Jeanne Shannon Bloodgood (40s)
Julie Ballou (00s)	Linnea Goodman (90s)	Katie Miller (00s)	Megan Shattuck (80s)
Liza Barry (90s)	Sarah Gormley (80s)	Kelly Miller (00s)	Lucy Shearn ()
Allison Baske (90s)	Eloise Graham Brooks (60s)	Sara B. Miller (90s)	Caroline Shervin (00s)
Liz Baydush Milewski (80s)	Meredith Grieff (00s)	Christine Millett (70s)	Karen Shnek Lippman (80s)
Hillary Beach (00s)	Heather Hinshaw (90s)	Christy Mitchell Moran	Jordan Shull (00s)
Mary Beth Brown (2010s)	Molly Hislop (2010s)	Joe Monthey (00s)	Jessica Smith (00s)
Jeff & Meera Buckman (70s)	Scott Holmes (70s)	Maggie Morley (00s)	Nicole Soule (90s)
Martha Bутtenheim (70s)	Keigher Hurley Nazarian (80s)	Colby Moss (80s)	Wendy Stifel Hansen (70s)
Courtney Cafaro Zanetich (80s)	Roxanne Igoen (00s)	Aimee Murdock Burke (80s)	Gwen Stowe (90s)
Kailey Carlyle (2010s)	Rachel Jackson (90s)	Megan Murphy (80s)	Buck Stultz (60s)
Sara Carpenter (90s)	Jessica Jekkel (90s)	John Murphy (00s)	Lindsay Sullivan (90s)
Leslie Carr (90s)	Joanna Jensen (90s)	Corrine Myller Caramanico (80s)	Becky Sweet (90s)
Claudia Casser (60s)	Amy Jirsa (90s)	Jennifer Nadeau (80s)	Hannah Sweet (00s)
Grace Crandall (90s)	Debbie Josephson	Emily Neilsen (80s)	Cat Sword (00s)
Riley Critchlow (90s)	Jonelle Jungherr (90s)	Debbie Nelson Snow	Chip Thacker
Lori D'Amato (80s)	Jordan Kaplan (00s)	Meghan O'Brien Morrissey (00s)	Rose Tipitino (90s)
Rebecca Damsker Gulnac (90s)	Noel Keck (00s)	Libby O'Neill	Joan Townsend
Milda Dargis Ranney (60s)	Amy Keiser (00s)	Suji Park (00s)	Kirstin Travers Smith (80s)
Claudia Daub Crawford (60s)	Rachael Kendall (00s)	Jane Parke Batten	Arlene Troup Dinges (60s)
Ashley Deeks (80s)	Pam Larlee (60s)	Margaret Parkin (90s)	Pam Vanderkloot Bartel (70s)
Cindy Dietel Krieger (60s)	Rachel Lincoln (00s)	Litia Perta (90s)	Sarah Walker (90s)
Hallie Dietsch (90s)	Abby Lovshin-Smith (90s)	Amanda Poole (80s)	Britt Warner (00s)
Ann Diver Diehl (70s)	Amy Lunay Miller	Jessica Power (80s)	Katharine Watson (00s)
Susan Dohan (70s)	Tom Lytle (50s)	Nicole Redman (00s)	Steven Weintraub (90s)
Salli Donovan Villeneuve (80s)	Alex MacDonald (70s)	Eli Richbourg (80s)	EB Westbrook (90s)
Cameron Dorsey (00s)	Lisa Marler Nelson (60s)	Margot Richl (80s)	Danielle Winograd (90s)
Ellen English Bernstein (50s)	Anne McDermott (70s)	Nina Ritchie	Kim Wolfgang (90s)
Barbara Evans Cohn (40s)	Courtney McGeorge (80s)	Jacob Robinson (2010s)	Deborah Wright Dorsey (70s)

## WHERE ARE THE JC'S NOW?

**Name:** Dart Schmalz

**Interviewed by:** Liz Smith Strimple

**Birthdate:** 8/10/1971

**Years at BLC as camper/JC:** 1983 – 1988

**JC:** 1987 in Archery/Vanguard; 1988 in Sailing/Starred Intermediate

**Sailing counselor:** 1990-1994

**Camp Office:** 1997-1998

**Other award:** 1986 camper/counselor archery tournament winner with Liz Bell

**College attended:** College of Wooster, B.A. History, 1993

**Graduate school:** Penn State University;

Masters in Leisure Studies, 1999;

PhD in Leisure Studies, 2004

**Employment after doctorate:** 2004-2005 Research Associate at PSU in Childhood Obesity Lab

2006 - Assistant Professor of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management Clemson University

2011 – Associate Professor of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management, Clemson University

**Has BLC helped you pursue this path?**

My love of camp got me interested in studying recreation and leisure. Every time I return to camp I meet incredible women – really amazing people who have accomplished amazing things. I'd like to do more research on how camp's free choice program and philosophy affected our alumni. Does personality make one succeed at BL or does the BL program bring out and complement personalities? 2012 will be the first year I've not visited Brown Ledge since 1983. This is hard as I love the place. Brown Ledge gives me strength.

**Brown Ledge Board of Directors:** 2003 – 2010

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BROWN LEDGE FOUNDATION

The Board of Directors for the Brown Ledge Foundation consists of eleven members. The board meets three times a year to discuss financial, alumnae and fundraising items, as well as the success and future of camp. In an effort to give you more information about the board members, each Ledger will contain some biographical information about current members. If you are interested in sitting on the Board of Directors please contact Bobbi Collins Degnan (atzdegan@gmail.com) or Emily Maggs Orben (orben@optonline.net) who are co-chairpeople of the Nominating Committee. The Board of Directors welcomes Kedron Gierman Fix to the board.

**Name:** Kedron Gierman Fix

**Birthdate:** January 4, 1975

**Current Job Title:** Homemaker

**Previous job Title:** Senior Client Relations Manager

**Previous Employer:** UBS Financial Services – Courage Miller Partners

**BLC Years: (Camper)** 1988-1990 **(JC)** 1991-1992 **(Sr. Staff)** 1994

**In which department were you a JC?** Theatre

**In which department were you on the Sr. Staff?** Tennis

**Did you ever receive a vanguard?** Yes

**Department:** Theatre **Year(s):** 1991 & 1992

**BLC Accomplishments:** Per Richard Currie – I made a wagon wheel chandelier. I cut the wood and also wired it myself. Richard was there every step of the way but I still remember the feeling of pride I had when it was complete.

**Other info you would like to share:** I am married to Derek and we have two fantastic daughters, Emma (7) and Anna (2). I can't wait until my girls are old enough to attend BLC. I love my life as a wife and a mother. I am also an avid tennis player.

**Quote:** "I know that Brown Ledge shaped the person I am today. Many of the values that I hold dear, such as honesty, hard work and nurturing friendships were reinforced for me at camp. BLC was, and still is, an arena of fun, love, and magic. It is a privilege and joy to serve on the Board of Directors for a place that is a second home filled with too many special people to count."

## ONCE LOST, BUT NOW FOUND

**WELCOME BACK TO BLC!**

These folks have reconnected with Brown Ledge via the web site, stopping by camp during the summer, or through other alums. We're always happy to welcome back lost (but now found!) Brown Ledgers!

Alex Addington Stickelman

Diane Dreves Foster (40s)

Sarah May (60s)

Gabriela Rivera (00s)

Austin Ross Suttan

Gary Thornburg (74-79, 81, 90)

**CAMP DATES 2012**  
**CAMP OPENED JUNE 28**  
**SWITCHOVER JULY 25 & 26**  
**EVENT DERBY AUGUST 9 & 10**  
**BLC STOCK SHOW AUGUST 11**  
**HORSE SHOW AUGUST 18**  
**MUSICAL AUGUST 19**  
**AQUACADE AUGUST 20**  
**CAMP CLOSES AUGUST 22**

## A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

Dear Brown Ledgers,

As you read this, the 2012 season at BLC is well into the August session, quickly headed for final events. The campers and JCs have embraced all that camp offers, expending energy we wish we had, and putting their own mark on the summer. The counselors this summer are talented and fun loving and they seem to find life and work here to be exhilarating, satisfying and exhausting.

This spring's renovation of the barn has made a solid difference for riders. There is a calmness among the horses that has been absent in recent years, facilitated by stall size and design. Now campers tack- up in the stalls, each of which is 10' by 10' and has cross-ties. New lighting has improved visibility, and a new roof with reflective insulation has reduced the temperature on hot days, which is almost every day this summer. Taken together, these changes have increased the happiness and confidence of horses, riders and staff, and made the experience richer for all.

The theatre had a new lighting grid installed last spring and the design and installation proved to be no small engineering feat. Construction of a laminated wooden arch system was required to provide proper support. Chain motors allow the grid to descend nearly to the arena floor, improving the ease and safety of lighting fixture placement. The finished product meets current lighting codes while it allows for more lighting design flexibility. If you stop by the theatre during stagecraft hours, Richard Currie will happily, gleefully, give you a demonstration.

JCs this year number 47 (last year the number was 43) and we are woefully short of room to comfortably house them all. To rectify the situation for the summer of 2012, a portion of the Clubhouse was remodeled to house the 2nd year JCs. While the 2<sup>nd</sup> years are happy and enjoying the summer, the Clubhouse is by no means a permanent solution and construction of a new Annex is scheduled to begin in the fall.

Great staff, appropriate facilities and the right equipment help produce the quintessential Brown Ledge experience each summer. Combined with our unique freedom plan, these elements provide the basis for joyful and meaningful camp days. No wonder so many of you say that Brown Ledge was the place where you learned the most, where you became the person you are today and where you formed many of the most significant relationships of your life.

The challenge for the camp directors and the board is to adequately support and fund this combination of ingredients. Our program is costly to run and produces income only two months a year and in recent years we have experienced a steady increase in requests for scholarships. This year we have the added burden of supporting the barn, theater and Annex projects. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the over 200 of you who have helped support our funding efforts. If you are considering becoming a donor or you have the ability to increase your giving level, please know that your gift will be happily received and wisely used.



Gratefully,

Kathy and Bill Neilsen

## NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

By Liz Bell

### 2012 Annual Campaign

As you read this Alumnae Ledger, the 2012 campaign has been up and running for almost six months. The donations as of July 24, 2012 have totaled:

**Mr. Mac Operational Fund: \$21,067**

**Marjorie P. Brown Scholarship Fund: \$7,307**

**Facilities Improvement Fund: \$94,451**

**Barn: \$68,676**

**Theater: \$3,850**

**Annex: \$10,395**

**As Needed: \$11,530**

**Total to date: \$122,825**

### An update on the photos in the 2011 Campaign Results booklet

**Ricki Buckman Bowser** gave a wonderful bit of info about one of the photos in the 2011 results booklet: "Thought you'd

like to know - the top picture on the Theatre Fund page of the **2011 Campaign Results booklet is Ian McLeod and Liz Sansone** in "Diary of Anne Frank" - one of the last shows in the clubhouse before we moved into the "new" theatre - therefore 1964 - it was the stock show that summer."

And **Joan Wildebush Berry (57-62)** also filled us in on specifics about the pictures: On the "Fond Memories" page with the five waters skiers, "the middle 3 are **Topper Sartz, Jackie Kent (Geri's sister), and Bobbi Collins**. Two pages later there is a picture of Pair Hunters. The riders are the **O'Reilly sisters – Hope** on the left and **Frannie**. There may have been another sister at camp, too. There were two sisters at Buff Ledge because their dad thought it would be better to be from competing camps than to always be competing as sisters so he alternated which came he sent them to. The Montpelier horse show as always special because of the sisters spending the weekend together."





**THE  
BROWN LEDGE  
CAMP  
MISSION  
STATEMENT**

Brown Ledge is a non-profit camp that exists to develop community, self-discipline, responsibility and achievement in girls and young women, through self-directed participation in varied activities in a high quality summer program.

## **BROWN LEDGE CAMP**

### **DIRECTORS**

**Bill & Kathy Neilsen**  
**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**  
**Kim McManus**

Summer Address:  
Brown Ledge Camp  
71 Brown Ledge Road  
Colchester VT 05446

Winter Address:  
25 Wilson Street  
Burlington VT 05401

Phone: (802) 862-2442  
or (800) 246-1958  
Fax: (802) 658-1614  
Email: [blc@brownledge.org](mailto:blc@brownledge.org)

### **DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT**

**Liz Bell**  
Brown Ledge Foundation  
136 Peachtree Memorial Drive NW  
Unit #MA-6  
Atlanta GA 30309  
Phone: (877) BLC ALUM or  
(877) 252-2586  
Email: [liz@brownledge.org](mailto:liz@brownledge.org)  
Please send all address changes to Liz Bell.

### **ALUMNAE LEDGER NEWS**

**Lori Angstadt, Editor**

9334 Buckhorn Road  
Fogelsville PA 18051  
Phone (484) 504-1044  
Email: [LoriBLC10s@aol.com](mailto:LoriBLC10s@aol.com)

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**

[www.brownledge.org](http://www.brownledge.org)

**KEEP IN TOUCH WITH BLC!**

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