New Opportunities at Tamarack Farm
By Amy Bowen, Tamarack Farm Director

Tamarack Farm has always been the culmination of the Farm & Wilderness experience. Now, there is a new opportunity for teens to grow their leadership skills and have fun. This summer we are offering a new program called the Counselor Apprenticeship (CA).

All TFers choose an apprenticeship which meets each week, however the CAs will go through an application process prior to summer. Upon acceptance CAs will receive significant training in youth development, facilitation, and risk management. Additionally, there will be the option to attain Red Cross lifeguard certification and significant leadership experience. Counselor Apprentices will be fully participating community members at Tamarack Farm.

Mornings at Tamarack Farm begin with work projects in farming, carpentry and construction, cooking, forestry or trail work, or service. For CAs, their work time each week will be spent developing skills as counselors at our other camps. They will learn and practice our experiential education model as they aid in running activities with the support of a staff coordinator. After a day of working with the camps at F&W, they will take part in evening programming at TF including Town Meeting, social justice discussions, all camp games, cabin nights, open mics, as well as our community events on Saturday evenings.

We’ve already begun interviewing amazing applicants for this new program and spaces are limited. Learn more about this program by contacting amy@farmandwilderness.org.

► Alumni, mark your calendars for the TF/SEWOCA Reunion September 14-16, 2018

F&W’s 60th Teen to Thru-Hike the Long Trail

By Jeff Bounds, SAM Camp Director

SAM staff have enjoyed many stories from Jack and Ruth Hunter about SAM campers in the ’60s that would attempt the Long Trail, only to have many of the elements of the arduous journey get in the way of completion. This was before trip permitting was required months in advance, during an era of campers riding in the backs of pickup trucks for hours to trail heads, and when resupply meant hitchhiking into town for additional food. The many lessons learned during these early journeys were passed down to create a program that contributes to the success of our campers today.

This summer the Questers Long Trail program will see its 60th teen thru-hike the Long Trail! Over the past decade, Long Trail Questers have logged over 14,000 miles combined, and that doesn’t include the miles racked up by the amazing staff! We are also celebrating a 96% end-to-end rate of completion since 2010.

We continue to honor the history of the Long Trail, by naming our trip groups for some remarkable figures in Long Trail history. The Robbins group is named for Catherine Robbins, who in 1927 was the first woman from Vermont to complete the hike. The Taylor group is named for James P. Taylor, who conceived and facilitated the completion of the first long-distance hiking trail in the US in 1930.

The Robbins and Taylor Quester groups will be hiking Vermont’s Long Trail again this summer. We still have room for a few more hikers. Even if you can’t make it, you can support them by sharing what you’ve learned about backcountry travel over the years or just send them a letter of encouragement this summer! They love getting mail out on the trail!
From the Director

Over 40 years ago, Ken and Susan Webb established a relationship with the 1199 SEIU healthcare workers’ union of NYC. F&W is the union’s longest continuous camp partner. Each year, this partnership brings 25-40 campers, mostly of color, to F&W camps. As we celebrate that relationship, we also recognize that Farm & Wilderness has a long history of educating youth, teens, and staff on topics of social justice. How the organization addresses issues and conversations has evolved over time. Our programs have included anti-racism and antibias work and now inclusivity and equity, with an emphasis on race and class. We hold ourselves accountable through trainings, forums, evaluation, and a board committee that reflects and informs our practice. We continue to develop educational experiences of social justice and equity that foster a lasting impact, extending far beyond our summer community.

This year we are diving deeply into removing barriers to living our values and core goal to be a welcoming organization and community. First, this year we begin the work of a new strategic plan, integrating our Inclusivity and Equity (I&E) goals. Second, we’ve convened a group of staff, trustees, and community members to explore our roots and determine the work ahead to confront our own institutional racism. This group contributed to a five-year plan, from which benchmarks and means of accountability will be set. In May, the proposed plan will be shared with the board.

As part of our I&E strategic plan, we are strengthening and developing partnerships. This fall, we are celebrating the 40th anniversary of our oldest partnership with the 1199 SEIU (NY healthcare workers union). We are planning a 40th 1199 SEIU/F&W reunion in September, 2018 at the 1199 headquarters. Additionally, this past fall, we formed a new partnership with the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, which will be sending 10 youth to F&W this summer. We are excited to cultivate this mutually beneficial relationship and increase educational opportunities. We are celebrating raising $1.9 million for campership in our Thrive for 75 Campaign. We are learning from this successful campaign to further engage our community in the philanthropy that sustains our work.

Though snow is still falling in Vermont, seedlings are sprouting in our greenhouse and Spring Planting weekend is just around the corner. We hope to see you there!

In peace,

Rebecca Gray

GREY SHIELD

▲ OVERNIGHT CAMPS 2018

Full Summer Session: June 27-Aug. 12
July Session: June 27-July 20
J1 Session: June 27-July 8
Visiting Day for all camps except TF: July 20
Tamarack Farm Visiting Day: July 21
August Session: July 22-Aug. 12
A1 Session: July 22-Aug. 3

▲ BARN DAY CAMP 2018

Session 1: June 25 – June 29*
Session 2: July 2 – July 13
Session 3: July 16 – July 27
Session 4: July 30 – Aug. 10
*BDC session 1 is a one-week session.

▲ ANNUAL EVENTS 2018

Nationwide Potlucks: April 27-29
Spring Planting: May 25-28
Fair Weekend: Aug.10-12
Family Camp: Aug. 19-25
Tamarack Farm Alumni Reunion: Sept. 14-16
Cider in the Park: Sept. 29-30
Fall Harvest: Oct. 5-8

▲ ABOUT THE INTERIM

The Interim is the newsletter of the Farm & Wilderness summer camps. We welcome submissions of writing, drawings, cartoons, photographs, or other work. To submit your work to the Interim, email us at: interim@farmandwilderness.org, OR via postal mail to: Interim/Farm & Wilderness, 401 Farm & Wilderness Road Plymouth, VT 05056

HELP US BE GREEN: You can receive the Interim electronically instead if you wish; just let us know: interim@farmandwilderness.org.

CORRECTIONS: In the fall ’17 issue we incorrectly captioned the photo of Farm Manager, Chantel Deojay receiving, not delivering, a calf. Thank you to Chuck Woodbury for that correction.

Additionally, in the fall ’17 issue, we incorrectly identified the Quest for Spinach song writers. The Quest for Spinach was written by David Barham and Daniel Kaplan ©1989.
SAM Reunion Roundtable

By Thea Dodds

The sun is shining and dishes are clanging on this warm fall afternoon as Jack Hunter (SAM director ’63-’68, TF staff ’70-’72, ED ’73) and Bruce Ergood (SAM Director ’72-’74, TF Director ’58) sing a few words from the folk song, “Good Old Mountain Dew.” Over 50 combined years of SAM directors, staff and alumni are sitting around the SAM lodge recalling their tenure.

“For me, what kept me, when I was 11, 12, and 13 and then brought me back so long was just this incredible land, and then this radical space on this land, where each person, whether they are 11 or 21 or 35, could let their whole self flourish and be, and that for me was a lesson in justice.”

-Maddie Fox (SAM Director ’04-’07, Questers staff ’02, SAM staff ’98-’99, SAM camper ’88-’91)

“The structure is such an awesome structure for working with kids. They come here, so this is a nervous place, this is their growing edge and we immediately put them on the trail, so when they come back, this is their home. It’s brilliant.”

-Michelle Golden (SAM Director ’89-’96)

“I think one of the things that I learned is that everything we do has to have the kids at the center of the equation. Everything.”

-Becca Balint (SAM staff ’94-’97, SAM Director ’99-’01)

“It’s a profound incubator for community and incubator for connection and really a sampling what’s essential in life.”

-Jerry Thompson (SAM staff ’74-’76, SAM Director ’78-’79)

“I think we always need to remember the freedom this gives boys to be male in a different way and have different role models. When I say that Farm & Wilderness was life-saving for me, that is what I mean, because there was a way to be masculine that didn’t involve football, baseball, basketball, it involved canoeing and hiking which I could be good at.”

-Charlie Spiegel (SAM camper ’70-’72, SAM staff ’76-’77)

“The best educational institution I’ve ever worked at was Farm & Wilderness. And that helped me help people become teachers in a very different way. It impacted so many people that I helped become teachers, to imagine that education could be different than the way they saw it in the public schools.”

-Deborah Roose (TF Co-Director ’74-’77, SAM Co-Director ’85-’88, Trustee ’06-’12)

#MeToo

By Rebecca Geary, Executive Director

As the #metoo movement has spread over the last several months, many individuals and organizations have had to reckon with painful pasts. Farm & Wilderness is committed to hearing and responding to any allegations of sexual abuse, misconduct or harassment, and to supporting members of our community who have suffered, wherever and whenever that suffering took place. We take any allegations of abuse or harassment seriously, including one from several decades ago that recently came to our attention. We are working to find out what happened, address wrongdoing where we can, and ensure the safety of our community by doing everything possible to keep our children and young adults safe. Speaking up and naming abuse is the beginning of a healing process that we welcome and we are holding our community in the Light through these difficult times.

▶ If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact F&W Executive Director Rebecca Geary at rebecca@farmandwilderness.org or 802-422-3761.

SAM Campers the Flagstaff trip. Staff Photo/ Derrick Lipschitz
Taking What We Learn From Camp Back Home!

By McKenna Hayden (BDC ’09-'15, IB ’16-'17) and Rebecca Lapham (BDC ’09-'15, IB ’16-'17)

Indian Brook teaches us so many things that we use in our day-to-day life. From wilderness skills like whittling to values; from cooking to friendship, we take these lessons home with us and try to implement them into our everyday life. When we are at camp, we live in a tight-knit community, and we all help each other out and work together. For example, during trips we all have a job, such as assembling our tent, making food, or collecting water or firewood. At school during group projects, or during sports, we are prepared to work together as a team and each contribute with our own jobs.

One thing that we love about camp is the fact that we can be ourselves. Many of us find it hard to be our true selves in our everyday life, but camp helps us be more true to who we are. At IB, we strive to create a no judgement zone. The no body talk rule for example, is a way of complimenting others on their qualities as a person, rather than what they wear or look like.

Many of our peers say things that are disrespectful to other people, often because they just don’t understand what they’re saying. For example, at school one of our peers might say that something is “gay.” At camp, we learn to stand up for ourselves and others, we have learned to stand up and say “that’s not okay.” Sometimes it may be hard to stand up to your friends, but it is the right thing to do.

We have friends that have people in their lives who don’t accept who they are, and camp has taught us how to be supportive friends to them. Many people have been taught the golden rule, which is “treat others the way you want to be treated.” However, at Indian Brook, we learned about the platinum rule: “treat others the way they want to be treated.” Camp teaches us the importance of friendship, and how to be a good friend. We are in a cabin with the same group of girls for three weeks, and this experience in and of itself teaches us core things about friendship, and how to resolve problems, which is most definitely important to us in life. We are taught that women can be strong and are reminded not to keep quiet. And, last of all, at camp we have fun and make memories.

From the left, Becca Lapham and McKenna Hayden on opening day 2017. Courtesy Photo/Carol Leftwich

Farm Breakfast

By Julie Swank, Garden Manager

Even when temperatures dip, farm staff are out every morning and night doing chores to keep our animals happy and fed through the winter. This is my favorite thing to make for breakfast after early morning chores, using ingredients we’ve stored from the gardens... and a little help from our laying hens.

**WINTER FARMER’S BREAKFAST**

Serves 1 farmer, or 2 less hungry folks

4 small-medium potatoes
2 small beets
2 large carrots
4-5 kale leaves
½ onion
2 cloves garlic
4 tablespoons canola or olive oil
Salt & pepper to taste
2 eggs

Preheat your oven to 375 degrees. Roughly chop potatoes, beets, and carrots into 1” cubes (I leave skins on, but wash and dry well). Toss these with the oil, salt and pepper, and spread on a lightly greased sheet pan. Roast in the oven about 20 minutes, until just barely soft, but not cooked through. Chop onion and mince garlic while those are cooking. After the 20 minutes, add the onion and garlic (they burn if added in the beginning), mix with a spatula. Let roast another 5-7 minutes, until onions are soft. Scoop all the veggies into a pile on the sheet pan. Tear and place kale leaves on top to make a sort of nest. Crack the eggs into the kale nest, put back in the oven just until the yolks are set (or longer if you don’t like a runny yolk). Eat with grated cheese, ketchup or hot sauce, some caffeine (or not), and you’re good to go for a day on the farm!
Indian Brook Name Shall Remain

By Megan Chamberlain, Indian Brook Director & Rebecca Geary, Executive Director

As with many trips and other walks in the woods, we know it’s not where we end up, it’s about the journey. We’re grateful for the voices that contributed to the ongoing conversation about our camp name, Indian Brook and to the staff who brought forth the topic.

Based on discussions over the course of 18 months with Management Team, the Indian Brook camp director, campers, staff, alumni and community members, the F&W Board of Directors accepted Management Team’s recommendation to keep the camp name, Indian Brook. This will transpire with the expectation that ongoing education, conversations and a raised awareness of the origin, the history and modern-day impact of the use of the word “Indian” becomes an integral part of the camp experience and staff training. We are beginning to form an advisory council including a panel for the board in May on cultural appropriation, with Tsiorsa Barreiro, the grandson of Flying Cloud and current Executive Director of the St. Regis Akwesasne Mohawk Tribe participating.

We will provide knowledge that allows the community to think critically about who we were 79 years ago and who we are today. We will work towards a deeper awareness of the camps’ histories. These may include the history written by our founders, the history that we hold as current community members, and the history of this land. We may shift our perceptions by bringing more voices into the space that are not represented and seek to continually reach for questions rather than answers.

If you would like to contribute to the education of our community, please email ibnamediscussion@farmandwilderness.org

From Intern to Staff!

By Belén Arriola, Resource Crew

I arrived at Farm & Wilderness in March of 2016 as a Resource Crew Intern and haven’t left since. Moving here from Phoenix, Arizona without any carpentry or plumbing experience was a bit of a leap of faith, but it’s one I’m glad I made. Within three weeks of arriving, we started wall framing and it was a moment of awe when we raised the walls to a cabin.

Doubt is bound to creep in when a person takes on learning or developing new skills, and it did for me. I began to notice an inner dialogue of not feeling strong enough, not tall enough or perhaps, that carpentry and plumbing were just things I would never be good at. But everyone I worked with was consistently patient, encouraging, and supportive as I learned. Not only did they create space for me to learn and develop new skills, they also celebrated with me. I attribute a huge part of the success I’ve had on crew to the team I’ve been working with. When the internship came to an end, I happily accepted a seasonal position with Resource and I’m still here!
$100,000 Raised for Red Spruce Grove

By Jen Flaster, Advancement Director

In late 2016 a generous F&W alum challenged our community to invest in the future of Red Spruce Grove, the girls wilderness program based out of Indian Brook. Our goal was not only to raise $50,000 to release the challenge funds, it was also to begin developing the necessary infrastructure and build enrollment to levels that will sustain the program permanently. We are grateful to the many alumni, camper parents and staff who helped us reach our fundraising goal at year-end. We are well on our way to full enrollment for Red Spruce Grove for 2018 and have begun making improvements to the site where the campers spend their summer learning outdoor living skills, whittling spoons, cooking over an open fire, challenging themselves on a solo, and enjoying their close-knit community on a beautiful hill near Lake Ninevah.

Parents Inspire New Volunteer Opportunities

By Thomas Henning, Development Director

Last fall, F&W started a pilot parent-to-parent outreach program led by Tonya Orme and Steve Burwell, both camper parents and F&W Trustees. The pilot involved several IB parents volunteering to reach out to other IB parents, inviting them to participate in F&W’s annual giving program.

The parent volunteers from last year’s pilot program were incredible. Fifteen volunteers came together to help F&W reach its annual giving goal. In the process, they inspired F&W to broaden the program to include other volunteer opportunities for all camp parents. This year, new and returning families from all camps are welcome to participate in F&W’s 2018 Parent Outreach Program. This volunteer program offers a few ways for parents to further engage with F&W. New families are offered the option to be matched with a camp parent mentor. Returning families can volunteer to mentor new families, providing support for families unfamiliar with camp. Parents of returning campers can also volunteer as camp ambassadors at F&W events. Lastly, returning parents can volunteer to be parent fundraisers, inviting other parents to support F&W by making a meaningful gift to the Annual Fund.

The full cost of F&W’s programs is not covered by tuition and most of the difference is made up by annual gifts from F&W families, alumni, and friends. These gifts help to sustain the camps and make a lasting impact in the lives of young people.

We want to share a heartfelt “THANK YOU” to the parent volunteers who helped to make 2017’s program such a success. We’re so grateful to you for all you share with F&W. Thank you! Families, both new and returning, who would like to participate in this year’s program are encouraged to contact Thomas Henning, 802-422-3761 or thomas@farmandwilderness.org.

Dedicating the Kitchen at Timberlake to Al Hicks

by Kristi Webb, Trustee

I once heard someone say that watching Al Hicks cook was like watching a ballet. Those probably aren’t words most of us associate with chefs, but Al was unusual in many ways. First, there was the fact that he – a young, African-American student from Fisk College – took the train to Vermont at all. Al became a history teacher in Harlem and would bring some of his students up to camp to assist him in the kitchen. He used to say that he had to warn them in advance that it would be totally dark, and there would be wild animals such as porcupines in the woods. Al was not only an opera fan but a personal friend of Ms. Leontyne Price. And his cooking, of course, was unusually good: those sticky buns!

Educator, chef, pioneer, one of a large family whom he brought to camp, member of the F&W Board of Trustees, legend. We are so honored to be dedicating the Al Hicks Kitchen at Timberlake to this beloved member of the F&W community on Saturday May 26. We can’t promise sticky buns, but we hope you’ll join us.

Al Hicks on the right, with two of his students. Archival Photo
Take 30 Seconds and Perhaps Change Someone’s Future
By Tom Hodges (TF Staff ’93,’96)

The message appeared on my Facebook feed asking if I wanted to fundraise on my birthday for a charity of my choice. F&W has always been my go-to charity and Facebook made it so easy. With just a few clicks to set it up, I raised more than $400! By making a gift to F&W, my friends knew they were giving me a birthday present I would love.

I discovered F&W 25 years ago, and from my very first visit, I felt part of the F&W family. The next year, I applied to be a staff member and went to work in the TF kitchen. Waking up at the crack of dawn, making breakfast, having kids come in and help... everyone was happy to be there and it was infectious. That’s stayed with me all these years.

In the time that we are living in right now, we need F&W more than ever. Doing a fundraiser for F&W on Facebook is such an easy way to make a difference and make a positive change for the youth and leaders of tomorrow. Take 30 seconds of your life and you can perhaps change someone’s future.

Over $30,000 Raised for Campership in Memory of George Oberst
By Thomas Henning, Development Director

Last November, F&W participated in our first Giving Tuesday—an on-line global day of giving. On November 28th, the F&W community came together and raised over $30,000 for campership to help give the gift of camp to kids who might not otherwise be able to attend. Leading this on-line initiative was Mags Henry (IB & TF alumna ’93–’99, IB staff ’04, and current Trustee). Mags kicked off F&W’s first Giving Tuesday with an amazing 3-1 matching gift challenge for the first $2,000 donated in memory of George Oberst. George was a valued member of the F&W community who worked at the camps for many years, served on our Board of Trustees and contributed his many talents to benefit campers and staff alike.

The New Timberlake Kitchen in progress this winter. Please join us on May 26, 2018 as we dedicate the new kitchen in Al Hicks’ honor. Staff Photo/Tulio Browning
Charlie Wyatt
FLYING CLOUD DIRECTOR

As an outdoorsy kid growing up in New England, it was only natural that Charlie would find a home in the community of kindred spirits at Flying Cloud. From his time as a camper (FC ’06-’08, TF ’09) to the summers spent as a lodge counselor and program director (FC Staff ’13-’17), Charlie has developed a deep understanding of the powerful impact Flying Cloud can have on a person. His passion for writing and education led him to attend the University of Iowa, and his love for the woods brought him back to Vermont. In his free time, he enjoys fishing, birding, woodworking, and exploring.

Erik Biornstad
ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST

Erik was born and raised in Portland, OR and spent twenty years working in early childhood and special education. Erik came to New England on a whim back in 2009 to work as a live-in Nanny for a long-time F&W family. He spent three summers working at TL (Staff ’10-’12) and two years at SAM camp (Staff ’15, ’16) as well as winters with F&W’s resource crew. Erik is excited to continue his service to F&W supporting the entire organization as the administrative specialist and deepen his connection with the many wonderful families that make up the Farm & Wilderness community. “I’m also very excited to continue working for an organization that aligns with so many of my own personal values.” Erik enjoys creating art, hiking, and snowboarding in the Vermont mountains.

Thom Courcelle
DATA SPECIALIST

Thom is a native Vermonter who spent most of his adult life in the Pacific Northwest (Seattle, Washington) and recently moved back to Vermont to be closer to family. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and his work experiences range from the international book publishing industry, to performing in the arts and entertainment industry, to a career in human rights and advocacy. He is privileged to have witnessed how the intersection of the arts and humanities can bridge cultural and political differences, and even how they can be used to make strides in the realm of social justice. Most recently, Thom filled the roles of Development Associate and Database Operations Manager for Seattle Men’s Chorus and Seattle Women’s Chorus—the two largest community choruses in the United States—and he is excited to use those previous skills to help further F&W’s mission goals.

Flying Cloud Reflections

By Charlie Wyatt, Flying Cloud Director

I’ve known Flying Cloud for half my life now. I don’t know who, or where, I’d be if I hadn’t found this special summer community. Looking back, I see a confused boy walking into a clearing deep in the woods, surrounded by canvas and trees, and other kids looking more than a little lost in a world they didn’t know. I see helpers, warm welcome returners as nervous and excited to meet the newcomers as the newcomers are to meet them. By the time I saw the light of dawn flickering through the trees, I knew Flying Cloud was home.

There is so much beauty, hope and laughter at Flying Cloud. Some of my fondest memories have been made as a camper, counselor, program director and waterfront head at Flying Cloud; from chasing each other through the woods in a spirited game of Sticks or enjoying the birdsong and wind-rustled leaves in the silence of our company, to heartfelt appreciations spoken in the fading dusk.

What I now understand is that Flying Could does not end in August, or at the Gravel Pit. The understanding and respect at the core of our community is not beholden to a time or place. FC lives in each person who strives to be their truest and best self. I endeavor to hold myself to these standards throughout the year. I want Flying Cloud to continue to be a place where everyone is welcome and included. The spirit of Farm & Wilderness doesn’t have to stay with a time or a place; we can all embody it in our own lives, every day.

This summer I look forward to welcoming old and new friends in my new role as Flying Cloud Director. I can’t wait for the joy and laughter to dance in the sky with the embers and flickering candles.

Charlie Wyatt with campers at Flying Cloud in 2015. Staff Photo/Thea Dodds
The Four Sacred Gifts
By Polly Williams, Barn Day Camp Director

In December, Rebecca Geary, executive director, and I attended the National Association of Independent Schools People of Color Conference in California. We were lucky to hear a presentation by Dr. Anita Sanchez, who just published the book “Indigenous Wisdom for Modern Times: The Four Sacred Gifts.”

The gifts are:

The Power to Forgive the Unforgivable: Allow yourself to be set free. At the BDC we practice forgiveness every day. For some kids it may seem unforgivable when they find out that one of our animals will be used for meat. However, those same campers will continue to love the camp.

The Power of Unity: Understand that you are never alone. Our intention is to create a space that celebrates all types of people. We play BDC soccer which may have four goals, one goal, or no goals as opposed to traditional soccer with two teams and two goals. This allows those who may have been previously shut out of soccer to experience it.

The Power of Healing: Reunite with your wholeness. At the BDC, you must pass a raft test to swim out to the raft. Some eager campers want to try the test before they are ready, and we feel it is important for them to try and see for themselves. If they fail, we use encouragement and work with them to achieve this goal. We model not giving up and continuing to work to get better without ever sacrificing safety.

The Power of Hope: Where hope exists, love persists. We believe in showing hope but not by ignoring issues. We sing “You are Loved” by Catie Curtis along with “If You Miss Me at the Back of the Bus.” One song lets folks know they are loved and the other acknowledges the hope of civil rights.

In a time where many may be feeling hopeless, the Farm & Wilderness community works tirelessly to convey that there is always hope. There is always the Light in everyone. If we work together in unity, are able to forgive and heal, our community is stronger. Like the fire at Flying Cloud, you may not see the light, but you can always feel the warmth and if you build it up, it will eventually warm your whole self.

The SAM Garden
By Sam Arfer, Admissions Director & SAM Camp Cook

Long sunny afternoons, 55 years of compost enriched soil, and the diligent daily work of campers make the SAM garden a surprisingly productive (albeit little) plot of land. Last summer we enjoyed scallions in our cream cheese, lemon balm infused iced tea, cucumbers, squash, broccoli, edible flowers, cherry tomatoes, kale, basil, and many bounteous salads with mesclun mix and several varieties of lettuce. We also made an herbal cream cheese spread that was sold at fair on slices of homemade bread.

Many years ago, we had a scarecrow in the shape of a moose, a grape arbor, and a fence to keep our ever-hungry goat Geoffrey out. Now we know neither scare-moose nor fence is needed, as it turns out that goats find grape arbors delicious!

Because the garden is right in the middle of camp, it’s a popular spot for quiet conversations, a quick afternoon snack, or simply a place to sit and relax. From that vantage point, you can see the lodge, the hill, the food shelter, the chicken coop, and the programmatic center of camp: the tetherball pole!

We’re all looking forward to another summer of beautiful gardens and tasty, organic produce!

World’s Best Garlic Bread

Melt one stick of butter or use ½ cup olive oil. Add two tablespoons chopped garlic and sauté for two minutes.

Turn off heat and add any (or all) of the following:
1 tablespoon chopped parsley
1 teaspoon chopped thyme
1 teaspoon chopped oregano
½ teaspoon black pepper

You could also add some Parmesan cheese or leftover pesto at this point.

Slice a loaf of Italian or French bread lengthwise and paint the insides with the garlic herb butter. Wrap in tin foil and heat for 20 minutes in a 350 degree oven.

Unwrap, slice, and devour!
Sad news came to camp recently when the mother of Darrell Stewart (SAM Camper ‘96–’97, TF Camper ‘98–’99, TL staff ’03) wrote to let us know that Darrell had died and that she wished to donate to the Campership Fund in his honor. Darrell is remembered as a serious kid who could occasionally be provoked into playfulness by his best buddy Stanley Bryant (SAM ’96–’98, TF ’99). By the end of that first summer, everyone at SAM had grown to like Darrell very much and the staff at Saltash Mountain were very impressed by his fortitude during an emergency evacuation of a hiking trip.

Freda Wilkerson Bass, (IB ’64, TF ’65, past F&W Trustee) passed on December 27, 2017 after battling cancer. Freda was in IB’s Applegarth, Lorelei and Birches cabins. At Tamarack Farm, she met her future husband, Andrew “Tony” Bass. Her time spent at F&W instilled in Freda a deep appreciation for female empowerment, community service, and the raw beauty of nature. She is survived by her daughters Drew Bass and Callie Bass and siblings Joyce, Edward and Liz Wilkerson, all of whom attended F&W.

Robert Loud, (TL/TF staff ’52) passed away on December 28, 2017. Rob worked at the Farm and kept up with friendships he made there. He is survived by his wife Gwyneth, sister Jean Mallary (IB staff ’52–’53, past F&W Trustee), daughters Miranda Loud and Rebecca Zug, and predeceased by his brother John “Jock” Loud (Mehrlicht ’39, TL ’40–’41, TL staff ’50).

Marie Elizabeth Hausman died peacefully at her Bradenton home on February 5, still radiating love at the age of 103. Marie and her husband Howie first connected with F&W in ’54, seeking a camp that put a premium on racial diversity. That year, their sons, Bob and Rick, started at Timberlake. Marie and Howie became fast friends with Ken and Susan Webb, the founders of F&W, and the four could often be found conversing passionately about summer camping and how it can foster a better society.

Marie was a magnet for friends and family. Marie lived her ideals advancing social justice and peace. The Hausman family asks that those wishing to honor her pause for a moment to conceive, and then carry out, an act of kindness for a person in need.

Remembering John Stevens
(TL Staff ’49–’50, SEWOCA Director ’51–’52, TF staff ’53–’59 [Director ’53], IB Staff ’64–’75)

Over the 25 summers John A. Stevens, P.E. spent at Farm & Wilderness he was known for many things including, playing bagpipes, driving the yellow truck, and building many kybos, cabins and tree forts. Born in 1921, John graduated from Princeton in ’43 and then enlisted as an officer in the U.S. Navy in WWII. After the war, he resigned his commission and became a lifelong Quaker. John was fascinated with exploring the self and belief systems and considered himself a truth seeker until his death on September 3, 2017 at the age of 96.

“I was a young girl at IB in the ’60s, and my main memory of John is that he just ASSUMED that we could learn to use tools competently and confidently. It wasn’t a big deal, we just did it, with his guidance. I now show my age, but from my perspective, something I savor from this long-ago moment in time, is that girls at IB were given such freedom, rich experiences and space to be ourselves. Finally, John had a constant twinkle in his big eyes; he seemed to enjoy life and enjoy his role at camp. He was great!”

-Beth Falk (IB ’63–’68, TF ’70–’71)

“John was such a presence at F&W...his light will endure in all those he touched...how wonderful that he got to live such a long and fulfilling life.”

-Karen (KK) Campbell (Hinckley) (IB ’65, TF ’69–’70)

“John was my boss during the summer of ’59 at Farm & Wilderness. He hired me as the first-ever female tool-room “boy.” In terms of “women’s liberation,” I have to say that John was admirably ahead of his time. He had confidence that I could learn to sharpen saws and hand axes. I found that (with John’s good-humored and generous instruction) I could, indeed, do those things. Not a bad way to give a young girl a confident start in life. For that confidence (and also for a terrific summer with a terrific group of people), I am grateful to him.

-Alice (Longobardi) Givan (IB ’52–’55, TF ’57–’58)

I was in John Stevens’ jurisdiction from ’72–’75 ages 11-14. (I never called him anything and never heard him called anything other than “John Stevens.”) I can SEE him looking at me waiting for my brain to work. And I can see my thirteen-year-old self searching my brain for the operating system. His mark on my life is indelible.

-Sarah Gates (IB ’72–’75)

“As a camper at TF I first learned about the care and handling of tools from John who was fierce about having the right hand tools for the job and returning each one in working order to its proper place in the tool room. His skills, dedicated teaching, amazing wisdom, and Quaker work ethic provided high standards to all. He tempered his intensity with his sense of humor which was infectious and generous. I am grateful to have had him as a dear friend these many years.”

-Debby Lipkin Goldsmith (IB ’55, TF ’56–’57)
Circle of Light: Janet Green

By Becca Steinitz, Trustee

Since Janet first came to Farm & Wilderness in 1973, she served as Indian Brook nurse, director, and nurse again, camp parent and grandparent, and member and clerk of the Board of Trustees. In each of these roles, Janet has been a leader, visionary, and conscience for the entire organization. At Indian Brook, Janet introduced generations of young women to social justice and self-reliance, modeling commitments and supporting their dreams. On the Board, Janet helped us envision what F&W can be, and guided us in living our mission and values. Over the years, Janet fostered the kinds of relationships that make Farm & Wilderness vibrant and engaged, and sustained friendships that span decades. We have been graced by Janet’s dedication, passion, and Light. For these reasons, we recognize Janet Green as a member of the Circle of Light.

BIRTHS

Laura Kerson (IB staff ’06-’10) and Pete Kerson (FC camper ’95-’98, FC staff ’01-’02, ’05 and FC director ’07-’10) would like to introduce future F&W camper, Madeline (Maddie) Grace Kerson. She was born on December 20, 2017. She weighed in at 9 lbs and 13 oz and measured 20.25 inches long. Her big brother Wilder, is doing an excellent job helping to take care of her. She can’t wait to make a visit to Vermont!

Assistant Farm Manager, Adam Gelroth (Farm Crew ’10) and Hannah (Putnam) Gelroth (SAM staff ’10) are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Noah. Ian Pollock (TL ’93-’98, TF ’99-’00) and his wife Felicity are proud to announce the birth of a son, Owen. The trio lives in Canberra, Australia, where Ian is pursuing a PhD in anthropology at Australian National University, and discreetly practicing 5th freedom on the banks of the Murrumbidgee.
DOT-TO-DOT

Do you recognize this furry face? Return your completed dot-to-dot with a poem, song or ode using the animal’s name to be entered into a drawing to win a prize!

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HINT: RHYMES WITH BELLY