



A
QUARTERLY
NEWSLETTER

Message from the CEO

A former colleague of mine who was a headmaster at an independent school once said, "A child learns more in a month at camp than they do in nine months of school." That is a powerful statement and a sentiment I share as well. Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA is dedicated to being an important extension and partner to a child's education and development.

Our Berkshire Outdoor Center welcomed 60 independent and public schools in 2010, a testament to how we collaborate with academic programs to apply classroom teachings in a rustic outdoor setting. I am particularly excited about the 160 children from the Urban Assembly and Kappa III, both of New York City who are scheduled to visit Becket this spring through a \$25,000 grant. These children will participate in our environmental education three day leadership program which meets Massachusetts, Connecticut and New York state curriculum standards and is a wonderful way to apply science lessons to nature's many habitats. You can read more about the Urban Assembly and Kappa III and their future visit in this issue of the *Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA News*.

Program Development is one of our Strategic Plan priorities and instrumental in the educational component of our mission of "changing lives for good" while staying true to our traditions and history. A quality program also includes regular communications to our families about their children and how they are adapting as a camper and meeting the personal goals they set to achieve during their four week experience. One on one visits with camp counselors, conversations with

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Service Learning Draws Record Numbers to Travel Service Program

Since 2001, there has been an 82% increase in the number of teens attending our Travel and Service Programs (TSP). Perhaps this popularity is due to the four newly added destinations (China, Peru, Vietnam and Australia) in the past five years, or maybe it is Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA teens wanting to apply the values they learned at camp to the broader community.

Jim Brown, TSP Director and COO, and Alysa Austin, TSP Program Director reveal that the number one reason for the attendance increase is the actual community service and the leadership development the participants complete while traveling in the five week program.

"Service is the central mission of TSP and a wonderful transition for a camper to grow as a leader. The attraction to TSP reflects the interest that teens have for participating in programs that help them to develop leadership skills and also allows them to give back through community service."

Nearly all of the ICEP participants were former Camp Becket and Chimney Corners campers who already had a solid foundation of values-based leadership including community service. The number of 2010 service hours completed by our travelers was an astounding 11,022, which is equivalent to 5.7 years of work for one full-time employee.

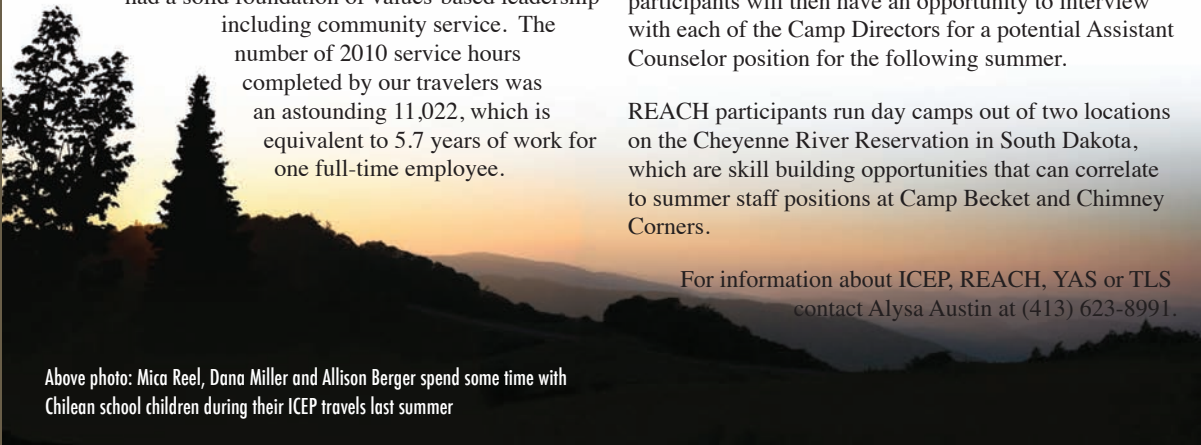
Significant growth requires a little tweaking to the 2011 ICEP summer program. China and Peru will welcome two groups each to their shores to meet the demand of travelers this year. Our exceptional YMCA partners will be able to manage an increased number of teens and the size of the countries will allow two groups to explore different regions within each.

"YMCA partners are essential to a successful trip," and according to Alysa, "they coordinate the program including arranging host families, cultural activities and service projects. We have found this to be an ideal set-up because it allows Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA to create meaningful and lasting partnerships with hosts that we re-connect with year after year. Having a host with knowledge of the local area creates a more significant experience for our groups and helps us have a greater impact through service projects."

And this summer, following an intense service and cultural experience, REACH campers will join Aides and Service Corps for a pre and post travel leadership training program. Upon their return, REACH participants will then have an opportunity to interview with each of the Camp Directors for a potential Assistant Counselor position for the following summer.

REACH participants run day camps out of two locations on the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota, which are skill building opportunities that can correlate to summer staff positions at Camp Becket and Chimney Corners.

For information about ICEP, REACH, YAS or TLS contact Alysa Austin at (413) 623-8991.



Above photo: Mica Reel, Dana Miller and Allison Berger spend some time with Chilean school children during their ICEP travels last summer

Message from the CEO
(cont'd from cover)

our camp directors and Moms' and Dads' Weekends are essential opportunities for us to inform and showcase camper activity that fosters youth development, social responsibility and healthy lifestyles.

On page two we are pleased to share with you the feedback from a recent parent survey where we explored the relevance of our Moms' and Dads' Weekends and asked parents if this beloved tradition effectively informed them of their child's growth and if it is meeting the needs of modern families. I think our findings will be of great interest to our community.

ICEP Traveler Jonah Weinstein learned a great deal through his community service work while in Chile returning to Marblehead High School determined to educate his peers on how to give back through a special sports equipment drive. Learn about his good work on page four.

Educators come in different forms at Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA, people of course, as well as places like Rudd Pond, a waterfront that is idyllic in the minds of our alumni for its beauty and resource for swimming, reflection and play. I certainly learned how important a pond can be and was inspired by the outpouring of support we received from donors who gave over \$327,000 to preserve Rudd Pond. Learn more about this successful effort on page five.

We look forward to June 26th and opening day of camp and another summer of educating young people in spirit, mind and body.

Amic & Agape,
Phil Connor

Parent Feedback Validates Moms' and Dads' Weekend

For two weekends every summer the ball fields at Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA are covered with tents as parents, family members and mentors come to Moms' and Dads' Weekend.

This ritual is a decades old tradition that is much anticipated by moms, dads, sons and daughters. Even thunderstorms can't dampen the connections made and the opportunities campers have to share their experience with special adults.

However, even longstanding traditions deserve to be assessed over time. In fact, several families approached the Camps with some questions regarding the relevance of the weekend as it relates to the changing demographics of today's families. Phil Connor and, then chair of the Board of Trustees, Amy Gutschenritter decided it was appropriate to assess our communities' sentiments about Moms' and Dads' Weekend.

"We wanted to take a step back and look at the weekend in a broader sense, to make sure it was as relevant and as cherished now as it had been when it began. It was important to also review the demographics of our families and see if our current structure makes sense," explained Amy. "We found that we are serving a diverse array of families--same-sex couples, single parent families, step families, grandparents and other guardians. We wanted to get feedback from all of them."

To do this, a small taskforce was chartered with representatives of the YMCA's various volunteer groups and families.

The Taskforce surveyed the practices at other peer camps, spoke to our alumni, current families, staff and other stakeholders. A short online survey was designed and sent to parents in late summer. Questions included -- What duration for Moms'/Dads' Weekends would suit you best? Do parents value the tradition of the same-gender atmosphere of the weekend? Assuming Camp Becket already permitted Moms at "Dads Weekends'," please estimate how

many times a Mom/Female Guardian from your family would have participated in Dads' Weekends to date? -- just to name a few.

Over sixty percent of parents responded to the survey with a strong consensus that the weekend was best as currently structured, and that it was one of the special times where parents can connect with their kids and better understand the camp experience.

According to taskforce member and Dads' Executive Committee president Chris Reynolds who facilitated the survey, "There is a clear consensus to keep things as they are. This consensus includes both genders at both Camps."

There was no single theme to the many suggestions offered via the survey. Some respondents preferred a shorter duration or not to stay overnight. There was not a strong reaction that the weekend was exclusionary to same sex couples with a child of the opposite sex. In fact several same sex couples communicated the importance of their son or daughter being in a single sex environment and that being paired with a role model was a strength of the weekend. There were a number of comments suggesting that the rest of the family and visitors should be more included when they arrived on Sunday.

As an outcome of the survey, there is a plan to continue to sensitize and enhance the Sunday visiting day program to be more inclusive and more representative of what life at camp is like. Camp Directors Chris Burke and Shannon Donovan-Monti have plans to expand the Sunday program to be more focused on families. In addition, we will periodically revisit the relevance of the tradition, but for now, the single sex weekends will continue at Becket and Chimney Corners.

Annual Luncheon Great Way to See Summer Camp Today

Mark your calendars for Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA's Annual Luncheon set for Saturday, July 30, 2011, 12 noon at Camp Becket's Gibson Hall. The luncheon is a wonderful opportunity to visit camp while in session, celebrate recent successes and recognize staff and volunteers who have been influential to the YMCA community.

This year's luncheon will include a special recognition of The Legacy Campaign and its impact on our facilities and programs in recent

years. We will also inaugurate the Henry and Ina Gibson Lifetime Giving Society honoring those individuals who have made impressive and substantial cumulative financial contributions to the Camps and Berkshire Outdoor Center.

Following the Annual Luncheon guests will be invited to attend a special dedication to the newly reconstructed Moose Lodge, tour the facility and meet the Service Corps leaders living and programming within the space.

Grant to bring 160 New York City Children to the Berkshire Outdoor Center

A \$25,000 grant from an anonymous foundation has solidified a new partnership between the Berkshire Outdoor Center and The Urban Assembly of New York City. This major donation will bring 160 sixth and seventh grade students to Becket this spring to participate in a three day environmental education program.

Students will be exposed to beaver, forest, animal and pond ecology. They will compare and contrast our freshwater ecosystems in our Berkshire wetlands and within our expansive forests. Teambuilding and challenge course activities, as well as some light adventure recreation activities will enhance the learning experience that has been matched with the curriculum frameworks of Massachusetts, Connecticut and New York State.

Teachers from the Urban Assembly will join their students for the three day program.

“It’s great to have teacher’s involved because they have an opportunity to view their students in a different environment, particularly those students who struggle in the classroom, but who flourish in our environment because they learn by touching, doing, and feeling – experiences that are not necessarily encouraged in the classroom,” explained Berkshire Outdoor Center Director Steve

Hamill. Hamill added that the teacher and student relationship is many times improved following the program and teachers collect new ways to bring hands on teaching ideas back to the classroom.

Sierra Freeman, Enrichment Coordinator for the Bronx Academy of Letters, one of the schools affiliated with The Urban Assembly says, “Children from urban settings are not exposed to nature and the outdoors. We believe that all students should be able to experience this, as it is an important part of their development. We want our students to thrive in new environments and push themselves in ways they didn’t think would be possible.”

The Urban Assembly is a non-profit organization that has created and manages a community of small New York City public schools dedicated to preparing students from under-resourced neighborhoods for success



Inner city children get to explore new environments and make new friends when they come to BCCYMCA.

in college. The UA’s instructional support, college planning office and professional partnerships provide students with the academic and life skills necessary not just for high school graduation, or even college admission, but for four-year college completion. The Urban Assembly represents 22 middle and high schools located in the Bronx, Brooklyn and Manhattan serving over 7,000 students.

The grant will also fund children from Kappa III, a veteran Berkshire Outdoor Center group who will return for the three day program. The Kappa III school provides a rigorous, accelerated academic program that prepares students to attend high performing public and private high schools, graduate from one of our country’s top universities, and then to take their place as one of America’s next generation of civic leaders.

For information on how you can bring your school to the Berkshire Outdoor Center for one of our environmental education or leadership programs contact Steve Hamill at (413) 623-8991.

Aides LIT Program to Expand at Chimney Corners Camp

The Chimney Corners Camp Aides program will expand in the Summer of 2011 with an additional 12 positions, combining with Service Corps for a full eight week program.

Additional staffing will be provided to support the expansion of the Aides Leaders in Training while preserving many of the elements from Service Corps, most especially the values gained through community service.

A more comprehensive training program for Aides participants is being created that will have rotations through four areas of training: working with campers, serving our community, serving our camp, and lifeguard training. Each rotation will have a staff

member in charge of the rotation to assist the Aides Director in evaluating each leader at the end of the program. Each rotation will have a week of training and planning and a week of transition into leadership opportunities.

The REACH participants will join Aides participants in a three day pre-camp training to create common goals for the entire LIT program. The groups will then be reunited at the end of their experiences to share what they have learned with both the LIT group and the campers and staff at camp. The REACH participants will have a high profile presence while at camp to highlight the strengths and opportunities of the program.

*We need your help
We value your opinion*

You’re invited to complete a special

ALUMNI SURVEY

Please complete our new online [Alumni Survey](#)

Access the survey thru our website at www.bccymca.org.

- Under “What’s New...” on the Home Page
- On the main Alumni page

Help us develop and enhance alumni programs that serve you better!

ICEP Participant Celebrates Spirit of Service with Special Drive

“It doesn’t matter how I feel about giving to these kids. It’s about how they feel when they receive it”

When Jonah Weinstein toured The Residencia Orphanage during his ICEP travels to Chile in 2010, an impression was made. The children they played soccer with didn’t wear cleats, had no knee pads and kicked deflated and battered soccer balls. Poorly conditioned gear wasn’t what stayed with Jonah, but how the children reveled in the sport of soccer and its ability to foster camaraderie among their new friends

from Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA.

Jonah returned home to Marblehead, Massachusetts thinking about the kids and how they were happy with so little.

“I wanted to give the kids an opportunity to get involved in a sport because soccer is such a universal language. No matter where you travel you can connect with people just by passing a ball around.”

Jonah had a connection to the principal of Marblehead High School, his dad Ken, to whom he presented his idea to collect soccer equipment and send to The Residencia. Over the next several months Jonah blitzed the school with his campaign to collect soccer equipment.

A decorated refrigerator box acted as the receptacle for the collection in the cafeteria and Monday and Friday announcements encouraged kids to drop off items. The Senior Class Dinner was another opportunity to promote the drive

as well as first period and freshman study hall. In total, Jonah collected 55 pairs of cleats, 10 soccer balls, and 20 shin guards that are now on their way to the orphanage.

“It doesn’t matter how I feel about giving to these kids. It’s about how they feel when they receive it,” and that’s how Jonah felt about the 58 hours of community service he and his fellow ICEP travelers completed while in Chile for six weeks. Classrooms repainted, knee deep trash removed from hillsides and soup served to the homeless were actions that Jonah found fulfilling.

“We were changing these people’s lives. And all of us from Becket were one big cabin group, working together like a family.” And this family of friends Jonah continues to contact and reunite with regularly since returning to the states.

Jonah will continue his service work as a member of Camp Becket’s Service Corps this summer and he is delighted to be a part of the Leaders in Training program. Already setting his sights on sending his own children to Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA, Jonah says, “I plan on staying at Becket as long as I can.”



Jonah Weinstein and his fellow ICEP travelers completed about 58 hours of community service while in Chile for six weeks.

New Travel and Service Program Director Joins BCCYMCA

COO and Travel Service Director Jim Brown is pleased to announce that Alysa Austin has joined the Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA staff as the Travel and Service Program Director.

Alysa grew up in the Berkshires and began her work with Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA as a trip leader for REACH and ICEP Sweden & Russia. Having enjoyed her experiences with the Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA community she made the permanent move back to the Berkshires in 2010 as the new Travel and Service Program Director.

Alysa holds a bachelor’s in Experiential Education from Hobart and William Smith

Colleges with a minor in writing. Her interests in alternative education have taken her around the globe from teaching English in Laos to volunteering in a Danish kindergarten. She has lived in South America, South East Asia, and Scandinavia and has worked in a wide range of educational institutions including public after school programs, outdoor centers focusing on inner city youth, and a kayaking company where she led tours of coastal Maine.

When not working, you can find Alysa cooking, creating art, and exploring new places near and far.



Alysa Austin

Rudd Pond Secured Through Successful Fund-raising Challenge

In early 2010 an anonymous parent and Camp Becket alumnus set a challenge to give \$105,000 if the Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA community could raise the remaining \$210,000 needed to reconstruct the dam that secures Camp Becket's Rudd Pond.

His incentive motivated 162 donors who helped exceed this goal. Fund-raising support accelerated the construction of the dam and the new Rudd Pond dam was completed in late December 2010, preserving Rudd Pond.

"It is truly heartwarming to see this come to fruition. I must say this is the most personally gratifying charitable donation I have ever made and the true credit goes to Phil Connor for highlighting the issue so passionately in the newsletter in the first place,"

shared the anonymous donor when he learned the news his challenge was met.

An additional commitment of \$100,000 from another Camp Becket alumnus also helped to catapult the mini-campaign and motivate more supporters during the latter part of the year.

"When we realized construction would be fully funded our contractor Maxymillian Technologies was in the midst of the dike repair.

Seeing as construction staging was set up and the project was well researched by engineers we agreed to move forward and complete the dam," explained Chief Operating Officer Jim Brown who added, "taking advantage of Camp not being in-session also eliminated any program disruption."

Trees with a deep root system caused the old dam that was hand built with rocks to fail. The new dam was literally built around the old dam with cement reinforcement. A plan has been made in consultation with the Department of Dam Safety and the Conservation Commission to maintain vegetation surrounding the new dam to ensure it does not wear the new construction.

As far as the special donor who initiated the incentive to raise money to preserve Rudd Pond, he's looking forward to hiking to the dam site this summer to see the rehabilitation that has ensured a beautiful waterfront at Camp Becket.

"I never had any doubt that once the possibility of losing Rudd Pond was brought to light that the Becket community would step up and join forces from a financial perspective to make sure that was not about to happen. Certain things in life just cannot be taken for granted or deferred and securing the dam falls in that category for sure."

"Bike for Brent" Honors Revered Brent Jackson and Supports Annual Fund

Following the inaugural success of last year's *Bike for Brent*, this year's event in honor and memory of Brent R. Jackson seeks not only to increase participants and dollars raised, but also to add a second route to the 2-day affair which will take place July 2-3, 2011.

Last year's event saw 9 riders, 2 support members, and one support vehicle complete the 2-day, 130-mile ride from Newton, MA to Becket. When they rode into camp on July 6th they were greeted by hundreds of screaming and cheering campers and staff at both camps, having raised nearly \$5,800

for camperships in 2010. In 2011, the organizers of the event hope to increase the numbers of riders, add a second trip originating in the Hartford, CT area, and raise no less than two-full camperships in Brent's memory thru donations to the Annual Fund – a goal of \$7,630.

For details on the event, check the Bike for Brent webpage at www.bccymca.org, or to learn how you can participate and/or support this year's event, contact John Anz in the Development Office at janz@bccymca.org or 413-623-8991.

The mission of Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA is to put Judeo-Christian principles in to practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

Issue 05
March 2011

Phil Connor
Chief Executive Officer

Jim Brown
Chief Operating Officer and Travel Service Program Director

Christine Kalakay
Chief Financial Officer

Brenda Marsian, CFRE
Chief Development Officer

Chris Burke
Executive Director
Camp Becket

Shannon Donovan-Monti
Executive Director
Chimney Corners Camp

Steve Hamill
Executive Director
Berkshire Outdoor Center

John Anz
Director of the Annual Fund and Alumni Relations

Jack Sharry
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D. Scott Taylor
Alumni Council President

Chris Reynolds
Dads' Executive Committee President

Sue Beringer
Moms' Executive Committee President

Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA News is published by the Office of Development at Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA. Questions and inquiries may be forwarded to Brenda Marsian at bmarsian@bccymca.org. Help us go green by sending us your e-mail to receive notifications of future issues on our website. Read this issue and others at www.bccymca.org and click on our News and Publications page.

2010 Welcomes Record Annual Fund Numbers

This past year, the most ambitious Annual Fund goal ever was also met by the greatest response yet, and by the largest number of loyal supporters. 1,446 alumni, parents and friends contributed more than \$671,000 to the Annual Fund in 2010, and in so doing, fully supported our campership, program, staff and facility needs for the Camps and the Berkshire Outdoor Center.

But don't get hung up only on the BIG numbers. The true impact of a gift to the Annual Fund can be witnessed and felt in some smaller numbers, and most often, in ways no number could ever convey. In 2010, gifts to the Annual Fund ranged from \$2 to \$40,000, were made by campers, grandparents of campers, alumni, parents, past parents, staff, former staff and those who are just good friends. Total dollars to the Annual Fund increased by 16% while the number of donors increased by more than 54%. Parent participation increased

by more than 50%, and most impressive, 94% of our deeply dedicated summer staff supported the fund as well. Our staff members clearly understand the power of a gift – that \$5 and \$10 gifts are as valuable as those with additional “zeros”.

This power, the real *IMPACT* of a gift happens when the numbers fade, transcend dollars and donors, and become more human: the number of lives that are touched and changed by a Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA experience; the increased campership opportunities that afford this experience to those who might benefit from it most, but would otherwise be unable to attend; the very real “thank you” letters which the organization receives so often – letters that detail an appreciation for the experience, a pride in being a part of something special, a longing for summer to come again quickly, and a love for the people involved.

2011 Annual Fund sets \$700,000 goal

This year's Annual Fund will seek to raise \$700,000 – once again securing more dollars from more donors than ever before. To ensure success, exceptional volunteer leadership has been enlisted to spearhead this annual campaign. Former Chair of the Board of Trustees Amy Hurwitz Gutschenritter and current Alumni Council Development Committee Chair Tucker Schuldt have been named Co-Chairs of the 2011 Annual Fund. You may hear from Amy, Tucker, or another volunteer this year asking you to join them with your support. We hope you welcome their invitation. When considering your gift this year, think about the full potential and impact of your gift. Appreciate and believe in the pervasive nature of philanthropy, how your commitment can *change lives for good* and motivate others to do the same. Let's join together in 2011 – *all of us* - in supporting the Annual Fund and the good work of the Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA.

Our Community Connections

The stories, the memories, the challenges, the fun, the friendships – these themes are the foundation of a Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA life. From coast to coast and across the pond, thousands of alumni, parents and friends took advantage of opportunities to re-connect, reminisce and share plans for our future in 2010. Were you among them? Did we see you in San Francisco or Westport, at Annual Luncheon or in Boston, over Alumni Weekend or in the United Kingdom? Were you among the hundreds of new members to our Facebook and LinkedIn groups?

2011 picks up where 2010 left off, with a full slate of special events and receptions already planned this spring: Waterbury, CT and Alexandria, VA in March; Los Angeles in April; New York City in May; Bike for Brent in July, an extraordinary Alumni Weekend in September and so much more....

But it's not just about parties. This year you will also be asked to participate as well. You may be asked to tell us about what you like, how you can help, how we can help you, and to give

your opinion on other issues important to the organization (see our invitation to complete our online survey – ready now!). You may be asked to share your Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA story. You *will* be asked to reflect...to inform... and to invest in 2011.

So mark your calendars, reach out, chime in, volunteer, and become a voice in support of our future. Take advantage of every opportunity this year to be both *seen and heard*.



Together at the London Reunion above were (Back, l-r): Emma Haselhurst Collins, Donna Lovelock, Matt Pearson, Rob Pearson, David Macintosh; (Middle, l-r): Dan Berg, Alex Porter, Mark Lindsay, Mark Potkovač, Hollie Bowshell; (Front, l-r): Mel Maltby, Emily King, Lucy Bulmer, Livvy Hill, Emma Hayter

United Kingdom Reunion

In January Dan Berg (CB Program Director) and Emily King (CCC Program Director) traveled to the United Kingdom to visit with alumni and recruit outstanding staff members for this summer. Becket and TSP staffer Dan Wright also set up a presentation at his school in Bath, England to talk with students about camper and staff opportunities at camp. In all, Dan and Emily visited Ireland, Scotland and England, hosted four alumni events, and connected with 50 former staff. It was a great opportunity to visit alumni and staff across the pond, and they hope to go back in 2012.



Alumni News & Notes

Alumni News & Notes appear regularly in editions of Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA NEWS. Send your news to John Anz or to janz@bccymca.org.

Ben Demerath (CB camper '76, '79, Aide '83, Staff '85-'86) writes he "lives and teaches music at The Williston Northampton School in Easthampton, MA and is the youngest of three proud Camp Becket alumni brothers. My wife Mary is an elementary school teacher and our daughter Emma is looking forward to being in Junior unit this summer at Chimney Corners. Younger siblings Annie and Jacoby are looking forward to attending Chimney and Becket someday soon as well." Ben's son Oliver is also a Camp Becket camper who'll be enjoying the TLS program in 2011. Ben's brother **Loren Demerath** (CB camper '74-'76, CIT/AC '79, Staff '80, '82, '84-'85) teaches sociology at Centenary College in Shreveport, LA where he lives with his wife Jeanine and children Rafaela and Gus. Jeanine is also an educator and teaches Spanish. **Peter Demerath** also teaches, in his case educational anthropology, at The University of Minnesota with his wife Ellen who teaches genetics in public health. Peter and Ellen live in St. Paul, MN with their daughters Olivia and Sophia. Demerath family cousin **Rebecca Hardin** is a former counselor at Chimney Corners who now teaches Anthropology at The University of Michigan along with her husband Arun Agrawal, a political scientist in the School of Natural Resources and Environment. Their daughter Naina will hopefully join all of her second cousins in Becket during a future summer creating one big family reunion at Moms' and Dads' Weekend. Finally, and integral to the Demerath family connection to the Camps, is Ben, Loren and Peter's mother, **Judy Demerath**. In addition to being a former Trustee of Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA, Judy is a retired special education teacher and her husband Jay Demerath is Professor Emeritus of Sociology at The University of Massachusetts.

Diane Gardner (CCC camper '77-'79, ICEP '80, Aide '81, CIT/AC '82) wrote in that she has recently been back in touch with a few of her fellow Aides from 1981 in advance of their 30th Reunion in the fall. "I live in Arlington, MA with my husband Matt Magee and twin 7-year-old daughters Callie and Lulu, and work as a social worker with new families. My nephew Rafi Bernstein started at Camp Becket last summer and when we went to see him on visiting day, my family finally got to experience some of that Becket and Chimney Corners magic. We'll all be back in the fall for the CCC '81 Aides reunion at Alumni Weekend. I hope many old friends will join me!"

Eric Grimes (BOC Staff / Director '96-'02) says that he is currently the President and CEO of The Grimes Group, a development and consulting firm which provides funding services to non-profit organizations specializing in the environment, energy, health and

wellness, parks and recreation, the arts, and youth programs. "My current client base is concentrated in Pennsylvania, but I have worked with non-profit groups throughout the U.S. and Canada. I live in Lewisburg, PA with my wife Natalie and our children, Maryn 11 and Hunter 8. Our family participates in many charitable runs, walks, and triathlons together and I am also a member of a cycling team that competes on the East Coast. Last July I participated in the Becket-Chimney Corners 'Bike for Brent' event, biking from Boston to Becket to raise funds for the Camps. This was a great event especially when the campers cheered us on at the finish. It was more meaningful to me than winning any race. I plan to BIKE FOR BRENT again in 2011."

Courtney Walker Hendricson (CCC camper '86-'90, ICEP '91, Aide '92, CIT/AC '93, Staff '95-'98) writes "It has been wonderful to be back in the States for 3 years now, settled in Connecticut and enjoying the East Coast seasons again. My husband and I just welcomed a daughter, Finley, on Jan 25th and we are enjoying everything that goes along with being new parents. We are also both enjoying work. I am an economic developer for a city outside of Hartford and Adam works as a research scientist for Bristol Meyers Squibb, discovering new drugs. I have also started a small business as a personal style consultant - started with friends and family asking for wardrobe advice and has grown from there. As much as possible, we ski in Vermont in the winters and spend time in the Berkshires and around New England in the summer. I have also loved reconnecting with Chimney Corners friends and look forward to much more of the same in the future. I'm already starting to think about 2012 and the 'Grenaides' 20th Reunion - boy does time fly. '92 Chimney Aides - save the date now for Alumni Weekend in September, 2012."

David Lind (CB camper '91-'97, ICEP '98, Aide '99, Staff '00-'05) reports that he just joined the Becket Chimney Corners YMCA Alumni Council and is excited to continue re-connecting alums to camp, as a member of the Reconnect and Career Networking committees. Dave writes, "After completing my MBA at Boston College in the spring of 2010, I utilized the camp network and reached out to various alumni through the Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA LinkedIn Group. After connecting and having informational interviews with alumni to learn about their employers, I accepted a position at Liberty Mutual Group in Boston as a member of the eBusiness team. I am grateful for the help I received from **Alan Weston** (CB Staff '71-'73, '75, '77), a former Liberty Mutual employee, throughout the process. My wife Lara is a web designer at Massachusetts General Hospital. We just bought a house in Cambridge and are looking forward to hosting Becket and Chimney Corners alumni events at our new home soon. We were thrilled to help ring in 2011 with many close friends at the Alumni New Years celebration at camp."

In Memoriam

Patricia Seltzer (P) of New York, NY died on December 30, 2010. She was the mother of Becket and Chimney Corners alumni Scott and Amanda Schreiber.

Steven A. Rubin (P) of Glastonbury, CT died on January 6, 2011. Steve is survived by his wife April Reitman, and his son and Camp Becket camper Jake Rubin.

Donald P. Mix (A, P) of West Hartford, CT died on January 24, 2011. Don was a Camp Becket camper in the 1940s, on staff in the 1950s, and later joined the Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA Board of Trustees from 1990 to 1993. In addition to a large family and his loving wife Margaret, Don is also survived by sons and Becket alumni Clifton Mix and Douglas Mix, and his daughter and Chimney Corners alumna Sarah Mix Dorfmeister. He is also survived by grandchildren and Becket and Chimney Corners campers Jonathan Mix and Steffani Dorfmeister. The Mix family has provided that memorial contributions may be made in Don's name to the Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA.

K. Urban Svärth (A, P) of Sweden died on January 29, 2011. Urban was a Camp Becket staff member in 1969. He is survived by his wife Zoraïda and their son Jonathan who is also a Camp Becket alumnus.

(A) Alumni, (P) Parent, (F) Friend

If you know or hear of the passing of a member of the Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA family, please contact John Anz in the Office of Development so that we can be aware, and so others may learn of the news in the In Memoriam section of the Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA News. Thank you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, March 31 Washington DC area reception for alumni and parents

Thursday, April 28 Los Angeles reception for alumni and parents

Friday, April 29 through Sunday, May 1 Spring Work Weekend

Wednesday, May 4 New York City reception for alumni and parents

Saturday, May 12 Board of Trustee Meeting

Friday, May 27 through Monday, May 30, Memorial Day Family Camp

Sunday, June 26 First Camp Session Begins

Saturday, July 2 & Sunday July 3 Bike for Brent

Friday, July 15 through Sunday July 17 First Session Moms' and Dads' Weekend

Sunday, July 24 Second Camp Session Begins

Saturday, July 30 Annual Luncheon

Saturday, July 30 and Sunday, July 31 Board of Trustee Meeting

Friday, August 12 through Sunday August 14 Second Session Moms' and Dads' Weekend

Friday, September 23 through Sunday September 25 Alumni Weekend



HERITAGE CLUB

The Heritage Club at Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA recognizes members of the Camp Becket and Chimney Corners Camp community who have included the camps in their estate plans or have made a planned charitable gift such as a charitable gift annuity, gifts of life insurance, or inclusion in their will. Log onto "Become a Supporter" at www.bccymca.org and learn how you can become a member.

www.bccymca.org | info@bccymca.org

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Two State YMCA

BECKET-CHIMNEY CORNERS YMCA
Camps and Berkshire Outdoor Center



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