



the **YMCA**

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

CAMP JEWELL YMCA

A branch of the YMCA of Greater Hartford

P.O. Box 8, 6 Prock Hill Road, Colebrook, CT 06021

CampJewell.org

The YMCA, for Youth Development: nurturing the potential of every child and teen, for Healthy Living: improving the nation's health and well-being, for Social Responsibility: giving back and providing support to our neighbors. The YMCA of Greater Hartford is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) charitable organization, established in 1852, and is one of the nation's oldest YMCAs. The YMCA strives to serve all regardless of their ability to pay.

YMCA OF GREATER HARTFORD

THE TRIANGLE LAKE TRIBUNE

The Camp Jewell Alumni Newsletter

WINTER 2021

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- Sustaining Campaign
- What's that Smell?

-The Camp Jewell History Corner

- Cabin Construction Updates

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CAMP JEWELL YMCA

THAWING OUT

It might be a little superstitious, but our COO Doug Nakashima always likes to point out that every year that he would buy a snowblower, it would never snow. Naturally, this year he did not, and therefore 2021 became one of the snowiest years in recent history. Thanks Doug.

Despite the constant shoveling, sanding and unfreezing of pipes, the Camp Jewell team has stayed positive as we look toward brighter (literally) tomorrows. Thankfully, with the green light from the governor and guidelines on their way, we are so excited for the triumphant return of Camp Jewell summer camp!

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm." Well, we're all pretty darn enthusiastic at the moment, so I guess that means this year will be pretty great right?

In the Spirit of Camping,

Dustin Nord

Editor and Director of Community Engagement



MESSAGE FROM THE EXEC

If there was one word that was overused in 2020 it was "unprecedented". It became a daily personal challenge to find a different word to describe the state of things, but often that was a tall task. There is no doubting that 2020 was a tough year for everyone, and for Camp Jewell. For the first time in over 100 years we were unable to run our summer camp, family camp and outdoor education programs. The exciting news is we get to look forward to a time when summer campers again shatter the quiet here in Colebrook!

We have a lot of work ahead of us to reopen camp. We are excited to announce that we will have a series of work days this spring so volunteers like you can help us get camp ready for guests and campers once again! The dates are currently April 24th, May 1st, and May 15th. In many ways this feels like a rebirth, and an opportunity for camp to continue to grow and impact even more people in the years ahead. This is an exciting time for everyone involved with camp and we hope that you can help us move forward on this journey!

We have missed everyone so much and can't wait until we all get to meet again in person!

Sincerely,

Craig Dawson

Executive Director

[CAMPJEWELL.ORG/SUSTAIN](https://campjewell.org/sustain)

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

2020 was a tough year for many things, and construction was one of them. It seemed as though every time Chip and Johanna Gaines opened their mouths, lumber prices rose 20%. It's clear that what society lost without summer camp, it attempted to replace with the DIY Network and Home Depot gift cards. Thankfully, our crew worked incredibly hard and we are proud to say that the cabin is 99% complete and UNDER budget! If you would like to come up for a tour, please do not hesitate to let us know. As we look toward the next cabins, we hope to break ground in the fall of 2021. Stay tuned for updates!



New exterior featuring handicap accessible ramps



New bunks provide more visibility and camper space

What does Camp Jewell's Capital Campaign and a 16 year old learning about FICA on their first paycheck have in common? A new appreciation for how expensive life can be. Cabins are pricey and we need your help to ensure we have the means to continue the redevelopment of our Colebrook home. We have already raised over \$2 million to develop our new facilities, but millions more will be required to complete our vision of a Camp Jewell for the future. To request more information about how you can invest in the future of camp, please email Craig at craig.dawson@ghymca.org.

Stay updated more regularly on our Capital Campaign site! Head over to CampJewell.org/BuildingDreams to check it out!



New bathrooms include more fixtures and handicap access

Want to be a part of the future of Camp Jewell?

Join the Board of Advisors!

For more Information, reach out to Craig at craig.dawson@ghymca.org

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HISTORY CORNER by Bob Stearns

Connie, Diane and the Air National Guard

The year? 1955. The place? The headwaters of the Farmington River, located just north of Camp Jewell. The problem? The ground was saturated. Very, very saturated.



Fresh milk, bread, and beets airlifted in. What, no Bug Juice?

It had all begun quite innocently the week before when a rather small hurricane had passed over the area on August 12th. Named Connie, it dumped about 6 inches of rain. The rivers and reservoirs were used to such rainfall so it wasn't a big deal, even though it left them at above normal levels. It wasn't a big deal for the ground either, which had thirstily soaked up as much as it could hold, looking forward to the lush greenery that soon would follow.

Then came Diane on August 18th. Hurricane #2. Over a 36-hour period Diane dumped some 20 inches of rain into the headwaters of the Farmington River. With the intensity of rainfall and the already saturated soil, the rivers and reservoirs rose and rose. And kept rising until they overflowed their banks and broke through their dams. It was estimated that the Farmington River rose some 25-30 feet and moved at speeds up to 50 miles per hour. Towns such as Winsted were nearly wiped off the map by the flooding. There was devastation everywhere along the river's path.

Meanwhile back at Jewell, it had been the last few days of camp for the summer. Final banquet, closing campfire, heartfelt goodbyes to new best friends, and buses coming to take everyone back to Hartford and home. Or so they thought.

As the torrential rain fell throughout the day and night, veteran camp directors Walt Malins and Paul Burch, could sense a problem was brewing. Unable to remove the flashboards on the dam due to the extreme pressure, the lake rose until most of the athletic field was underwater and all that could be seen of Chapel island were the treetops. But all the cabins were on high ground and everyone was safe.

With all the main roads in the area washed out, and thousands of people stranded and in need of assistance, the governor of Connecticut mobilized the Air National Guard and a massive rescue operation was launched. Dozens of helicopters were enlisted in the effort with some of them bringing supplies to Camp Jewell. According to logbooks, helicopters delivered 4 sacks of flour, 5 cases of evaporated milk, 350 loaves of bread, five sacks of potatoes, a crate of beets, and fresh milk from a farm in West Hartland. What, no bug juice?

Eventually the roads were made passable and the buses were able to get through to take the campers home. For them, however, it was just another amazing adventure that was part of their Camp Jewell experience. They were safe, spirits were high, they got to spend an extra day with their friends. They were thrilled by helicopters landing on the athletic field, and they had stories to tell and memories to share for the rest of their lives. That's what Camp Jewell is all about.

Trips Logs!

Did you go on a trip back in the day? Would you like to relive the experience? Well, you might just be in luck because Jewell still has many of the log books safely stored for posterity and we are in the early stages of digitizing them. If you're interested in reading the log from one of your trips, please contact us and we'll see if we can find it in the archives.

CAMPJEWELL.ORG/SUSTAIN

THE BOARD EXPANDS!



Kari McLeod

Becky Barton

We couldn't keep her away! After leaving Camp Jewell last fall, Becky is back to volunteer on our board. She brings decades of experience in camping and an intimate knowledge of Camp Jewell's operations. She currently works for EdAdvance in Winsted.

Jess Marciante

A celebrity joins the board! While many of us know Jess from her years of work as a staff member at Jewell, the rest of the world knows her as the "Rent Free" girl from TikTok! With hundreds of millions of views, we hope she can tell us how to be more popular...



Jess Marciante



Becky Barton

Kari McLeod

We're excited to welcome Kari to the board! A financial advisor out of Avon, CT, Kari's mission is "to help women – young, midlife, or aging with grace – to manage the relationship between money & their goals, doing so without anxiety and stress." Welcome!

Alit Bedik

A South Windsor, CT resident and self-described "soccer mom of two *sometimes* wonderful teenagers", Alit has been a committed volunteer and camper parent for many years at Camp Jewell. We're excited to have her on the team!



Alit Bedik

WHAT'S THAT SMELL?

As a break from the normal "Where are they?" section, we posed the following question to the world of Camp Jewell Alumni: What smell reminds you of camp? Here are some of the responses!

"Paint, Leather, stain, mod podge, shrinky dinks, sculpy all the smells of Arts and crafts; fresh manure at ranch. "

"I'll never forget the boathouse basement and to this day, if I wake up early enough and go outside after it rains, it still smells like camp! "

"The "non toxic" paint from paint your counselor when kids get to paint all over your body and then...oops... accidentally get it in your nose and ears. That's a smell I'll never forget. Subtle, but unmistakable. And don't get me started on dirty clothes. The damp, dirty clothes stuffed in a bag for two weeks...the worst. But it reminds me of the best place in earth. "

"Sometimes when emptying the dishwasher I get some whiffs that remind me of Hobie and all the fun times washing dishes with friends as a ranger/outdoor center staff member. "

"The cold air, the dew around 4th session when it is chilly in the morning but by 10 you are sweating. "

"I noticed a couple years ago on a pretty hot summer day that I got a whiff of garbage and it filled me with a feeling of nostalgia for walking by the dumpsters behind the dining hall...It was wild to realize that even a "gross" smell made me want to be at camp. That the thought of 5 minutes by the dumpsters on a hot summer day brought me so much joy that I'd jump at the chance to be there. Like the possibilities for joy and feeling a sense of purpose at camp are so boundless that I have actual happy and impactful memories next to dumpsters-fulfilling a purpose, getting inspired with an idea, laughing with a coworker or camper, or just making fun out of a menial task. I don't have happy or impactful memories next to any other dumpsters."

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2020 MAGIC PRESERVED

2020 was an unprecedented time in history, and the challenges that Camp Jewell faced as a result were and continue to be myriad. However, thanks to so many committed members of our community, Camp Jewell raised over \$200,000 to help sustain our operations and get ready for 2021.

1852 Society

\$5,000 and up

YMCA of USA
Sandra Kuhach
Virginia Taft
Andrew Bachman
Camp Clio
Anonymous
Trout Brook Landscaping
Ryan Wilde

Gary Forster
Joseph Weiner
Sarah Goldoff
Lara Helwig
Jason Terrell
James + Eileen Thomas Fund
Joli Gross
Russell C. Everett
Tamryn Day
Sara Buell
Robert Gruber
Jay Williams
Devesh Karandikar
Herrick Massie
Jeff Caplow

Taylor McKinney
Michael Gustafson
Craig Zimmerman
Warren C Packard
Caty Burgess
Laurie Henderson
Andrew Bachman
Aetna Matching Gifts
Julie Feinberg
Caitlin Pilon Eckler
Barbara McNulty
Brenda Whittaker
Beth Ferrell Wilson
Bank of America (Matching)
Peter Anderson
William Peterson
Scott Jackson
Thomas Chen
Susan McDermott
Gwyneth Haydock
Tony and Carmela Obuchowski
Rachel Peterson

Chairman's Circle

\$1,000-\$2,499

Dustin Nord
Craig Dawson
William Peterson
David Ahern
Robert Gruber
Peter Dowling
Jeff Caplow
Olivia Herman and David Nuzum
Karen Bachman
Annie Moore

President's Club

\$500-\$999

Alma Kruh
Sunil Savkar
Mr. Mark Benson
Thomas Lincoln
Joseph Berkel
Robert Stearns

Century Club

\$100-\$499

Charlotte Massie
Anthony Amalfi
Rebecca Barton
Oliver Gregan
Sabrina Puzinski
Barbara J. Berger
William R. Wyrick
Mary Yarmosky
David B. Wright
Elizabeth (Betsy) E. Ferolano
William Ingram
Wally Ivers
Bruce Englander
Jon Yolles & Stacey Silver
Philanthropic Fund
David Satlof
Merlin L. Alper
Judy Arth
Jill Pilon
Gambardella, Cipriano, Gottlieb & Hathaway PC
Blake Anderson
Eileen Moore
Neve Stearns
James Stearns
Vanessa Elias
Howard Breinan
Diana Goode
Edward Boiczuk
Heather Rigatti
Robert Berger
Ruth Ursone Napoleone

Winsted Cub Scout Pack #1027
Erika and Harish Tulsi
Heather Haynos
Mark Kunzler
Rachel Quinn
Andrea Berloff
Emily Mills
Mark E Williams
Melody Moore
Ruth Cruz
Marisa McMahon
Julie Cammarata
Karen A. Lazzaro
Bernard Aronson
Eva Mostoufi
Elizabeth McKinnis
JoEllen Johnson
Michelle Margolis
Valerie Pinciak
Sam Winters
Camisha Francis
Thomas Rutz
Randie Katz
John Panicek
Stuart Wachtel
Wendy Conlon
Diana Benza
Garrison and Ellen Nord
Katherine Baldwin
The Winn Family
Stuart Wachtel
Harry Carrel

Allison Boucher
Rebecca Liftman
Ruth Cruz
Kathie Reese
Jerome Alper
Matt Preston
John Crisafulli
Stephen Campbell
Maryanne Volkringer
Barbara & Ken Coscia
Alicia Mulvena
Carrie Fletcher
Heather Courtney
Madonna Courtney
Daniel Keating
Judith Johnson
Lianna Meskun
Sean Riddick
Jay Stearns
Daniel Pailas
Heather Ettinger
Leslie Rickey
Gina Sartirana
Christopher Buell
Robert Cox
Rita King
Robert Hoffman
Sylwia Drezek
Debby Anderson
Denis and Carol Sullivan
Wafaa Naggat

With summer camp's return on the horizon, we humbly ask for your assistance again this year. To donate to the 2021 campaign, please head over to CampJewell.org/sustain today!

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