

Camaraderie

Le communiqué des Camarades de Canoe Island French Camp

janvier 2014

Bonne année à tous nos amis,

"You know how Disneyland refers to itself as the happiest place on Earth? Well, I disagree. For me, my happy place is Canoe. I attended for seven summers and would have never stopped had adult sessions been offered in the 90's. In 2008 I came back to Canoe Island for adult yoga weekend. The moment I got on the Ferry Queen, I was excited and overwhelmed with nostalgia and joy. When we arrived at the island, I was home."



This Canoe Island memory that alumnus Julia Wagner shared with us echoes the sentiments of so many children, past and present, who feel Canoe Island is their special place. It is not only the campers who come each summer, but it is also the campers from the last 45 years, our alums who keep Canoe Island alive. On the next page you can read more special moments shared by our alumni whether they were campers, staff, parents, or students in our shoulder season programs – our alumni are everyone who is inspired by Canoe Island.

It was 45 years ago this year that Dr. Warren Austen hosted his first French Camp on Orcas Island. A few years later, campers arrived at the new camp facility on the 47-acre Canoe Island he bought specifically for his new camp. From

his first few campers, mostly from families he knew in southern California, the Canoe Island summer family has grown to 180 campers, 45 at a time, who meet other like-minded youngsters, interact with native French staff, and gain self-reliance on their own island. In addition, as many as 30 families come each year to one of our adult and family events and hundreds of school children visit the island for a spring or fall island ecology or French language school program.

We are inviting all of you to come to Canoe Island to celebrate our 45th anniversary this summer. **Save the date: Saturday, July 26.** We'll be sending out more information this spring and posting it on our web and Facebook pages. To make our 45th reunion a success **we need your help** to find our alumni to invite to our party. If you are still in touch with friends you met on Canoe Island, ask them to get in touch with us. If you only have a name and maybe a phone number or even a city where they might live, send us that information. We'll go to work tracking them down.

By the time of our 50th anniversary in 2019 we will hope to have expanded our mailing list to include all our alumni -- campers, staff, parents, school students, teachers, indeed, everyone who has been educated by, entertained at, or enamored of Canoe Island French Camp since it began (or even before for those people who knew it as a place to graze sheep – we'll look for you, too!)

We hope you will be joining us on Canoe Island in 2014, a place many consider one of the world's most inspiring, peaceful and beautiful islands.

À bientôt,

Joseph and Connie Jones, CIFIC Directors

DANS CETTE EDITION

Lettre des
directeurs.....1

Memoires de Canoe.....2

Merci à nos bénévoles
et donateurs.....3

Calendrier 2014.....4

MEMORIES OF CANOE ISLAND

In celebration of our 45th anniversary, we reached out to alumni old and new to ask about their favorite memories of Canoe Island. Here are a few of their reminiscences.

My last year as a camper, my counselor called the girls in Siberia over after dinner, announcing that she had to talk to us about something very serious. The whole camp thought we were in trouble. She actually told us that she was taking us for s'mores after the evening activity to celebrate a tipi-mate's birthday. We had a fun time on La Plage at night, and in the morning we made up crazy stories about why we had gotten in trouble.

-Emily Hunter, camper 2009 & 2010; animatrice 2012

One of my favorite memories from last year happened during second session, when Thomas B. and Sam W. serenaded the camp with their "Dinner Server" song. It was such a fun and unexpected way to announce each table's server, and it put a smile on everyone's face!

- Marisa Ikert, animatrice 2011 & 2012

I remember being super nervous when it was my turn to organize a game one day - I was the arts and crafts girl and not too sporty - and while surveying the island for the sake of the game, I walked on an old tree trunk where two bees snuck out and stung me on the same leg. I started swelling and went to the nurse, Glenda. After natural remedies and a pill didn't work, I had to take a boat to Lopez to get a shot! What a crazy day! They took good care of us campers and counselors alike! Other memories include Inspiration Point and yummy breakfast, painting around the island and the great picnics. How about those giant slugs?! Never seen anything like it!!!

-Gaëlle Boisrobert, animatrice 1999

I attended Canoe for two years. I enjoyed it very much. What I loved was sleeping in the tipis with three other girls and talking about our days. I also loved all the activities: fencing, canoeing, etc... Overall I loved Canoe so much! And I will always remember those summers!

- Sidney Austin, camper 2002 and 2003

I remember 1976: Xmas, Halloween, 4th and 14th of July, the traditional trip to Victoria, the raft, introducing *escrime* on Canoe (Chris Oliva, I am sure, remembers the first lessons with sticks!) and then being able to meet Leon Auriol, the (Seattle) French fencing master (I am still in touch with him). And of course, above all, the meeting with Rod Corbett (one of the best camp directors), Fabienne, Fabrice, Bernard, Charlotte, Eileen, Dr. Austin with whom I stayed in touch until his death, and Dorothy (Austin) who was the best of friends and who I miss so much. In '77 I was back and brought with me my friend Giovanni. We built the first Bastille ever on Canoe. To summarize, during those three summers I discovered a new country, new places, a new way of living, and above all, FRIENDS.

- André Charlot, animateur 1976, 1977, 1980

Canoe Island French Camp was more than just "an experience" on which I look back fondly, it was part of my education. And by education, I don't mean schoolin', I mean growing-up. My times at Canoe were the major contributing factor to who I am as an adult --- and, I've been told, I have turned out to be a pretty acceptable adult. The combination of French, friends (many of whom I have remained in contact with), and nature was nothing short of magical. Often, when I look back at the times I spent gazing off of Inspiration Point or laying awake at night in my tipi, I think that it had all been too good to be true. But it was true. And I was there. My parents might have thought they were giving me a healthy dose of "culture" with a side of linguistics, but what I ended up with was much more than can be explained with words. I like to think of it as a mental oasis. I can always look back on my summers at Canoe as a young adult or reminisce about them with friends, and take comfort in knowing that such an environment exists ... and that I was fortunate enough to be part of it.

- Dierdre Bird-Kelly, camper 1996 - 2000

Jumping off the dock by night and swimming in the Salish sea, surrounded by the unforgettable bioluminescence definitely remains one of my favorite memories of these several summers spent on Canoe.

- Amaury Coin, animateur 2009, 2010, 2012

I remember when Claire, who worked as a baker, had brought a jar of sourdough starter. Some raccoons raided our teepee and opened this jar with their tiny hands and ate it all. I am sure the poor things were sick for days! I also remember early morning kayak trips to Holly B's...We counselors who were obsessed with her baked goods, would wake up at the crack of dawn to kayak to Lopez, barely avoiding the ferry every time. There we would eat our marionberry pastries and paddle back to Canoe before breakfast. It was so worth it.

- Liz Kueneker, animatrice 1998

When I was a 13 year old camper and Capture the Flag was a little more on the wild side, I was stalking quietly through the woods near No Name Point towards the heart of the island. I had never come through from that side, and suddenly all recognizable landmarks disappeared. I was adrift in what felt like a parallel island, and then suddenly I looked up and saw the blue "Dragonfly" sculpture hanging ominously above me for the first time. My stomach flipped as I wondered how I had stumbled into this alien dimension. Then a minute later I saw the archery range, the fire circle, and stepped back into the magical reality of Canoe.

-Creighton Hofeditz, camper 1998 - 2001, animateur 2004 - 2007

Canoe...one of the most unforgettable experience in my life... Canoe is connected to my friend Kristen Jarvis who experienced Canoe many years before and as I was an au pair in her family, thought it will be great for me to do it...meeting with Richard Carter in a theater in Seattle...the next summer here I was! In this tiny island with bunch of people from everywhere spending the summer without TV, phone...nightmare! Didn't even take a sweatshirt! It was supposed to be summer!!! But then we met the kids and we started to know each other with the counselors and that was the beginning of the most extraordinary and special summer ever! Remembering "les veillées", the songs, the camping, the talk, the laugh...oh yes, we laughed!!!! And we cried! Still having drawing and notes from my kids, still listening to music I listened that summer, still looking at the pictures...

-Bérengère Bottero, animatrice 1999

MERCI À NOS BÉNÉVOLES ET DONATEURS

Our camper parents and friends supported Canoe Island French Camp in many ways. They attended our adult events, Ma Mère et Moi and Yoga Benefit Weekend, they registered at higher tuition levels, and they gave generously. Donors are listed from donations received through December 16. If you donated after that time, we thank you and will honor you in the January 2015 newsletter.

Volunteer

Workers

Oskar Abian
Niko Abian
Andrew Abian
Elaine Adams
Liz Alexianu
Kari Berger
Leah Burian
Ron Burian
May Cohen
Roman Czaplá
Eddie Cooke
Ashley Dodge
DiDomenico family
Ginette DiDomenico
Eve Eptein
Patricia Flynn
Ursula Garcia
David Garcia
Max Garcia
Zoë Garcia
Kallan Gustafson
Laura Grove
Rachel Haughton
Lucas Haughton
Diane Haughton
Doug Haughton
Gary Kelfner
Marie-Pierre Koban
Manuèle Mayer
Ismâel Moulay
Rosemary Norheim
Robert Norheim
Ellie Norheim
Antoinette Pietka
Martine Roudier
Raymond Russell
Willi Savenye
Glenda Schuh
Mady Schuh

Liane Sperlich
Steve Vogel
Mindy Weinber

Yoga Supporters

Midnight's Farm Down
Dog Studio
Doe Bay Resort

Donors

Niveau Bronze up to \$99

Bob & Kathy Almquist
Kirsten Ambach
Aaron Andrews
Geoff & Yvonne Babb
Jon & Jean Bright
Ron Burian
Ruby Casareno &
Ohayama Tuyoshi
Ron & Carrie Caramella
Kimberly Cohen
Rhonda Cohen
James & Veneta Conour
Katherine Dorsch
Teresa Eyler
Kerry Fitzpatrick
Patricia Flynn
Lise Glaser & Thomas
Nielsen
Dawn Golden
Charles Gross
Dawna Grand
Jan Halla
Sonya Hansen
Sarah Haude
Luisa Hernandez
Elizabeth Homeier
Chris Hopkins
Kristen Jarvis
Megan Jones

Anahita Kemp
Cindy Keyser
Christopher Legler
Eugenie Lemerle
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Heather McPherson
Preeti Mehta
Laurisa Miller
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Brigitte Morris
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Cheryl Oliva
Margot Page
Mia Ratcliff
Martine Roudier
Alison Ryder
Helene Russ
Shari Russell
Katie Scully
Heidi Seliger
Amy Harrison Shidler
Christine Smith
Laura & Dave Sommers
Liane Sperlich
Karen Stewart
Ben Straub
Daniel Straub
Pam Webber
EA Weymuller
Dana Zia

Niveau Argent -- \$100-\$500

Melissa Alexander
Bridget Baskett-Stone
Susan Brownell

Eric Bosworth & Elisa
Burgess
Elizabeth Canning
Katherina Choka
Paul & Becky Connor
Fayed Fayed
Mariann Druker
Christine Dufau-Smith
Laura Grove
Heidi Holman
Joseph & Connie Jones
Marie-Pierre Koban
Paige McCormick
John Mattera
Paige McCormick
John Mattera
Valentine Paredes
Sue Rosselet
Lori Shaffer
Florence Stahura
Shannon Tracy
Aimee Truchard
Edrie Vinson
Laurel Wilson
Jennifer Zinda

Niveau Or \$500-\$999

Mark Brandjord
Julie Ellner & Bob
Bernstein
Tricie Hunter
Dan Root & Julie Kim
Susan West & Thom
Ludwig

Niveau plantine \$1000 and above

Glenda Schuh

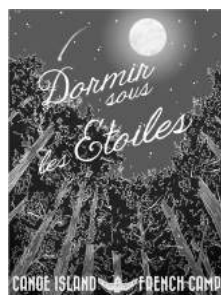
DONATIONS SUPPORT OUR CAMPERS AND FACILITY

In 2013, 31 very excited campers came to Canoe Island French Camp through \$35,000 in scholarships funded in part by our generous donors. Facility Fund donations helped us build the two-tier gathering spot in the center of camp we call Les Tuileries, re-roof Malmaison and the Atelier, and re-build the back deck on the Ritz. This winter Camp Caretaker Ben Straub's big task will be a complete rebuild of the pool deck. Donations of any amount will help us continue these worthy projects, and we encourage you to contact your employer to see if they have a matching program.

This year we have three thank you gifts for your donation of \$25 or more. For more information about these thank you gifts, and to fill out a donation form, please visit our website: CanoeIsland.org.



2013 cookbook



18" by 24" poster



18" by 24" poster

CALENDRIER 2014

FRENCH CAMP

SESSION 1	LA RÉVOLUTION FRANÇAISE	AGES 9-16	JUNE 22-JULY 4
SESSION 2	LES VOYAGEURS	AGES 10-16	JULY 6-25
SESSION 3	LE MONDE FRANCOPHONE	AGES 10-16	JULY 27-AUGUST 15
SESSION 4	LES CHEVALIERS	AGES 9-16	AUGUST 17-28

FAMILY AND ADULT EVENTS

Adult Yoga Benefit Weekend

Friday-Sunday, May 16-18

Ages: 16 with parent and adults

Cost: \$250 per person; \$90 is a tax-deductible donation to the CIFC scholarship fund

Join Kris Lowe, Woodinville, WA yoga instructor, for morning and evening yoga classes, then sail, kayak, swim in the heated pool, play tennis, hike or just relax on Canoe Island. We'll do relaxing yoga Friday and Saturday evenings and strenuous classes each morning. Do as much or as little as you choose. Kris is an excellent yoga instructor who makes you feel comfortable no matter what your yoga experience is.

Family Camps

Memorial Day Weekend Friday-Sunday May 23-26

Labor Day Weekend Friday-Sunday August 29-September 1

All ages

Cost: \$275 per person, half price ages 3-5, free ages 2 and under

Relax on Canoe Island with your family while exploring the natural history of the San Juan Islands and experiencing French culture, language, and cuisine. Optional French classes will begin the day followed by sailing, kayaking, swimming, tennis, exploring tide pools and campfires. This is a great way for potential campers and parents to learn more about the island and our programs together.

Open House

Saturday, June 21

Free and everyone is welcome!

Open House provides a chance for families and friends to tour the island and meet the staff. Campers attending Session 1 may stay overnight with full supervision and special activities until other campers arrive on Sunday. A light buffet will be served and the pool and tennis court will be open.

45th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, July 26th

Everyone is welcome. More details will be on our website and Facebook page soon!

