

Mohawkers Born, Mohawkers Bred – Kerry McCaffrey

We posed a question on our Camp Mohawk Alumni Association Facebook Group asking alumni if they were part of a multi-generational Mohawker family and we were delighted with the number of responses we received. We cannot get to everyone's stories for this issue, but we are excited to learn more about everyone's Mohawk Family for future issues. For this issue, please enjoy stories from three alumni: Debby, Tierney, and Stacey.

Debby Marcus Brown is part of a large Mohawk Family! Along with Debby, her two sisters, two nieces, and three daughters are all Mohawkers. Debby attended Camp Mohawk from '78 to '86.



I asked Debby what it was like attending camp with her sisters and how that experience may be the same or different now for her daughters (Addy, Ella, and Cate). Debby: "When I was 8, I was a Jawak, my two older sisters were there at the same time. One was a CIT and the other was an Oscadee. I liked to take sailing because my sister taught it! Fast forward 30 years and my oldest daughter was a CIT when my 8 year old went as a Jawak and my middle daughter was a Mohican! They did archery together, and they would walk to lunch together every day."

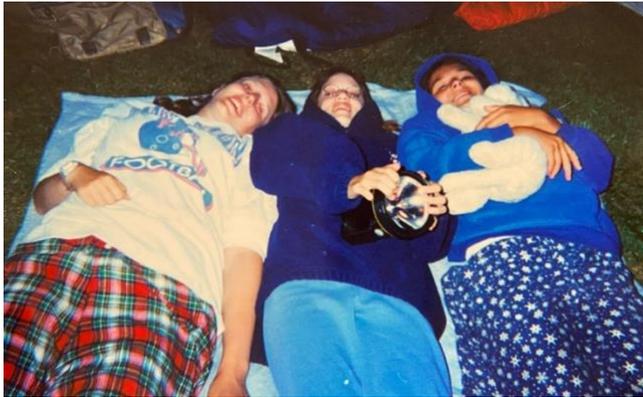
From left to right: Debby and her daughters, Cate, Addy, and Ella at the Camp Mohawk 100th Year Reunion in 2019

Tierney (Steele) Callaghan is a 3rd generation alumni who attended Camp Mohawk from '92-'06. Tierney's grandmother, Josephine Halloran, attended Camp Mohawk in 1946 and 1948. Two summers were enough to fall in love with the camp. She then sent both of her daughters in the early '70s and Tierney's mom then sent her and her sister starting in the early '90s.

I spoke to Tierney to ask more about her family's history with Mohawk.

Tierney: "Supposedly when she visited me in the hospital when I was born, she sang the Mohawk Fight Song. Years later, when I was a counselor, my cabin included that in a "This is Your Life" skit and it made me laugh so hard I was practically crying. My mom kept her trunk and still uses it for storage. It was always fun getting to open that up and look at her magazines about The Beatles, The Monkees, Hayley Mills, etc. I know my grandmother used a suitcase instead of trunks in those days. She came to drop off or pick up my first year and talked with Barb for what felt like hours. I have an August birthday so I always went to Session 4. I had been going to day/Girl Scout camp but I was much more excited for "real" camp, and I wanted to go as soon as I was old enough. I was ready for cabins (not A-frame tents) and the Lighthouse (rather than

latrines)! I remember Fran gave me a tour the spring before when it was raining, and then it seemed to rain for most of my first year. But I still loved it and kept coming back for more.”



from left to right: Tierney, Elaine, and Siena sleeping in the ballfield to watch The Perseids Meteor Shower in 2002

Stacey attended camp her with sister, Susi, and now her daughter, Val, is on the Mohawk staff for Summer 2021. Stacey attended Camp Mohawk from '72 to '83 and Val began her summers as a camper in '09.

I asked Val if she had any memories that her mother had passed down that made her excited for her first summer at camp.

Val: “My first time I ever visited camp I was 6 so I can’t remember a whole lot since I was so young. But, I do remember always hearing camp’s name and my mom and aunt talking about it and showing pictures from their childhood and then being so excited when my mom told me we were actually going to be going!”

I also asked Stacey what she thinks has changed since her time at Camp and how Val may get to enjoy new aspects of Camp.



Stacey: “The waterfront activities are a great expansion of what kids can enjoy. They are lucky to have such a cushy lighthouse, although personally I miss the old 'sink ring' and less than private showers”

from left to right: Stacey and her son on the top of Mohawk Mountain during the Camp Mohawk 100th Year Reunion in 2019

If you’d like to hear more alumni stories or share your own, be sure to join the Camp Mohawk Alumni Association group on Facebook!

Alumni Spotlight: Arlene Foulds – Hope Hutchinson



Arlene Foulds graduated from Bates College in Maine in 1957. She moved to Torrington, Connecticut that year and began working for the YMCA as the Women's and Girls' Program Secretary. She met Tom Q. Moore when he came to the Torrington Y a few years later. When Tom was hired as Mohawk's Director he asked Arlene to serve as program director. She helped lead Mohawk for the next thirteen summers and beyond. Tom writes, "Arlene was program director with me the very first year I took over at Mohawk in 1961. Thank God. I would have been lost without her, never having the experience of directing a camp just for girls. Over the years, she was very much the reason Mohawk was so successful."

Beginning in 1968 Arlene served as the Camp Director when Tom became the Executive Director of both Mohawk and Camp Hi-Rock, a YMCA camp for boys in Massachusetts. Arlene was Camp Director through 1973.

For many of those years she led with a boy or two in tow. Her three sons spent the summers of their growing-up years at Mohawk living in Cedars – a cabin that then sat between the tennis court and a gas pump from which Oscar and others would hand pump gas into maintenance vehicles. Two of those sons, David and Jeffrey, went on to work in the camp kitchen during their teenage years.

In 1974 Arlene became registrar for Camp Hi-Rock. She then joined the Camp Mohawk Board of Trustees, where she served for the next 30 years including as the first female president in 1979.

In Torrington Arlene worked as Christian education director at two different churches and volunteered with many community activities that benefited young people, including as a Cub Scout den mother, on the city's Board of Education, and, for 10 years, as a host mother for players on a NECBL baseball team. Arlene was an avid reader and a talented cook and baker. She helped organize a Mohawk Alumni cookbook, which was published in 1995. It contains many of her recipes.

At the time of her death from cancer in 2007, Fran Marchand, then Mohawk's Executive Director, said of Arlene, "She never said no. She would spend hours and hours working for the betterment of the kids she cared for so dearly."

Arlene is memorialized with this plaque at Mohawk's Chapel.

The Arlene Foulds Scholarship Fund was established in her memory shortly after her death. Monies from the fund are used to pay a stipend toward college expenses to one exceptional staff member each year. Summer



staff members are asked to nominate a peer who they think is deserving of the financial assistance. Executive Director Patrick Marchand recommends one young woman to the Board of Directors for their approval.

Phoebe Costello was a recipient of the Arlene Founds Scholarship in 2016. She writes: I received the money from the scholarship after my second year working at Camp. I was 19 and going into my second year at Manhattan College. I majored in Psychology there and graduated with a bachelor's degree. Honestly, it meant the world to me to get the scholarship. I was, and still am, honored to have been chosen. I never went to Mohawk as a camper, and I applied to work at sleepaway camps because it was something that my parents had done for summer jobs through high school and college. I came to Mohawk my first year and was inspired...I found a place that was not only a fun overnight summer camp I could work at, but a place that truly empowered young women and gave them space to be themselves. When I first started working at Mohawk, being there helped me become comfortable with myself, too.



At Manhattan College, I had a generous scholarship, but I still used the money from camp to cover the rest of my tuition. With the scholarship I was able to get my schoolbooks for the whole of my sophomore and junior year. It took off a lot of stress, and instead of taking a part-time job I was able to take a service trip to the border, learn about immigration and work with people who are undocumented. Since then I have finished my BA in psychology from Manhattan College and I'm currently working towards a master's in social work at Sacred Heart University in Connecticut.

Camp helped me realize that I loved working with people. I've worked at camp since 2015, every year except last year because of Covid, so five years, and this year will be my sixth. Ever since my first year at Mohawk I knew it was special, I knew I wanted to come back and in doing so I wanted to be a good counselor for my campers. I wanted to be an inspiration like so many of the amazing Mohawkers I met on staff. My first three years on staff I was a counselor (for Utes the first two years and Oscadees the third) and the two years after that I was a unit leader for Utes and then Oscadees respectively. I am so excited to go back this year as a program director, though it might be hard to give up teaching sailing. I came to Mohawk later in life as a counselor but something about it just feels like home. I honestly can't imagine doing anything else with my summers.

Donations to Arlene's fund are always welcome. To make a contribution please contact Maggie Tibbetts at the camp office at (860) 672-6655.

2020 Donation Impact – Patrick Marchand

Together, we've accomplished a lot. I am so proud to be sharing how your contributions have made such an impact on our community. This year was focused on keeping operations afloat while staying determined to provide financial assistance to any day camper that asked for it. We raised the most money ever in a single year in 2020 due to the generosity of donors, government funding, local businesses and foundations. With these vital funds, we were able to run day camp at a high level and – best of all – help our community in a time of need.

It is YMCA Camp Mohawk's goal to never turn any group, family or camper away due to an inability to pay. We rely on the support of our donor community to help provide this crucial financial assistance and to continue to advance our mission. With your help, we were able to raise a total of **\$89,421** in 2020 from individual donors. This is a 39% increase from 2019. We couldn't have done this without your generosity. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you.

We hope you'll consider renewing your gift in 2021 as we anticipate another year of increased need for campers across the Mohawk community. Feel free to contact me directly to discuss your gift. Thank you, again, for your commitment to and support of YMCA Camp Mohawk. May the spirit last a lifetime.

With gratitude,

Patrick Marchand

CEO

YMCA Camp Mohawk

patrick@campmohawk.org

From the Archives – Kathryn Krase

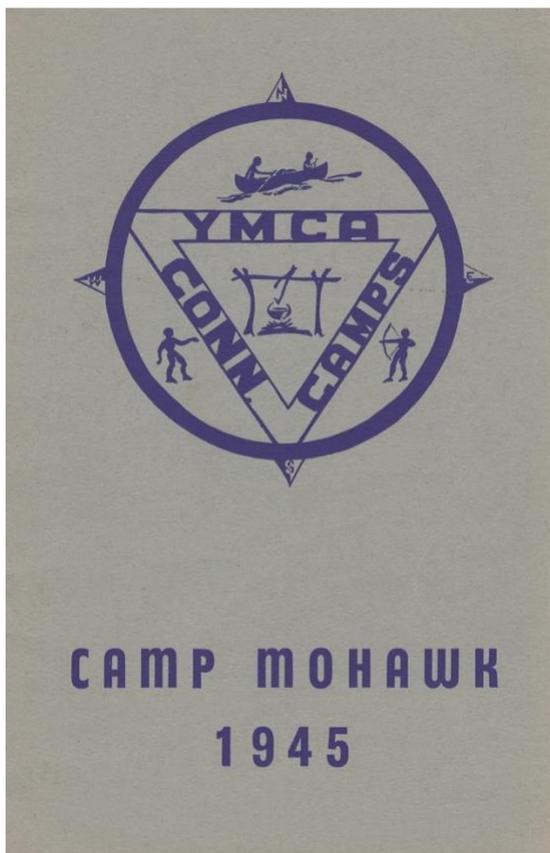
We recently heard that Camp Mohawk will be back in service as a residential summer camp for 2021! This is wonderful news! The Connecticut state government has recognized that camps are vital for kids and family in these difficult days. This is not the first time there has been recognition of the importance of camp.

Take a look at this snippet of the Camp Mohawk brochure from 1945. That year was also a tumultuous one for our country. At the start of the year, the United States was still deeply embedded in World War II, with active fronts in Europe and throughout the Pacific "theater." The United States would celebrate victory in Europe in May, having liberated hundreds of thousands of concentration camp prisoners over the early months of the year. That summer of 1945 the United States would drop nuclear bombs on Hiroshima, Japan and then on Nagasaki, devastating those cities and annihilating hundreds of thousands of Japanese civilians. The United States celebrated "victory" over Japan just days later on August 14.

The Mohawk brochure of 1945 makes clear that "Camps Are Vital This Year," with quotes from the War Manpower Commissioner, Paul V. McNutt, and President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who would succumb to a stroke before the start of the year's camp season. McNutt equates the camping experience with invaluable preparation for service in the armed forces. FDR takes a broader perspective: "A generation trained in the art of camping will receive experience which, I believe, will give them exceptional equipment with which to cope with some of the most difficult problems of life in the years that lie ahead."

That's what Mohawkers need this summer, for sure. Mohawk gave me "exceptional equipment" that I definitely used to get through this past year. In the future, we will hear the Mohawkers of this summer reflect on how camp gave them an outlet to process the challenges of this time, and the tools to prepare them for whatever future they face.

As always, please share your Mohawk Memories with us. Send pictures or notes to alumni@campmohawk.org or mail memorabilia to Camp for preservation.



Camps Are Vital This Year



"IN WARTIME CAMP LIFE IS A GODSEND"

"We now know that camp life . . . gives to the boys and girls a training in self-reliance, utilization of skills, love of nature and the outdoors—that no other institution in American life so adequately provides. What the training camp does for our youth in the armed services is done in equal measure for our children when they have had some experience in a well-run summer camp. They learn to stand on their own, to be physically fit, to do hard things and do them well. They know that accomplishing difficult things makes for strong bodies and stalwart characters. They learn how to sacrifice and to serve, how to take orders as well as give them, how to follow as well as lead and direct. They develop a capacity for cooperation and the sense of comradeship. They learn what a precious thing it is to belong. All of this would be valuable enough in peacetime. In wartime camp life is a godsend."

PAUL V. McNUTT—War Manpower Commissioner

"CAMP LIFE IS AN AMERICAN TRADITION"

"I have always been a believer in the discipline and training afforded by camp life. Life in the open constitutes an ideal recreation while at the same time it encourages initiative, resourcefulness and self-confidence.

"Camp Life is an American tradition. It is a way of life. A generation trained in the art of camping will receive experience which, I believe, will give them exceptional equipment with which to cope with some of the most difficult problems of life in the years that lie ahead."

FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT



Question of the Quarter

For the next edition, we want to hear about your favorite Cabin or Unit at Camp. Send us an e-mail at alumni@campmohawk.org or leave a comment on the Question of the Quarter thread in the Camp Mohawk Alumni Association Facebook group.

Last quarter, we asked Alumni to tell us their favorite food at camp. Below are some of the responses we received on the Camp Mohawk Alumni Association Facebook page—come join the discussion!

Trevor Loucks Rosenthal: Egg McMohawk [Naming credit goes to **Barbara O'Connell**]

Liz Delton: Grilled cheese and tomato soup on rainy days

Betsy Cooley: Baked Alaska at banquets.

Nancy Scholz Gerardi: Bug juice was the best!

Patrick Telman: Paul's homemade pizza, apple crisp, the chocolate cakes

Victoria Flagg: The chicken teriyaki and the chocolate mousse

Meredith G. Kennedy: Tater tots is the first thing that comes to my mind. I also remember always loving the salad bar. So simple but choice is key!

David Foulds: Homemade chicken cordon bleu with Mornay sauce and Baked Alaska for dessert for banquet

Kira Tuttle: Elmer's bread alone was pure magic!

Hope Hutchinson: Pink blancmange

Kathy Forrestal: I was always partial to the banquet turkey dinner. And sloppy Joes.

Amy Nelson: Sunday brunch! Chicken patties!

Caroline Mo and **Linda Toomey:** French toast sticks

Jennifer Hochberg Toller: OMG....pizza....salad bar....and can't forget opening session dinner first night of camp...spaghetti & meatballs!

Kathryn Krase: Bread pudding

CEO Corner – Patrick Marchand

Hello Alumni,

I am happy to say that we are in much better shape than we were when I last updated you four months ago. With an enormous increase in donations, an increase on our first PPP loan, and recently receiving our second PPP loan, we are officially out of the weeds financially. We are fully staffed once again with a four-person administrative team of Alison Irwin, Maggie Tibbetts, Sarah Braga, and myself. Fran Marchand, our maintenance director, will be full-time again soon, as well. We are feeling confident that we can open up camp this summer as normal as possible, with a few exceptions. Below is a quick list of how odd this summer will be:

- No electives
- Fewer than half of our normal programs
- No horseback
- Cohorts of 20 campers (2 cabins) will be required to stay together for the duration of the session
- The waterfront will be used every hour of the day, including lunch and siesta
- The lighthouse may have multiple entrances
- The dining hall may operate in shifts
- An extra tent for dining may be built near the archery range
- Drive through check-in and check-out
- And many more

We are still waiting for the official guidelines from the state of Connecticut. Some rules may greatly restrict us, however we will have to wait and see.

We are so grateful that we ran day camp last summer, as many of the challenges we are anticipating do not seem as daunting. We are confident that our campers will still have a meaningful and fun summer with the guidelines in place. Last summer, we saw long-time Mohawkers join our day camp, and absolutely love it. More than ever, these girls need camp, to be with their friends, and just have fun. We will open for as many campers as we are allowed.

Once we get word from the state, we will figure out how we will manage dining and sleeping concerns. We may have another tough summer ahead, but we will get through it the same way we have gotten through everything in this pandemic: together. We have seen the hardships brought onto other YMCA camps, including selling property, closing for another year, and closing their doors forever. I am proud and grateful for our Board of Directors and past leadership for putting Mohawk in a strong financial position with no debt. The camps that have gone through this past year without any hesitation have been those with a substantial endowment. Looking to the future, I will be focusing on the endowment that was started at our 100 Year Celebration. When the time comes, I hope to leave Mohawk knowing that in 100 years, if this happens again, we will not need to worry.

Once the guidelines are released, I will be giving updates directly to the Alumni Facebook group and to our parents. As always, thank you for your continued support of YMCA Camp Mohawk.

Mohawk in our hearts and minds,

Patrick Marchand, CEO

YMCA Camp Mohawk

Lost and Found

One of the goals of the Camp Mohawk Alumni Association is to be able to say “we’re all together again, we’re here, we’re here!” Mohawkers, we need your help finding the following alumnae:

- Mary Murphy (late 1960s into 1970s)
- Janice Gott
- Kathy De la Fontaine (1960s)

In the Winter 2020 edition of the Ivy Twines, we asked for help locating Liz Johnson. Liz Johnson Gregonis has now been found! You can read about what Liz has been up to in the Alumni Updates below.

If you have a camp friend or staff member you are trying to reconnect with, send us an email at alumni@campmohawk.org.

Alumni Updates

Liz Johnson Gregonis writes: Camp Mohawk is a very special place. I have always had wonderful memories. I was thrilled when I received an email from Cathy Horne. So...an update on me. Life is good. I have been married since 1989. My husband Greg and I have 2 two amazing children. My daughter Emily is 26 years old and lives in Boston. She is a nurse at MGH (Massachusetts General Hospital) in the Emergency Department and Beth Israel on a med/surgical floor. She has been on the front lines since day one with the COVID pandemic. Words can't even express how worried I have been and how proud I am of her. I always tell her she is part of history. She was in the very first group to receive the COVID vaccination. My son Colin is a senior at UVM (University of Vermont). He is a marketing and advertising major and will graduate in May. He is very tall 6'6 and always participated in a lot of sports: AAU basketball, volleyball, lacrosse, and crew. Greg, my husband, worked for LEGO for 26 years, retired early and started a consulting business. I have worked in healthcare and higher education. I love my job, I work in financial aid at a community college. I have a WONDERFUL rescue dog named Bruno. He is from the South, part boxer and I think part mastiff. He rescued me, to fill the void when my kids went to college. Camp Mohawk has been in my heart. Memories for a lifetime . I want to reconnect with my Mohawk past. I will see all of you at the next reunion. Take care, everyone. Stay well.

Liz was a camper in the early 1970s and on staff from 1976 until the early 1980s.

The Zany Zieve sisters...wandered the states a bit in our youth (with Jackie and Harrin trying to see who could move more), but here we are:

Ellen Zieve Rosen (aka Ziffles): Moved to Los Angeles as an adventure with a childhood friend in 1985, and have been here since. After a few jobs in finance, I went back to school and got my law degree (and met my now husband, Jeff). I spent the next 20+ years doing tax and estate planning switching between accounting firms and a law firm. When my two daughters (now 21 and 23) left for college, I took a career shift and am now General Counsel at the Jewish Community Foundation -- a position I love! Went back to Mohawk for the 100 year reunion (thanks Cathy and Trevor for the push to come), and really felt like I'd gone "home." CITs of '76 -- reunion in 2026??!! Feel free to email me at tfe12@hotmail.com (camper 1971 - 1975; staff 1976 - 1982)

Jacalyn Zieve Lesser: After graduating from UMass I got married and lived in IL, OK, NJ, NY, CT and NH to follow my husband Mark's work with Marriott Hotels. We have 2 wonderful NYC girls and now live in NH. I went back to school and have been teaching high school math for almost 20 years. We have two cute cat fur babies and love to travel (how soon will COVID be done?).
(Attended camp from 1971 to 1979: Camper and JC)

Harrin Zieve: After graduating from University of Vermont, an assortment of retail related jobs took me to FL, MS, CA, NY, and MA. Transitioned out of retail, and have been working for Fidelity for 10+ years in their Learning and Development team. I am now in Nashua, NH, where I am a few exits from Jackie. (Camper 1978-1982; Staff 1983-1985)

Save the Dates

Sunday, April 25 – Family Feud. A camp-themed, online version of the beloved game show! Visit the Camp Mohawk Alumni Group page on Facebook for more details!

Saturday, May 8 – Camp Mohawk Spring Work Day. Work Day is an annual event that anyone can attend. Volunteers do odd jobs (cleaning, painting, repairs) around camp to help prepare for the coming camp season. If you plan to come, please let Maggie Tibbetts know at info@campmohawk.org so we can plan ahead in assigning tasks and preparing lunch.

September 3-5 – Camp Mohawk Alumni Reunion. Join us over Labor Day Weekend 2021 for our next Alumni Reunion at camp! If you are interested in joining the event committee planning Mohawk's next alumni reunion, please email Morgan Carpenter at morgator@aol.com.

Keep In Touch

Sign up with CampMinder to get news and updates directly from Camp!

Facebook: Camp Mohawk Alumni Association Group
YMCA Camp Mohawk

Instagram: @campmohawkalumni
@campmohawkymca

The Ivy Twines Newsletter Archive

Did you miss an edition of The Ivy Twines alumni newsletter? Just looking for some Camp content to brighten your day? All past editions are now archived on the Alumni page of Camp Mohawk's website: <https://campmohawk.org/alumni-newsletter/>

Thank you to the Newsletter Team

Thank you to the following individuals for their hard work and commitment to the Camp Mohawk Alumni Association Newsletter!

Cathy Horne

Hope Hutchinson

Alison Irwin

Karen Luttenberger

Kerry McCaffrey

Sarah Smith