

TRIANGLE LAKE TRIBUNE

Summer 2011

"ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS, WE PRINT"

Volume 23

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Dear Camp Family

My experience at Camp Jewell was not just a fading photograph tucked away in a memory box. Camp Jewell changed me as a friend, as a daughter, as a young adult and as a person.

I believe my experience at Camp Jewell has pushed me to do greater things and to set higher goals for myself.

Ultimately, it all comes down to my family at Camp Jewell. Without them, I never would have had the courage, self-esteem or guiding principles to mature and follow my ambitions.

Camp Jewell has prepared me for my first steps into the world alone as I enter college.

Thank you.

*Jessica
Former Staff Member*

RETURN OF THE ROPE SWING!

In the early 1990s, former camp director Paul Kamin designed and built what would become a signature Jewell activity ... the ROPE SWING!

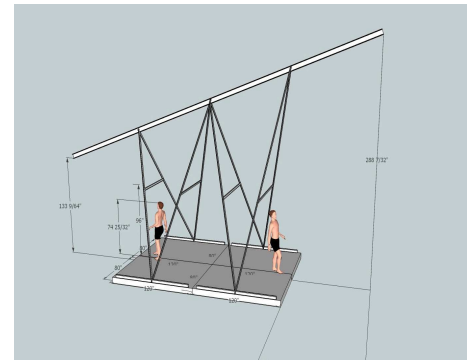
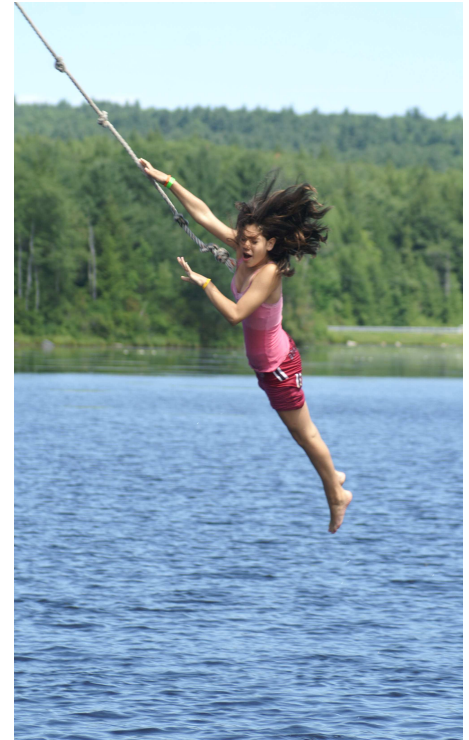
Over the next two decades, thousands of children and families enjoyed the rush of flying through the air and dropping into the cool water below. Camp leaders from all over the country came to see the innovative design in action. In fact, replicas can be found at camps from Lake George to the West Coast.

Unfortunately, years of heavy use and hard winter freezes took their toll on the structure and in 2008 it was disassembled and removed. Camp Jewell has been without the iconic structure ever since. Until now!

In a partnership between the Greater Hartford YMCA and Camp Rising Sun (American Cancer Society), a new rope swing is to be funded and constructed this summer in honor of Donald Reese. Donald is the late husband of Kathie Reese, our Camp Office Manager since 1983. Don, who had survived several bouts with cancer himself, came to appreciate the tremendous work that Camp Rising Sun does with children who have cancer each summer at Camp Jewell.

The new rope swing design will be innovative and awe inspiring once again! Instead of being anchored to the lake bed, a sturdy, "ice proof" floating platform will be connected to the main swimming docks. With a span of nearly 50 feet, the new swing will be bigger and better than before. It will even include a zip line with a 10 foot drop at the end. WOW!!!!

The rope swing is scheduled to be completed mid-summer, right in time for you to see it at Corn Roast on August 13th!



Lightning Ball

"Lightning Ball" has taken spring season campers and guests by storm! With the help of several volunteers, Mario Hurtado and his team built three pits in between the trading post and the "Thunder Dome" this past April. One of the pits features a large chess and checker board. Campers will have a blast!

COUNTING MEN AS WORTHWHILE

Second in a series of articles highlighting Camp Jewell's past
Submitted by Bob Stearns

On this day in history, June 25, 1905, Colonel Charles A. Jewell passed away. He left behind a legacy of service to an immeasurable number of people and organizations in the Hartford community. He also left behind a summer camp named in his honor.

Three tents, two rowboats, assorted cooking utensils, and decades of devotion is what it took to get Camp Jewell started and that's what the Colonel so generously gave. There are countless young men and women who are grateful to him. Not so much because of the time and money he provided, but because of the faith he had in them.

Born in New Hampshire in 1841, Col. Jewell's family moved to Hartford to start a leather company. After graduating from public high school, the Colonel worked as an apprentice in the family business before enlisting with the 22nd Infantry to serve in the Civil War from 1862 to 1863. Good fortune was with him as his regiment did not face battle and most soldiers returned home.

Col. Jewell soon became partner and treasurer of the family business, the Jewell Belting Company of Hartford, a manufacturer of leather products. In fact, it was reported by the Hartford Courant in 1885 that the company produced the longest leather belt in the world at that time. 120 feet long, 6 feet wide and nearly 1" thick, that one belt was used to drive nine mills and transmit 2000 horsepower in Worcester, MA for the manufacture of electric wire. "During the four weeks of its running so far," the Courant reported, "it has run true and steady."

The YMCA was fortunate to have Col. Jewell as its Association president from 1881 to 1889 and again from 1897 to 1904. One of its most generous benefactors and chief promoters, he took a deep interest in all of its affairs since the trying days of its inception in 1878. He never weakened in his belief that the YMCA was bound to be a great success and a strong force of good in the community.

In a tribute given by Rev. R. H. Potter of the First Congregational Church in Hartford, Col. Jewell was described as one who truly believed in his fellow man. "He had an unflinching kindness for people and counted them worthwhile. He was ever ready to give his hand to a good cause and his voice to a worthy enterprise. The buoyancy of his spirit and the enthusiasm of his interest found opportunity and reward." It is with great pride and appreciation that we are able to keep the Colonel's spirit and enthusiasm alive at Camp Jewell to this day.



Jewell Belting Company, Hartford, CT. Manufacturer of pure oak bark tanned leather belting. Plant as it looked in 1893.

Drawing by H. Billings, Hurd & Company, Boston, MA

Board of Directors

Allen Beavers	Jerome Alper
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Charlie Miller	Kathleen Murphy
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Dennis Pisco	Mike Cahill
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Erik Becker	Rusty Everett (Chairman)
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Jami Silver	Tom Lincoln
Jay Aronson (VC)	

Leadership Staff

Eric Tucker, Executive Director
Ray Zetye, Camp Director
Katie Jilek, Outdoor Center Director
Mario Hurtado, Property Manager
Lisa Coyne, Dining Services Director
Kathie Reese, Office Manager



Do you recognize anyone in this photo?
Visit our website to see if you guessed correctly at campjewellymca.org

Strong Kids Campaign Wine Tasting & Auction Event

On October 22, 2011, Camp Jewell will host the Third Annual Wine Tasting & Auction Event to benefit the Strong Kids Campaign at the West Hartford Town Hall. Several hundred guests raised over \$25,000 in 2010! Help us meet our \$30,000 goal this year!

We are already busy planning this year's event. If you would like to donate an auction item or help in the planning, please contact Kari Trost at: karitrost@comcast.net

Tickets are \$50 and include wine tasting, food and entertainment. You may buy your tickets in advance online after July 15th at www.campjewellymca.org.

Honoring "Mr. Chuck"

The Camp Jewell Alumni Association has voted unanimously in favor of honoring Charlie Hanscomb as the 2011 recipient of the Doug "Scoobie" Ahrens Distinguished Alumnus Award. The award will be presented at the annual Corn Roast on August 13th. In 1960, Charles "Mr. Chuck" Hanscomb was selected to be Jewell's tenth director. A beloved leader who promoted athletic competition, leadership and discipline, Hanscomb is most often remembered for his "boy-building" motto: "The greatest raw material in the world is someone's child. Therefore, all staff must give 100% at all times."

Looking back, Hanscomb recalls that his era at Jewell was focused on using the camp experience to build boys into proud young men who accepted the responsibility of leadership in their communities and, above all, their families. This was accomplished through a commitment to the YMCA triangle of mind, body and spirit. It was also accomplished through midnight basketball games on the athletic field, in which Mr. Chuck was a regular participant. Some say Mr. Chuck never lost, but these reports are unconfirmed.

Along with his assistant director, Herb Pace, and program director, Roy Nierendorf, Hanscomb earned the respect of staff and campers for his good-natured ability to lead and provide moments of levity. It paid off. During the 1960s enrollment ballooned, making Jewell one of the largest and most successful summer camps in the nation. At its peak during one two-week period there were over 537 campers and staff on site. Hanscomb's camp was a place where boys learned the skills and values that enabled them to become men.

Allen Beavers, who followed Mr. Chuck as director, recalled him as a gifted promoter who expanded enrollment and strove to establish Jewell as the frontrunner of YMCA camps nationally. He was a positive role model and an "athletic machine," pushing athletic competition and bringing new sports to Jewell.

The 1960s were filled with stunning historical changes and these had an impact on everyone at Jewell. Many who were there remember the events surrounding the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Bay of Pigs invasion, the assassinations of John F. Kennedy, Robert F. Kennedy, and Martin Luther King Jr., and the expanding civil rights movement. When things were particularly chaotic around camp, it was not uncommon to hear Hanscomb belt out one of his famous lines: "Okay, sweethearts, knock it off and pay attention!"

During his six years as director, Hanscomb oversaw the introduction and expansion of many programs. In 1964, the Stanley Locke Trips Center opened for business. Along with the help of Herb Pace, Mr. Chuck added new adventure trips to the Adirondacks, Maine, and the Canadian provinces. All became smash hits. Additionally, the new administration building was completed during Mr. Chuck's era, and the new "YMCA Outdoor Center Ski Area" opened as well.

The year 1965 also gave rise to the Camp Jewell Red Beret program, based loosely on the Green Berets and under the overall direction of Mr. Chuck. Day-to-day leaders included Gary Olinger, Tom Day, and Denny Moore. Campers lived at the Trips Lodge and the emphasis was on service, teamwork, keeping the Trips Lodge immaculate, and physical conditioning. Campers contributed substantial project work around camp, did lots of pushups and running, and went on a one-day, 20-mile hike. It was character-building at its best, and many of those involved look back on those days as the most formative of their lives.

Please join us for the presentation of the award at the Corn Roast on Aug 13th.



2011 Event Schedule

5K Trail Run & Walk	June 18
Evening at Flatbread Restaurant	June 21
International Banquet	June 24
Summer Camp Begins	June 26
Corn Roast	August 13
Summer Family Camp	August 26-29
Labor Day Family Camp	September 2-5
Columbus Day Family Camp	October 7-10
Wine Tasting & Auction Event	October 22
Woodcutter's Volunteer Wknd.	November 11-13
Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner	November 13

Jewell 5K Trail Run & Walk

The first annual Jewell Trail Run/Walk is a 5K course that takes you through the pristine trails of our 540 acre site and along some of the beautiful country roads that surround camp. Hosted by our fantastic summer counseling staff, we will have a variety of camp activities open to participants and their families after the race.

The fun starts with an obstacle course for young folks followed by a variety of activity areas such as canoeing and kayaking, the climbing tower, horse drawn hay rides, and archery. A buffet lunch will be available in our dining hall for \$5 a person.

Race Features

- T-Shirts for the first 100 runners
- Awards to top finishers in 14 categories
- Child Watch during the race
- Lunch buffet

Post-Race Activities

- Archery
- Obstacle Course for 12 and under
- Arts & Crafts
- Horse Drawn Wagon Rides
- Kayaking & Canoeing
- Wiffleball Home Run Derby

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2011

WALK AT 10:00 AM

RUN AT 10:30 AM

Post Race Activities until 2pm
Please call the office at (888) 412-2267
for more information or register online at
www.campjewellymca.org.

STRONG KIDS CAMPAIGN 2011

Strong Kids Campaign Fundraising Events

5K Trail Run & Walk

Saturday, June 18, 10am-2pm

Enjoy the beautiful scenery at Camp Jewell and raise money while you traverse our course!

Dinner Benefit at Flatbread Restaurant

Tuesday, June 21, 5pm - 9pm, Canton, CT

Come in and dine anytime between 5-9pm or place an order for pick-up. Live music and great fun provided!

Wine Tasting & Auction Event

Saturday, October 22, 6pm

West Hartford Town Hall, \$50pp

Help us raise \$30,000! The evening features fun for all adults! Wine & beer tasting, generous appetizers, live music, silent auction and prizes are all included.

Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner Kick-Off

Sunday, November 13, 1-4pm, Camp Jewell

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children

Do you remember how beneficial the camp experience was to you? So many kids need camp today, perhaps more than ever.. Kids are inundated with computers, video games, text messaging...you name it! Many have never slept outside, cooked on a campfire or even gone swimming.

At Camp Jewell we have a goal that no child or family is turned away from the magic of the camp experience because of the inability to pay. To ensure that funds are available, we will raise over \$160,000 this year!



Join us at Corn Roast
Saturday, August 13th!

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

