



BEFORE THE MAST

2008 ALUMNI EVENT

by Joe Shapiro

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Camp Fuller's 121st anniversary was commemorated with an Alumni Reunion on July 19, 2008. Over 200 alumni and family members were present to celebrate the induction of Frederic Fuller (for whom the camp was named) and Joseph Frisella into the camp's Hall of Fame.

The reunion began with a regatta in the early afternoon with over 75 alumni participants utilizing the camp's fleet of sailboats. Camp's Sailing Master, Becca Buckler laid out the course for the returning sailors from the 1950s up to the present. Jonah Israelit and Sarah Rostanski won in the 420 division, Mark Fater was the JY15 division winner and Jake Kahn and John Hirsch were the Cape Cod division winners.

One of the highlights of the afternoon, was the dedication of a 483 lb. bell cast in 1883 by the Frederic Fuller Foundry of Providence RI. Through meticulous searching at the RI Historical Society, the Camp was able to locate a catalog listing all of the bells created by the foundry. Camp Fuller Board Member Martin Hanoian tracked down the locations of vari-

ous bells in Rhode island and Massachusetts and finally located a bell placed in the Hebronville, MA. Methodist Episcopal Church. This church had recently merged with a nearby church and the original building was being sold, allowing the bell to be acquired. Past Camp Director Gary Richardson gave a history of the Fuller Foundry and with the help of several Fuller ancestral family members, the bell was rung and dedicated. It is now located in a beautiful gazebo near the center of the camp.

Following the Bell Dedication, the alumni, friends and family retreated to the dining hall for a barbeque. At the conclusion of the barbeque, two new members were inducted into camp's Hall of Fame by the Chairman of the Camp Fuller Board of Management, Joe Shapiro and Camp Fuller Director Peter Swain.

First to be inducted into the Legends of Camp Fuller Hall of Fame was Frederic H. Fuller (posthumously). For over 25 years Mr. Fuller was the first Chairman of the Board of the Greater Providence YMCA in the early 20th century and through his land

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LD News:

We have 3 spots available for boys in LD 1 (June 28–July 25) and 1 spot available for boys in LD 2 (July 26–August 22). If you are interested in registering, please contact the camp office at (401) 783 5359



Photo by Jon Geiger



Photo by Joe Shapiro

2008 ALUMNI REUNION (CONTINUED)

by Joe Shapiro

dedication, the YMCA was able to purchase the land which is the current site of Camp Fuller. His family business, Fuller Foundry, cast the bell, making the bell ceremony that much more special. His dedication to camping and the YMCA created the foundation for Camp Fuller that has allowed it to grow, add new experiences and continue to serve campers throughout the years. To accept the honor was Frederic H. Fuller's great nephew Bill Claflin, his wife Eunice and Fuller's great niece (by marriage) Joyce Fuller with her son Bo.

The second member to be inducted was Joseph Frisella. Joe began his camp life in 1947 as a camper and then progressed through the years to become a staff member, Sailing Master and Board of Management member. One of his best-known roles was as Peg Leg Pete, who would show up in full pirate regalia to announce to the entire camp the names of the members of the Pirates, one of the teams in a camp wide game of Capture the Flag. Joe and his local engineering firm helped design many phases of the construction done at camp and the surrounding plats on the road leading into camp. In addition to Joe's role with Camp Fuller, he was instrumental in the start up of the South County YMCA. Joe accepted the award with many of his family members and employees in attendance.

The final event of the day was a celebration called Sun Productions or "Sun Prod" for short. It is a tradition which began in 1971 as a way to showcase the musical talents of campers and staff. A full stage was set up at the end of a soccer field and alumni from past and present performed. Bill Ressler, David Weiss, Dan Mills, Richard Silver, David Wilkes, Scott Rasmussen, Jim Garber, Alan Levy and Fred Mossberg played and sang so beautifully. The emcee for the evening was Larry Schwartz.

Special thanks to those who planned this wonderful event and especially to everyone who attended, making it a day to remember.



*Joyce Fuller and Bill Claflin accepting the Fuller plaque.
Photo by Jon Geiger*

FALL VOLUNTEER DAY

by Jaime O'Connor

On Saturday, October 18, over 30 people showed their support to Camp Fuller through volunteering on a fall work day. Campers, parents, alumni and neighbors gave a hand by working on projects throughout camp.

The day began at 9 am with coffee and muffins in the dining hall. Volunteers were divided into groups headed up by Camp Fuller staff or board members. Projects for the day included building a fence and landscaping in front of the junior division, landscaping behind the dining hall, landscaping around the administration building, reconstructing the stone walk way underneath the administration building, organizing closets and basic cleaning.

We would like to thank everyone who attended the fall work day. We hope you can join us again for our spring volunteer day.

CAMPERS' RECAP

For me, Camp Fuller means so much more than I could describe in a couple paragraphs, but I will attempt to sum up how much it means to me. Four short summers ago, I arrived in Sherman 3. Being a first timer I was only supposed to stay one week, but when my one-week ended I could not go home. I was lucky enough to stay the whole session.

Since then I have added more weeks at camp every year, until this summer, my final summer as a camper, I went to camp for 8 weeks. For the first month I was a camper and for the second month I was in the LD program. Although during this first month of camp I experienced many "last time as a camper" moments, I also started to realize how much camp means to me. Everything from chicken patties, to council fires, to devotions had an impact on me. Later, being part of LD2 '08 gave me leadership skills and friendships that I will have with me now for the rest of my life. Being one of the captains for our LD weekend taught me what it is like to be a counselor and what they go through on a daily basis.

Without the counselors at camp, I would be a completely different person. The different perspectives that they bring to camp have helped to shape who I have become. As I continue to get older, I hope to be a CIT and a counselor in order to give back to Camp Fuller and its campers as so many counselors have done for me.

*by Rachael Lewis
8 week camper
Jungle Camper of the Year*



2008 CAMPER AWARDS

Each summer several campers are recognized for their efforts above and beyond what is expected. These campers stand out as being helpful, kind, thoughtful and willing to put the extra effort forth to make camp great. The Camper Awards for 2007 go to:

Camper of the Year: Santl Plnoi
Sherman Camper of the Year: Madellne Grover
Junior Camper of the Year: Harry Kroessler
Jungle Camper of the Year: Rachael Lewis
Senior Hill Camper of the Year: Devron Dugan
LD of the Year: Margot Alexander
Sallor of the Year: Cooper Darquea

CONGRATULATIONS!

Looking back on my fifth summer at Camp Fuller, it's hard to imagine my nervous nine-year-old self the early summer afternoon when I was dropped off at Sherman 2. I vaguely remember kayaking, windsurfing, and mud sliding on rainy days; however I can clearly see myself sitting on a wooden bench, with the best view of the fire, laughing along with the rest of camp at council fire. This event has always been one of my favorite parts of camp. When I first came fourth session, I fell in love with chips fire, the ending ceremony to camp. I always feel lucky to be among the closest of friends, watching camp fuller end its summer. Highlights of 4th session this past summer were LD weekend, Mardi Gras SunProd, and spending time with friends in my cabin during the torrential rainstorms. The precious two weeks I spend at camp every summer have truly influenced my personality. As I have grown up, Camp Fuller has been a huge part of my life that I look forward to each year. Coming to camp for two weeks gives a taste of what its like to live with a family away from family, and a home away from home. Throughout these years I have come to realize that I can't have a summer without Fuller, because the friends and memories I made at camp have come to define my summer.

*by Caroline Frishman
4 week camper*

WORKING TOGETHER AGAINST GRAFFITI

by Scott Rasmussen

Last spring, Camp Fuller was happy to announce the renovations of the Senior Hill cabins. In addition to every camper and staff member receiving personal storage spaces, the cabin interiors were transformed with a coat of paint. Aside from freshening up the cabins, the intent was to paint over the graffiti left by campers and staff of past summers.

There are two types of graffiti. The first is simply writing names and dates so that future campers will read them. This creates a sense of history. The second is a mish mash of drawings, lyrics, words or wisdom, etc. that constitutes an unsightly mess.

This summer, the division leader of Senior Hill, Terrance Gallogly, was instructed to keep the cabins unmarked by pen or sharpie. This was a difficult task since traditions at Fuller are hard to break. To his credit, Terrance kept his cabins clean and pristine. Not a single camper or staff put their mark on the cabins.

In order to maintain a sense of history for future residents, seven plaques were made, one for each cabin. Throughout the summer, Terrance kept a list of campers and staff who resided in each cabin. The names of these residents were handwritten on the appropriate plaque creating an historical record.

We at Camp Fuller wish to thank Terrance for successfully putting an end to graffiti on Senior Hill and for starting a new tradition of cabin plaques. Well done Terrance!

The cabins in the back section of Junior division have already begun the same transformation. Let's see if they can follow the example left by the older boys on the hill.

By Scott Rasmussen, Program Director

2009 CAMP DATES

First Timers Sessions (ages 7-11)- \$565

June 28– July 4

July 5- July 11

One Week Teen Bonus Session (ages 12-15)- \$565

July 5– July 11

Two Week Sessions (ages 7-15) -\$1120

June 28– July 11

July 12– July 25

July 26– August 8

August 9– August 22

Four Week Special (7-15)-\$2170

June 28– July 25

July 26– August 22

Leadership Development Program (15 by 6/20/09)- \$2200

June 28– July 25

July 26– August 22

Specialty Camps- (pricing and ages vary)

August 23-28

**Any questions? Call the Camp Registrar at (401)
783 5359**

INTERESTED IN BEING A CIT?

If you are 16-17 years old and interested in applying for the Counselor-In-Training Program (4 week program), please contact Jaime O'Connor at the camp office (401) 783-5359 or by email joconnor@gpymca.org. Applications will be available after November 1 and will consist of essay questions, work project proposal and reference forms.

We are looking for the applicant (not parents) to take the initiative so please call or email today.

NEW FOR SUMMER 2009 ONLINE REGISTRATION!

YMCA Camp Fuller is happy to announce that online registration will be available to our camp families in 2009. The launch date for this feature is scheduled for February 1st.

If you are interested in registering before that date, you can download the 2009 registration form from our web site, www.ymcacampfuller.org or contact the camp registrar at (401) 783-5359.

YMCA Camp Fuller
121 Years of camping Excellence

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