The CRAO Log
Volume XXXIV Issue II
December 2021

Letter from the President

Dear Runoia Alums,

Don't some of your best memories from your camp days involve an unexpected change of plans? One of my daughter's favorite Runoia pictures is of her and two great friends, standing on an overturned sailboat. The sun is behind them and their silhouettes huddle together happily. The lake is dead calm. The story behind the picture? A hot, boring sailing day became a great memory when plans shifted, and she learned what to do after capsizing.

It's been that kind of year for the Alumnae Organization. We were crushed when we had to postpone the 115th celebration. However, when the Board members gathered in August at Runoia for our annual meeting (in person and by Zoom) -- on the weekend that the celebration *should* have taken place -- we realized it was still quite a memorable year.

Here are the highlights:

- Thanks to our generous supporters, we had one of our best fundraising years ever, raising more than $60,000.
- We made one of our biggest campership commitments to Runoia, voting to award over $70,000 for camperships and $5,000 for riding scholarships for the summer of 2022.
- We completed a great web page makeover in preparation for the 115th. Check it out! (https://runoia.com/alumnae/alumnae-about-crao/)
- We have an extra year to promote and organize the 115th Celebration, scheduled for August 12-14, 2022. We're hard at work, and it's going to be better than ever!

Runoia taught us all to be resilient, to adapt, and to have fun whatever the weather. What better lessons to carry us all through the pandemic to the rescheduled 115th Celebration? Please join us for the weekend and rekindle camp friendships - August 12-14, 2022! Registration is on our website beginning January.

And please … help us achieve our annual fundraising goal! **Your fully tax-deductible gifts will help us match the $60,000 we raised last year and will allow a new generation of young women to experience all the benefits of a summer at Runoia.** See our new web page to donate on-line (https://runoia.com/alumnae/donate/) or keep an eye out for our annual appeal letter, arriving by snail mail before the end of the year.

Bo-bos to you all, Boop
cralums@gmail.com

Welcome to our New CRAO Board Members!

We are thrilled to welcome four new members to the Camp Runoia Alumnae Organization Board of Directors. Their expertise, energy, and enthusiasm will help propel us forward to the 115th Celebration and beyond.

Jessie Hoffhine Angus

Jessie first came to Runoia as an 11-year-old in 1988. Taking up residence in fourth shack, she was soon diving into experiences outside of her comfort zone and loving every minute. She attended each summer until 1995, including four years as a camper, two years as a CIT and aide and two years as a counselor. Jessie credits her eight incredible summers on the shores of Great Pond with formative personal growth, a lifelong love of the outdoors and enduring friendships. A native Ohioan, the pull towards New England was strong. Jessie graduated from Boston College in 1999 and eventually moved to Vermont, where she currently owns and operates a marketing research and insights company called Crowd Proof. She has also volunteered time for Girls on the Run Vermont, Little League, Vote Forward and the Peace & Justice Center (Vermont). An avid baker and reader, Jessie still tries to get outside as much as possible walking, running, hiking, biking and skiing. Jessie lives in Essex Junction, VT with her husband Dave and two children David (16) and Lauren (14), who will be attending her 5th summer at Runoia in 2022.

Clara "Mindy" Boyce Martone

Mindy was a counselor at Runoia in 1998 and 1999. She returned to Runoia as a counselor in 2021 while her eight-year-old daughter, Arianna, attended Runoia for the first time. In her youth, she was the archery counselor. In 2021, she taught yoga and farm.

Mindy is currently the Deputy General Counsel at Latham & Watkins, LLP, in Washington, D.C., where she has worked since her graduation from Georgetown Law School in 2003. Her other interests include tending to her backyard farm, caring for her five children (ages eight to 16), teaching yoga, volunteering for the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair and other 4H events throughout the year as well as for numerous other charitable organizations and events.

Mindy says this of her Runoia experiences: "Runoia was my first job after graduating from college, and I really value the teaching, organizational, interpersonal, and leadership skills I learned there; those things helped me on my way to a successful career in law. This past summer I enjoyed reconnecting with camp and my counselor bestie from 1998 and 1999, Kara (Benken) Garrod, who was also working while her daughters were campers. The very best thing about Runoia for me is and has always been the people there -- campers, counselors, and directors -- and feeling part of a community focused on girls, rooted in tradition while always growing and changing. And who doesn't love a sunset on Great Pond, hearing the loons calling, or singing camp songs?!?

Canning Robb

Canning attended Runoia from 2005 to 2011, both as a camper and a CIT. ("The best summers of her life," she says.) While at camp she loved archery, riflery, and basket-weaving. She is now a voice-over artist, actor, and a singer in New York City, tutors for an ACT and SAT test prep company, and is well-versed in social media, including Twitter, Instagram, and TikTok. Most recently, she created a website, Twitter, and Instagram presence for a government-funded water conservation company.

Kendall M. Wilson

Kendall was the arts and crafts counselor at Runoia in 2011, the summer between college and law school. She is a graduate of Yale University and the Notre Dame School of Law.

About her summer at Runoia and its impact on her life, she writes: "Knowing that my career choice would likely lead to a life behind a desk, I was looking for a fun summer and an experience I likely would not get again. The vast majority of my service efforts then were mentoring and counseling children, and in particular girls, so I was especially drawn to a summer camp.

Runoia was the first and only place I applied, and after talking with Alex I was hooked. Then and now, I love that Runoia is focused on developing girls into independent, well-rounded, empathetic and accepting women and future leaders. During my one summer at Runoia, I was pleasantly surprised to find how refreshing it is to escape from the stressors of modern life, indulge in fun outdoor activities, and have deep conversations.

I have very much enjoyed reconnecting with Runoia and supporting it's diversity, equity and inclusion efforts through the DAC (Diversity Advisory Committee), and I look forward to serving on the CRAO and furthering Runoia's mission."

She lives in Tampa, Florida and works for the law firm of Holland & Knight LLP. She practices in the areas of business and corporate law, primarily focusing on mergers and acquisitions (M&A), securities, and corporate governance. Kendall has served on the firm-wide Charitable Relief Fund Committee since 2020, as a Women's Initiative Co-Chair since 2020, on the All Lawyers Meeting Planning Committee from 2019-2020, and as Chair of the John F. Germany Read to Dream Initiative since 2018. Outside of work, Kendall has served on the Board of Directors of the Tampa Downtown Partnership since 2018 and the Board of Directors of the Chi Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation since 2019. She is also an active member of the Junior League of Tampa.

These four terrific women have joined the already fabulous CRAO Board of Directors:

President:
Roberta "Boop" Tabell Jordan (1967-1980)
West Bath, ME

Vice President:
Marie-Claude Francoeur (1978-1982, 1984-1986,1989)
Enfield, NH and Belgrade, ME

Treasurer:
Jody Rowell Dixon (1974-1975, 1977-1983)
Severna Park, MD

Secretary:
Claire Williamson (2000-2012)
Houston, TX

M.J. Mott Auns (1954-1964, 1984-1989)
Winthrop, ME

Nandy Florey Bradford (1974-1978, 1980-1982)
Madison, CT

Holly Rutherford Bukacek (1973-1976, 1979)
Avon, CO

Jenny Sachs Dahnert (1972-1977)
Lagrangeville, NY/Lander, WY

Chad Diamond (1992-1995)
Cumberland Center, ME

"Annie-Mac" Kilian (1964-1973)
Skaneateles, NY

Erin Lasher (2004-2011, 2015-2016)
Denver, CO

Yuki Moore Laurenti (1966-1972)
Trenton, NJ

Betsy Nicholson (1984-1988)
Topsfield, MA

Jane Orbeton (1954-1968, 1970-1974)
Hallowell, ME

Diane Smith (1971-1984, 1994-2010)
Cape Elizabeth, ME

Asha Wills (2007-2011, 2014)
Brooklyn, NY

Susan "Yatesy" Yates (1964-1968, 1970 – 1973)
Coatesville, PA

Clerk:
Matti Williams Bradley (1969-1981)
Belgrade Lakes, ME

115th Reunion Chairs – Reunion August 12 – 14, 2022!
Marie-Claude Francoeur and Betsy Nicholson

Letter from Camp

2021 brought us Covid round #2. We were prepared, persistent and created positive experiences for campers and staff. With vaccines underway and PCR testing more readily available in 2021, we were able to run a more normal camp. We still had tents on the kickball field for expanded dining, an outdoor arts tent and campers ate by shack groups. However, we did pick teams and play team sports (kickball on the apple tree field worked fine!) have swim races, horseshows, softball, the epic Oak Island Swim, Ms. Tacky Runoia, Powder Fairies and more! Beach volley ball attracted a lot of campers and even made it into our team competitions! Although we were not able to send campers to Junior Maine Guide testing camp, we were able to have 22 girls participate in the Junior Maine Woodsman program in camp – all were awarded their JMW after two days of testing at Fairy Ring!

As you know from previous communication, we welcomed two new year-round employees at Runoia this fall. Colleen O'Malley (https://runoia.com/colleen-omalley/) joined us as an Assistant Director and works part time from Colorado this time of year. Tim Pearson (photo left) joined our team as the Site and Facilities Manager and resides at camp. Welcome Tim! Mark and Tim are working together year-round to keep the Runoia camp facilities in top notch shape. Tim's dog, Boots, is also a big helper.

We are thrilled and grateful the CRAO (https://runoia.com/alumnae/campership-stories/) has met an important goal. Years ago, the board made a commitment toward the future with a goal to fund 100% of the camperships instead of camp funding a large portion. Over the years, the board has gradually increased the generous amount of camperships and in 2022, it appears 100% of the camperships will be funded by the CRAO! Thanks from all of us at camp. Our lives are enriched by the socio-economic diversity of campers at Runoia.

Harmony Land Camp was filled with ecstatic 7 and 8-year-old campers for three sessions in 2021. There is still room in a couple of the HLC sessions for 2022. Many of our age groups are already filled for 2022 and we have just a few spaces here and there – so if you know of someone considering Runoia for their daughter in 2022, please have them contact us: info@runoia.com or request info from www.runoia.com

Many of our campers and counselors are already committed to returning in 2022 which is a testament to the magic staff created on the shores of Great Pond in 2021! Alex (https://runoia.com/directors/alex-jackson/) and Pam are busy signing up campers and staff.

Love, *Aionur*

THE CITS of 2021! Thanks for all your hard work

The CITs of 2021 accomplished so much. Photos left to right above: CITs posed as Women on the Wall for "Lucy Land" Amusement Theme Day, Enjoying their first morning as official Lifeguards. Presenting at Campfire at the Beach, In Staff Shirts outside the Dining Hall "masks up! ready to go!"

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The CIT gift to Runoia was the new song written by: *Melia Cook-Wright, Grace Dvorak, Emily Friedman, Jayda Petersen, Micayla Zahn*

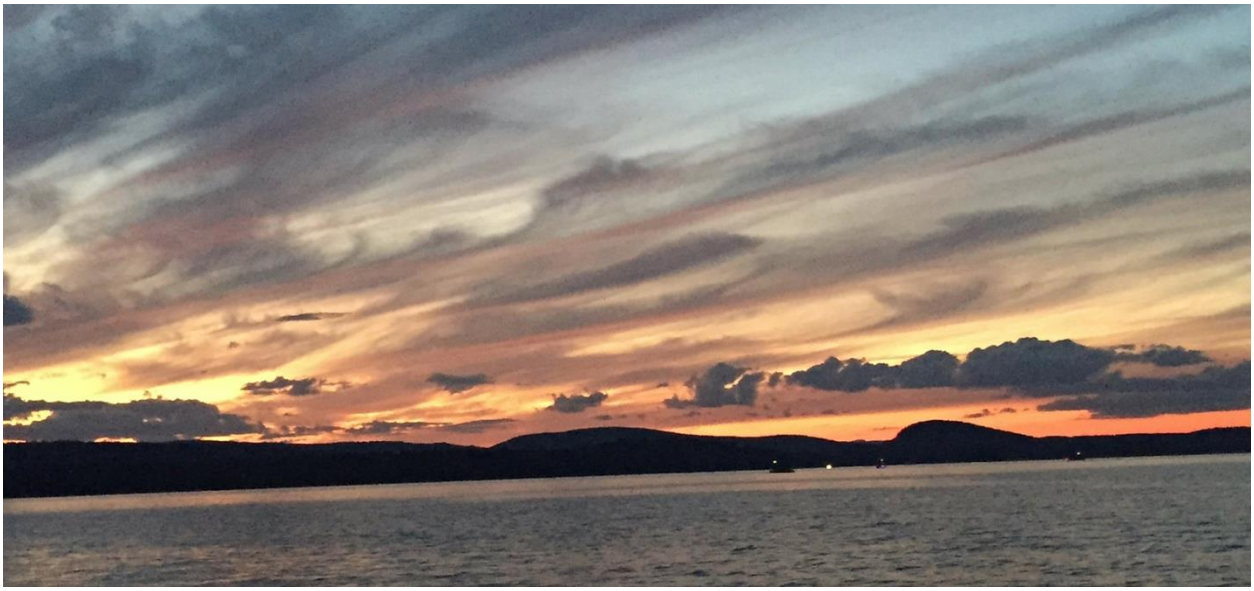
Memories Made (Tune: Suitors)

Trunks are waiting at my door
(oh-ah-lay-oh-bod-y-la)
And I'm not sure what's in store
(oh-ah-lay-oh-bod-y-la)
But I'm off to camp today
(oh-ah-lay-oh- bod-y-la)
For a while I will stay
(oh-ah-lay-oh- bod-y-la)

Chorus: Oh, lay oh la! (oh-ah-lay-oh- bod-y-la)
Oh, lay oh la! (oh-ah-lay-oh- bod-y-la)
Oh, lay oh la! (oh-ah-lay-oh- bod-y-la)
Oh, lay oh la! (oh-ah-lay-oh- bod-y-la)

Now that time has slipped away (oh-ah-lay-oh-bod-y-la)
When the leaves begin to fade
(oh-ah-lay-oh-bod-y-la)
And the lake remains so clear
(oh-ah-lay-oh-bod-y-la)
How I long to linger here
(oh-ah-lay-oh-bod-y-la)
Chorus

And every single year
(oh-ah-lay-oh-bod-y-la)
I can't help but shed a tear
(oh-ah-lay-oh-bod-y-la)
For the friendships that I gained
(oh-ah-lay-oh-bod-y-la)
And the memories that I made
(oh-ah-lay-oh-bod-y-la)
Chorus



Donations – Please Make Your Year-End Donations Now!

https://runoia.com/alumnae/donate/

Thanks to our Donors – helping campers to have the Runoia experience!

Rangeley $5000+
Laura, Marie and Anne Kind McKenna

Great Pond $1000- $4999
Mia Rosenwasser Kishel*

Katahdin $500 - $999
Joyce Leader, Susan Yates, All Facebook donations combined – please claim your donation if you'd like to be acknowledged! cralums@gmail.com

Bigelow $250-$499
Sarah Hommel, Asha Wills

Mt. Blue $100 - $249
Gail Gorton, Blair Griffin, Anita Lin and Luna Prochnow*, Tracey Buckley Sobolewski, Christine Buckley, Chad Diamond, Jan Hunter Symosek

Tumbledown $50 - $99
Madeleine MacNeil, Anonymous

*First Time Donors – thank you!

Every bit helps – become a first-time donor and contribute to the campaign of 115 new donors for 115 summers of Runoia!

Hear ye, hear ye!

The 115th Reunion is coming in 2022!
(summer season 116 postponed from last summer!)

Find your Runoia sisters and get ready to celebrate 115 years of camp (no wait, that will be 116!) this next summer on the weekend of August 12-14th 2022.

Registration https://runoia.com/alumnae/115th-reunion/registration/ will be open in January to sign up for your cabins (will it be 7th shack? Ocho? Senior Village? The Cottage?) and activities like the Oak Island swim, a blue-white tennis tournament and even a Wine Tasting!

This opportunity to be together again is long anticipated, so plan ahead and cross your fingers for a healthy 2022.

The Camp Runoia team is happy to host the event run by the CRAO!

Sincerely, The Co-Chairs
Marie-Claude Francoeur and
Betsy Nicholson