



The CRAO Log

Spring 2023 Volume XXXVI Issue I

Hello from Great Pond from Camp Director, Alex Jackson!



The slow creep of spring has us excited for the rapidly approaching summer season. We cannot wait to start our 117th season of Runoia. After a successful, transitional winter preparations for the summer are in full swing. The year-round team is looking forward to the arrival of our seasonal staff starting at the end of May. We will welcome counselors and staff from all over the US, Mexico, England, Scotland, Australia, Germany, and Ireland. The eclectic mix of people and exchange of cultures makes camp a vibrant community to grow in.

What's to see in 2023?

- Over by the Cottage, The Berry Patch has been under construction through the winter and will provide us with flexible staff housing. These 3 mini cabins, like last year's addition of Pincushion for the CITS, help us to have additional housing options for families and staff.
- The popularity of Harmony Land Camp led to us adding an extra session this summer. We still have a few spots open for our youngest campers to get a taste of camp life.
- For our equestrian lovers we will have a one week riding intensive program after camp. This new riding program will encourage campers aged 12-17 of all experience and abilities to enjoy camp time focused on riding skill development and horse care.
- Upgrades in maintenance and in the kitchen, the new trip shack, on-demand hot water at the Junior Soapies (no need to run for first showers anymore!) and other improvements and investments for now and for the future are ongoing.



How CRAO impacts lives:

We are grateful for the continued generosity of the CRAO. This summer donations will provide camperships for 18 campers and 11 with riding lessons. We are excited about new SWAG (stuff we all give) initiative ensuring campers on camperships have the supplies that they need to have an amazing summer at camp. We also have about 25 alumnae connected campers joining us in 2023: continuing their family tradition of Runoia summers through generations.

How amazing that your dedication to the Runoia Camp experience continues to provide campers with unplugged time in nature, new opportunities, lifelong friendships, and summer memories to last a lifetime.

If you are in Maine this summer give us a call (207) 495-2228 to stop in and visit. We love to know what folks are up to and share camp with you as well.

Greetings and Shout Outs!

Note from the Presidents:



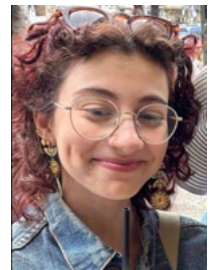
A big hello to all Alumnae from your co-presidents! We are very pleased to share that due to your love of camp, the Camp Runoia Alumnae Organization (CRAO) was able to provide over \$80,000 to support camperships this coming summer, bringing so many more campers to Great Pond than would otherwise have had this experience. We will be holding the annual meeting on Saturday July 29th at camp, which is open to all members. More details to come. We look forward to seeing you!

Betsy Nicholson and Marie-Claude Francoeur

Announcing SWAG (stuff we all GIVE):



Over the winter **Alex Jackson and Colleen O'Malley** (Runoia Assistant Director) thought about our campership campers and how they arrive at camp without some of the bells and whistles that other campers have – wondering how they can change that they turned to the Diversity Advisory Committee (DAC) to see what we could do. We brewed up the idea of younger alumnae who could give small amounts of money and make a lot of impact. DAC member, **Em Friedman** wrote a solicitation to the targeted alumnae group. Thanks to the generosity of eight donors who collectively rounded up funds for our campers on camperships to receive a Crazy Creek Chair, a Hydro-flask water bottle, a friendship bracelet making kit and other assorted accessories. Seven of the eight donors were NEW donors – how exciting! Let's give a shout out to: **Victoria Russell, Charlotte Hoopes, Sophie Beney, Gerty Flagg, Claire Williamson, Alexandra Cavoulacos, Bridget Bojic, Piper Blackburn, Kendall Wilson.** *Bobo-ski-waten-daten!*



*Em Friedman,
alumnae, Runoia staff
2023 and DAC
committee member*

The Library Initiative Continues:

The *Diversity Advisory Committee* began diversifying the then newly reorganized library three summers ago. The work continues and this summer DAC will be adding another set of books supported by outside funding to update the Lodge library and game shelf. Thanks to DAC and all the work the DAC volunteers do to support Runoia's DEIB work.

Camp Logs – The Digitization Project:

When you stop by camp and breeze through the Lodge, be sure to peek in the library and see the improvements. Did you know you do not have to wait to see the camp Logs until you visit camp? You can find them online on www.runoia.com and navigate to the alumnae menu. The 1910-1988 Logs were digitalized by a grant from the Tabell Family Foundation. We hope to continue the remaining logs 1989 – 2022 with the support of alumnae. Interested? Contact pam@runoia.com



News from Camp Runoia Alumnae



Cathy Fuller Nicholson shares about their 2022 family trip to the Galapagos Islands with daughter, **Betsy Nicholson** (our CRAO co-president on right) and granddaughter, Sayles, who is a current Runoia camper.

Three generations of Runoia campers!



Jen Sachs Dahnert writes about she and Steve loving Tucson, enjoying all the outdoor sports Arizona has to offer. Jen recently joined the Phoenix Philanthropy Group as a part-time consultant. **Ali Dahnert** has been with West Coast Sailing in Portland, OR for two years as a sailing instructor and youth team coach at the Willamette Sailing Club –

loving the outdoor sports of skiing, biking and hiking as well. Ali's National Outdoor Leadership School trip years ago has inspired the rest of the Dahnert family to work and play with NOLS. Jen took a NOLS Women's Sea kayaking Expedition with



Pam Cobb Heuberger to Baja, Mexico in the Sea of Cortez. As camp friends for 50 years, they reunited on a back country camping trip! Check out NOLS.edu for all the fantastic trips they offer for adults around the world.



Helen Knight is an attorney in New York City at Cleary Gottlieb and working those famously long hours expected of associates.

Ginny Geyer and **Meg Tabell Kasprak** are spending time at camp again this summer helping to train the Junior Maine Guide candidates. Ginny has long been a tester at JMG testing camp and

Helen Knight is a chief medical resident at Brigham and Women's hospital and married Zach Baca in November. **Julia**





this summer Pam Cobb Heuberger will attend testing camp as a support for the Runoia candidates as well as helping the testers at JMG. Meg pictured here with all three Tabell Sisters, **Meg, Sarah and Boop**, at the Boston Marathon with **Sarah Tabell Nocka's** daughter, **Kristen Nocka**.

Congratulations to **Kristen Nocka** who graduated from Yale School of Nursing May 2023 after completing her Master of Public Health from Boston University.

Asha Wills is pursuing her MBA after working at Bloomberg as a Program Manager of Learning and Talent Operations with a focus on DEI work. Best of luck Asha! Asha is a CRAO Board Member and serves on the Diversity Advisory Committee after chairing the committee for two years. Thanks for your leadership and loyalty, Asha!



Diane Smith – spent a wonderful year between her lake home in Maine, Montana, and Hawaii. She continues to track Pacific Golden Plovers between Hawaii and Alaska with her partner, Wally. And enjoys family time with Mark, **Todd Erler** who is teaching in the NW and **Anne Erler** who is founding her own surveying company in Maine. Most recently, Diane visited **Jen Sachs Dahnert** in Tucson!

Karen "K" Bolduc has been a Junior Maine Guide evaluator for over 25 years. Thanks "K" for your continued service in supporting youth with outdoor leadership skills! Pictured first row, far right.





Jody Sataloff shares: Steve and I spent 5 weeks in Palm Desert this winter where we love to hike, and he golfs while I play tennis. Great restaurants there too, we just love it! Dan left his job at the White House as Joe Biden's speechwriter in October after having a new baby and needing to work less than 75 hours each week! He now works for a speechwriting agency called Fenway Strategies. Jeremy is Director of Public Affairs for the Maine branch of The Nature Conservancy in Brunswick and loves his job.

Jody continues, **Jamie Cluchey and Angela Marzilli** are Moms Extraordinaire with Avi, 4 and Josie who just turned 8 and is a budding musical theater actress. (Pam and Mark Heuberger saw the amazing Josie in the production of Elf at the Portsmouth Music Hall in November!) Jody finishes with “we are all looking forward to another great summer in Belgrade.”



Claire Williamson (photo on right) and Derrick Gibson recently married in March in Texas and Derrick is starting his internal medicine residency at Brigham and Women in Boston. After many years in Austin and Houston, a move to NE is welcomed by the Runoia family ☺ As you read this note, Claire and Derrick are moving into an apartment in JP where many other Runoia alumnae live at this time!

Crystal Cobb (on right) is wrapping up her first year in Atlanta pursuing her fellowship in endocrinology. Taking a rare moment here to see the Red Sox play Atlanta.



Maggie Bradley and her partner, Mike, are cruising the world during their year-long sabbatical from work. Here they are hiking the Overland Track in Tasmania (Australia) with expectations to climb Cradle Mountain.





Zipporah Hommel graduated in December from the university of Vermont and took a job as an associate in public policy and advocacy in January with Bolton St-Johns . BSJ is a government relations and public affairs firm that specializes in developing research-based and solution-oriented strategies.



Zee and **Charlie Moremen** hanging out in California together this spring! Friends since First Shack when they started as 7 year old campers together, continuing through CIT and both returned during the pandemic to work at camp in 2020!

This spring break, **Jai Cobb Kells** and family took a break from NH and visited Poppi and Meemah Heuberger in St. Petersburg, FL with Mark and Pam on the left followed by Jai, Jesse, Molly, Sawyer, Frannie (and Mookie). All three Kells girls will be campers at Runoia this summer.



Congrats to **Dr. Eliza Mae Schechter**, PharmD, May 2023

Thyra Heder continues book touring with her latest amazing children’s book, *Sal Boat: (A Boat by Sal)*. Pick it up at an independent book store near you! Plus look for other Thyra Heder books including “How Do You Dance”, “The Bear Report”, “Fraidy Zoo” and “Alfie: (The Turtle That Disappeared)”





When **Nina Ferre Cohen** and **Jennifer Rohrbach Asplen** and their children randomly sit next to each other at Taylor Swift's concert and have that "aha!" moment - Runoia reunion! How many Runoia campers and alumnae were at that concert, we wonder.

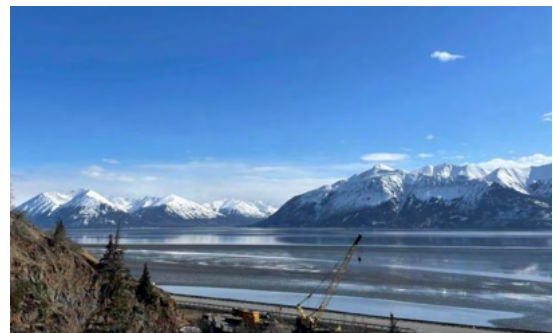
Nina Cohen writes: Maya, Sylvie, Jason, and I are excited to be going back to St. Thomas to swim in the Beach-to-Beach Power Swim in a couple of weeks. Maya is playing on concert orchestra at school, finished AP exams, and is going to Taylor Swift with best friends – here first big concert! Sylvie has been swimming on ASA, graduates middle school and completed her silver Girl Scout award project this spring. I am very proud Maya and Sylvie will be working at 7 Lake this summer to help protect Great Pond and surrounding lakes from erosion and invasive aquatic plants. I am excited to return as a counselor again this summer; being at camp with Sylvie second session. Nina, Maya and Sylvie with mom/grandmother, **Patricia "Patty" Christianson Ferre** in Arizona. *Another three generations of Runoia campers!*



Marleyna George shares: "I'm currently a Junior at NYU spending this year studying in Paris. I'm on a pre-law track. I have a full-time internship this summer in Paris. I speak French well, so I've gotten along fine in France." Marleyna caught up with some of her camp friends from France including, **Iris Dela Palme**. Camp friends for long days, old friends for always!



Where in the world is Gerty? Currently **Gerty Flagg** is nannying in Alaska and taking advantage of exploring the state from Denali to the coast. She has experienced over 100 moose sightings and gets out and about to beautiful places with her two adorable charges.



Maggie Stainton Lynch writes that she enjoyed family time in Telluride for Christmas. Maggie updates us that **Charlotte Lynch** is living in Telluride. Charlotte sailed on a boat from San Diego-Tahiti in December. 4758 miles! (pictured right) **Cricket Lynch** graduated with a Masters in nursing from the University of Maryland in December. Mercer Lynch is finishing up at the United States Merchant Marine Academy this coming spring. He has already been offered a flight spot with Navy and will train to fly helicopters.



A surprise Runoia reunion when **Fiona Monahan** connected with **Phoebe and Izzy Schmalz** while skiing in CO.

Barb Surrette sends us news of **Kayley Surrette**, Simmons' grad with masters in social work is now in NO, LA working at the children's hospital in the ER. And **Taylor Surrette** graduated from Northeastern with her Doctorate in PT and is working at St. Elizabeth's hospital in Brighton, MA. Congrats Dr. Taylor Surrette!



Alum siblings **Mika and Melia Cook-Wright** were graduates last year. Mika from Connecticut College May 2022 now teaching in NYC. **Melia Cook-Wright** (basket weaving counselor extraordinaire at Runoia in 2022 and returning in 2023!) graduated from Concord and is now finishing her first year at Holy Cross (pictured left)

Theo "Teddy" Holt and family send their regards from Seattle "May 2023 be filled with adventure!"



Congrats to **Emma Owings**
For completing
Master of Public Health from
Boston University, May 2023
Emma serves on the CRAO
Diversity Advisory Committee

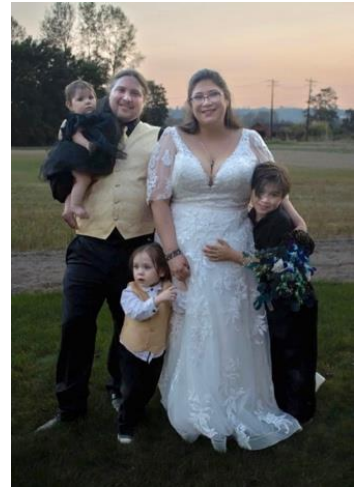
Camp Runoia Alumnae Milestones

Marriages



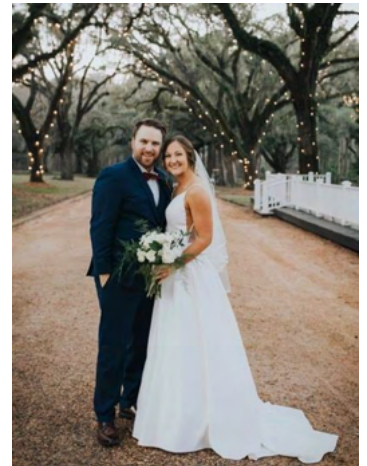
Helen Knight and Zach Baca
Married in Connecticut
November 19, 2022

Kipa Sharpfish and
Steven Tercy
married in Alaska
October 1, 2022

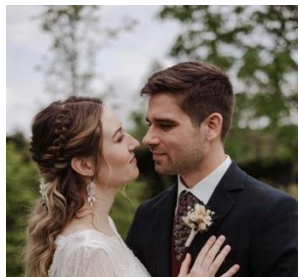


Claire Williamson and
Derrick Gibson
married in Houston, Texas
March 4, 2023

Kate Woodruff and
Kevin Thomas
married May 20, 2023



Laura Meszaros
married
Tamas Resi
April 22, 2023



Births



Barb St. Peter Bassler and Dan Bassler celebrate the arrival of Serafina Elizabeth on March 4, 2023

Lucy Wallace and Tyler Brewster welcome baby Bo in early January 2023. Elise "Lili" Knight Wallace with grandson, Bo, pictured right.



Devan Caine Hickman and Sean Hickman welcome Frank Griswold Hickman born March 14, 2023



Emily Pendergast Laverack and Reed Laverack's newest arrival, Daisy Green, held by sister, Scout. Born February 14, 2023



On April 26, 2023 Kelsey Rogers Keating and Alan Keating have twins, Foster and Griffin

Heather and Ali Wight celebrate Lachlan Pierce Wight's arrival May 16, 2023.



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!



DONATIONS THANK YOU FOR HELPING CAMPERS!

Rangeley \$5000+

Kelli Tomlinson

Great Pond \$1000 - 4999

Cathy Fuller Nicholson
Anonymous

Katahdin \$500 - 999

Anne Sophia Greene
Ashley Rooney
Taj Mirza Zareen

Mt. Blue \$100-249

Judith Shaw
Roger Spingarn
Kara Law
Lucy Baruch
Josephine Detmer
John Biddiscombe

Tumbledown \$50-99

Daniella Cavenagh
Mary Yedlin
Katherine Carpenter
Jamie Cluchey
Patricia Sesto
Sigrid Weinschreider

Amazon Gifts – Thank you
for using CRAO as your
donation!

A special shout to our eight alumnae donating to the SWAG for camperships:
[Victoria Russell](#), [Charlotte Hoopes](#), [Sophie Beney](#), [Gerty Flagg](#), [Claire Williamson](#), [Alexandra Cavoulacos](#), [Bridget Bojic](#), [Piper Blackburn](#), [Kendall Wilson](#)

