

## HERRLICH SPIRIT: The 1968-1971 Staff Reunion

Most people have worked a summer job. Very few have ever attended any type of reunion with their co-workers. Is it possible to even imagine getting back together with your summer job co-workers forty years later? Never happens! Unless the summer job was some kind of amazingly positive or life-altering experience. Well, over the Labor Day weekend in 2008, two years of internet searches, telephone calls, and countless emails brought over thirty Camp Wilbur Herrlich staffers from the summers of 1968 to 1971 together for a reunion at the camp.

It was a truly memorable weekend. Staffers arrived from all over the country, even flying in from California and Louisiana. After forty years, it was great to see how the years simply melted away as we spent time reminiscing about our time together so long ago. Some used the opportunity to thank those who had mentored them, helping to mold them into the adults they have become. We wandered the grounds, told and retold stories, and shared



movies and photographs, but mostly we just enjoyed each others' company. The love and respect we all held for each other was continually evident. Sadly, as all good things must end, so did our time together. Luckily, we now have a blog to share and email makes it so much easier for us to stay in touch.

Any camp that has been operating for over eighty years must really have something special going for it. There can be no denying that Camp Herrlich is blessed with natural beauty and serenity, but the real keys to the continued success have been and always will be the people and the Herrlich Spirit. The Spirit that drove us to work so hard, for so many hours, for so little pay, while trying to achieve our common goal of ensuring that each and every camper had the best possible camping experience. Thankfully, we discovered that the Herrlich Spirit is still very much alive and well in the current camp staff.

*Peace, Love,  
"Big Jim" Lindsey*



### Upcoming Programs

**April Vacation Camp!** From April 6<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting the children from the local school districts for our annual April Vacation Camp. There is plenty of fun to be had at Camp Herrlich even when it is not summer. Check the website for registration details or call Jessica at extension 304 for more information.

**Work Weekend!** May 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> will see loyal camp families and friends here to help out and get camp ready for Summer 2009. Please call and speak to Dean at extension 302 for more information or to volunteer.

**Open House!** May 31<sup>st</sup> will see our second Open House of 2009. Come by to get a tour of camp, register for our Summer Camp and Before and After School Programs, and meet the staff.

**Weekend Retreats!** We have now posted the available dates for our weekend retreats through the beginning of 2010. Register early to ensure you have a spot for your weekend program.

**Summer 2009 Registration** is ongoing. Certain sessions fill up quickly so be sure to get your registration form and deposit to us in a timely fashion so your child gets to experience all that Camp Herrlich has to offer.

**Registration for Before and After School** for the 2009/2010 school year gets underway in April. Check the website or contact the office for more information or to request a registration form.

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## DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR THE SUMMER!

Our summer camp programs provide campers with opportunities to make friends, have fun, and develop a sense of cooperation and independence. Camp Herrlich's 156 acres offer your child(ren) a wealth of enriching experiences with a variety of activities. It encompasses two lakes, fields, streams, swamp, and forest, crossed with hiking trails. Campers will embrace the great outdoors and learn to appreciate and respect all aspects of camp life. There is also time for prayer, growth, competition, education, campfires, songs, theme days, and special events.

### SUMMER DAY CAMP 2009

Choose any 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or all 8 weeks!

**Week Dates**

**Theme (Travel Camp Option)**

Week 1: July 6-10

Around the World (Museum of Natural History)

Week 2: July 13-17

Raise Your Voice (Fishing Trip)

Week 3: July 20-24

Color War (Yankee Game, Fun Station)

Week 4: July 27-31

What Month Is This Anyway? (Go Karting, Lake Compounce A)

Week 5: August 3-7

Pirates Week (Circle Line/Sports Museum)

Week 6: August 10-14

Safari Week (Bronx Zoo)

Week 7: August 17-21

Wild West Week (Tubing)

Week 8: August 24-28

Superhero Week (Lake Compounce B)

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. BEFORE & AFTER CARE Available!

**Only \$240 per week!**

### SLEEPAWAY CAMP 2009

**Two 2-Week Sessions**

**Session 1 July 5-17**

**Session 2 July 19-31**

**Only \$550 per session**

**Complete brochures on both programs and all forms are available to download from our website: [www.campherrlich.org](http://www.campherrlich.org)**



**Questions, concerns, or comments? Please contact us!**  
**101 Deacon Smith Hill Road, Patterson, NY 12563**  
**PH 845-878-6662 FAX 845-878-2030**  
**email [info@campherrlich.org](mailto:info@campherrlich.org) [www.campherrlich.org](http://www.campherrlich.org)**

## And So It Was With Matt Lamb



**On November 7, 2008**, we had a crowd appear at camp for the dedication of our renovated pavilion, now turned into a new classroom and activity building. It was, as it was, a tribute

to Mathew Lamb. One of Matt's good friends and a friend of Camp Herrlich, Robert Lipton, had spent the better part of the last year fundraising for, physically participating in, and recruiting friends to help with the renovation. Rob managed to get Home Depot to substantially discount materials for the project and send over many volunteers. Our caretaker, Miles Barnett, headed up the building project and without Miles... well... a lot of things would be undone. There was also another unsung hero in this renovation project. Patrick Roy, an employee of Home Depot, worked tirelessly to support us in this endeavor. We all feel that the renovation was a way to honor Matt's timeless gifts to our campers and staff. Rob Lipton instinctively knew how much we loved Matt and how much Matt loved camp.

There was once an ugly, steel-poled, outdoor basketball court. It was the kind you might find in the heart of the city on the corner of Broadway and "such and such," but this court sat at the edge of the beautiful woods here at camp. Sometime in the mid '90s the old court was transformed into our Arts and Crafts pavilion. Matt Lamb spent so many days in the shelter of this pavilion, working with children, doing art and crafts projects, eating canteen purchases from the camp store, practicing for skits, wrapping presents for Christmas in July, making banners for his group, or just chillin' with his kids. It seemed perfectly fitting and campish to change this well-used space into something much more useable for our camp children/families. Rob and Bob began the task of design and idea. When it was done many months later, the Lambs and some of Matt's closest friends were invited for a ribbon cutting. When the 25 people we expected turned into fifty, then to one hundred, and when the ambulances showed up and the fire fighters came from many neighboring counties, we just smiled at one another and put more hors d'oeuvres in the ovens. When Donald Smith, the County Sheriff, showed up, followed by Senator Liebell, John Tully, the Deputy County Executive, loving friends with tears in their eyes, the Honorable Judge Reitz, Matt's family, and his camp family, we

*continued on page 6*

*I want to thank you not only for me, but also for the kids who didn't realize how much of a blessing Camp Herrlich really is. That camp has a magic to it. It's kind of like Neverland (not the ranch, LOL). Time freezes for a summer and you're happy. The girls in my cabin told me the time at camp is the happiest they are all year.*

*Last summer is the happiest I've been in a long time. The Bronx is a crappy place to live. It was a great getaway for a couple of months. Then to get girls who reminded me a lot of myself a long time ago. The girls were angry and didn't understand what was making them feel that way. I feel that Camp Herrlich is a place that helps you think clearly.*

*Not only the kids, but the staff was amazing. Bob, Wendy, Jess, and Dean, all of you guys helped to make sure that we all feel special and loved. Karla and Theo were like staff parents. And I guess we made them into that. It was great to have over 20 people to confide in.*

*Well, I'm gonna end this letter apologizing for my handwriting. Once again thank you guys for showing me all the love and respect that I can't get anywhere else.*

*Love,  
Sydney*

**A LETTER TO CAMP**



## A Special Christmas Celebration

*In December 2008, the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (WELCA) were once again represented at Camp Herrlich by the WELCA group from Trinity Lutheran Church, Brewster, New York. WELCA's mission is to mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. Trinity's group meets regularly for devotions, Bible and other book study, and to create crafts and sponsor a craft fair to raise money for the church and other local organizations.*

*For the last four years or so, the group has enjoyed a special Christmas luncheon at the camp. Attendance is usually around sixteen to eighteen ladies. Here are a few words from one of the group's co-coordinators:*

My favorite part, each year, is the welcome! We are greeted with such hospitality by Bob Gentile and staff as we enter a thoughtfully prepared space just waiting for us! A big roaring fire in the fireplace, beautifully decorated tree, background music, and wonderful aromas from the kitchen as Theo is preparing lunch.

We gather for a devotion. This year several members participated in a reading for the Advent season, *Three Women of Bethlehem*, which featured a narrator and three women readers.

We sang Christmas carols, led by Muriel Rapp on a keyboard provided by Bob.

Pastor Kathleen Koran asks the blessing before lunch. After a delicious meal, dessert, and coffee, we move to the sitting area for our annual Secret Pal (optional) and Grab Bag drawing. This year we laughed our way through two games: Right/Left Game and Swap Game. Door prizes are distributed.

Before departing, we gather for a group picture. Chef Theo has photos from all our past gatherings framed and hung in the kitchen—along with other groups who have enjoyed the special hospitality of Herrlich! The display is quite amazing—take a look next time you're there.

*Contributed by Joan Quinn,  
Trinity's WELCA co-coordinator*

# YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

## Support the Annual Fund

**Your support makes a difference in the lives of thousands of children who participate in Camp Herrlich's programs each year. We can make dreams come true... with your help.**

## Please help us reach our goals in 2009!

### Annual Fund Giving Opportunities 2009 Goal

Camp Herrlich's Greatest Needs \$50,000

Scholarships \$50,000

Capital Campaign— \$5,000,000

*Watch for information about our building plans in 2009!*

### Giving Levels

Wilbur Herrlich Circle \$5,000 or more

Harold E. Haar Circle \$1,000 to \$4,999

Rockwell Norris Circle \$250 to \$999

Camp Herrlich Friends \$25 to \$249

## Your gift is vital to the continuation of providing programs to the families we serve

If you would like to make an online donation, either monetary or an item from our wish list, please visit our website at **[www.campherrlich.org](http://www.campherrlich.org)**

All gifts to support Camp Herrlich are tax deductible as provided by law:  
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## We gratefully acknowledge all the generous supporters in 2008

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## ENVIRONMENTAL ED

### Native American

**Did you know that Camp Herrlich is a BOCES-certified environmental education center? Here are some of the fascinating and fun programs we offer:**

**Cooking:** Students engage in making Native foods in the traditional manner. They may cut corn from the cob to make corn soup, or pick wild edibles to season the Three Sisters stew, or bake a whole fish or potato in clay, or grind corn.

**Corn Husk Doll Making:** Together we learn how to make a corn husk doll using real corn husks. Each student makes a doll to take home. The importance of corn is related, including how nothing is wasted. Even the corn husk gets used!

**Traditional Native Games:** Learning about Native American life and its values is child's play when experienced through games. This is a great class for learning about another culture and for breaking up the day.

**Ethnobotany:** Native Americans are thoroughly versed in the uses of our wild and cultivated plants. We will take a field walk to explore the many uses of wild plants and maybe sample some edible ones. This class will change the way you look at plants.

**Maple Sugaring:** Mmmmm... that sweet taste of real maple syrup. We learn tree anatomy and the process of syrup making. This class is *very* weather dependent (late winter-early spring) and may involve some physical labor. *We will assign an alternate class if we are unable to run this class due to weather.*

**Native American Pottery:** Using self hardening clay, the students will pinch and coil the clay incorporating Native American methods. We will look at authentic Native American designs and decorate our bowls. We will discuss what inspired these designs and how they were used in everyday living.

**Native American Encampment:** View artifacts and experience life in either an Eastern Woodland or a Great Plains camp. This is a great opportunity for students to learn about the ingenuity and philosophy of native peoples that allowed them to live comfortably and in harmony with their environment. This class is taught by people who have years of experience in primitive technology and might not always be available.

*Contributed by Jessica Vanacoro*

## PAST STAFF MEMBERS

### What Are They Up To?

#### Meagan Haar

**Current Age:** 28

**Camp Years as a Camper:** 1988 (girl's cabin 3), 1990 to 1996

**Camp Years Worked:** 1993, 1997 to 2005

**Camp Positions:** Day camp junior counselor, day camp counselor, before/after care manager, assistant day camp program director, also several springs of kitchen duty! Kent After School Program counselor (2003 to 2005) and Matthew Paterson After School Program counselor for one year.

**Today:** After camp I moved to Orlando, Florida and am working as a teacher at Orange County Head Start, which is preschool for low-income families. It's very rewarding on many fronts, as these kids all soak up information like sponges and crave love and affection. They live around the area where my center is located, and Orange County has about fifteen centers. I got my roots at camp, helping the inner-city resident kids with "Helping Hearts," and the idea stuck. Now that I'm in Orlando I get to be these kids' second mom and teach them at the same time.

I'm also about to get married! The reason I went to Orlando in the first place was because my boyfriend relocated there to work for Disney. Three years later we are engaged and getting married in June 2009 at camp! It's very exciting and I'm really enjoying the wedding planning process.

**The Future:** My dream would be to someday return to camp and work on the upper management side of things. I miss it and always visit when I can! I have so many great memories!

**Camp Memories:** Frog and turtle catching, the Little People Legend, getting homesick as a camper when I was seven, telling Jack Straw stories, Broadway helping me get unlost, Matt Lamb dressed as a wolf crawling into Christina Schiavo's tent at the sleep out, when the big tree fell on all the cars, stargazing by the teepee, getting thrown in the lake just about hundreds of times, falling in love, fishing with Pastor Mack and his kids, Memorial Day Weekends, and so so so so so much more!



#### And So It Was With Matt Lamb, *continued from page 3*

just looked at one another. When we had to start parking the cars in the cabin villages and on the basketball court, we just smiled.

Matt Lamb continues to be alive at the camp. It has been our privilege to transform the old Herrlich farm one more time to honor the gift of Matt's ten years of service to our community's children. His impact has gone where he was never able to go.

*Wendy Gentile*

# Director's Discoveries

Usually when we tell people that we work at a summer camp, the response is “Oh! What do you do the rest of the year?” Generally, we laugh knowingly and then rattle off the following sentence in one breath: Before and After School programs, Environmental Education and Reach the Peak programs, the Cooperative Learning Academy, (an alternative learning setting and GED prep for high school students), Weekend Retreats, Vacation Camps, networking, interviewing, and hiring new staff for next summer, and of course preparing for the upcoming summer season. We gasp for air, their eyes widen, and they say “I had no idea Camp Herrlich had that much going on!” Now that they, and you, know how much we have going on in the fall, winter, and spring seasons, here’s a synopsis of how all our programs are going.



## Before and After School Programs

Our enrollment in our Before and After School Programs is about 150 students from the Carmel School District. In addition to the warm and welcoming environment, homework help, snack, sports and games, arts and crafts, and character education programs, the students in the programs have gone on field trips and taken computer, library, and sign language classes. The children in the After School Program even went Christmas caroling at the Plaza at Clover Lake Retirement Community in Carmel. Their effort and enthusiasm was greatly appreciated by the residents there.

## Environmental Education

We are looking forward to seeing all our “regular” school groups again this year, and we know that under the direction of Carol Chu, their programs will be as fun and educational as always. Last year we continued to build our relationships with Queens Lutheran School, Long Island Lutheran High School, Fostertown Magnet School in Newburgh, PS 130 in Manhattan, PS 85 in the Bronx, and Carl C. Icahn Charter School in the Bronx. We also look forward to building new relationships and offering our extensive Environmental Education programs to new schools.

## Reach the Peak

Camp Herrlich’s Reach the Peak programs are perfect for team building, beginning-of-year getting-to-know-you sessions, end-of-year celebrations, and everything in between. Carmel School District takes great advantage of our Reach the Peak programs, sending the Middle School General Organization and the Alternative High School and Bridge programs for day trips.

**Students—would you like to come to a program with your school? Let us know and we will contact them!**

## Cooperative Learning Academy

The Cooperative Learning Academy (CLA) continues to take advantage of the beautiful space and supportive staff at Camp Herrlich throughout the school year. They have entered into a community service relationship with Cascade Farm & Farm School, also in Patterson, and participated in a fundraiser and field trip to the Putnam Humane Society in addition to their regular classes. Students continue to improve their academic standing, attendance, emotional state, and study habits in this program. Those who choose to also can get intensive GED preparation during their time at Herrlich.

## Weekend Retreats

Memorial Hall is a great addition of space to all of Camp Herrlich’s programs, but mostly to our Weekend Retreats. It can be used for worship services, team building programs, lectures, education, or recreation. Memorial Hall also houses the camp store, which is open for all groups to get Herrlich merchandise. Groups from such churches as Ascension Lutheran, St. John’s, Our Redeemer, Cross of Christ, and Gloria Dei and Boy Scout Troop 1, to name a few, make up the core of our weekend retreat groups. Thanks to all who keep coming year after year!

## Vacation Camps

Winter Vacation Camp saw about 35 kids per day having a blast at Herrlich despite the lack of snow! We’re hoping for snow (and sledding, and broomball, and snowmen, and snowball fights) for February Camp and, of course, beautiful weather for April Camp. Thanks to all the excellent staff, who help us out for vacation camps!

## Staff

We have a lot of returning staff for summer 2009 and many of them are bringing friends! We have the makings of a fantastic team.

*Jessica Vanacoro, Program Director*



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## **Calendar of Events 2009**

A background image showing several children sitting on a boat, looking out towards the water. The image is in a light, faded tone, serving as a backdrop for the text.

<b>April</b>	<b>Registration for 2009–2010 School Age Programs begins</b>
<b>April 6–10</b>	<b>Spring Vacation Camp</b>
<b>May 15–17</b>	<b>Work Weekend</b>
<b>May 31</b>	<b>Open House</b>
<b>June 1</b>	<b>Balance Due for Summer Day and Resident Camps</b>
<b>June 18</b>	<b>Golf Outing, Branton Woods Golf Club, Hopewell Junction</b>
<b>June 25</b>	<b>Last day of Before and After School Programs</b>
<b>June 29–July 3</b>	<b>Summer Staff Orientation</b>
<b>July 5–August 8</b>	<b>Summer Resident Camp</b>
<b>July 6–August 28</b>	<b>Summer Day Camp</b>