



99th season: 1922-2020 • THE GOLD & BLUE • LIVE LIGHTLY Autumn Issue

100th SUMMER HERE WE COME!

For so many years, I have said that GBC has survived so many things. In its 98 years, it has survived a world war, Polio, depressions, recessions, H1N1 and SARS. Through it all, Glen Bernard Camp carried on. It was my way of reassuring people that GBC would always be here because there was nothing that would stop it. And..whoops! Along came COVID-19. On May 19th, 2020, the experts declared “No resident camps will be allowed to open”. I sure blew that.

Immediately after the Government decision, many avenues were pursued in an effort to convince those in authority that we could deliver camp in a manner that met all the requirements set out by the rule makers. Through our involvement with the Ontario Camps Association, we continued to try and make our point that with a limited number of campers, camps should still be permitted to run in 2020. As you know, we were unsuccessful.

So now what? We decided that something was certainly better than nothing and Glen Bernard was going to have a 99th season. The Near North Enviro-Education Centre, in Sundridge operated their Community Adventure Program (CAP), a day program for children 6 – 14 years old. During a conference call with the Ministry of Health, an opportunity arose! The Ministry of Health indicated that overnight camps could bring on staff to lend their leadership to day programs and stay on camp property. We couldn't have been more excited! It allowed us to hire a few GBCers who got involved in the CAP program. All health guidelines with respect to physical distancing, creating cohorts, masking and other health guidelines. The kids across the lake did more this summer than ever before. Our small group of ACs taught them how to canoe, kayak, led lessons in earth education, orienteering and crafts just to name a few. There was even an opportunity in August to join the Lake Bernard Yacht Club and learn how to sail!

We were fortunate to have another small group of staff that worked on projects ranging from tree measurement for the Go Global program of the Association of Canadian

Educational Resources group, working with the Community Adventure Program kids and preparing for the 100th season! Another big hurrah for our wonderful camp physicians who, without hesitation jumped on board for our 4-week staff program. How lucky we are to have such an excellent group of health professionals, all of whom consulted on the summer operation. Led by Dr. Meg Wilson, Dr. Eddy Lau, Dr. Krista Keilty, Dr. Heather Yang and Dr. Alena Spacek each spent a week at GBC ensuring our small group were healthy and happy.

There were many messages and very kind thoughts from alums who were concerned that the real GBC did not run this summer. It was heartwarming to hear from each of you. Thanks for cranking our adrenaline.

All too soon it was September and back to action! Our fall events had been posted and the rules for occupation of spaces had been released allowing us to run our Family and Women's weekends. For the first time ever, we operated two family weekends to meet demand! Almost 200 people left their footprints on the camp property in September. We were thrilled to have the sound of laughter throughout camp. The family weekends were especially wonderful because the campers who were allowed to come were in heaven having missed their camp session in the summer. They had great fun and were very cooperative in adapting to the COVID procedures that were in place.

With the arrival of the end of September, the visits to GBC ceased and we turned our attention to camp opening for our 100th season in 2021! So now we are going for the whole nine yards of a total GBC summer in year 100 – the best year ever and many more to come!

Cheers!

Joe

Jocelyn Palm
Executive Director
Glen Bernard Camp

ONTARIO CAMPING ASSOCIATION "LEGACY AWARD" by Sue Eckersley

"The OCA Legacy Award was created in 2019 with the purpose of acknowledging OCA Members who over their lifetime demonstrated a significant and sustained contribution to the Ontario Camps Association and the Ontario camping community." The award description goes on to speak of a candidate that has demonstrated exceptional service, leadership, wisdom, is a difference maker, has exemplary core values, and promotes excellence - all relating to the OCA and the camping community.

The Ontario Camping Association Annual Conference in February unveiled this new accolade and awarded its first two recipients, Jocelyn Palm and Larry Bell.

Jeff Bradshaw, President of the Ontario Camping Association made the following remarks in the presentation of the Legacy Award to Joc.

"Joc is a visionary and does what most visionaries do. She challenges us. She encourages us to be better. She makes

us look at things from a different perspective or a different angle. Joc has been, by sheer force, will and conviction the leader on so many fronts, so many singular and significant issues of the day.

Over her lifetime, Joc has been time and time again the face and the voice for so many of the important challenges and opportunities of our time. What she may expect from us, is nothing like what she expects from herself. How many times has Joc led the way? Countless. How many times has Joc been ahead of the curve? Countless. How many times has Joc simply been right and the rest of us have had to play catch up? Countless. She's the gold standard".

It seems very apropos that the author of "Legacy to a Camper" written to honour GBC's founder, Mary S. Edgar, would be honoured as the first recipient of the OCAs Legacy Award.

Cheers to Joc!

OCA LEGACY AWARD RECIPIENT Jocelyn Palm



Glen Bernard Camp

What happened at the border of Vermont and Quebec when Jocelyn was 12 years old?

There was a defining moment for Jocelyn when she realized her love for the natural world. At 12, as a camper in Quebec, she hiked to the top of Jay Peak. It wasn't an easy traverse up the stream bed of the mountain but what was waiting at the top was a view Jocelyn had not yet experienced. WOW! It was expansive, impressive and gave her a perspective on the interconnectedness of the natural world. Her love of summer camp was the beginning of a career in the out of doors for Jocelyn.

As a teacher and later the National Executive Director for the Royal Life Saving Society Canada, Jocelyn took an interest in the environment. As she travelled across Canada and the world visiting aquatic centres, understanding the concern for the safety of people utilizing natural waterways, she began to develop a keen understanding of the use of water – both for consumption, industry and recreation. This knowledge was put into action when Jocelyn became the owner and director of Glen Bernard Camp in 1977.

The environmental sustainability initiatives at Glen Bernard Camp continue to be a source of pride. The use of composting toilets throughout camp and solar power panels powering hot water and many of the devices used at GBC led to the building of the Living Lightly Lab. The "Lab" features unique structural materials, siding, windows, solar panels, heating and cooling, active and passive gardens which demonstrate rain water and erosion control and the values of a green roof.

The success of the "Lab" led to the opportunity to expand GBC's Earth Education program in the local community. The establishment of a building built in the Village of Sundridge opened in September 2017. The Near North Enviro-Education Centre (www.nneec.ca) provides a gathering place for environmental education and also offers an opportunity for all ages to become participants in the wise use of the planet. NNEEC, a registered charity, focuses on three pillars: environmental sustainability, economic security and social diversity. The building itself utilizes geo-thermal heating and cooling, solar power for both electricity and hot water, composting toilets and a wood pellet backup heat source furnace. The technologies used in the building are those that homeowners could replicate. NNEEC offers people the unique chance to view these technologies in person to understand how they work.

As an Order of Canada recipient, Jocelyn's life work has spanned a multitude of fields. Her work with young people through camping, the Lifesaving Society, her special interest in women's health and Women's College Hospital over the last 30 years, her dedication to charitable endeavours such as Kids in Camp and most recently the Near North Enviro-Education Centre allow Jocelyn to pursue areas of significant importance, such as climate change.

As Glen Bernard Camp approaches its 100th season in 2021, Jocelyn remains enthusiastic and grateful for all that camping offers. Always looking to the future, Jocelyn is focused on preparing for and understanding the effects of climate change on camping's facilities and programs as camping moves into the next 100 years of being a place where every child belongs.

Glen Bernard's 100th season is quickly approaching, and we are eager to welcome our camp community to celebrate with us! It is appropriate that the 99th season be (almost) as memorable as the 100th season albeit for reasons we could not have imagined. The time spent at camp during Summer 2020 gave us an opportunity to reflect on what camp means to so many girls and women who have spent time at GBC. We heard from many of you about the impact summer camp has had on your lives; how it has shaped your view of the world, of others and of your hope for the future. GBC is looking towards the future with a sense of joy and excitement of what is to come.

A group of alumni have gathered together to also reflect on the camp's past and its future with a mission to fund and present a meaningful contribution to Glen Bernard in celebration and acknowledgement of 100 years of camping.

After a number of months of collaboration and consultation with Joc, the committee has set a fundraising goal of \$150,000 with the proceeds to target two key projects. The first is a nod to the camp's past through the total renovation of Mary S. Edgar's cabin, Wigwam. The second is a promise of continued environmental sustainability to GBC's future campers through the purchase of a new solar boat.

GBC is fortunate to have a strong alumni network, many of whom have already reached out to ask what they can contribute to in order to mark GBC's centennial season. We are grateful for your kindness and participation in this wonderful opportunity!

The outpouring of support with respect to the closure of camp due to COVID-19 but also to celebrate 100 years of GBC has been incredible. We are fortunate to know and be part of generations of families that call Glen Bernard home.



The members of the committee are grateful to have been part of the GBC community during our summers at camp and the many years since we were there. We wanted to organize this Alumni Gift campaign to show the importance of GBC to campers young and old. We hope that you will join us in recognizing

GBC's 100th season by making a contribution to help fund these exciting projects that celebrate our past and our future.

The following alumni have graciously agreed to assist in the effort by taking on the role of AC (this time it means Alumni Captain). You are welcome to contribute directly via the following contribution information, or you can connect with any of the Alumni Captains below. They are ready and eager to welcome your questions and emails.

- **Marion Fisher Hill (gbc:1945-1948)**
alisonhill@gbcamp.com
- **Mary "Betty" Grobb Anderson (gbc:1945-1961)**
cathyanderson@gbcamp.com
- **Joey Bell Brown (gbc:1951-1961)**
joeybellbrown@gbcamp.com
- **Lynda Henry Lewis (gbc:1970-1984)**
lyndalewis@gbcamp.com
- **Linda "Abbie" Abbott Ray (gbc:1974-1980)**
lindaabbieray@gbcamp.com
- **Robin Muir Helgesen (gbc:1974, 1977)**
robinmuir@gbcamp.com
- **Linda McCurdy Crawford (gbc:1974-1982)**
lindacrawford@gbcamp.com
- **Susan Kneider (gbc:1975-1989)**
susankneider@gbcamp.com
- **Cathy Anderson (gbc:1976-1982)**
cathyanderson@gbcamp.com
- **Alison Hill (gbc:1977-1987)**
alisonhill@gbcamp.com
- **Andrea Webb (gbc:1977-1987)**
andreawebb@gbcamp.com

CONTRIBUTION INFORMATION:

Contributions can be made by e-transfer to: 100alumngift@gbcamp.com.

If you would like to pay by cheque or by wire transfer, please email Kim Graydon at kim@gbcamp.com

As you are aware, Glen Bernard is a private camp and as such, is not able to offer any tax receipts for your contribution to the 100th Season Alumni Gift Project.

Up to \$49	Camp Friends
\$50 to \$99	Summer Sisters
\$100 to \$249	Centennial Circle
\$250 to \$499	Tajar Trustees
\$500 to \$999	Palm Patrons
\$1,000+	Mary S. Edgar Society

Thank you for your gift and support!

- **Symantha Rush (gbc:1977-1984)**
symantharush@gbcamp.com
- **Tammy Long Stewart (gbc:1978-1986)**
tammylong@gbcamp.com
- **Mary Milne Marshall (gbc:1978-1998)**
marymarshall@gbcamp.com
- **Vic Tait (gbc:1979-1990)**
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- **Janet Mowat (gbc:1979-1995)**
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- **Jessica Clarke McDougall (gbc:1980-1988)**
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- **Taylor Decarie (gbc:1993-2006)**
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- **Kelsey Ingram (gbc:1995-2002)**
kelseyingram@gbcamp.com
- **Robyn Short (gbc:1998-2011)**
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- **Aliya Hollingsworth (gbc:2001-2013)**
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- **Greer Pickford (gbc:2009-2020)**
greerp@gbcamp.com

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: VERA PETERS

Dr. Vera Peters, camp doctor, came to GBC in 1934, fresh out of medical school. Her daughters Sandy and Jenny were campers and then Jenny's daughters, Kelsey and Kalen were campers. Today Kalen's two daughters are campers, Madigan and Darian.

Born in Thistletown (now part of Toronto), Ontario, Dr. M. Vera Peters (1911-1993) revolutionized treatment for Hodgkin lymphoma and breast cancer – and did so at a time when women were not respected as scientists. Dr. Peters earned her medical degree in 1934 – one of only 10 women in a class of 115.



Medical Groundbreakers Postage Stamp featuring Vera Peters Credit: Canada Post

decision to specialize in radiotherapy and study breast cancer. In 1950, she published a landmark study showing that Hodgkin lymphoma – considered fatal at the time – could be cured with radiation therapy. The discovery saved the lives of many young patients worldwide. A pioneer in the way she involved patients in their treatment decisions, Dr. Peters determined that a lumpectomy combined with radiation is as effective

as a mastectomy for early breast cancer – and often more in keeping with patients' wishes. Initially met with skepticism, her findings became common practice throughout the world. In 1978, Dr. Peters was invested into the Order of Canada as an Officer.

The radiation treatment her mother received for cancer influenced Dr. Peters'



Flora Morrison and Dr. Vera Peters



Left to right: Kalen Ingram, Darian Elsley, Jenny Ingram, Madigan Elsley, Joc Palm, Kelsey Ingram



2021 Calendar of Events

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Period 1 | • June 26 - July 16 |
| Period 2 | • July 18 - August 7 |
| Alumni Camp (3 nights) | • August 26-29 |
| Alumni Camp (2 nights) | • August 27-29 |
| Period 3 | • August 9 - 22 |
| Fall Family Weekend | • September 10-12 |
| Women's Weekend | • September 17-19 |

TWO-WEEK SESSIONS: (ages 8 - 11)

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|----------|---------------------|
| Period A | • June 26 - July 9 |
| Period C | • July 18 - July 31 |

ONE-WEEK SESSIONS:

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|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Period B (ages 6 - 8) | • July 10 - July 16 |
| Period D (ages 6 - 8) | • Aug 1 - Aug 7 |
| Period E (ages 6 - 8) | • Aug 9 - Aug 15 |
| Period F (ages 11 - 13) | • Aug 9 - Aug 15 |

BUNNY CAMP: (ages 4 - 6)

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|---------|-----------------------|
| Bunny 1 | • July 10 - July 12 |
| Bunny 2 | • August 1 - August 3 |

SPECIALTY SESSIONS:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Canoe Trip 1 | • July 10 - July 16 |
| Canoe Trip 2 | • July 18 - July 24 |
| Canoe Trip 3 | • August 1 - August 7 |
| Canoe Trip 4 | • August 1 - August 7 |
| Young Keen Riders 1 | • July 10 - July 16 |
| Young Keen Riders 2 | • August 1 - August 7 |
| Aquatic Leadership 1 | • July 18 - July 24 |
| Aquatic Leadership 2 | • August 9 - August 15 |
| Wilderness Canoe Trip | • August 9 - August 22 |
| Theatre Program | • August 9 - August 22 |

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