Hi fellow Alums!

The 2006 season is here and there is more news to report than a single article can communicate! The Board, Gordo, and I have been non-stop in planning as the countdown to opening day has begun. The lake and the hill have never looked better. The Project Adventure low ropes course is in place on the old track area; the finishing touches are underway on the new batting cages along the left field side of the A-Diamond; the computer room renovations (permanent workstations) are complete; the latest phase of our mess hall kitchen enhancements (new hood and ventilation system) is nearly done; and the musical instruments are being moved into our new music room, which occupies the upper New Building.

Many of you may have read, seen, and heard of the recent damage to Amesbury and the Merrimack Valley resulting from the heavy rains in May. With much thanks to our maintenance crew – and Mother Nature – the Crest has been unscathed. Nonetheless, Bauercrest plans to lend a helping hand to its neighbors through various community service programs taking place this summer.

As all have been wondering, I’m glad to report that our session enrollments are solid. Our recruiting has been terrific and we plan on extending our lower camp by one additional full bunk. Staff retention and recruiting has been phenomenal with terrific depth of leadership. Our group leaders and head counselor are among our most seasoned members and have hit the ground running with staff, group, and camper placements.

A handful of our staff has been at camp since the middle of May, getting a leg up on our pre-camp setups. Camp will be pretty much ready to go (yes, I will be carrying docks) even before official pre-camp gets underway. Among the programs of which we are most proud is our pre-camp staff training and development curriculum. Alumni have been a key part of this effort as the brief descriptions below indicate. A minimum of 24 classroom hours will be devoted to:

- Bunk management, behavior management, and group dynamics – with the outside support of 2 clinical psychologists
- Public safety and health, fire prevention, and emergency procedures – through the leadership of the Amesbury Police, Fire, and Health departments, in conjunction with MEMA (Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency)
- Red Cross CPR and First Aid Training
- Red Cross Basic Water Rescue for all staff – led by our own WSI and Lifeguard certified staff, with added support from former waterfront director Brian Miller
- Bunk Living Skills and Managing Parent Communications – led by Michael “Mouse” Blatt
- Leadership and Mentoring Training – conducted by Rabbi Marc “Bubba” Baker
I could not be more thankful to Bibs, the Board, and fellow alums for their outpouring of generosity: from the success of our fundraising efforts to the substantial donations of time and energy to put our newest programs into place. It continues to be a great thrill to hear from so many of you. The phone conversations, emails, and chance meetings take me back so many years and make me realize over and again why the Crest is such an important part of all our lives.

I’ll also take this opportunity (as I hope there will be more ahead) to thank my wife Marjie and my beautiful girls Marissa and Jenna for all of their help and patience in pulling the 2006 camping season together. It has truly been a family effort, both inside and outside the Bauercrest circles.

So much ahead; just counting the days until we’ll all be together on the hillside this summer!

Crestly,

Robbie Brockman

Rob Brockman
Executive Director
Camp Bauercrest

20 Normandy Drive
Sudbury, MA 01776
(978) 443-0582 – office
(978) 443-0540 – fax
rob@bauercrest.org
MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

We are looking forward with great anticipation to the summer of 2006. So many great changes have taken place in so many areas between our 75th and 76th summers. New Executive Director Robbie Brockman and his assistant Jeff "Gordo" Gordon, both stepping down from the Board of Directors, have spent the past 10 months focusing on contacting campers, assembling a crack staff, and making sure the road is paved for the smoothest summer possible. The Board anticipates the transition to the new administration to be seamless.

The Board also welcomes several new members to its ranks. Fellow Alumni Alan "Pudge" Feldman, Bob "Lebo" Lieberson, and Mitchell Weisman are the latest valued additions to the Board. All three new members also have sons at camp, giving them terrific perspective as to what makes the camp tick in today’s environment. All three have already rolled up their collective sleeves and made valuable contributions in several important areas. We’re lucky to have them.

There are many exciting and new programs that Robbie and "Gordo" are looking forward to implementing. I don’t want to steal their thunder, so I’ll defer to their articles for details. Working with Robbie all winter, and listening to him dream, come up with new ideas, and ways to implement them was a breath of fresh air. So much energy, passion, and enthusiasm. It was contagious. In addition, I’d like to extend best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery to former assistant director Steve "Toots" Toltz from an "off season" medical set back. And thanks for taking the time to be "of counsel" during this transition year, when needed. You’ll always be a valued member of the Crest family, and I look forward to meeting you on the hillside when you come back to the states to visit this summer.

There are several dates you MUST mark on your calendars:

**Sunday July 16th is the annual ALUMNI DAY.** This starts at noon with a cookout, and allows you to visit the camp and watch the afternoon program in action. Feel free to bring the family. However, for those Alumni with sons at camp THIS IS NOT VISITING DAY. Please DO NOT go into the bunks or take your sons out of camp. Doing this makes it extremely difficult for staff and other campers.

**Monday July 17th is the 9th annual Cy Smoller Memorial golf outing for the benefit of the camp.** Please contact me at bibssmol@aol.com or committee chair David Mack at dmack@ocmlaw.net for details.

**Friday August 25 through Sunday August 27th is Alumni Weekend number 22.** For more info on that, please contact me at bibssmol@aol.com or committee chair Steve "Fish" Marlin at smarlin@ureach.com

Hope to see you all at as many alumni events as possible.

Crestly,  
Mark “Bibs” Smoller
Great Response to the 2006 Bauercrest Annual Fund!

Just a year ago many of us joined together to celebrate Bauercrest’s 75th anniversary. One of the goals of the celebration was to energize our alumni and to reconnect people who may not have stayed close to what is happening on the hillside. Judging from the results so far of our first ever Annual Fund Campaign, it appears that we have met and far exceeded this goal.

Those of us working on the Campaign have been blown away with the response of our alumni, parents and friends. We also have been very fortunate to participate in a truly inspirational matching gift program, “Meet Your Match”, sponsored by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. Donations received through the “Meet Your Match” program are restricted for capital improvements at camp, while other donations are being used to underwrite scholarship costs and to further bolster improvements to our campus. We also received a very generous donation from the Phillips family to fund and to name the newly constructed challenge course in memory of Larry Phillips, a very special member of our Bauercrest family who passed away last year.

The Board of Directors wishes to offer a heartfelt “Thank You” to the 90 people listed below who have made donations to Bauercrest as of the end of May.

We also wish to thank the Harold Grinspoon Foundation for their matching gifts, the total of which will exceed $130,000 by June of 2009.

For those of you who have not yet participated in the Annual Fund, please consider making a gift. Each and every donation, no matter the size, is important and very much appreciated.

~ Peter Harris and Arthur White, Development Committee Co-Chairs
2006 Bauercrest Annual Fund

Bauercrest Society
($10,000 and greater)

Alan Feldman *
Jeff Grinspoon *
Jay Massirman *
Lee Millstein *
David Rosenberg *
Dan Rubin *
Ken Wagner *

Director’s Circle
($5000 to $9,999)

Mark Fins *
Larry & Elin Neiterman *
David Phillips **
Herb Phillips **
Barry Rodenstein

Color War Captains
($1,000 to $4,999)

Ken Bloom
Jay Goldman
Jeffrey Gorlick
Michael Green
Peter Harris
Mitchell Hodus
Steven Kane
Nancy Kaufman *
Bruce Phillips **
Stephen Phillips **
Harris Rutsky
Jon Salon
Andrew Schultz *
Stephen Schultz *
William Schultz *
Joe Smith
Joan Smoller *
Mark Smoller
Ray Tye, In Honor of Lew Averback *
Mitchell Weisman
Arthur White

* Harold Grinspoon Foundation “Meet Your Match” qualified multi-year pledge
** “Larry Phillips Memorial Challenge Course” donation

Continued Next Page
GROUP LEADERS
($500 to $999)

Jeff Jonas
Mike Missle
Glen Morrison
Steve Schlafman
Jerry Silverman
Sidney Sontz
Ron Weiss

BUNK CAPTAINS
($250 to $499)

Jeff Baskies
Neil Berenbaum
Melvin Brockman *
Reed Brockman *
Robbie Brockman *
Paul Kanter
Glen Kirschbaum
David Lepes
Steve Marlin
Andrew Moss
Todd Nechtem
Michael Rothenberg
Mark Silverstein
Robert Simon
Donald Sostek
Herb Wyman

FRIENDS OF BAUERCREST
(Up to $249)

Marc Baker
Jeff Baskies
David Beaton
Peter Blank
Robert Cashman
Sidney Epstein
Bruce Gilboard
Eric Gold
Howard Goldman
Arnie Goodman
Jonathan Gurian
Robert Harris
Michael Kagan
Chuck Kaufman
Abe Kaufman
Ed Kriegsman
Ronnie Lappin
Jeff Lonstein
Greg Radner
Mike Reiss
Jonathan Roos
David Saltzberg
Ken Schreiber
Francine Shapiro
Barry Shopnick
Cary Sneider
Jim Spelfogel
Dave Tabachnik
Harold Weiner
Andrew White
Gerald Wolpe

Additional Donations to the 2006 Bauercrest Annual Fund can be mailed to:

CAMP BAUERCREST
c/o Peter Harris
29 Hereford Road
Marblehead, MA 01945

For information about donating by credit card please email Peter Harris at:
pharris629@comcast.net

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY & SUPPORT!
From our campus on the Hillside.....

Save the Date!
August 25-27, 2006
22nd Annual Alumni Weekend!

Return to Camp!
Hoops, Tennis, Softball, Full Waterfront, Ski Boat & Tubing, Saturday All Star BBQ, Winner's Circle, Hodgies & More!
“What’s in a name?” (Romeo And Juliet”, Act II, Scene II, by William Shakespeare). With that line, Juliet in the depth of despair questions the seemingly arbitrary unfairness of life.....We would now like tear off a page from the venerable bard to pose the question, “What’s in a NICKNAME”?......

Dave “Mo” Salzberg writes: My Hebrew name is Moshe. This generated a series of nicknames, including Mushmouse and Moses. Eventually it just got shortened to Mo. This would have been in about 1966. Joel Bernstein and Barry Shopnick were quite involved in this process.

Michael “Wish” Weirauch writes: The story regarding my nickname is not an exciting one. I got my nickname around the sixth grade. A few friends (not my Jewish friends Rodent and Bean) from the neighborhood went to play street hockey at Larry Hoffman’s house. Larry lived in another neighborhood in Worcester off of Moreland Street. After we were done playing hockey, we went inside Larry’s home to get some water. Larry introduced us to his mother. When he introduced me to his mother, he said “This is Michael Weihrauch. We call him wisher washer because he is so wishy washy.” No one knew what Larry was talking about. But, the nickname stuck and evolved from there and I have been known as Wish, or some variation since (some of my JCC hoop teammates called me Swish). I have always looked back at that story because Larry was correct. I am wishy washy.

Andy “Elbows” Rafey writes: I was a Kitchen Boy circa 1973 and was playing the late Alan Levinson in a game of one on one in the old Joe Bloomfield Rec Hall. No one of course thought I could beat Alan and by all rights I should not have since he was that much better than me. I fortunately had the game of my life and beat Alan 21-18. I never played him again of course since I did not want to lose. Alan thought I was using my elbows in the game alot which I am sure I did, but think the reason why the name really stuck was during the same year and after the game, I walked around camp with my elbows bent and don't remember whether it was Bisb, Fly or someone else who kept calling me elbows and then it stuck for now over 30 years. Probably over the past fifteen it has become more just Bows....

Michael “Julio” Frankel writes: Lips gave me the nickname which, obviously was after Julio Franco (then) of the Cleveland Indians. I don't think he started calling me by the name until the alumni weekend started. (Editorial note: Lips considered it good form to only used the nicknames in “reference” to his campers, in most cases).

Larry “Bull” Neiterman writes: I remember it well. it was the summer of ’74, my KB year. When I walked into the kitchen, Nathan (the cook) who always liked me said in his heavy accent, “You are strong like bull”! Basically, through the magic of puberty and a little working out, I had transformed from a skinny kid to a broad shouldered 16 year-old. I cannot remember if Dunch, David Gor, Alan Levenson or Tito heard Nathan say it but someone heard it, and it stuck!

Keith “Poopie” Paulive writes: First off, I must say that NOT being in the first Nick-name article is highly insulting. Lets face it, when it comes to nicknames, Poopie is one of the most unique and memorable of the nicknames. How i got it. It was 1972, I was a 2nd year Junior (no nickname my first year as a 1 monther). I was playing goalie in a league soccer game. A shot on net flicked my wrist back and broke it! I remember Barry Rodenstein (who else) said “oh , you poor little Poopie”, when he saw my cast. The name stuck. No, it has nothing to do with bodily functions. Then at Northeastern being in the same fraternity as Tito Mirliss, Elbows Rafey & Nelson Liberty, a new generation of non-Crestites got to embrace and use the name, Poopie.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE “STORY BEHIND THE STORY” ON THE DERIVATION OF YOUR NICKNAME APPEAR IN A FUTURE ISSUE OF OUR BAUERCREST ALUMNI NEWSLETTER, PLEASE EMAIL IT TO THE EDITOR (“Lips”) AT........coverscape@adelphia.net
Sam “Tweetie” Matthias writes: I was particularly glad to get the nickname Tweety, because it superseded my old nickname, which was Cokebottles, and had to do with my uncommonly thick glasses. First of all, I wasn’t the first Tweety. The first one was Eric Fireman. He got the nickname because he looked like the cartoon. He had light blonde hair and glasses, and that’s as much as I know about it. In 1993, I was a Soph A, and Billy Schultz was a Group Leader (not mine; mine was Jon Fisch). Eric Fireman (the first Tweety, as referenced above) must have been a Senior. Basically, Schultz thought I looked like Eric Fireman, because I was small with blonde hair and glasses. And when you’re 9 and you weigh 65 pounds, half of that weight is the weight of your head (what was known in Crest vernacular as a “jibby”), which tends to make you look like a cartoon character......and like Eric Fireman, I was a thin kid with a normal sized head and magnified eyes due to my aforementioned uncommonly thick glasses, etc. Schultz was the one to dub me with the nickname, and it stuck, and for a while there were two “Tweeties”. When Eric Fireman left after being a counselor for a few years, there was just me left to carry the “standard”.

Jerry “Spoon” Silverman writes: In 1955 Dan Kaplan, Soph GL, Jerry Manishan, Jr GL and Harvey Ziff, Sr Counselor, all from Chelsea...... I had known them from AZA and kept in touch. They decided that I had a Silverspoon as everything I did that year was Super and the name just stuck for the next 5 years. When Mark Silverstein, the “Dunkin Donuts King” of So. NH came to camp, he became little Spoon. It’s a nickname that has remained as part of my Bauercrest Family.

Michael “Boogs” Steinman writes: My first year in Camp was 1974. My original nickname was “Steinboogie”......I was so named by counselor Fred "Frog" Shore, and I Have no clue as to why. Perhaps Frobbie can shed some light on this one.

Jerry Silverman (“Big Spoon”) was my counselor and I (Mark Silverstein) became “Little Spoon”. I believe that was around 1955. Even though I’m bigger physically Jerry will always be "Big Spoon"!

Robert “Bobo” Simon writes: I’ve had the nickname “Bobo” all my life. One theory was that I was named for Bobo Newsome, a star pitcher for the Washington Senators in 1941. Another was that I was named for a not too bright handyman who worked for my grandfather. Otherwise, I don’t have a clue. (How about “Bobo the Egg-finder”.....Any connection there?).

Peter “Scratch” Harris writes: “Scratch” actually was not started at the Crest, rather it came during my senior year in high school. I was getting worried, all those years as a camper and nothing had stuck for a nick-name. The name came from a record album, remember those, of famous radio and television bloopers. The announcer was calling a horse race, and said " the favorite for today’s race is the horse called Harass". As the trumpets sound for the start of the race the announcer comes back on and says, "Wait a minute, we just got late word that Harass cannot run today. Don’t forget folks to scratch “Harass”. I know, pretty lame, but who would ever believe I was a scratch golfer? Andy Pearlstein, who was a counselor with us for a few years at camp and Jim Myers, brother of Bob Myers, another former counselor, were the two that started calling me Scratch. I went off to Bucknell, decided I liked the name and would introduce myself that way, and the rest is history. One funny Scratch story I’ll always remember...... I was interviewing on campus with the accounting firm of Price Waterhouse. We sat down to start the interview and the first question to me was “What do most people call you, Peter or Pete?” I replied, "Actually, most people call me Scratch". One of those “did I really say that” moments. Needless to say, I was invited back for second interviews at 5 out of 6 firms I talked to; all except Price Waterhouse.

Dan “Bean” Rubin writes: My nickname dates back to Circa 1970. Playing hoop on my driveway with David Gor, Wish and Rodent. I hit a couple of shots at which point Gor started calling me “Butterbean” (after Bob Love). The name stuck. (of course......not to be confused with Dr. Bean, who served as visiting Camp Doctor in the early 1980’s).

Bruce “Bruiser” Krystal writes: I am certain that I got the nickname from my play in basketball (I averaged more blocks per game than points per year). It was (I think) actually meant as a compliment (ie, that I was a good defensive player, as opposed to a danger to society). I also know that it was after a specific game (someone’s comment, ”you were such a bruiser out there...”), but I’m less clear on when, or who. I think it was my Junior “A” year (1978), but it could have been later. I know it was common by my waiter year (1980). I have a very vague recollection that Mitch Hodus was involved, but I can’t remember how, or even if that part of the memory is correct.

Marc “Bucky” Gordon writes: In 1974 I think it was jeff miller who called me “Chippy”. It was before my braces.....Then it morphed into “Bucky” from there.

Steve “Milty” Morin writes: Not sure if you wanted the Pouch name or the Milty name. Pouch was given to me by you and Graham the year you were Group Leader in Bunk 11 (see Graham’s explanation of “Pouch” in the last issue). As far as the Milty name, Bob Stone gave it to me in 1972 after tight end Milt Morin of UMASS fame then later of the Cleveland Browns. How many Bauercrest people think Milty is my real name? (Editorial note: Milty is undoubtedly the “Pouch”......meaning in Crest parlance - the pinnacle of excellence......There can be little doubt about that.....Sorry Stoney!)
Dave “Schpindle” Wilson writes: It will be my pleasure to let you know how, and why the nickname “Schpindle” came into being. This secret goes down in history with such secrets as how Superman became Superman. How the Shadow came into being. How the Lone Ranger started his career....plus how at least 100 other famous names came into being. The year was 1948. David Wilson was an ordinary “Junior” in Bunk 17. Our counselor that year was Shmimmy Smoller. That was the first year that this stringbean of a camper started to blossom into somewhat of an athlete. I had fellow bunkmates named of Mickey Rabinovitz, Louie Brown, Shell Siege Siegel, Bert Wyman, Dick Jelen, Butch Hodash and others who will go nameless at this time. It seems that This David Wilson was a very slightly built kid who was pretty fast on his feet, could hit a softball pretty well, but was very, very skinny. In fact so skinny that Mrs. Rona (the camp nurse) had me on the two eggnog ad day schedule. One afternoon during a league softball game, this skinny kid got up to bat and hit a pretty good ball into the right field corner and Micky Rabinovitz turned to Dick Jelen (both watching from the bench) and said, My God, that looks like a Schpindle! It actually looks like a schpindle! (Long and thin) running around the bases. (This had reference to a spindle used in the high speed weaving industry). This nickname has traveled with me for 58 years so far, through 4 years of college, a tour in the US Army, through 35 years of business and I still proudly answer to "Schpindle". To add to this short story, Fifteen years ago, Burt Wyman, in his travels, purchased an actual wooden spindle, and presented it to Schpindle Wilson at a ceremony at one of the reunions. As Mickey readily admits this might have been the most creative thing that he has ever done. Point of information: The fellow bunkmates named above are part and parcel of the "magnificent 7" who have been meeting for the past 20, years at an untold place early every summer. They come from as far away as Missouri, Nevada and points east. These guys are not my friends, they are my brothers. My history above is told with pride and a great deal of love.

Jim “Shoulders” Spelfogel writes: The derivation of “Shoulders” and “Ders”: My first roommate at U. Mass. in Cancé dormitory was Ross Weintraub and this other guy who was a drug pusher. It was the fall of 1970 before my first summer at Bauercrest in the summer of 1971. Ross introduced me to some of his other Worcester buddies from Doherty High School. One of the buddies said I looked like another Worcester classmate of theirs named Les Sholders (not sure of the spelling). The name stuck awhile later when someone went up to Ross and asked: “how’s your roommates: Head and Shoulders?” The “Ders” came from Camp and was just a derivation (abbreviated form) of “Shoulders.”

Scott “Tito” Mirliss writes: As for “Tito”, it was my brother Gary who actually introduced “Tito” to the Crest back in 1968, his only year at camp as a C.I.T. During a trip to visit a relative in Mexico City in 1967, Gary had seen the name, “Tito Benvinito Schwartz” (a local comedian in Mexico) in a local newspaper. He fell in love with the name immediately and brought it back home with him. He used it jokingly while at AEPI / Northeastern (with his fellow frat buddies, Stoney and Peterley Deedley Newman?) and then carried it with him throughout the summer of 68’ at camp...The transition to me took place in 1969. The “Benvinito Schwartz” part went away and but “TITO” stayed with me....and the rest is history, as we say!
BAUERC REST TRIVIA TIME

try some of these challenging, and not-so-challenging “Crest” trivia questions......for the answers, email “Lips” at “coverscape@adelphia.net”.

Which President visited Bauerc rest back in the 1920’s?

The “New Building” is how many years old (as of this summer)?

“Stars & Stripes Forever”, the march written by John Philip Souza, customarily heralds the start of what daily activity?

The initials “GNA” stand for what?

The initials “AGL” stand for what?

What bugle call is sounded about 10 minutes before “Taps”?  

What was traditionally the last stop for campers and counselors at Salisbury Beach, before boarding the buses to go back to Camp on Bunk Night?

What field was arguably one of the two best venues to reserve for Bunk Night?

The Head Bunk is dedicated to what Bauerc rest legend and his late wife, Elaine?

At Hodgies, there how many serving sizes LESS than a so-called “Kiddie”?

The Waiter’s Cheer calls upon those in attendance in the Mess Hall to do what?

A camper must complete how many consecutive laps in order to have qualified as a “Raftier” in General Swim?

What 3 less-than-flattering characterizations are included in the “Three Cheers to the Bus Driver” song which is sung as the buses pull into Camp?

All Counselors gather where just after the start of Color War?

What do you call a “Question” which must be correctly answered by camper diners at the table in the Mess Hall?
What would you call a basketball which stays atop a rafter during a game of rafterball in the Bunk?

What are two games which the “B-a-u-e-r-c-r-e-s-t” song suggests everyone “comes here to play”?

What traditional Hebrew song kicks off the “Bauercrest Welcome Song”?

What sort of plants traditionally could be found growing on the trellises of the Rose Arbor?

What Color War All-Camp relay race traditionally began at the Big House Porch, and ended with a “race for the Beanies” down at the Waterfront?

Our Camp Alma Mater refers to “laughing”, and “happy” what, respectively?

What do the E’s in “EE’s” stand for (not to be confused with the “NN’s”)?

What was the last year for “Kitchen Boys” at the Crest?

Before it was Bernie “B”, who was it “Hats off to” in our Camp Fight Song?

For whom is the maintenance shop in the New Building dedicated?

For what camp personality is the “Big Dipper” portion of the constellation Ursa Major named?

For whom is the “A” diamond dedicated?

For whom is the depression between the Upper Hoop courts and the Big House porch named?

What was Nathan the Chef fond of announcing to the Camp in the Mess Hall during breakfast?

Prior to 1996, what was the only chance that a ball which passed the Main Kybo on its way to the Waterfront could be stopped (not counting camper or counselor assistance)?

During the 1970’s which waterbubbler was said to be the best in Camp?

What is the derivation of the word “KYBO”?
9TH ANNUAL CY SMOLLER GOLF OUTING
to benefit
CAMP BAUERCREST

≈

Monday, July 17, 2006
Georgetown Country Club, Georgetown, MA

11:30 AM Registration,  12:00 PM Barbeque Lunch
1:30 PM Shotgun Start
6:00 PM Cocktails, Dinner, Awards and Raffle Items

• BRAMBLE FORMAT (4 some selects best drive; each player hits second shot from best drive location and plays his or her own ball until holed)
• AWARDS FOR TOP FOURSOMES AND BEST FATHER OR MOTHER-SON PAIR
• PRIZES FOR HOLE IN ONE, CLOSEST TO PIN, LONGEST DRIVE, PUTTING CONTEST
• VALUABLE AUCTION/RAFFLE ITEMS, INCLUDING RED SOX PARAPHERNALIA FROM TWIN SOUVENIERS ON YAWKEY WAY AND RED SOX TICKETS

Questions or additional information, please call or email:
David Mack  781-359-9005; dmack@ocmlaw.net
Mark “Bibs” Smoller 617-965-1830 bibssmol@aol.com

In order to reserve space, kindly complete the below form and return it with payment:

David B. Mack
O’Connor, Carnahan and Mack
8 New England Executive Park, Ste. 310
Burlington, MA 01803

Name of Participant(s) - $150 per player

(1) ___________________; (2) ___________________; (3) ___________________; (4) ___________________

Sponsorship Packages (check applicable box)

Big House - $1000 - Name of Sponsor: __________________
Entry fee for 4 golfers, signs at a tee box and a green

Head Bunk - $500 - Name of Sponsor: __________________
Signs at a tee box and a green

(Old) Rec Hall - $250 - Name of Sponsor: __________________
Sign at a tee box or green

Mess Hall - $150 - Name of Sponsor: __________________
Scholarship opportunity for camp staff or camper to participate in the outing

New Building $_________ - Name of Sponsor:
In lieu of any of the above, the Camp would greatly appreciate a contribution toward gift bags or prizes; proper recognition and sponsorship will be given

Payment method:
check enclosed (Please make payable to "Camp Bauercrest");
credit card
Card type (circle one): Master Card; Visa; AMEX
Name on Card: ____________________________
Card Number: ____________________________ ; Exp. date (mo/yr):
Billing address:

____________________________________

Signature
“For a lifetime!” “For a lifetime!” This is not a mere slogan, this is not just a public relations motto for the group of seventy year old campers which I’m here to represent. Our group, which has somehow become known as “The Bauercrest Seven” all were at camp in the Forties and Fifties, and all have maintained our friendships ever since. In fact for the past twenty years, since 1986, we have had annual weekend reunions, renewing our contacts, sharing the same jokes, and even annoying each other in exactly the same ways we did as kids. Some of us, especially Dave Schpindle Wilson, have remained active in camp affairs over the years. Some of us have not been active except to send our children as campers or to lend our support as philanthropists. But all of us remained firmly attached to that hill by means of what Shel the Siege Siegel describes as an invisible rubber band hooked to the flagpole, a bond that stretches but never breaks, a bond that always brings us back.

I’ve often wondered over the years what is this emotional tradition, this special affinity, and how did it get started on, of all unlikely places, that 45 degree hill, on that tiny, vertically challenged postage stamp of a campus? That the tradition was already strong in 1945. I know from a vivid memory I retain from Blue and White of that year. I found myself walking up the hill next to our noble Blue Team Leader Mal Rosenberg who late in the week was trying to help us maintain a slender lead over the hated White Team. It was my first year at camp and in my naivete I imagined that such a fiercely fought war would surely yield huge concrete rewards for the victors. So I asked Uncle Mal: “What do we get if we win?” I cannot forget Mal’s quizzical expression as he gazed down at me from his six foot height. “I suppose,” he said, “it’s just a sense of pride.”

I learned something so important at that moment that I’m not sure I can quite express to you what it was. But it affected my feelings about whatever I accomplished in life from then on.

So who were the people who got all this started and kept it going in the early years? We geezers all have our early memories of people who may not even be known to most of this young audience. But nevertheless the people who spring to my mind would be Joe Bloomfield, the camp Director; Bernie Berenson the Head Counselor, later known as Mr Bauercrest; Al Toltz the dramatics counselor, and Asher Meltzer the camp Rabbi.

Could it be Joe Bloomfield? Uncle Joe Bloomfield who every Saturday morning after services shook each and every camper by the hand and called each and every camper by a name. The problem was that 95% of the names he called were wrong. Siegel was Wilson, Wilson was Wyman, Wyman was Jelen and so forth. And the next week Jelen was Siegel and Wyman was Wilson and Wilson was Rabinowitz. The man had no memory whatsoever for names and no one had the heart to tell him, so he persisted in doing this week after week, year after year. So Joe Bloomfield was the butt of endless jokes. We all considered him completely out to lunch and out of contact with the real world. So what did such an absent minded befuddled man have to do with the Bauercrest spirit? For many years, I couldn’t say.

Then there was Bernie Berenson, who in the days before the public address system, walked up to the flagpole at the crack of dawn and woke us up by blowing an ear-piercing police whistle through his large Chelsea High School megaphone. Then he would order us out of the bunks for calisthenics, which Bernie, always in top shape, performed better than anyone else. So we started each day by hating Bernie Berenson. And Bernie Berenson, it seemed to many of us, returned the feeling because he always seemed to have a dour expression and be in a slightly pissed off mood, as he ran the camp— which, he seemed to feel, was always on the verge of going out of control. Bernie was even pissed off on the day the baseball diamond was dedicated to his name. He was angry because he could not find one counselor to do a job. He could not find one counselor because they were all on the diamond, waiting for him to appear for the surprise ceremony. He'll not forget the sight of Bernie stalking up the hill in a rage, then stopping in amazement as he saw the whole camp waiting for him. That was the one time I saw Bernie Berenson cry. But the question is, how could such an irritable and ill-tempered man have created the Bauercrest spirit? For a long time, I didn’t know.

And then there was Al Toltz, who did not read music, who provided no scripts, who played the piano with two, possibly four fingers, and who improvised dramatic performances each week simply by telling each camper where to stand and what to say moment by moment. What did this man have to do with the Bauercrest tradition, this untrained man who these days would not even get a job as a dramatics counselor? And of course our Rabbi Asher Meltzer, the gentle giant, who put us all to sleep during services, woke us up in Zmiroth by imitating a belly dancer in his famous version of “Zum Gali Gali” and who is best remembered by his performance on V-J day, August 1945, when he wrapped a towel around his head, tied a flag to a broom, and led a conga line around the whole camp. We loved him as a clown, but as a rabbi? These days some camps might well even dismiss him for his antics.
So, to sum up, we had an always-pissed off head counselor, an amateur dramatics counselor, and a clown for a rabbi. And yet here we all are for the 75th Anniversary, celebrating what they and people like them gave to us. How did they do it?

The answer to this question dawned on me only a few years ago when our group of seven visited the camp and ran into one of our old counselors, Shmimi Smoller. Now Shmimi, as I'm sure Bibs will not hesitate to corroborate, was himself not always an even-tempered person. In fact Shmimi was at times so excitable as to make Bernie Berenson himself seem sweet tempered. So when he caught sight of our group of aging campers, Shmimi, although by then already not in the best of health, showed a flash of his old exuberant excitable self. “My old campers are back!” he shouted. “I must have done something right!”

Yes, Shmimi, you did a lot right, you and Joe Bloomfield and Bernie Berenson and Al Toltz and Asher Meltzer. You poured your heart and soul 100% into Camp Bauercrest, and that’s what we felt from you without even realizing it at the time. But that’s the devotion which mattered the most, that’s what rubbed off into our friendships while at camp, and that’s what we took away from camp within ourselves. This is the same spirit which has been demonstrated by our honored guests in their relations to camp, and by the Board which organized this celebration, and by the generations of campers which are here tonight. May this spirit live forever, L’Chaim and thank you.

“Bert”
Herbert M Wyman M.D.

Back When
Camp Was
Camp....
THE CAMP BAUERCREST ALUMNI NEWSLETTER IS A FREE PUBLICATION PREPARED SOLELY FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE CAMP BAUERCREST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, WHICH IS AFFILIATED WITH CAMP BAUERCREST, INC., A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION.

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Dave Lipof and a cast of characters from Bauercrest’s past!

We need your assistance for our next issue.....please send articles, photos and memories to Dave “Lips” Lipof at coverscape@yahoo.com, or mail to Dave Lipof, P.O. Box 1381, Sagamore Beach, MA 02562

some of the Alumni present at the Camp Bauercrest annual Reunion, Temple Reyim, Nov. 2005