

A LETTER TO MY CAMP SELF

Sara 'Ets' (EtsHokin) Horovitz Camper '98-'03, Staff '04-05, '12-'13 & '15-'18

I know not everyone reading this newsletter had a choice about where they were going to camp. I know I made the decision for my sisters, my cousin, and my daughter (she's not even one, but eventually she'll go). Many of you had mothers, aunts, cousins and other alumni that paved your way to camp. But for me it was a choice, one that I am so thankful that I made, and one that I'm thankful my parents let me make on my own.

I wish I knew exactly what my 9 year old self saw in the camp video and learned in my meeting with Mike, but I KNEW Kamaji was the place for me. This decision has added so much to my life and even though I don't know what Made me know I am thankful, so I wrote a thank you note to my 9 year old self:

Dear Me,

Thank you! Thank you for finding us our home away from home, our safe place and some of our best friends. When you decided that Kamaji was the place to be in the summer of '98, you changed our life forever.

You see, the friends that you will make at camp will be the best people ever. You will still be texting and calling your camp friends long after you last summers at camp.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Family Camp 2021!
- Around the Campfire
- A note from Kat

CAMP ACCOUNT

Camp InTouch is the easiest way to be sure you are in the know for all things
Camp Kamaji. Create an account **HERE**.

KAMAJI GEAR

Tribe shirts, council fire sweatshirts, and more are available for purchase year round! Visit our webstore **HERE.**

RECORD CHECK

We want to stay in touch!
Please update your contact
information and camp
history in your Camp
InTouch account. You can
also email bri@kamaji.com.

Some of your counselors (Kat and Jenny) will become your friends, even though right now they seem so old:) And when you become a counselor you'll have your own campers turned friends.

You will dance, laugh and sing with abandon. You will lose your voice the first week you are at camp, without fail, but it will not slow you down. You will catch frogs at night, and see the Northern lights. You'll "survive" storms and learn the best techniques for hanging towels over the screens. You'll become that oldtimer that tells campers about when cabins didn't have windows and had to push beds together to keep them dry, they will think you are old.

Camp will take you on many wilderness adventures. You will kayak to star island and finish a Canadian. You will capsize in the middle of a lake, get stuck in the muck, lose a canoe and run down the sand hill. You will choose to go on a "staff" Canadian and will have an amazing time and affirm what you've always known, you're not cut out to be a tripper. These trips will leave you with an amazing sense of accomplishment and many bug bites.

Camp will be a place where you make tons of mistakes, and learn how to admit them. You will know that you have a community that supports you and wants the best, whether this mistake is as a camper, or as the tribe leader that forgot to organize flag. These mistakes will feel big in the moment and you will learn that everything can be fixed, you can take criticism and improve, and that there is always someone you can ask for help.

You'll get more job experience in one hour working for camp than you will in whole years of your

"real job". When you look back on each day at camp you'll be amazed to see what you did "today at work". You will hone your plumbing, bat removing, cleaning,







teaching, mentoring, driving, nursing, scheduling, planning and phone answering skills. Your first full time job will be working for camp and you'll get to help plan the 100th summer reunion where you will meet, and serve wine, to other people who love camp as much as you do.

One other thing you need to know is that you will never master cabin clean-up so when your counselors, cabinmates, and co-counselors tell you, you cannot have a bunk bed, believe them!

Love, Me









ABOUT SARA

Tribe: Nanahtahga

Favorite Camp Dessert: Rice

Krispy Treats

Favorite Activity: Arts Village

JOIN US FOR FAMILY CAMP 2021

What: Spend a long weekend in the northwoods with YOUR family reliving your favorite camp memories and making brand new memories too!

When: August 12-16, 2021

Who: All friends of Kamaji are welcome to

attend!

Cost: \$450 per camper

2 years old and under free

CLICK HEKE TO KEGISTEK TODAY!



Summer 2021

We cannot wait to get back to Wolf Lake in a few short months! Spots are filling up, but we we have open spaces in our cabins for both sessions. Please help us spread the word about camp by sharing with your friends, relatives, college roommates and neighbors! Kat is ready to connect over Zoom with future campers to share pictures of camp, explore a typical day and answer any questions!

Please email kat@kamaji.com for more info.

Thank you for helping us grow the Kamaji family!

SUMMER 2021 DATES!

FULL EIGHT WEEK SESSION

THURSDAY, JUNE 17- TUESDAY, AUGUST 10

1ST SESSION

THURSDAY, JUNE 17- TUESDAY, JULY 13

2ND SESSION

THURSDAY, JULY 15- TUESDAY, AUGUST 10

ENROLL TODAY!

HATCHERY 2030

Future Kamaji campers and trip leaders. Congratulations to all of our alumni families and thank you for sharing your photos with us! Alumni's info is listed below photo.



Tracy Kondla



Susan Morris Ovuworie



Sara (Etshokin) Horovitz Camper '98-'03 Staff '04-05, '12-'13 & '15-'18



Molly Lehrkind Camper '96-'98



Megan (Blood) Wolfe

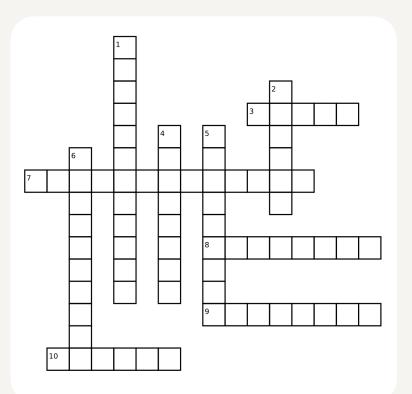


Gambol (Beham) Edelson Camper '93-'97



Do you know a Kamaji alumni with a little one on the way? Let us know and we'll send them a Camp Kamaji onesie too! Email bri@kamaji.com.

KAMAJI CROSSWORD



Down:

- 1. This is a method of choosing someone or something fairly
- 2. Color=Blue, Symbol= Arrow
- 4. Color=Red, Symbol=Fire
- 5. Color=Yellow, Symbol= Corn
- 6. Color=Purple, Symbol= 4-point star

Across:

- 3. Color=Green, Symbol= Pine Tree
- 7. Everyone wears a white shirt to this Sunday evening, quieter, camper and tribe-lead evening program
- 8. Cabin for the youngest campers
- 9. The biggest cabin in camp with 3 porches
- 10. Color=Orange, Symbol= Rising Sun

KAMAJI: A FAMILY TRADITION

Below are current campers and staff members who have parents who attended or worked at Camp Kamaji.

CAMPERS

Margo Reid (Nancy Reid)

Adelee Cronk-Gebbia (Alana Gebbia & Sage Cronk)

Rose Dewein (Megan Gunn)

Alice Grant (Julie Barton Grant)

Beatrice Baker (Betsy Pekin Baker)

Zoe Dewein (Megan Gunn)

Sadie Storino (Maggie Hanel Storino)

Fiona Belmonti (Olivia Fink-Larssen

Belmonti)

Noa Gold (Meagan Gold)

Hope Jernagan (Hopie Welles Jernagan)

Margot McPherson (Betsy Goodman

McPherson)

Sophia Storino (Maggie Hanel Storino)

Oakley Thiesen (Shelley Overholt Thiesen)

Reilly Carter (Angela West Carter)

Katelyn Rosen (Melissa Rosen)

Vivian Alderman (Toby Ballenger)

Amelia & Eliza Kettenring (Shannon

Espenschied Kettenring)

Kate Rogula (Maggie Wiseman Rogula)

Sinks Markham (Tamara "Tinks" Inks

Degenkolb)

Cassidy & Scout Chomas (Jamie Bronner

Chomas)

Gracie Peterman (Molly Jones Peterman)

Eliana Brown (Kim Cole)

Lia Fleischer (Sara Kraner Fleischer)

Flo Lloyd (Jordan Bookey)

Evie & Pippi McWilliams (Lesley McWilliams)

Alexa Young (Rachel Richman Young)

Rosie Rissman (Laura Sidemann Rissman)

Ella Rubenstein (Betsy Sitrin Rubenstein)

Emma Sagett (Genevieve Nisenboim

Sagett)

Cliona Bandle (Kate Stewert)

Kassidy Leonard (Erin Moore)

Willa Wojcik (Jana Abrahams Wojcik)

Cate & Eleanor Cassidy (Tracy Wasserman

Cassidy)

Lucy Crimmings (Jane Dizcok Crimmins)

Mirabelle Threadgold (Jessica Hochman)

Iris Barringer-Mills (Andy Mills)

Margot, Betsy, & Lucy Kesselman (Jamie

Wolbach Kesselman)

El Polonsky (Ami Lipschultz Polonsky)

Lilliana Gigliotti (Rachel More Gigliotti)
Sam Irvin (Leah Fredman Irvin)
Nelson Rice (Meredith Stern Rice)
Garnet Tobin (Caitlin Talbott Tobin)
Lia Wilson (Susie Anderson Wilson)
Annie Alcorn (Sarah Rozensky Alcorn)
Juliette Sagett (Genevieve Nisenboim
Sagett)

Avery & Tatum Rosenblatt (Heather Rifkin Rosenblatt)

Hailey Young (Rachel Richman Young)



STAFF

Summer & Crosby Carreno(Beth Jones Carreno)





We celebrate Kamaji Day on the last Friday of February each year! Check out all of the fun photos submitted by alumni below.















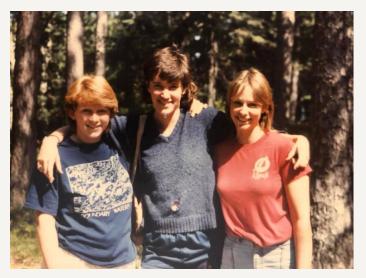
KAMAJI GEAR

Can't find your tribe shirt? Check out our webstore for all of your official Kamaji gear. We have tribe shirts, Council Fire sweatshirts, and more available for purchase year-round through our partners at Amerasport.

You can shop all things Camp Kamaji **HERE**!

AROUND THE CAMPFIRE

Camp stories, memories, and photos. Submissions have been edited for length and clarity



Cat Wilson, Mary Berigan and Ana Spacey at Kamaji.



Pine Manor 2010 Campers at Casino Night



Group hug!



Jamie Kesselman shared the above photo of her 5th Year Camper Paddles.



Dr. Judy Meisner joined the tradition and lit her candle on New Year's Eve .

We want to hear from YOU! Submit your Camp Kamaji memories and photos to kat@kamaji.com or bri@kamaji.com for the next edition of 1914

AROUND THE CAMPFIRE SPOTLIGHT

This piece was recently shared by **Betty Ann Minar Richardson**, Kamaji camper 1942-1955.

KAMAJI MEMORIES

It was 1942. World War II was raging across Europe and the Pacific, yet somehow Bert and Phil kept Kamaji running. We came to camp with our food rationing stamps and were allowed only one jar of sugar per week on each table in the dining room. I was also at camp at the end of the war when Bert rang the bell and we all gathered by the lodge to announce the war was over. All the counselors started crying. Their brothers and boyfriends were coming home!

In 1942, I was only six years old, so Bert decided I needed a longer afternoon rest. Pat Bender,1 the camp bugler, was given the task of taking me up to Bert and Phil"s house for my nap.



I felt very lucky to be allowed to go to Kamaji at such a young age because Bert and Phil were close friends of my parents. Mother had been the camp swimming counselor when they bought Kamajiwian on Star Island in Cass Lake. My dad would tell the story of going to visit Mom at camp before they were married and being shocked at seeing so many girls in shorts. Women wore more clothes in those days!

Bert and Phil were like two extra mothers to me. They did not let me get by with anything. One day I came out of the lake with a blood sucker attached to my body. I was screaming! Bert calmly said "Pull it off." It soon became clear she was not going to do it—it was up to me! I have been in many Minnesota lakes since then and getting a blood sucker on me was never a problem again.

At age six, I loved the camp store. I could buy anything I wanted. After camp that year my dad sat me down for a financial lesson. He informed me that if I ever spent money like that again, I would never go back to camp. I had purchased enough Camp Kamaji stationary to last me for the next 12 years! It was a financial lesson I never forgot.

1 The story of how Pat was hired as camp bugler is interesting. She and her father would play Taps together for various community events. He would send her off into the woods with her bugle. Then he would play the first notes of Taps, and she would echo him with her bugle off in the woods. It was reported to be quite beautiful.

One day Bert and Phil were driving into Bemidji with a friend. They passed by young Pat as she was riding her bike, and the friend said, "That"s who you should hire to be your new bugler." And Pat became the camp bugler.

Kamaji is probably the only summer camp that offered downhill skiing. Just past Bert and Phil"s house on the way to the tennis courts is a small hill. They used to spread pine needles on that hill and teach us to ski on those pine needles. There was a dress code for skiing class—long pants! If you forgot and wore shorts, you paid the price if you fell on those needles. I believe the counselor who taught skiing had been in the Olympics.

Sometime in the late 1940"s we had horseback riding. We were driven on dirt roads to Bemidji for that activity. They later



offered horseback riding on site. I also remember that at least once a season Bert and Phil had the camp sprayed for mosquitoes. We all had to stay in our cabins with the shades pulled up for that event.

During the polio epidemic of 1946 no one was allowed to leave camp, not even on canoe trips. After camp season that year, I was taken off the camp train at 4 a.m.to stay at our family cabin. My parents did not want me going into the city. The Minneapolis schools opened six weeks late that year. I remember hearing the ambulance sirens going through the night carrying polio victims to the hospital.

Bert and Phil spent their winter months recruiting campers from Tulsa and Kansas City for the next camp season. In the 1940"s and 1950"s there were two camp sessions—one three weeks long and one six weeks. I attended the three-week session for five years and the six-week session for eight years.

There came a time when Bert and Phil realized it was time to sell the camp. They were about to sell it to the Girl Scouts when my family were visiting one Memorial Day weekend. Mary Frances and Bill Edmondson came to camp to show Bill where Mary Francis had gone to camp. My dad walked Bill around, and at some point Bill said, "I would love to run a camp like this." Dad said, "Why don"t you buy it?" And that is how Bill and Mary ended up purchasing Kamaji instead of the Girl Scouts.

In closing, I must add that Bert and Phil spent many Christmases with our family. Bert and I would always light our camp candle together on Christmas Eve. They were amazing women and a big influence in my life. Beatrice Berthold (Bert) and Gladys Fellows (Phil) taught values of body, mind, soul, and spirit. They gave life-long lessons to hundreds of girls for many decades.

I will now end this remembering the sound of Pat Bender"s playing Taps in the silence of that paradise on Wolf Lake.

Go Ishkaydays!!!

P.S. Message from Bert: "Always start learning to swim by "bobbing."" Message from Phil: "Don"t forget to feather your canoe paddle!"

AROUND THE CAMPFIRE

Camp stories, memories, and photos. Submissions have been edited for length and clarity



Kamaji Campers in the 1940's, photo submitted from the collection of the late **Margaret** "Maggie" Frame Hill.



Kamaji group shot, August 1951



Kamaji campers & counselors 1953



Betty Erikson Minar and Sally MacMahan at Kamaji.



Jackie and **Phil** at the Headwaters of the Mississippi river, **Susie Snell** is in the background, August 18, 1949

KEEPING IT FRESH

One of the best parts of camp is knowing that you can return at anytime and still feel at home. We are very proud of the traditions and unchanging pieces of Camp Kamaji. Of course, we're always working on little improvements like the ones below:

- Fresh paint for the kitchen
- Replaced all the screens in the kitchen and new trim painted and installed
- Painted the lodge and dining room window trim and put new glaze on all windows
- The office has new doors and siding to match the other updated buildings in camp
- New "in" and "out" doors in all the wash houses to help minimize any crowding
- Two new bathrooms in Club Med (the Health Center)
- New hand washing stations conveniently positioned around camp
- Two portable buildings have been built that we can move around and use as living quarters for someone that isn't feeling well or eventually as staff housing

THANKS RANDY!

We are very lucky to have our year-round caretaker, Randy Nyberg, on our team! Randy has been very busy this offseason keeping up with the regular maintenance of camp AND new changes due to Covid-19 protocols.









SOCIAL MEDIA NOTE

We love staying connected with all of you via our social media channels! We know that there are a ton of fun apps gaining popularity, but for now we are sticking with the originals.

Find us at our official accounts below:

Facebook Camp Kamaji for Girls

> Instagram @CampKamaji

> > Twitter @KamajiKat

STAFF LIFE UPDATES

This year we are asking our staff to keep our community safe by foregoing time-off in town. It is a big "ask" and we want to show our gratitude to all of them! Here's what we have in store:

Staff Lounge

- The "Movie Room" will be repurposed as a small café or market to buy a variety of treats.
- We will include one-cup brewing machines to make your own specialty coffee, tea or hot chocolate.
- A full-sized refrigerator(s) in the lounge will be available to staff to keep additional favorites frozen or cool.

Tented "Staff Hangs" at Camp

- Two large tents will be placed by the caretaker's house for staff to use during their down-time/time-off. The tents provide a shaded area, and one side of each tent will be walled off to help provide some privacy from little camper eyes. But the tents will still be open and therefore "outside", safe, and comfortable.
- We will have picnic tables, additional seating and we know, most importantly, WIFI.
- In addition to the 2 big tents and courtyard area by the caretaker's house, we will have another tent by the Staff Lounge building. This tent will also have lighting and picnic tables so you can eat, play cards, visit with your friends, write letters, craft, whatever! And yes, more wifi!

Other Hangs

- Since cars will not be coming in/out this summer, we are transforming the parking lot area into another spot for staff to hang together.
- We are putting up an additional hammock "village" for just staff.
- We will have activities like bags, a bowling lane, looking to find a foosball/pool table and other outdoor games/activities.

What Else? Glad you asked!!

- Campfires up by the Staff Hang- obviously s'mores
- Nighttime staff "snacks"- we will do various treats/meals/snacks
- Movie Nights: Setting up an outdoor screen.
- For Days-Off, we will make activities available from paddle boarding to waterskiing!
- Town Trips: We are running small groups into town to pick up the World Famous Dave's Pizza and eat it at the park. Trips to Itasca State Park for bike rides and walk across the Headwaters of the Mississippi River, or a bike ride around Lake Bemidji and Dairy Queen by the Lake

THANK YOU!

A big THANK YOU to

Martha Gay Reese for
her generous
contribution to Camp
Kamaji's 2021 Staff
Time-Off fund! We
appreciate your
support of our
incredible staff.





CAMP FOR ALL KIDS

We are proud to continue our partnership with Camp for All Kids. CFAK promotes and facilitates racial diversity by sending kids from under-served communities to overnight summer camp.

As you know, like no other youth activity, camp has the ability to shape life-long attitudes and behaviors. It is a place where children are treated as individuals, not as stereotypes; where campers are judged by their behavior, not by their appearance.

At Camp Kamaji we truly believe that when camp is diverse, everyone benefits.

Are you interested in becoming a CFAK board member? Please email kat@kamaji.com for more info.



DONATE TODAY!

NEW FOR THIS SUMMER!!

We are proud to share a new opportunity we are making available for campers whom have been awarded a scholarship to attend Camp Kamaji. Feeling a part of camp is much more than just coming to camp- we want each and every member of our camp community to feel welcomed and truly a part of this remarkable family of people. One small part of this is having all the stuff and feeling prepared for all the fun and silliness we have in store!! Camp Kamaji will be offering the following items:

- Shower caddy
- Sleeping bag with stuff sack (sleeping bags will be loaned for the session and will be returned before camper leaves for home).
- Headlamp or flashlight
- Camping Chair (like a "Crazy Creek")
- Embroidery floss
- Tutu
- An additional Sweatshirt
- Rain Boots- can be used for riding
- Water shoes/sandals that attach to the ankle
- Water bottle
- Onesie
- Stationery
- Clipboard
- Tribe Package goodies

Let us know if you would like to contribute toward gifting new items to welcome campers to Kamaji!

KAMAJI + YOGA&

We recently teamed up with Yoga& to host a fundraiser for Camp For All Kids! Thank you to the alumni who attended this fun virtual event! Together we raised \$150 to help send kids to camp!

Yoga& was created by Camp Kamaji alumni Sarah Bronson. Sarah was a camper/counselor from '05-'14. She lives in Chicago and works full time as an occupational therapist. Before the pandemic she was working at CorePower Yoga, teaching yoga sculpt and then when the pandemic hit, pivoted and launched her own yoga business called Yoga& in hopes of providing people with their yoga practice while also creating community and a sense of belonging at a very challenging time. log on and join one of her classes!



Tribe: Waubun

Favorite Camp Dessert: Caramel

Ribbon Bars

Favorite Activities: Skiing and

sailing!



VISIT YOGA& HERE

NOW HIRING!

Staffing camp this summer is proving more difficult than "typical" years. Please help Kamaji by referring your friends and family to join the Kamaji Team.

Open Positions

- Cabin counselors who teach one of the following: Sailing, Swimming, Canoeing, Paddleboarding (Stand-Up Paddling), Waterskiing, Windsurfing, Fishing, Kayaking, Tennis, Archery, Fitness, Dance, Outdoor Living Skills, Low Ropes Course and Climbing Wall.
- Wilderness Trip Leaders who lead trips from two to nine days long.
- Maintenance and Housekeeping Workers
- Cooks and Kitchen Assistants
- Nurses and Nursing Assistants
- Nanny
- Administrative Office Assistant
- Leadership Positions



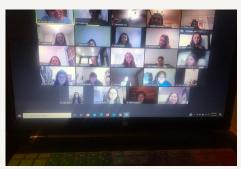
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TODA4!

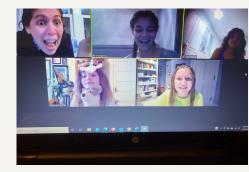
ZOOM-UNIONS!

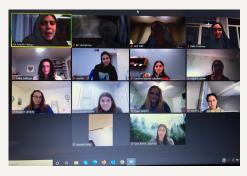
In an effort to stay in touch with our remarkable campers throughout this extended "off season", we have been hosting Zoom calls with age groups and staff. It has truly been the highlight of the year for me, personally. We have compiled pictures to present slideshows to the various groups, if you're interested in watching, enjoy here:

- Hatchery & Cocoon
- 1st-3rd Graders
- Nutshell
- 5th Graders
- 6th & 7th Graders
- 8th Graders
- 8th & 9th Graders
- Pine Manor '21
- LT '21
- Staff '19 & '21
- Camp Zoom-union

















BOY OH BOY IS THAT GREAT

Recipe from the Kamaji cookbook

MARJENA'S LASAGNA

Ingredients

- 26 30 ounces of your favorite spaghetti sauce
- 1 pound (16 ounces) cottage cheese
- 2 teaspoons parsley flakes
- 3/4 teaspoon leaf oregano
- 12 dried (uncooked!) lasagna noodles which is equivalent to 3/4 pound lasagna noodles
- 3/4 pound (12 ounces) shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1/4 cup shredded parmesan cheese

Directions

- 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
- 2. Mix cottage cheese, parsley flakes and oregano.
- 3. Spoon 1/3 of the spaghetti sauce into bottom of 9x13 baking dish.
- 4. Arrange 6 (uncooked!) noodles in a 9x13-inch baking dish, breaking if necessary to fit.
- 5. Spoon 1/3 of the sauce over noodles.
- 6. Top with ½ cottage cheese mixture and ½ of the mozzarella cheese.
- 7. Repeat layers with remaining noodles, sauce, cottage cheese, and mozzarella cheese. Top with 1/4 cup shredded Parmesan cheese.
- 8. Cover tightly with plastic wrap followed by a layer of aluminum foil (shiny side in, as always at Kamaji!). Make sure that both the wrap and the foil are pulled tightly around edges of baking dish. It is this critical step that will guarantee that noodles steam cook
- 9. If at all possible refrigerate overnight or at least an hour or two. (Not a critical step if in a time crunch.)
- 10. Bake lasagna, covered, until noodles are soft, cheese is melted, and sauce is bubbly, about 1 hour. Allow to sit for 15 30 minutes (with wraps intact) minutes before serving.
- 11. Unwrap, cut into pieces and serve.

Servings: 8



SINGING IN THE RAIN

Lyrics from the Kamaji Songbook

Nutshell

We are - We are Nutshell - Nutshell We are - We are Nutshell - Nutshell. We're the Nutshell We're the best We're the best Of all the rest.

We are - we are Nutshell - Nutshell.

We're the Nutshell
We're the one
Always smilin'
Having fun.
We are - We are Nutshell - Nutshell.

50 Years of Kamaji (Dedicated to Bill and M.F.)

Many years have come and gone
But the golden year of Kamaji
Will live forever in our hearts
And leave a lasting memory.
Campers new and campers old
Have all been true
Through years untold.
The joys they've shared,
The tears they've beared,
Will ever be remembered there.

The 50 years of Kamaji
Fill many hearts with loyalty.
For we have found a rainbow's end
And ne'er too many days we'll spend
At our fair Kami
For it's there.

So here's to MF and Bill
Whose love so many hearts have filled
Our lives may change
Our paths may part
But you'll be there
Within our hearts.



Glow, little glow worm,
Glimmer, glimmer.
We know a girl who could be slimmer.
Teeth bashed in and hair peroxided.
In the moonlight she's cross-eye-ed.
Ruffles on her petticoat
Blow in the breezes
Just to show off her knock-knees-es.
We don't care what people say
We love (Camper's/counselor's name) anyway!

THE FORD SONG (Pile of Tin)

Got this great big hunk of tin
Nobody knows what shape it's in
It's got four wheels and a running board
It's a four door, it's a Ford.

[Chorus]

Honk, honk, rattle, rattle, rattle, crash, bang, bang Honk, honk, rattle, rattle, rattle, crash, bang, bang Honk, honk, rattle, rattle, rattle, crash, bang, bang Honk, honk, honk, honk, honk, toot, toot.

Tried to drive my car to heaven
Started out at half past seven
When I found I had no brakes
Drove right past those pearly gates.
[Repeat Chorus













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CONNECT

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- Camp InTouch

ENROLL TODAY!

2021 EnrollmentApplication

WHAT'S UP WITH THAT, WHAT'S UP WITH KAT?

It's been a challenging year for all of us, yes. As I sit down to write something inspirational, I still find my head spinning a bit with all the stuff. So instead, I'm going to share a few of the highlights that have lifted my spirits and hope they also make you smile.

- Zooming with my campers. I joked with them that we were hosting these zooms for them, but truth be told, I think I benefited the most. The girls were amazing. So many fantastic questions, from new campers, from returning campers and even counselors from 2019 showed up to see their campers! We had special guests, dogs of all sizes, cats, a chick and even a rabbit.
- Emailing with Sue Kilbride, who is a Kamaji alumna, and her mother was a longtime camper/counselor and friend of Bert and Phil's. She has shared stories, pictures, and videos. I've reveled in these memories.
- Participating in a Camp for All Kids yoga fundraiser hosted by Camp Kamaji camper/counselor, Sarah Bronson. This was a camper, her first summer at 9 years old, who cried almost daily. Truly, truly homesick. This little Waubun sat on my lap and cried a lot that summer. Fast forward 10 years she stood out as one of the strongest, most delightful, and loyal Kamaji girls in memory, and will always hold a special place in my heart. Watching her as a young entrepreneur launch a side business and lead an excellent yoga program and small reunion amongst Kamaji alum of varying ages was so uplifting.

- I received a short and thoughtful email from my camper, Sinks (yes, Tinks' daughter!). And in the midst of having to postpone last summer and try to be positive for my community, Sinks wrote me a note, not about her own disappointment but cheering me on. I needed it.
- A 2021 new camper, **Landyn**, has been lobbying for 2 years for her parents to allow her to join us at Kamaji...and it is happening!!! This ambitious, now 12-year-old, spent the last couple of years writing me all on her own, asking great questions, conveying answers to her parents and we finally got Landyn and her sister signed up! Her emails continue to be a delight.
- We have so many new, young campers
 joining us in 2021. It is especially fun for me
 to welcome campers of alumni. It is so
 special to see these girls light up when I
 describe the activities and evening
 programs and appropriately roll their eyes
 when their moms and I go off on some
 tangent about when "I was a camper...."
- As overwhelming as making plans for 2021 might feel sometimes, I also get excited by the challenge of thinking creatively and pivoting a bit. What new ideas are we going to integrate into our program?! What changes will be made and make Kamaji stronger?! What traditions will start that will be embraced and continue?!
- When sharing some of the tentative plans for the first week of camp in 2021, Hayle
 Cohen (16 years old) simply said, "I think it sounds great, and I can't wait to be back with my friends". It is all I really needed to hear!









- So many alum, from many different eras of camp, have taken the time to reach out and extend support to me and **Jason**, personally, and also gone "above and beyond" to support our beloved camp. It has been really humbling.
- I have spent a lot of time with my own three children. **Caleb**, the 6-year-old, has talked a lot about camp and having missed it last summer. I feel fortunate that my family is able to grow up at camp each summer and around such a wonderful community.
- I received an email from the Trip Leader, **Jonathan Willy** ('06), who lead the Canadian Canoe trip with me when I was a Pine Manor counselor. He is now an 8th grade science teacher and loves sharing stories from our trip with his students.
- The summer of 2020 was the first time I was not at camp consecutively since 2001. What does one DO during the summer? It was absolutely a joy to watch **Lillian Fleisher** ('06-'19) teach two of my own children how to swim after watching her teach many, many lucky Kamaji campers over the past few summers.

I am so pleased to share just a few of the highlights from this year. Of course, the biggest thrill is that we can open camp in 2021 and we are welcoming so many campers to join us. Camp might look a little different and we may have to do a few things differently, but the essence of Kamaji will remain the same: it will be a happy, healthy, supportive place for campers to have fun, be silly, learn new skills and make strong connections with people that will be their lifelong friends on the beautiful shores of Wolf Lake.





IT'S A SMALL WORLD



Current/Future campers and daughter's of alumni- Ella Rubenstein (Betsy Sitrin Rubenstein), Emma Sagett (Genevieve Nisenboim Sagett) and Sydney Genser (Michelle Genser).

Be sure to send us your photos and small world (even from a distance) run-ins to include in the next edititon of 1914! Email bri@kamaji.com or kat@kamaji.com.

Lauren Baer and I are now working together at Arena. Lauren was recently offered the position of Managing Partner and I'll be the Director of Development - together we'll be training and supporting the next generation of campaign staffers and candidates.

We couldn't be more thrilled to be working together and I wanted to be sure Kamaji was aware of this small world connection. The power of Kamaji is magical!

Becca Israel (1996-2000)



Current campers and daughter's of alumni-Scout Chomas (**Jamie Bronner Chomas**), Juni Rogers, Vivian Alderman (**Toby Ballenger**), Audrey Fox.





CROSSWORD KEY

Across:

3. Metig

7. O'Naug-she-nodin

- 8. Hatchery
- 9. Nutshell
- 10. Waubun

Down:

- 1. Horsengoggle
- 2. Geshig
- 4. Ishkaday
- 5. Mundahmin
- 6. Nanahtahga