

A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Experiencing the Spirit of Brantwood

Dear Friends:

It is so exciting to be writing to you as the Executive Director of Brantwood. I'm already in love and can't wait to experience the *Spirit* of Brantwood this summer. Of all the interviews that I conducted this spring, the one thing that was conveyed over and over again, by literally every returning staff member was that the Brantwood *Spirit* is alive and well. I can't

wait to watch and participate as the magic of camp unfolds once again for the 119th year!

Brantwood Camp welcomes our new Camp Director, Erin Farah. Most recently serving as Director of Residential Programs at Camp Dogwood Summer Academy in Wolftown, Virginia, Erin brings over fourteen years of summer camp leadership experience to Brantwood.

She started her camp career as a camp counselor at Sidwell Summer at Sidwell Friends School in Washington, DC where she eventually became Assistant Director of Auxiliary Programs and Middle School Afterschool Director, as well as Director of the Bethesda campus summer programs. She also has seven years of experience as a middle school teacher. Erin completed her undergraduate studies in environmental science and psychology at St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY and is in the process of completing coursework towards her MBA at American University in Washington, DC. A Maine native, Erin is returning to New England with her husband, Faool, and her 10-year-old cat, Nugget. She enjoys cooking, gardening, kayaking, climbing, and yoga. Erin has hit the ground running and things are progressing nicely for camp this summer.

We are very fortunate to have a great pipeline for staff with our Junior and Middle Counselor program. We are doing well



Amy R. Boyd

with staffing this summer for permanent counselors and have many new JC's and MC's coming up. Our leadership staff this summer will be Kandis Santiago as the Girls' Program Director and Brittany Basher as the Assistant Program Director. For the Boys' Camp, Tremayne Castel will be the Program Director and

Robbie Welcome will be the Assistant Program Director. Along with Erin and Ashley Denning, I have a great team to work with this summer.

I would like to give a heartfelt shout out to Tyriq Howard who conducted all the staff interviews with me this spring. He was a great resource of information and helped me to learn about Brantwood from a camper and staff members perspective. Mr. Howard has accepted a full-time position as Assistant Director at Crossroads Camp in Duxbury MA. We will miss him this summer and wish him the best as he launches his career in camping and youth leadership.

This spring we are looking forward to hosting the St. Mark's third form for a week of learning and fellowship. We have been blessed with many projects that the St. Markers have done for Brantwood. This spring they will be putting together new chicken coops so we can enjoy learning about chickens and gathering and eating fresh eggs for breakfast. They will also be constructing raised beds so we can grow some veggies and show Campers how they can grow fresh food, even on a balcony or patio at home.

We are working on building a new Girls' Program Director's cabin this year. It will be modeled after the Jenkins cabin in the Boys' Camp. If you would like to contribute to the building of this cabin we would be most grateful. The cabin will be dedicated to the memory of Margaret Gurney, the first Girls' Camp Director and and wife of Trustee Bill Gurney.

My husband David and I feel very blessed to be among the hills at beautiful Brantwood and in New Hampshire. Spending time with nearby family has been an added bonus. We have received a warm welcome from the Brantwood, Peterborough and Antrim communities. It feels more like home everyday.

Please join us for **Alumni Day on Sunday, August 20th.** I have heard about so many of our wonderful alumni and I can't wait to meet you. Until then . . . For Brantwood We Stand.

> Amy R. Boyd aboyd@brantwood.org

THE FIVE IDEALS: Honesty, Loyalty, Cooperation, Unselfishness, Good Sportsmanship

Brantwood Camp • 1 • Spring 2023

Each One, Teach One!!

The Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Corner

BY D'LAIJA FRANCIS-ABDULLAH, BRANTWOOD CAMP TRUSTEE (ONWARD & UPWARD)

"The world as we have created it is a process of our thinking. It cannot be changed without changing our thinking."

–Albert Einstein

BACKGROUND: Formulated in Summer 2022, The DEI taskforce's goal is to ensure a safe, transparent, and inclusive educational camping experience where every voice is heard, and every person is warmly welcomed.

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT: Diversity is a core value of BWC and is embedded in the mission, philosophy and the five ideals. BWC honors the experiences, perspectives and unique identities of all individuals and will continuously strive to create and maintain an educational camping experience that is diverse, inclusive, equitable and warmly welcoming.

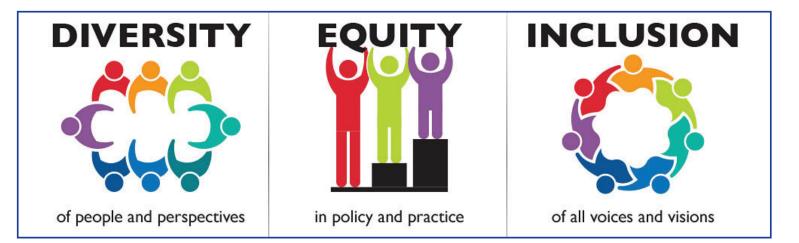
GOALS (ONGOING)

The Reach-out: The Board has a willingness to receive and accept honest feedback through transparent and meaningful interactions. In August, 2022, the Board hosted a Listening Session for alumni and other members of the Brantwood community. Based on this fruitful session, a number of goals emerged:

1. Policies, Procedures, and Programming: The DEI Taskforce, under the leadership of the Executive Director, continues to scrutinize the appropriateness and consistency of language used to communicate with the Brantwood community. Using that same lens, the team is also working to streamline our policies and procedures to ensure consistency across the organization as well as implement programmatic updates that are respectful of the uniqueness and needs of both camps, and effective in honoring both the spirit of the Five Ideals as well as the experiences of campers and staff.

- 2. Building & Maintaining a Diverse Workforce/Board Diversity: Building a diverse team is important because it inspires creativity, innovation, and varied perspectives; it welcomes open communication, fosters trust, improves relationships, enhances strategic planning, promotes effective decision-making, enhances conflict resolution, raises cultural awareness, and fosters empathy and compassion.
- 3. Training & Development: Expert-led structured situational and discussion-based training will provide tools and empower staff to have effective crucial conversations, despite the difficulty and/or discomfort of the topic.
- 4. Visualization (Web Development): Planned updates of our website will include a DEI focused page and a Meet the Board section which will provide an opportunity for Trustees to be more transparent, visible, and accessible to the Brantwood community.

NOTE: The taskforce is committed to the process of improving the Brantwood experience for all members of our community. This will be accomplished through research of industry standards, evaluation of the program, and importantly, your valuable feedback. Please contact D'Laija Francis-Abdullah at: abatiks@hotmail.com



BRINLEY M. HALL Jr. 1940-2023

Former Brantwood counselor and longtime trustee Brinley Morgan Hall Jr. passed away on Feb. 2, 2023. He was 82.

Born in Boston and raised in Beverly Farms, Massachusetts, Brinley was the son and nephew of two Brantwood Camp directors. His father, Brinley Sr., served as Brantwood's director from 1932 through 1934. His uncle, Edward T. "Ned" Hall, got his start helping out his older brother in 1934 and in 1936 volunteered as a shack counselor. Then Ned continued on as a member of the Camp's permanent staff for the next 15 years, serving as director or co-director for nine of those summers.

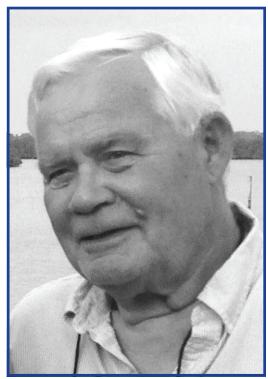
Thus Brinley the younger became a volunteer shackie in 1958 and, after graduating from St. Mark's School in 1959, he served as a Brantwood counselor while attending the University of Pennsylvania. A stint in the United States Marine Corps followed.

Brinley's primary career was as an educational administrator for various schools in Massachusetts. In the fall of 1982, he returned to St. Mark's School, where he would serve as both director of admissions and alumni director during his time there. St. Mark's also brought Brinley back into the Brantwood fold. He became active in recruiting St. Mark's students to work at the Camp and he twice hosted successful Brantwood reunions at the School. Brinley was elected to the Brantwood Board in 1984 and he would remain a Brantwood trustee for 35 years.

Brinley Hall's greatest contribution as a Brantwood trustee was his advocacy for and support of the fledgling girls' camp. Established in 1982, Brantwood for Girls moved to Camp Holiday's Milford, New Hampshire facility in 1984. That summer, Mr. Hall served as Girls' Program Advisor, helping the staff adapt to the idiosyncrasies of the new campus. He would continue to guide and support the girls' program through its departure from the Milford site for Camp Quinapoxet in Rindge, NH, and to its ultimate return to the slope of North Pack in Peterborough and the permanent location of Brantwood for Girls.

"Brinley was such a strong supporter of the girls' program," says Keri Ann Strain, who became director of Brantwood for Girls in 1984. "He volunteered his time to help get us started at the Holiday location. Brinley was a strong fatherly presence for all of us – staff and campers. We would often look to Brinley for guidance in those early days. Along with sharing wisdom in his very laid-back way, he also blessed us with his humor and brought much needed levity and perspective to many situations. I am very grateful for Brinley's presence at camp and for his continued support. Brinley is a great man who will be sorely missed."

Noelle Leonard, who succeeded Ms. Strain as director at the girls' camp and who is currently President of the Brant-



wood Board of Trustees, remembers Mr. Hall as an active and involved trustee. "Throughout his time on the Brantwood Board, Brinley would spend several days visiting both camps, refereeing games and giving his instructive chapel talk on the strength and power of working together," recalls Ms. Leonard. "He had a keen interest in understanding staff members' perspectives on how the summer was going and often shared these perspectives with other Trustees to ensure that the voices of the counselors were considered at our Board meetings."

In addition to Brantwood, Brinley also volunteered with organizations such as The Deck House School in North Edgecomb, Maine, and Habitat for Humanity of Collier County, Florida. Additionally, he was an active member of both St. Francis by the Sea Episcopal Church in Blue Hill, Maine, and St. Raphael's Episcopal Church of Fort Myers Beach, Florida. He truly enjoyed his retirement in both Fort Myers and Blue Hill.

He leaves behind his wife of 59 years, Ann "Rooney" Hall; his three children: son Morgan Hall (himself a volunteer Brantwood counselor while at St. Mark's), son Tuck Hall, daughter Wendy Hall Speth; and his five grandchildren, In addition he is survived by three siblings, numerous cousins (several with their own Brantwood connections), and many nieces and nephews. "We would often look to Brinley for guidance in those early days. Along with sharing wisdom in his very laid-back way, he also blessed us with his humor and brought much needed levity and perspective to many situations."

– Keri Ann Strain

THE FIVE IDEALS: Honesty, Loyalty, Cooperation, Unselfishness, Good Sportsmanship

Why I support Brantwood Camp

BY LINZEE COOLIDGE, **BRANTWOOD CAMP** TRUSTEE

I'm still loving the "magic" that Brantwood gives.

– Linzee Coolidge

T've been asked, "Why do I donate money to Brant-⊥wood Camp?" When I was a teenager, Brantwood was a magical education for me. As a camp counselor I learned how to deal with a world that I was growing into, and becoming an adult.

When I first came to Brantwood, to tell the truth, I was a somewhat spoiled teenager, pretty unaware of any duties and responsibilities needed to be an actual adult. I was doing fairly well at my school, St. Mark's, but you would describe me as a "Preppie," having plenty of the good things in life, and pretty sure all these things would continue in my future life.

The beginning of my education in the world began as a sixteen year old counselor. "Mr. Coolidge" as the campers had to address me, was now responsible for about ten boys, aged 12 to 15, for two weeks. It was a tough schedule. My job was to organize the boys for meals, games, swimming, hikes, etc. I had to care for the homesick, calm the belligerent, encourage the challenged, quiet the loud, and praise the successful. I quickly realized this was not at all like home! You have to work hard and closely with different types of people and overcome some

pretty interesting challenges. This counselor work was exhausting. The reward was seeing the boys have a good time and learn and grow in their two weeks at Brantwood.

The campers came from families with different levels of resources. Many would not have been able to come to the camp because they could not pay the full cost. Fortunately, there was money available to pay for scholarships. It's always been a source of joy to me that this place was open to all children, regardless of background or ability to pay.

As you might have guessed, the magic worked, and from being a somewhat unaware juvenile I graduated as a responsible person, respecting and loving the experience I'd had as a Brantwood counselor. It began in 1953, and I'm still loving the "magic" that Brantwood gives. Needless to say it takes many donations to run this camp. For what it gave me, I want to give back, so girls and boys can enjoy a summer camping adventure and young people working as counselors can have the same type of growth experience for life I had. This is important to me and I love giving back to a place near and dear to my heart.

A new Brantwood tradition: Amazon Wish List

List! What was your most beloved activity at camp? Was it basketball, tie dye, friendship bracelets, knot tying, water games or something else?



Take a picture of the QR code with your camera or QR reader on your smartphone, and it should take you to our wish list.

Here's the link as well: https://a.co/iBYB3FX

TA7e are super excited to start a new tradition at Brantwood this summer. The Amazon Wish

We have created a Wish List

on Amazon of items that we need to make camp so much fun this summer. You can go on the wish list and pick items that you would like to purchase to have available for our campers this summer. They will get mailed directly to us and it will be like Christmas in the summer as we open the presents and pass the love on to our campers.

We are adding some new program offerings and one of them is sewing on a sewing machine. The campers will



Our first "Amazon Gifts" have arrived! We are so grateful and excited for what's still to come!

make a quilt and we will auction it off at the end of the summer. Sewing is a life skill that is not taught anymore, and kids just love to learn. Amy Boyd is an avid quilter and will be teaching this at both camps this summer. Since it is a new program, we

> will need supplies and they are on the wish list.

If you have a quilter in your life that has lots of fabric, maybe they would like to donate some to Brantwood for our sewing projects. We are looking for cotton fabric only, not polyester or knit fabric. Maybe this quilter would like to come to camp and help teach the campers how to sew. If you or someone you know is interested in helping, please have them reach out to Amy Boyd at aboyd@brantwood.org.

Greetings from the Board President

Brantwood has helped me in so many aspects of my personal and professional Dife. One of the most important things I have gained from Brantwood is the ability to work with and learn from campers and counselors from so many walks of life. These experiences have been invaluable in my profession as a police officer and in my job as a mama. Importantly, the Brantwood experience is a gift that I have been able to pass on to my children, all of whom have been campers and counselors. Serving on the Brantwood Board of Trustees was an important way for me to give back to the Camp that has taught me so much. Although I am no longer on the Board, I will continue volunteering in any way that the Camp needs me for as long as I can.

Jennifer Carmichael

Camper, 1989-1993; Counselor, 1994-1998; Co-President BCAA 2011-2015; Trustee 2014 -2022

he Board of Trustees is a dedicated group of women and men who volunteer their time to ensure that the camp succeeds and will be there for generations to come. The Board might be thought of as the backbone of Camp, supporting its financial stability, the physical plant, and the program that has served tens of thousands of campers since our founding in 1904. The Trustees bring a wide variety of personal and professional skills and experiences to the Board and are responsible for making decisions such as approving budgets, hiring the Executive Director, ensuring the Camp is in compliance with all laws and regulations, as well as planning for the future. Trustees help ensure that our two campuses have the facilities they need to function and that our 40+ buildings and other infrastructure are maintained in good repair. They raise thousands of dollars each year and watch over the endowment so that Brantwood remains available and affordable to all families. Most importantly, Trustees are committed to ensuring that Brantwood remains true to our mission, fostering the diversity that has been the hallmark of our community, continually striving for equity and inclusion where every camper and counselor feels safe and valued, and keeping our essential traditions alive while adapting to serve new generations of young people.

Fulfilling all these roles is a tall order, and in January we were delighted to welcome three new Trustees to the Board:

John Noel was a camper and counselor in the 1970s and has long been an Associate Trustee. For many years, John led a team of lawyers as a Senior Trial Attorney for the United States Navy and more recently, he has been an Administrative Law Judge for the United States Social Security

Administration. We look forward to receiving more of John's guidance on legal issues that he has generously shared throughout his years as an Associate Trustee.

Joyce Cadesca was a volunteer shack counselor and PC from St. Mark's school in the late 1990s/early 2000s. Joyce received her MBA from

the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College and has held various positions in financial firms and in the entrepreneurial and social enterprise realms. Joyce has joined the Development Committee and has brought a number of creative ideas for fundraising to the committee.

Bilal Wilson was a camper and counselor in the 1990s/2000s who came to Brantwood via the Newark Boys' Choir School. After receiving a B.A. in Political Science and an M.A. in International Relations, Bilal began his career as an intern



Noelle Leonard

at the United Nations and has served for many years as a Senior Policy Expert at the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the U.N. Bilal is looking forward to bringing his skills in budgeting, fundraising, and compliance to the Board.

One of the key functions of the Board of Trustees is hiring the camp's Executive Director. Amy Boyd started in mid-January and has been busy ever since, working closely with many of our Trustees and senior staff members to understand Brantwood operations, hire our new Camp Director and the summer staff, and attend to the thousands of details that go into getting the camp ready to welcome a new generation of Brantwood campers. It's been such a pleasure for me to get to know Amy better over these last few months and witness her professionalism and deep experience in camp leadership as she gears up for Summer 2023. I hope you will have the chance to meet Amy and her husband David, over the summer or on Alumni Day, Sunday, August 20th.

> As Jennifer Carmichael's words make clear, Brantwood makes a lasting impact on many lives. And she reminds us that while the Board of Trustees is an essential support structure, the contributions of alumni, families, and friends in our Brantwood community are what enable campers and counselors to walk down the

Brantwood road every summer. Whether by encouraging young people to be counselors, volunteering for work weekends, donating money to the annual appeal or spreading the word about the camp in your community, all of us can give back in our own way to the best camp in the land. Thank you for being a part of this community and investing in Brantwood's future.

Yours for Brantwood,

Joel Lionas

Noelle R. Leonard

Silver Lake: A Brantwood Experience for More Than 60 Years



BY NICK NOBLE

Silver Lake: just the name brings back fond Brantwood memories, conjuring up images of paddling canoes, cheerful swimmers, and songfilled outdoor evenings around crackling campfires. But for Brantwood's first half-century, the Camp had no lakefront property to enjoy on a regular basis.

Silver Lake remains a vibrant and vital part of the Brantwood program, enjoyed by both boys and girls, enriching their summer experience among the glorious hills and woods of New Hampshire. It wasn't until 1906, Brantwood's third summer of operation, that land to the east of the main camp plateau—basically to the far side of the Brantwood Road: the current boys' campus parking lot and beyond—was purchased for the express purpose of creating a spring-fed pool. Thus daily swimming came to Brantwood. Once each term, there would be a long three day hike for the older Brantwood campers, often stopping at regional bodies of water—Thorndike Pond, Lake Nubanusit, Gregg Lake, Dublin Lake, Zephyr Lake, Sargent Pond, and the Piscoontanogg Reservoir.

By the late 1940s, with the original Brantwood pool being deemed unsanitary and unsafe, funds were raised for the construction of a new pool. By the end of the summer of 1948 it was complete, resplendent at the edge of the view. Swimming would go on at Brantwood, but still no lakefront.

It was a decade later that the Brantwood trustees began to seriously consider acquiring lakefront property , in order to expand the Camp program.



Island Pond in East Washington, NH came into play, but it was soon deemed impractical for large groups of hikers. It was trustee, James B. Peirce, who recalled Silver Lake in Nelson, NH as one of the Brantwood hike destinations back in the 1940s. When Brantwood opened for the summer of 1960, a sizeable piece of property including some 200 yards of shorefront by a cove at the northern end of Silver Lake was part of the Camp program. Campcraft and canoeing joined swimming as part of the Brantwood experience, on both single shack day trips and larger group overnight hikes. Permanent counselor John Marshall was the first in a long line of creative and efficient Silver Lake directors.

When Brantwood for Girls was established in 1982, a new group of campers was able to take advantage of Silver Lake's opportunities. The Brantwood girls would take a break from Silver Lake a few years later, when the girls' camp moved to a



new site at Camp Quinapoxet in Rindge, NH, which had its own waterfront. But when they returned to the original Brantwood hill and the current, permanent site of Brantwood for Girls, once again the Silver Lake property would ring with the laughter of the entire Brantwood family.

And so it continues today. Silver Lake remains a vibrant and vital part of the Brantwood program, enjoyed by both boys and girls, enriching their summer experience among the glorious hills and woods of New Hampshire.

A note from Amy: This summer Brantwood is looking forward to partnering with the Harris Conservation Center to learn the natural history of the area as well as the flora and fauna. A staff member from Harris Center will be joining us during staff training at Silver Lake to teach the counselors how to create and provide programming for our campers this summer. We are looking forward to creating a fun and memorable educational excursion for our campers.

Grateful for all our 2022 Annual Appeal Supporters!

\$10,000+

Gentry, Ann D. GT Donaghue Construction & Metal Roofing LLC

\$5,000-\$9,999

Brame, J. Yancey Hall II, John L. Sealy Smith Charitable Foundation

\$2,500-\$4,999

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\$1,000-\$2,4000

Bass, David & Nancy Bingham, Richard Brandywine Trust Company, LLC, David C. Patterson Brown, Jennifer & Leonard, Noelle Delaware, Tracy & Jeffrey Grand Monadnock Rotary Club Hampe, Suzanne Henderson, Curt Holaday, Jennifer Joseph A. Patrick Foundation. Inc. Stuart K. Patrick Kean, Thomas The Kean Foundation Inc. Lapham, Henry G. McCasland, Kenneth W. Milliken, Gail Newell, John D. Rice, Thomas F. Richardson, Brenda & Slater, Kenneth Rogers, James H. Schaefer, Mark Wicklund, Denise

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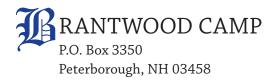
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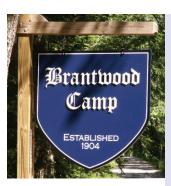
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Session Date for Summer 2023

 Staff Training
 June 19 – 29

 Term 1
 June 30 – July 14

 Term 2
 July 17 – 31

 Term 3
 August 3 – 17

NY/NJ Brantwood Fundraiser Dance Party

Come join Trustees Bilal Wilson and Noelle Leonard on **June 16** in New York City to raise money for Brantwood. Our very own Trustee Bilal will be DJing this fun-filled dance party! https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/ fcc87fb3-1ebe-458f-8d05-3fdb82df1b0f

Alumni Day

Join us for a day of fun, memory making and sharing at Brantwood **August 20 from 9am–3pm**.

- Continental Breakfast will be available as well as a buffet lunch at 12:30 and alumni meeting at 1:45.
- Check in, welcome and breakfast at the Boys Camp.
- Lunch and Alumni Meeting at the Girls Camp.
- Both campuses will be open for you to enjoy.

Come and enjoy your beloved Brantwood Camp!

Check out Brantwood's Facebook page for more info on all events!