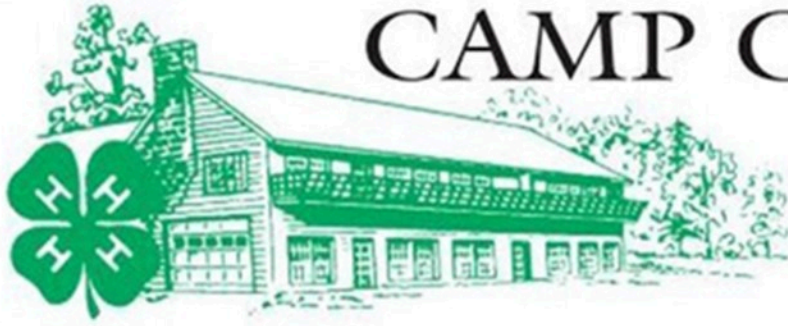


CAMP CHATTER



ISSUE

SUMMER 2023

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MINI HORSE PROGRAM by Emily Alger



The Miniature Horse program has been offered at "Bring Your Horse to Camp Week" since 2018 and the campers have been coming ever since!

Focused on handling and driving components, campers learn to be better partners with their horses, while focusing on show practice, show prep, conditioning and skill building. Horses comfort and wellbeing are always top priority and positive reinforcement is the general training philosophy.

Horses of all abilities are welcome. Horse response and compliance are a key area of study. Showmanship, hunter, halter obstacle, and driving basics are all integral components of the week.

We focus on making our human handlers understand how minis' think and feel in each discipline. The basics of driving has a big lesson on making the campers feel what driving horses feel with bits and blinders.

Campers who successfully go through camp week become more confident, knowledgeable handlers and drivers! 2023 had amazing campers and horses, won't you join us



AN OPEN CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Behind every page of your old, tattered photo album, is a story worth hearing.



Camp staff 1974 Rose Dolan, Peter DiCorleto, Dan Lombardo.

CAMPERSHIPS

Thanks to our camp families' generosity, the summer of 2023 started with an impressive \$15,489 in the Campership Fund!! With this money, we were able to support 1 camper to attend Bring Your Own Horse week and 26 campers for traditional camp sessions. The Campership Fund provided \$11,080 towards memorable summers filled with smores, new friendships and experiences. The campers came from all over Connecticut.

Additionally, this past summer, the Mark Kibby's Memorial Scholarship Fund sponsored five campers from the Academy of Aerospace and Engineering Elementary School in Rocky Hill. The Scholarship Fund was created to help children who Mr. Kibby, the former assistant principal, touched through his passion and love for teaching.

This is not the camp Board of Trustees newsletter. **It is yours.**

Your memories of what made your time at Hartford County 4-H Camp are special. What is it that draws you back? One camp alumni summed it up in two words, "Great Stories." You have them, you lived them, time to share them.

To encourage our cherished, and creative Alumni, we are instituting a new article for this newsletter. Tell us your story, send us a complete article, an idea, a half baked synopsis and we will help you to finish your prose. **When we publish your story, we will name and submit a campership in your name during the next summer session.**

Contact John Garaventa JGaraventa@aol.com with submissions and ideas.

I have a conviction that a few weeks spent at a well organized summer camp may be of more value educationally than a whole year of formal school work.

Charles William Eliot 1834-1926
American Educator, Poet
President of Harvard University

Did you know that 35% of families opted "Yes" to donate their remaining store money to this fund? A simple click has made all the difference to so many children! On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the recipients, THANK YOU!



OUR FIRST "A STORY WORTH HEARING" SUBMISSION

A story worth hearing, or in this case seeing. From a photo album of Janet Pelton Clarke. These photos were taken when HC4-H camp was held on the property of New London County 4-H Camp in 1958.

The next year Hartford County 4-H Camp Inc. purchased the Rankel Farm, on South Rd. Marlborough CT. Ground Breaking was on October 3rd 1965, and the first day of camp in Marlborough was July 17th 1966.

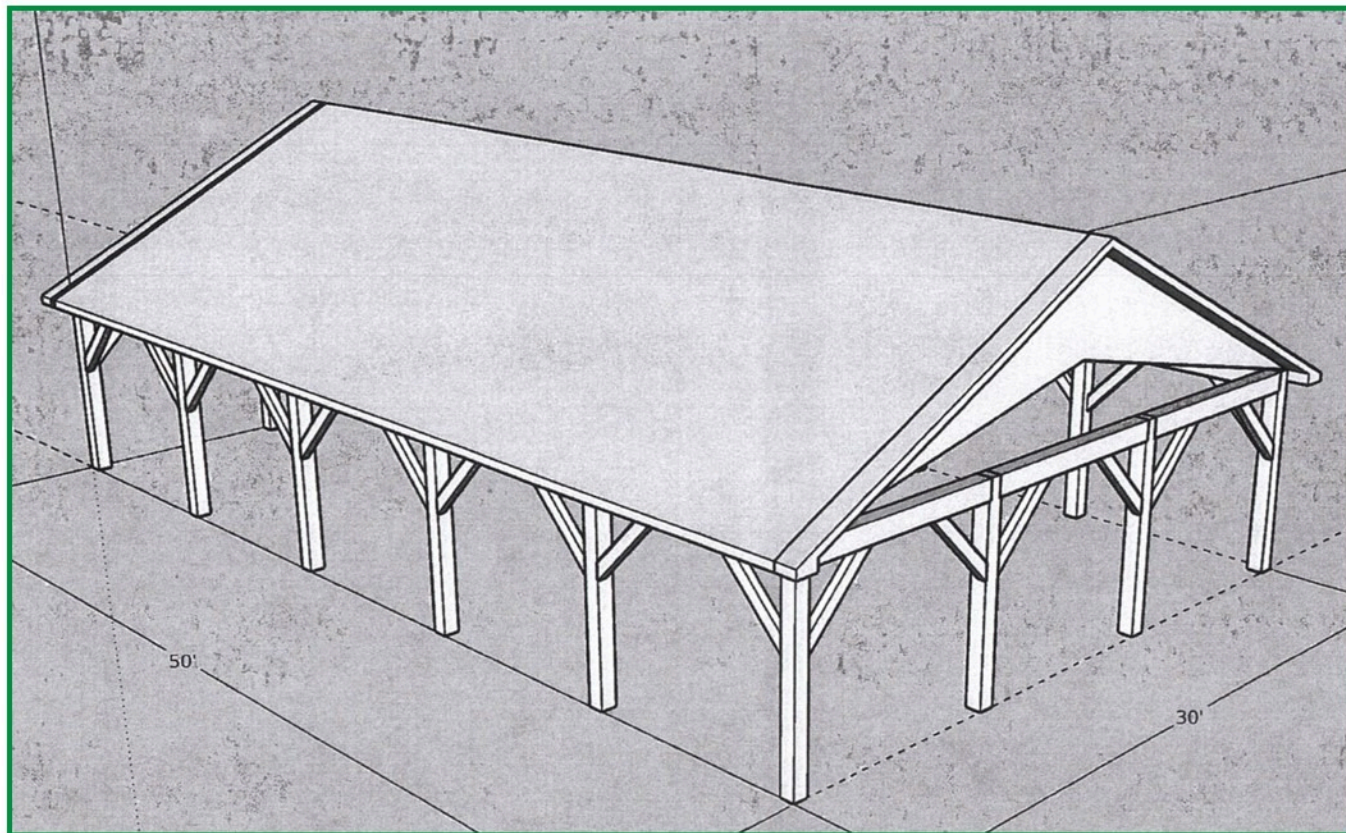
A campership will be named in Janet Clarke's honor in the 2024 camping season.



Photographic memories from the summer of 2023



New Project 30x50 Pavilion for the summer of 2024



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Camp will have a new edition by the start of the summer of 2024, a 30x50 pavilion on the girls side of Baldwin Hall and **we need your help.**

As we tell our kids, “***Sometimes it’s not what you know, but Who you know and Who knows you that counts.***” Calling all Volunteers who do you know who can help us with this project?

In future weeks and months we will need expertise and donations of :

- Excavation
- Concrete Footings
- Concrete Slab
- Electrical
- Metal Roofing materials
- Landscaping
- Painting

To date the camp Board of Trustees is deeply

indebted to Peter Brzezicki for his organizational and design skills and Ken Picard for donating his surveying services.

If anyone in our Hartford County 4-H Camp family can help us complete this project in any way please contact:
Peter Brzezicki
peters_ccats@att.net

Stay tuned for future news of capital improvements at 4-H camp.

Possible projects in the pipeline that have been suggested,

- Additional Pavilions on the playing field, and waterfront.
- Miniature Golf
- Climbing Wall
- Pickelball

IN MEMORIAM

Jack Burgdorf a local supporter of 4-H passed away at age 92, December 26, 2022. Born September 21, 1930. Jack will be remembered as a Korean War veteran, truck driver, hunter, fisherman, storyteller and **artist**. He married in 1965 to Doris Pelton. Doris is a college trained artist and author, while Jack was the cartoonist. Jack's caricature style drawings adorn many local homes and Christmas cards drawn by Jack, and some years with Doris. They were always a joy to receive. For any HC 4-H alumni who applied to camp between the years of 1967 to 2000s, knows the caricature of Jack, for his art adorned those applications. His sense of humor shines through in each and every caricature that graced our camp brochures.



By Earl Bancroft.



Barbara Grindal of Burlington CT. passed away in May. A thousand words aren't enough to explain the loss of our friend. Barbara's years at 4-H Camp were an inspiration to every camper, teen counselor and staff member as well as the 4-H Camp Board of Trustees. Her laughter, smiles, and kind words were always enthusiastic and contagious as she gave countless hours to the horse camp weeks and as Camp Nurse, when needed. Barb was a friend to all, neighbors, 4-H Leaders, wife, mother, mother in law and grandmother, in a word INCREDIBLE.

By Elsie Woolam



Ground Breaking, October 3, 1965
Hartford County 4-H Camp, Inc.
Mildred Reed, Fred Doocy, Charles Gould

Mildred Reed, Hartford County 4-H Camp Honorary member passed away March 25th. She was from Bristol, a former teacher and friend of 4-H Camp. The Fall 2004 issue of Camp Chatter highlighted the memories of Mildred. Prior to her death Mildred was very likely the oldest living camper, counselor or staff person (probably all three) associated with Hartford County 4-H Camp. She attended HC4-H Camp sessions when held at Camp Aya-Po in Somers, Litchfield County 4-H Camp in Warren, and New London County 4-H Camp. She was a camper during WWII when 4-Hers were asked to bring their own eggs and butter to camp due to rationing. In the 2004 interview she was overjoyed to learn that the Fire-bringer Story was told every Friday night.

By Peter Brzezicki

THE 2022 - 2023 DONOR

HONOR ROLL

Camp Spirit \$2000 - above

Anonymous "A Friend of 4-H"

Health \$1000 - 1999

The Assante Family

Anonymous "A Friend of 4-H"

Hands \$500 to 999

Beth Andresen

Lonny Bowers **

Peter DiCorleto

The Pelletier Family ** Corp Match
Travelers

Brice Philips

Dave Potter

Barbara & Richard Quinby

Heart \$250 - 499,

Shelly & Earl Bancroft

Gil Grant

Valerie Tralongo ** Corp Match
CIGNA

Head \$100 to \$249

Julie Ambrosi

Anonymous "A Friend of 4-H" 1 donor

Mary Baldyga....

Heidi Ball

Robert & Laura Bengtson

Charles Blouin

Wallis & Laurie Boyd

Julie Brennan

Joanne Britton & Tom Chmielewski

Anne Brzezicki

Peter & Liz Brzezicki **

Laura Buccheri

Brendan Callahan

Julie Christensen/Flaming Farm

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Rosemarie Syme

Patricia Tempe

Sharon Tripp **

Don Tuller & Carol Burnham

Mark Wahlberg & Becky Church

Jim & Nancy Watt

Chuck Woolam

Elsie Woolam **

Clover \$1.00 to \$99.00

Anonymous "A Friend of 4-H" 5 donors

Joann & Keith Blythe

Katherine Brackney

Paula Brinton

Eleanor Button

Joe & Louise Concodello

Dina & Brian Curran

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Laurie Tomaszek

Robert & Barbara Villecco

Kathleen Visinski

Rick Wandy

Tracey Wiles

Dan Wood & Debbie Phelan

Roger Young

HC4-H Board of Trustees **

Thank you.



Hartford County 4-H Camp Mission Statement

An outdoor center that provides a safe, fun, inclusive, enriching experience with an appreciation for the environment through learning by doing.

4-H Camp is a place where 4-H principles are valued and personal growth fostered by honoring 4-H Camp traditions while creating new opportunities for all.



Experience UConn 4-H Year Round

Positive Youth Development Programs for Ages 5-18



STEM
Agriculture
Leadership
Healthy Living
Civic Engagement



VOLUNTEER WITH 4-H



BECOME A MEMBER



Questions? Email
Hartford@Uconn.edu
860-409-9050

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**Donate to 4-H
Camp's Annual
Capital &
Endowment
Campaign**

Making a wish. 4-H Camp Wishing Ceremony.
Leave a legacy, and make wishes come true by supporting Hartford County 4-H Camp Inc.
Ways to give :

Tax deductible donations can be made in care of Hartford County 4-H Camp to
Hartford County 4-H Camp Inc.
c/o Susan Coleman
Corresponding Secretary
85 Silo Drive
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Matching gifts from your employer. Check to see if your employer has a matching gift program. Maybe they will match or double the amount going to Camp if you complete a simple form.

Corporate Contributions Your employer may donate to an organization like 4-H Camp when it is recommended by their employees. Ask your employer about their corporate contributions program. Does your company have a foundation that supports local non-profits? Does your company have employee volunteer worker days?

Memorial Contributions and Bequests. Donations made in the memory of a loved one or friend can be made to the address above. We can name Hartford 4-H Camp to receive funds through your will, be named as a beneficiary on a life insurance policy, or receive funds from your retirement plan. Speak to your lawyer and financial planner about how to do this.

Another way to support Hartford County 4-H

There's an old saying, 4-H is more than cows and Cookin"

Do you have a special Skill, Interest or Hobby you could share with youth?
Please consider volunteering with a 4-H Club near you, **OR** start your own. Try it for just several months, on your schedule.

Contact Jenn Cushman
jennifer.cushman@uconn.edu
Hartford County 4-H Extension Educator
UConn Hartford County Extension Center

New OPPORTUNITY FOR ALUMS!!

Sponsor A Camp Horse For The Summer.

Help keep horses at HC4-H camp, and help children have a hands on Horse Activity experience.



Gold Level Sponsor - \$500.00

- 2 Horse Activity Camperships
- Sponsor's Name on the Horse's stall
- A keepsake plaque with the horse's portrait and note from the campers who enjoyed your sponsorship.
- One GOLD sponsor per horse

Silver Level Sponsor - \$250.00

- 1 Horse Activity Campership
- Sponsor's Name on the Horse's stall
- A keepsake plaque with the horse's portrait and note from the camper who enjoyed your sponsorship.
- Up to two Silver sponsors per horse

Bronze Level Sponsor - \$100.00

- Sponsor's Name on the Horse's stall
- Note from a camper who enjoyed the program.

Contact : Amy Balko 860-305-8230 (Call or Text Friendly) Amymatulis@gmail.com

Quote from a donor: "I donate to camp because I trust that my family's contribution is going towards making the best camp better! Whether or not my own kids go to camp someday I want camp to continue to be something kids and their families look forward to all year long and are able to remember for years to come."

Looking for Contributors to Camp Chatter

Do you have a good story, or a cherished memory? News of Camp Alumni, or someone we should profile?

Let us know, or better yet write an article for Chatter yourself.

Send Submissions to
John Garaventa
JGaraventa@aol.com



Allyson Pequita
Office Manager
Hartford County 4-H Camp
29 Monroe Rd.
Enfield, CT 06082