

NEWS FROM ECHO HILL CAMPSHIP FUND

FALL / WINTER 2004

VOLUME XVI

Letter from the Board

As 2004 comes to a close, this newsletter highlights what you have accomplished through your non-profit, looks ahead at goals and ways to achieve them, and pauses in remembrance of a person our community loved so much. In this particular space, as we seem to write every year, there has been much change in terms of your Board, yet we are happy to report that the state of EHCf is strong and vital.

To begin, a few of our longest-serving and most dedicated board members have stepped away from active duty. **Daniel Gardner and Carla "Carkey" (Markim) Siegel** brought more to leading EHCf than can be included in this column.

Dan probably held every position and title that our loosely structured organization could create: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Campership Liaison and any other hat we could think of to throw on his head. Unfortunately for him, he often wore more than one at a time. The most important, though, was his role as Liaison. Danny provided a sensitive, personal touch in communicating with those we serve, listening to their needs and fears and joys; always making their wishes his priorities. His was the voice reminding us why we did what we do, and how we always had room to improve and do it better. He spearheaded the application process, interacted with the campership selection committee, provided transportation to and from camp, kept close tabs on camp life, generally, and Peter, Penny, and Lieke, specifically. He was one of the people who made our meetings a step back in time, his warm smile greeting us as if we were walking into the Whip, not someone's Bethesda home. We appreciated his insight and already miss him. All of that said, his attendance was less than perfect, we don't

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Paul "Monkee" Graboff (1954 - 2004)

As many of you have learned through our emails, website, and relationships with other EH alums, the Echo Hill community lost one of our greatest leaders and friends a few months ago to pancreatic cancer. Paul was diagnosed in early spring and fought gamely for many months to keep the disease at bay. He immediately began treatment and found himself warmly embraced and supported by his family and friends, particularly those from his Echo Hill days.

His battle was filled with much happiness punctuated by difficult setbacks. Undoubtedly, the collective emotion provided by our community and others, sustained him. He felt the love of Bob and Suzi Creamer, who became his primary caregivers and modeled unconditional love for all of us. He felt the love of a tight circle of his Echo Hill contemporaries, who visited him at his home, the hospital, and at the Creamer's home. And he felt the love from all of us, as we wrote him personal notes, called, posted messages on the EHCf website, and sent our positive vibes toward him from our disparate locations. His cup overflowed with our love for him, and he deserved all of it, and more.

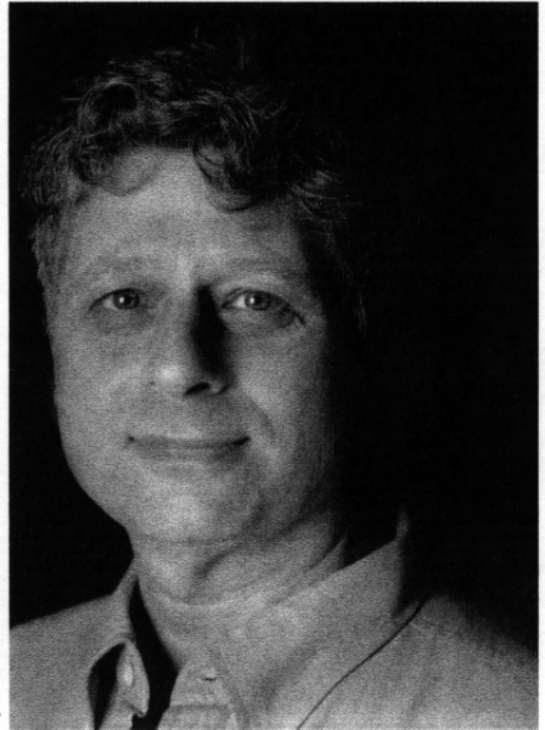
Monkee was both an institution and an individual. His warm personality was so large and his time spent at Echo Hill so long, that interacting with him was like interacting with the personification of Echo Hill. Learning from him was like learning from camp, and all the people who had graced the ground we know as "a summer place." Passing muster with Monkee meant you belonged, and that your efforts were adding to the delicate seasoning that made Echo Hill so important a place in the lives of its campers.

At the same time, every exchange with Monkee was intimate and personal, like he was just yours, at least for that moment. He could keep a secret and provide understanding. Monkee there for you, not if, but when, you needed him. There was no better feeling than being taken under his wing, and no worse feeling than being caught doing something wrong. He didn't have to throw you in a mud puddle. All he had to do was look at you. Lesson learned.

If you visited our web site or have submitted your email address to our site, you were aware that many of our community gathered for Monkee's 50th birthday at the Inn at Mitchell House, owned and operated by EH alums Jim and Tracy Stone. Paulie was in great spirits, seeing so many of his buddies. We ate, drank, and sang together, with Monkee lending his harmony to so many of the camp songs we've come to equate with our experience at Echo Hill. Photos and a few MP3 songs can be found at our site and are a wonderful reminder of Paul and all he gave us.

During his odyssey, Paul rekindled his longtime friendship with former Echo Hiller, Jolly Stamat, moving to Chicago to be with her and proving you can't keep a good man down.

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GO Team: 500 s !

The Echo Hill Campership Fund would like to thank Pauline Rice, the Hastings-Black Family, John and Susan Schick and Nick Kirsch who have all put together a team of donors who contributed over \$500 to the Campership Fund this year. Our all volunteer board is doing everything we can to raise more money, but the Campership Fund's greatest asset is you. Most of the money we raise comes from smaller donations of \$50 or \$100. For many of us that is a significant donation and we can't afford to

make a larger one. However, we can all encourage other people to contribute to the Campership Fund and work hard to create a team of people who can contribute \$500.

This year we have four Team 500 members. We would like to challenge all of you to go out and build a team of donors next year. Our goal is to have twenty Team 500 members next year which would fund six two week camperships in 2005.

ECHO HILL CAMBERSHIP FUND
PO BOX 5923
BETHESDA MD 20824-5923

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

PRESIDENT - PATRICK GORMAN
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PETER BOYD
JORDAN CHASNOFF
AMY (MARSHACK) MEHLMAN
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DAVE TRYBUS

Letter from the Board

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ever remember his bringing beer to a meeting, and he still owes some of us money. Don't forget, Dan, we know where you live!

Carkey, too, wore so many hats she departed us with "administrative hat-head". Hers was the voice of reason. She settled conflict among members, reminded us to stay focused on our mission, and kept us two steps in front of the law. In fits of attempted creativity, the board often posed wild ideas. She was always game for any of them, but wanted to be sure we understood the process and effort involved with each. An attorney, she was our Sandra Day O'Connor — the swing vote with a logical argument. Upon hearing her out, nine times out of ten, the board lined-up unanimously behind her. She helped us grow smoothly and did more than her share. Carkey actually tried to leave the board a few years ago. But in thinking through the decision and planning her "good-bye" speech to us, he decided the EHCF was one of the activities in her life that provided the most return. She truly loved her involvement, and the result is a better, stronger non-profit. One of the most important things Carkey did was plan her transition, considered the benchmark of only the best CEOs. Despite some concern from others, she included in this space last year the Board's need for new members. The results were fantastic.

Five focused people have joined the Board since our last newsletter, each providing a distinct skill-set that will help propel EHCF to new heights.

Donna (DeMarco) Sayada was a camper in the early 1970's and is now the mother of two campers, thus able to offer a variety of perspectives on our work. She runs her own video business, is creative and has a facility with desktop publishing, which has already come in handy. If you received the postcard for the crab feast, viewed the new web page containing photos of the Graboff family, downloaded the MP3s of Monkee and his brothers' songs, or even notice the smoothness of the layout of this newsletter, we all have Donna to thank.

Mike Grossman, a camper and counselor from '79 - 2003, is an attorney by education and a driven businessman as well. His can-do attitude has resulted in new events and new and more money raised for our mission.

Peter Boyd, a camper and counselor from the late 80's - 2000, has inexplicably found time to help lead the cause, despite residing in Charlottesville, VA during the school year, where he attends UVA's business and law schools. Working toward a JD/MBA, he organized a fund-raising dinner this past spring that resulted not only in new, but also, some large donations, to boot!

Amy (Marshack) Mehlman, a camper from the 80's, is a public relations and business development specialist who recently stepped-up to the plate to provide her persuasive skills and love of all things Echo Hill to our mission. She was followed by

Jordan Chasnoff, who was a camper, then counselor as recently as this

past summer, helping keep the Board's perspective fresh and relevant while some of us get older than we ever thought possible. Together, this crew has brought energy and a heightened desire to succeed and grow in this challenging environment.

The inspiration of our new members has helped make 2004 the best year in EHCF fund-raising history. We raised over \$33,000 and sent 14 kids to camp. We have shared with you the desire to create an endowment that will stabilize our efforts and ensure that we are more than a year-to-year non-profit, unable to effectively plan for our future. You all are helping us get there.

That our goal is within sight is a testament to your support, belief in the mission, and deep sense of the spirit that binds Echo Hill alumni. Your donations are a gift to truly deserving children, who develop before our eyes into productive, involved citizens and community leaders. Each of you makes their world - and our community - a better place.

Thank you,

The Board of the Echo Hill Campership Fund



Thank you
Carky!

EHCF REUNION COMING IN JUNE!

Do you miss swimming in the bay, lounging on the beach, hiking through the woods or sleeping under the stars? We do; that is why it is exciting to announce that the next tri-annual Echo Hill Campership Fund Reunion will be this summer. The event, which was a huge success and a ton of fun last time around, will be held at Echo Hill on Saturday June 5th and Sunday June 6th of 2005.

While the summer of 2005 might sound like a long time away it's not too soon to mark the date in your calendar and start coordinating with all your friends so that we can have the time of our lives. We are counting on all of you to round up your friends from Echo Hill so that we can make this the biggest reunion ever.

For all former staff to whom the words "overnight night" reunion strike fear in your heart, don't worry. This overnight reunion is different. Just ask anyone who has attended the event in the past. The Campership Fund Reunion is very laid back, tons of fun and it's not freezing cold outside!!! Take advantage of the rare opportunity to play at Echo Hill with all your former friends and none of your former responsibilities.

Of course you can expect beautiful sunshine and the usual activities on the beach but the Campership Fund is hoping to organize a number of new events to make this reunion even more fun than before. So bring your family and friends, come early, stay late, enjoy the wonderful meals prepared with love by the kitchen staff, and get

reacquainted with the lovely life of sleeping bags and bug nets. Most importantly take advantage of this opportunity to visit with old friends and create new memories in a location that clearly can't be beat.

Please make sure we have your current email so that we can send out more details as the date approaches. We look forward to seeing you all this summer!!!

Michael Boyd

Have you heard...?

Jaqui Viess and **Fred Sornstein** became Mr. and Mrs. just a few weeks ago, on October 24th. **Jillian Cutler** and **Chip** tied the knot in August. **Mike Pulshock** was married back in November of 2003. Soon later, **Lisa Sunden**, headed south of the border to Mexico for her wedding in January. **Liam and Celeste Gilbert**, **Mike Grossman**, and a significant portion of this newsletter's mailing list were in attendance for **Rob Rosenberg** and **Rosie Amiodo's** wedding in New York City on October 2nd. Making the rounds on the wedding circuit, **Mike Grossman** traveled to Sanibel Bell Island in Florida for a beautiful ceremony on the beach for **Hazen Arnold** and **Stacy Davis** (who are now expecting...). Also in attendance were **Chris Tull**, **Peter Boyd**, and **Jordan Chasnoff**. **Mark Freibaum** was also married earlier in the year. In November the pair of Doctors, **Marti Gilbert** and **David Hecht** will become the newest newly weds when they get married in New York. And last but certainly not least, **Jamie Welch** married fiancé **Lori** in March.



bandwagon is the board's very own **David Trybus** who had a new baby as well. While **Dara** and **Philip Graham** have yet to change any diapers, they are eagerly expecting their first child in the coming months.

In the "Are you serious?" category...

Bo Boozer has graduated from Law School and has purchased a house in Baltimore. **Morgan Creamer** has started her first year at college where she will be heating up South Beach at the University of Miami. Her brother **Tyler Creamer** has also begun his college career with his move to Oregon. Washington College has a few more recruits coming its way from the ranks of camp. Joining **Cissy Fenwick** will be **Sean Repelyea** and **Alex Demoey**. There has been big news in the **Rice** household. **Katie** has moved down to Charleston SC where she is as busy as ever between work and graduate school. **Julie Rice** is in her last year of college at Franklyn and Marshall, where she manages to squeeze some studying in between her busy lacrosse and social schedule. GO DIPS!!! Finally, **Petey Rice** is the star of the Kent County Lacrosse



Team and is looking at colleges. There's also news on the **Lucas Brothers**. **Adam** returned for his final year at Kenyon College after his first year working at camp. **Eddie** is taking a year before college to "get a job" (surf and ski). He will be moving to Colorado this winter. **Kiva Feldman** and **Jordan Chasnoff** are working in Washington DC. **Julia King**, not far behind is in her first year at George Washington University.

Paul "Monkee" Graboff

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They adventured together in Chi-town and beyond, even spending time in London, England for a wedding where Paul demonstrated his inimitable dance moves. Paul was as happy as he'd been, in no small part, because of the joy and light Jolly brought to him.

As the summer passed, complications cropped-up, then a deterioration of his condition took hold. Jolly arranged for an anonymous donor to finance Paul's medical evacuation from Chicago to Baltimore for hospice care. (We hope that Jolly's compassionate friend will read this and understand how much Monkee and the rest of us appreciated this selfless act.) By then, he knew his time on this earth was short.

Finally, on August 25th, 2004, we learned, in words written by Pete and Libby Rice, that Paul had slipped from this place:

"We are so very sad to report that Paul died this morning at around 2AM. He was being hugged and held by his brother Michael, Leslie Segal Morgenthal, Pete and Libby Rice and Terry Rice. Mike Hertz had just left the room an hour before, Bob and Suzi Creamer had left 20 minutes before and Jolly Stamat was within half an hour of arriving at his bed side when he died. We reminded him constantly in those last few days of how much he was loved and of how much joy he had given our community for the last 30 odd years."

Pete, Libby, the Graboff family, and others set about to ensure our community had one last chance to share feelings about a man so important to so many of us. On a beautiful, sun-soaked Sunday, more than one hundred people gathered at Echo Hill, by the Driftwood, to begin a day of remembrance. We walked together to the original Dell, many honored to take a turn carrying Paul's ashes, enroute.

Peter opened the Dell session with a few words, letting all know the significance of the place and the opportunity for sharing thoughts, feelings, songs, or silence. The Graboff brothers and their extended family began, setting a tone of openness and emotion that provided catharsis for all. Then the brothers pulled out their guitars and played "Peaceful Easy Feeling" and "Ridin' Me High", songs many of us once thought were written by Monkee. The

Graboff's harmonies wrapped around us while sunlight barely yet boldly sparkled through the dense tree-cover. Memories were shared of Paul at his best and worst, with humor, sadness, and most of all, nostalgia. Jolly planted a Dogwood tree in his memory, joined by a number of people who tenderly tamped down the soil around its roots.

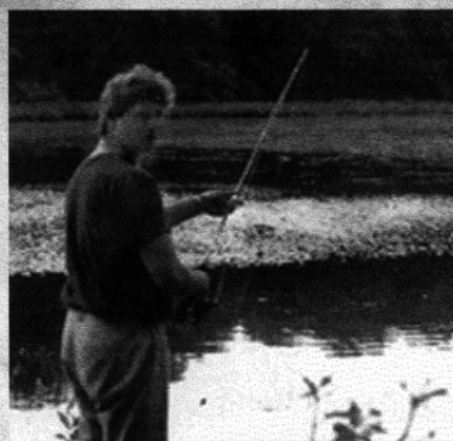
Finally, Pete rose and stated the obvious: This could last all day and all night, and we'd still have more to say. He closed the gathering with a few choice words, and like so many Echo Rings ending camp; we joined together, hugged, shook hands, and shook our heads. We were each given a small piece of one of Paul's favorite shirts to pin to our own, and then we walked, together, down to the waterfront.

It was there, at the Bay, as the sun began to fade west, that Pete, Jolly, Bob Creamer and the Graboff brothers climbed into a Boston Whaler, headed not far from the shore, and said their final good-byes to Monkee. Gingerly, each took a turn at pouring Paul's ashes into our bay. Paul "Monkee" Graboff, former Waterfront Director, was home again, to rest in lasting peace.

Finally, we all gathered back at the Whip for sustenance; Honey's chicken wings and more, with the chance to commune, view some old photos, and say to old friends: Until we see each other again.

As was mentioned that day, Monkee's gifts to us all will never stop giving. The day, itself, was an example of the strength of our old bonds and shared experiences. His strength through difficulty, his seeing light when surrounded by darkness, his smile through pain all remind us of the most important things in life; the value in feeling connected to a community, the joy that sharing love provides to both the giver and receiver, and the fact that this moment and the very next moment are the most important - they should be shared and enjoyed exactly for what they are, with no concern for what they are not.

And so to Monkee, we raise our glass and give thanks for his love.



ECHF DONORS:

DONATIONS: (\$1-\$49)

Susan & Carl Hossfeld
 Anonymous
 (In Memory of Peter Gallagher)
 The Debuchananne Family
 Julia Hastings-Black
 (Hastings-Black Family Team 500 Member)
 Michael Hastings-Black
 (Hastings-Black Family Team 500 Member)
 Hazen & Stacey Arnold
 Julia King
 Maggie Littlewood
 Retha Thompson
 Julie Rice
 Judy & Dick Grossman
 (In Memory of Sue Weintraub)
 Barbara Orden (In Memory of Sol Orden)
 Nicholas Posner
 Ed & Cathy Schirick
 Sharon Littig
 Sharon Knott
 Rustin Lewis

DONATIONS: (\$50-\$99)

Louise Appell
 Michael Boyd
 Jordan Chasnoff
 Donna Chasnoff
 Fred & Anne Cogen
 (In Honor of Hannah Cogen)
 Joseph Doherty
 Jim, Deborah & Evelyn Horan
 (In Memory of Peter Gallagher)
 Nathalie Joost
 Kyle Jossi
 Christine & Amanda Lashaw
 Martha Lask
 Jeremy Lichtenstein
 Laura Margolis
 Joan Miller-Cohn
 Jared Press
 Adam Rosenberg
 Rob Rosenberg
 Sharon Smith
 Susan, Lee & Blake Stamford
 (In Memory of Peter Rice Sr.)
 Shana Washington & Family
 Gary Wolanske
 Katherine Rice
 Celeste Gilbert
 Hugh Beshers
 Bob Hauptman
 Paul Holden
 Valerie Lassiter (Lassiter & Assoc.)

DONATIONS: (\$100 - \$249)

Amy Allina
 Anthony & Mary Arch
 (Pauline Rice Team 500 Member)
 Gloria Balaban
 (In Memory of Herman Balaban)
 Steve Balaban
 Patrice Battle
 Alexandra Grigg Beitz
 Lisa Brierley (In Memory of Tim Brierley)
 Sarah & Derek Bupp
 Leonard & Loretta Buten
 (In Memory of Kenneth S. Buten)
 Sam Clark & Family
 (In Memory of John Daigh)
 Al & Nikki Commette
 (Pauline Rice Team 500 Member)
 Matthew Concannon
 Anthony Ferraro
 Dorothea Frosell
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 Annie Gaillard
 Margaret Grossman
 Aileen Hefferen & Charles Harkless
 Matthew Heller
 Ann & Donald King
 Al & Sondra Markim
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 Karen Sue Mitzel
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 Maggie Pancost (In Memory of Tim Brierley & Peter Gallagher)
 David Polen
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 Laurance & Rosalie Silberman
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 Jolly Stamat
 Jacqueline Viess
 Allen & Judith Weltmann
 Dave Trybus
 Robert Rosenberg
 (In Memory of Peter Gallagher)
 Peter Boyd
 Jeffrey & Gay Greene
 Otto & Ila Mae Madorie
 (Pauline Rice Team 500 Member)
 Carol Weissbrod & Norman Gold
 JPR Group, Inc. (John & Susan Schick Team 500 Member)
 Bertram Levine (Nick Kirsch Team 500 Member)
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 Amy Mehlman
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 Pauline Van Norman Rice
 (Pauline Rice Team 500 Member)
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 Ben Korson

DONATIONS (\$250-\$499)

Richard & Nancy Balaban
 Mike & Kate Balaban
 David & Suzanne Boyd
 Jodi Cafritz (In Memory of Sue Weintraub)
 Jaye Eldridge
 Lisa (Milanese) Evans
 (In Memory of Paul Graboff)
 Patrick Gorman
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 Philip Graham & Dara Sicherman
 Nicholas Kronfeld
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 Carol Levin
 Anonymous
 The Hastings-Black Family
 (Hastings-Black Family Team 500 Member)
 Dominique & Thomas Palmer
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 Martin O'Hara & Mary Rachel Lee
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DONATIONS: (\$500-\$999)

Sue Byerly
 Randall Kell & Jan Churchill
 The Nord Family Foundation
 Emily Porter
 Edward & Kathleen Quinn
 Rob Ferber (In Memory of Joel Gardner)
 Kirsch Psychological Services
 Nicole & Mick Halbreiner
 (In Memory of Paul Graboff)
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DONATIONS: (\$1000-\$2499)

Billie/David Boyd Trust
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 Sudi, Fred & Jared Press
 Steven Rotondo
 (In Memory of Sue Weintraub)
 T.W. Perry Inc.
 Donna DeMarco Sayada
 (In Memory of Paul Graboff)
 Woodbury Fund (David Solomon, director)

DONATIONS: (\$2500-\$4999)

DONATIONS: (Over \$5000)

The Levin Family Foundation



DINING FOR DONORS

The Echo Hill Campership Fund organized a fundraising dinner on May 27th, 2004 in Washington DC, and it was an overwhelming success. The food was generously donated by Tesoro's, a fabulous Italian restaurant on Wisconsin Ave., and the event was hosted by Jack Baringer and Michaela Perone at their lovely home.

The dinner was part of a new initiative by the Board to solicit support from people outside the traditional Echo Hill community. Approximately 30 people attended and many of them were not familiar with Echo Hill Camp or the Campership Fund. There was a brief presentation about the mission of Campership Fund and the wonderful opportunities it provides underprivileged children. Guests were also encouraged to talk to a wide range of Echo Hill alums and the support was tremendous.

Everyone who attended the dinner was impressed with our commitment to send eligible kids back to camp year after year until they are 16. They recognized the impact that these repeated positive experiences can have on young children as they grow up. They also understood that our commitment to growth and desire to eventually create a self-sustaining fund requires us to significantly increase our fundraising efforts.

The Echo Hill Campership Fund board is extremely excited about the opportunity to expand and diversify our fundraising base. We were also amazed by the tremendous support the Campership Fund received from our guests. Over \$9000 was donated by people who attended that evening and over \$6000 came from people with no previous connection to Echo Hill Camp. More importantly, both the Echo Hill alums and our newfound supporters expressed an interest in continuing to assist the organization by seeking out other members of the community who might be interested in donating to such a worthy cause.

The Echo Hill Campership Fund is dedicated to maintaining this high level of growth and hopes to organize similar events in the future. We believe that there are probably similar opportunities to branch out into the surrounding communities in Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York. If there is anyone out there interested in working with the Board to sponsor a fundraising dinner in their community please contact Peter Boyd at peb4j@virginia.edu.

FIRST ANNUAL EHCf CRABFEAST A SUCCESS

About 100 Echo Hill Campership Fund donors and friends gathered at the Kent Island home of Mike Grossman on the afternoon of September 18 for the first annual EHCf Crabfeast. 2004 has been a banner fundraising year for EHCf, and the Crabfeast was planned to thank all of EHCf's donors for helping to raise enough money to send a record 14 children to Echo Hill this summer.

Despite tempestuous seas and skies related to Hurricane Ivan, many of EHCf's most ardent supporters crossed the wind-blown Chesapeake Bay Bridge to gather at Mike Grossman's bayfront home. Gusts of up to 35 miles per hour reminded everybody what bay winds can do to a tent, whether on girls side or 30 miles south! With the tent blown down, everybody moved to the porch and sat elbow to elbow eating a seemingly endless supply of fresh steamed Maryland blue crabs and washing them down with ice cold National Bohemian beer. Rounding out the menu was charcoal grilled chicken kabobs, Georgian lamb, hot dogs, candied apples, brownies, ice cream, and plenty more.

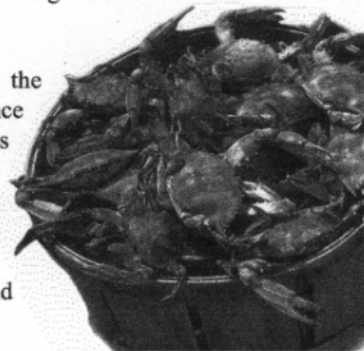
Echo Hill alums of all generations were well represented including current Echo Hillers Peter Rice, Annelieke Noordhook, Barb Schaubert, Hank Balaban, Hugh Beshers, Michael Boyd, Chris Atkinson, Jake Halstead, and Jordan Chasnoff. Barb's daughter, Teresa Maule, won the cash raffle and promptly threw it right back into the "Just Give" bowl. Liam and Celeste Gilbert, Jamie and Lori Welch, Peter Boyd, Carol Levin, Rachel (Skolnik) and Sam Cogen, Christina McLean, Pat Gorman, Julie (Margulies) Hassett, Lauren (Grossman) Mullan, Vicki (Hurdle) Chu, TW Dutton, Greg Porter, Amy (Marshak) Mehlman, Nicole (Kramer) and Keiffer Mitchell, Kate, Mike, and Joey Balaban, Sharon Littig and many

other EHC alums also attended. Echo Hill parents were also well represented, with Donna Chasnoff, David and Sue Boyd, and Ed and Jill (parents of Veronica) Griffith enjoying the event as well.

While the purpose of the event was to say thanks to EHCf's many donors, the Crabfeast was a successful fundraiser as well. Bidding in the silent auction, buying raffle tickets, and playing a friendly game of blackjack provided a good break from the eating. Silent auction items included Redskins, Wizards, and Orioles tickets, an NFL football autographed by future Hall of Famer Troy Aikman, plenty of Echo Hill paraphernalia, Baltimore Ravens limited edition prints, an American flag flown over the United States Capital, original Echo Hill art prints, jewelry, and household items.

The EHCf board would like to thank Tony Ferrero, Sharon Littig, Barry Strumpf, Vera DeMarco, Donna DeMarco Sayada, Judi Weltmann and Wilmer, Cutler, Hale, and Dorr for their generous donations of silent auction items. The board would also like to thank Konstantin Khizder for the great Georgian lamb and wine and Gil Gilman for dealing many exciting hands of blackjack.

As evening approached, the skies cleared and all in attendance were treated to a gorgeous Chesapeake Bay sunset. Crabs, lifelong friends, and the bay reminded all of Echo Hill and made everybody look forward to next year's reunion and the second annual crab feast.



The Kids...

As many of us know, the summer of 2004 represented another benchmark in the progress of the Echo Hill Campership Fund. Camp had the privilege of the company of a record 14 children whose attendance was made possible by all of your hard work and kind dedication to the fund.

For many children visiting Echo Hill for the first time, that first trip down camp road can be quite the experience. The tents, bug nets, and privies all present an interesting greeting to the Echo Hill community. For six children welcomed through the Campership Fund, the initial impression of Echo Hill was soon replaced by new friends, tons of fun, and the striking beauty of the Bay. For the eight other EHCF kids at camp this year such an adjustment period was not necessary. This is because we sent eight returning campers to Echo Hill this summer, another record. These camp veterans were well accustomed to the Echo Hill lifestyle. Upon their return to camp they soon were back into the old routine of laughing with friends and planning for their first softball game or water ski pull.

Whether new or old to the Echo Hill community, all 14 of the EHCF kids took great advantage of all that the experience that Camp has to offer. All enjoyed all the aspects of camping life and took advantage of all the activities offered. Some of the activities that were most notably enjoyed were water skiing, windsurfing, swamp mucking, land sports, the adventure course, and especially crabbing which provided a tasty treat at lunches throughout the summer for campers and staff!

The activities at Camp are some of the most fun experiences any child can have. Yet, as any Echo Hill alumnus will attest, the true measure of Echo Hill's importance and impact is found in the friendships that were fostered at camp but that extend far beyond our childhood summer days. This summer's experience for the EHCF kids was no exception. Perhaps the greatest thing to come out of the Campership Fund's efforts was the opportunity to witness the kids we sent to camp becoming deeply entrenched in friendships, some that started this summer, some that have been developed for a few years, but all of which will last far beyond the tears shed at Echo Ring as the children said goodbye to their friends the at end of the summer.

The impact of the EHCF also extends beyond the individual campers that had the opportunity to go to camp.

"As usual the presence of the EHCF children greatly enriched the community. I think the experience was good for them and good for all of us. The opportunity for these kids to come to camp gives everyone involved a new and different perspective." -Peter Rice

Pete's sentiments of the impact of EHCF were shared by many in the community. Many of the counselors who had Campership Fund children in their tents were very impressed by the daily positive impact that the children had on the rest of the tent. One Boys Side counselor who has been involved with Echo Hill from the time he was a toddler noted that his first year camper came to Echo Hill pretty unsure of

his surroundings and unsure of what he expected from the experience. However, he made friends extremely quickly and in no time he fit in so well with the tent he became a leader, often lending tips to fellow campers hoping to improve their fishing and bageling skills. Another counselor, from Girls Side, who had a few EHCF kids in her tent this past summer and over the years had some great things to say about her experiences.

"This summer I had two girls in my tent who have been returning to camp for a couple of years, and come by way of the Campership Fund. This summer it was especially clear that they were two of the leaders in the tent. One of my campers had incredible energy and spirit, it was contagious, and it really held the tent together. Another of the campers was so important to the tent as well. She was always there to be a friend and to help anyone in need, she was always so kind."

Once again, the summer at Echo Hill was a youthful raucous of magic and spirit. Meeting new friends, experiencing nature, and learning about themselves, many of the campers discovered the freedom to act without inhibition. The Campership Fund made this possible for 14 children who otherwise may not have had the same opportunity. The campers, counselors, and the rest of the community has benefited immensely from this experience. We can't wait until next summer!

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO: EHCF

And return it with this coupon to: EHCF PO Box 5923 Bethesda, Maryland 20824 - 5923

I / We have enclosed a contribution of \$25 \$50
 \$100 \$250 Other \$ _____

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

Phone _____ In Memory / Honor of (optional) _____

THANKS FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION!

Please keep us up to date about you, your family and friends, or use this space to send a message to a camp friend - we'll print your message in the next newsletter!

GIVE ON-LINE!

For your convenience there is a secure donation page on the website.

MONKEE'S 50TH BIRTHDAY PARTY
 JUNE 2004 - THE INN AT MITCHELL HOUSE



ECHO HILL CAMPSHIP FUND

PO Box 5923
 BETHESDA, MD 20824-5923



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