



November 1, 2007

Dear Three Mile Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to be writing this letter to you as the new Chair of the Three Mile Island Committee. Many of you know me as a former manager from *way* long ago; my husband, David, and I were the camp managers from 1976 through 1983. (Oh, my! It's been over 30 years!) How well I remember the first time I set foot on the Island. It was Valentine's Day, 1976, and we'd already accepted the job as managers, even though we'd never been to Three Mile, because we could tell through what we'd learned about the Island and through the wonderful people we met during the interview process that Three Mile was a very special place. Little did we know at the time that we would spend part of every summer for the next 30 years (well, we did miss one, but that was because we were living in Africa) on this serene and beautiful island, and that our children, like so many other children, would have some of the best experiences of their lives there.

So, when Rick Tjader asked me if I would consider succeeding him as Committee Chair, I knew I had to say yes. Three Mile has been so important to me, to David, and to our two boys, that I consider myself very lucky to have the chance to give something back to this precious place. I am looking forward to seeing old friends and to making new ones during the next four years, and to working with Three Mile's amazing cadre of energetic volunteers to sustain the successful record of stewardship the camp has achieved for over 100 years.

Speaking of Rick Tjader, and of amazing volunteers, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rick for his truly excellent work as Committee Chair. He took on the sometimes daunting challenges of leading the camp community with a calm demeanor and a great sense of humor, and helped steer Three Mile through every issue that arose with his thoughtful and analytical approach.

I would also like to thank David Grace for his six years of service to Three Mile as camp manager. David's devotion to TMI was evident in everything he did as manager, from making friends with the town manager of Meredith, to leading book discussions, to ensuring that the island was well-maintained throughout the summer. We will miss David and Rica (and Rica's delectable cooking!) and will look forward to seeing them back on the island in four years when Baby #2 is four years old.

As you all know, the search for David's successor is well under way. A search committee, led by volunteer Larry Barker, has assembled a list of candidates and will be interviewing them during the month of November. We hope to have a new manager in place by the first of the new year. We are extremely lucky to have Joy Bloomfield continuing on in her very successful role as Assistant Manager. This is a first for Three Mile – since previous management teams had always been married couples who came and went together, there was never the opportunity for continuity that we have now, with Joy able to play a major role in helping the new manager to learn his or her position. We have every reason to anticipate a very smooth transition next summer.

The Three Mile community experienced a transition in off-season management at the beginning of last summer, when Dinty Child and Carol Faulkner took over from Frank Woods as Off-Season Managers. Frank had served as Off-Season Manager for several years, and left some very big

shoes for Dinty and Carol to fill. Frank spent untold hours on and off the island, working on projects, overseeing fall weekends, managing volunteers, and keeping everything in order. His commitment to Three Mile is boundless, and we were most fortunate to have the benefit of his efforts for many years.

As all of you who made reservations at TMI last year know, Three Mile's management tried out a new approach to the reservation process on a trial basis, to see if it would have a helpful effect on camp reservations. The verdict was a resounding "Yes!" and the Camp Committee has decided to continue the new policy put in place last year. As a reminder, here is what the new policy looks like: the traditional April 1 deadline for submitting reservation requests has been moved to **February 1**. In addition, reservation requests postmarked any time between November 1 and February 1 receive equal consideration. The lottery system has not changed, only the new dates for sending reservations. The registrar, using a lottery system, will try to accommodate you in one of your three choices -- if not your top choice then one of your alternates. If she is unable to do so, she will contact you directly to seek alternative dates. You will receive confirmation for the 2007 season by mid-February. Starting in late February, remaining openings for the fall and summer will be publicized via mailings, the AMC website, www.outdoors.org, and the Three Mile website, www.3mile.org.

I am looking forward very much to participating in the leadership of Three Mile Island Camp for the next four years. I've already begun to talk to Three Milers about what they think are the challenges we face as we move forward. I do know that, in addition to the always-necessary attention we must pay to the protection of our buildings and our fragile island ecosystem, we must also be thinking about how to protect the increasingly vulnerable way of life that we value so much at Three Mile. I worry that it would be very easy for the instruments of the electronic age, which seem to make life so much easier for adults, and so entertaining for children, to intrude upon and eventually undermine the simple lifestyle at TMI that we have guarded so zealously all these years. I hope to have the opportunity to talk to many of you about this question next summer on the dock.

See you there!

Nancy

Nancy Grant
Committee Chair
A.M.C. Three Mile Island Camp