



Three Mile Island Camp - AMC

June 14, 2013

Dear Three Mile Community,

The summer season is soon to begin so it is with wonderful anticipation that I will go to my summer home of Three Mile. It has been a busy off-season so I look forward to changing the focus to welcoming all of you to the Island on Saturdays.

There is a fantastic group of Staff and Croo, who are also looking forward to hosting you for your camper weeks. Ginger Maciejowski is returning as the Assistant Manager as well as Timothy Tucker as the Kitchen Manager and Dick Chase as the Maintenance Manager. The two new faces on the staff will be Beth Spencer who will be our Island Educator this summer and Laurie Pzena who will move into the kitchen as the Baker. Fourteen of the Croo members are returning this summer, so welcome back to Abby, Ben, Carolyn, Devin, Eric, Gwen, Jake, Katie, Kelsey, Matt, Packard, Sarah, Zach, and Zak. The four new Croo members will be Carolyn Barrett, Evan Breen, Geneva Cann, and Nicholas Cartmell. I encourage you to get to know one and all during your visit.

In addition to some new faces, there will be a couple of changes at the Main House. These include a new coffee machine, stainless steel kitchen countertops, and a new kitchen floor. What a difference these items will make! The coffee machine was purchased with a camper donation. You will also notice that most of the Sunday Sing hymnals have been restored with the help of another donation. An additional Day Sailor was donated as well so there will be a fleet of three starting week one. And we will be ordering new deck chairs using funds donated last summer. We are grateful for the generosity of the Three Mile community. If you are interested in donating an item or the resources to purchase something for Three Mile, please talk with me this summer. Currently on the "wish list" are new row boat oars, a foosball table, books for a sustainability library, and funding for more locally grown meat, fruit, vegetables, and shade grown coffee.

Thanks to everyone who took the time to complete last year's inaugural camper survey. We received about 300 responses with plenty of helpful feedback and thoughtful suggestions. The results helped us during the summer and were useful for our planning in the off-season. This year's camper survey will also ask for input on Three Mile Island's Long Range Plan. The Committee is hoping to engage campers throughout the summer in generating ideas about what challenges and opportunities may be ahead for the Island as the social world and the natural environment change. Two items in this summer's camper survey will solicit written input.

You may remember that last summer we had three pigs on the Island to help reduce the amount of food waste being carted to the mainland. This summer we are going to try another approach and increase the composting system. We will need camper cooperation to make this project successful and especially encourage participation in the "clean plate club" at meals.

Food will also be a topic of our summer book discussion. This summer's book is *The Town That Food Saved* by Ben Hewitt. Hewitt explores the small Vermont town of Hardwick, which was struggling economically until citizens started building and embracing small-scale regional agriculture and food-based enterprises. Hewitt examines the impact this growth has had on the town's economics, culture, and society. Considering that the quality of our food supply is currently being evaluated and discussed in state legislatures around the country, it seems like the perfect time to examine the impact sustainable and regionalized farming can have in our rural areas.

And finally, here is some exciting news: the architectural plans for the rebuilding of the Rec Hall are in their final form, and we are on schedule to begin construction in the fall so that the newly renovated space will be completely finished by the beginning the 2014 summer season. Before we can begin, however, we need to raise \$250,000 to cover the cost of the project! You will be receiving a letter from the Rec Hall Campaign Committee asking for your participation in the campaign and a follow up phone call from a Campaign Committee member to answer any questions you may have. If you have any questions now, you can call or email the Campaign Co-chair, Nancy Grant, at 802-765-4342 or nancybgrant@gmail.com.

Here is a list of reminders before you come to the Island:

- If you want the lower guest rate, make sure the AMC membership for everyone in your group is current before you arrive on the Island.

- The technology policy limits use of phones, electronic books, electronic music players, etc. to your cabin. Please consider "unplugging" as much as possible for your week.
- If needed, bring your own over-the counter medications, prescription medications, and Epi-pens.
- The Three Mile parking lot is located on the right-hand side of Lovejoy Sands Road as you approach Shep Brown's Boat Basin.
- You can contact Ginger about current summer openings and Sally Wilson about fall weekend openings.
- **Please call 603-279-7626 if you want to contact anyone on the Island this summer.**

Get ready to swim, laugh, walk, play, read, sing, dance, eat, paddle, talk, nap, and cherish your time on this magical Island.

See you on the dock!

Wilbur Holmes