

# VALOOKIE

## Lake Delaware Alumni Association



### Support Needed To Keep Grant!

Lake Delaware Boys' Camp has received a wonderful grant that is key to the camp's future. This grant has the potential to be continued for years to come. In evaluating whether this will be a multi-year grant, the granting foundation will consider the giving by our own supporters – alumni, parents, friends. If you have been a giver, please consider increasing the amount this year. If you have not yet been a donor to LDBC, we respectfully ask for your support now, no matter how large or small the gift. As you consider a gift, we ask you to consider the effect that Lake Delaware Boys' Camp has had on your life, and on the lives of others.

**Please see the full details of the grant on the last page of the Valookie.**

### Important Dates

**Work Weekend:** May 15-17

**Campers Arrive:** Wednesday, July 1st

**Parents and Alumni Weekend:** July 17-19

**Golf Outing:** July 17

**Closing Weekend:** August 1-2



## From the President

Dear Friends of LDBC:

Spring is around the corner, and with it, the 2026 Camp season rapidly approaches. Camp Directors, Jim and Sue Adams, have been working throughout the year to ensure that we will be ready to return for another great year at Camp. Tactical and support staff are already in place, preparations for Camp's opening have been made, and their attention is now focusing on filling our Battalion ranks with returning campers and Rookies.

On that note, we have a need for camper referrals. Camp survives, and thrives, by word-of-mouth referrals each year. This is how we can select the best boys for our unique program, boys who will get the most from the LDBC experience. If you know of any boys who you think would benefit from Camp, please have their families apply to Camp anytime throughout the year. This includes children, grandchildren, and other family members of Grads and former Campers. All are eligible. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Jim Adams to discuss. I know he welcomes the opportunity to include Grad families in Camp's rich tradition.

With growing success as a sports journalist our Valookie Editor, Joe Arruda, has sadly needed to step down from his Valookie duties to focus on his new career opportunities. Let me express on behalf of our entire membership our gratitude to Joe for stepping up and filling a void when it was needed. We wish him much continued success. I am so pleased and proud to announce that this issue is the product of our newest Valookie Editor, Lori (Judy) McGovern. Lori is the patient and understanding wife of grad Craig McGovern, parents of campers James and Patrick, sister-in-law to grads Daren and Scott McGovern, and also a founding member and President of the Parents' Association.

She is the first non-grad to edit the Valookie, proving once again that anyone touched by Camp is fully part of our Camp family. Thank you, Lori!

And let's welcome our newest LDAA Board Director, Bill Gilbert. Bill is an Honorary Grad who has made tremendous contributions to Camp over the years, especially in Work Weekend, recruitment, and in generating support for LDBC among veteran organizations. Thank you, Billy, and welcome aboard!

Finally, last year's Grads Weekend saw a considerable number of younger Grads in attendance. This is a great sign for our future, and I encourage all Grads to try to make time to visit Camp this year. You will reconnect with old friends and see how little has really changed with LDBC while we continue to serve the next generation of boys.

I look forward to seeing you all there!

Joe Scalero '83  
President

### LDAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President:** Joseph Scalero '84

[JRS2002@optonline.net](mailto:JRS2002@optonline.net)

**Vice President:** Ronald Frigenti '79

[rfrigenti@outlook.com](mailto:rfrigenti@outlook.com)

**Secretary:** Geoffrey Dunham '79

[gedunham4@gmail.com](mailto:gedunham4@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Frank Enders '62

[fenders25@verizon.net](mailto:fenders25@verizon.net)

Chris Burdett '99, Michael Cole '73,  
Nicholas Frigenti '05, Thomas Gardella '81  
Richard Hilbert '79, Robert Mondello '72  
David Roberts '77, Eric Schubert '03



## Directors Report

It is our pleasure to extend our greetings and warm wishes to the LDBC family, Benefactors, Alumni, Parents, Campers, and Supporters. We are happy to report that the mission of Lake Delaware Boys' Camp is as vital and exciting as ever.

The 2025 LDBC camp season was marked by outstanding leadership from both the campers and the tactical staff. Year after year, it is impressive and deeply moving to see the leadership experience, high character, camaraderie, and insight that our graduating seniors display. These young men show us how important LDBC's mission remains.

This past camp season was the final year for three of our staff Majors.

- **Kyle Lamberson** concluded 12 twelve consecutive summers at LDBC, as a camper and as a staff member. Kyle's love of camp and his leadership over the years have made him a wonderful male role model and an inspiration to many of our campers.
- **Kojo Arthur Mensah** has also had an outstanding time at camp, beginning when he was nine years old, through his being a major on the tactical staff this summer. This coming summer, Kojo will be preparing for medical school.
- **Kaitlin McQuade** concluded her fifth season as a tac, three of which were spent as a major. Kaitlin's leadership and personal example have been a major reason for the great teamwork and effectiveness of our staff. Kaitlin is now in Law School at Fordham University

We are excited about the coming 117th camp season at LDBC. We will have many wonderful returning staff members, and we know that the boys of the grad class of 2026 are ready to take their place as leaders of the battalion.

From the words of the camp song "Stand Up and Cheer!

Stand Up and Cheer for dear old Delaware!"

Love, Sue and Jim Adams  
Camp Directors - LDBC

## Seventy Years of Quiet Heroism by: Eric Schubert '03



There are people who make a place better simply by showing up. Then there are people who help build that place, who teach others how to care for it, and who carry its spirit forward for generations. Bill and Fred Holzkamp are those people for Lake Delaware Boys Camp. Twins, partners in mischief and in service, they first came to LDBC somewhere in the 1940s, and the camp has never been the same.

You can measure their impact in shingles and staircases. You can see it in the restored antique windows, the cottages built, and in the countless projects finished with care and skill. But the true measure of Bill and Fred is not just what they fixed. It is what they gave: patience when a nervous volunteer tried a saw for the first time, steady hands to guide a crooked cut into something true, and the quiet example of showing up year after year because the work mattered.

Walk the camp with any alumnus or family member, and you will hear stories that are at once small and enormous. A young man was taught to cut a perfect miter. Another handed a plane and showed how to make wood sing. A stranger invited to dinner who became a lifelong friend. Those stories are stitched into the fabric of LDBC. They are the living proof of service that is both practical and deeply human.

Seventy years of instruction, companionship, direction, and selfless giving cannot be fully honored in a paragraph. Still, this year, our alumni took a moment to do something more than thank them with words. At the Ancrum, we gathered, we laughed, we cried, and we tried to make clear how much they have meant to all of us. Barbara Holzkamp and the whole family have been part of that story too, keeping the alumni connected and supporting the camp in every way. The Holzkamps are not just volunteers. They are the kind of family that models what LDBC stands for.

On a personal note, Bill and Fred have changed my life in ways I cannot fully put into words. Because of Fred, I met a man who became a lifelong friend and counselor. Because of Bill, I picked up woodworking and learned how patient and joyful learning can be. Their generosity is woven into my memories of camp, and into the lives of so many who passed through its gates.

Where would Lake Delaware Boys Camp be without the Holzkamp twins? It is a question we ask and cannot really answer. The better question is this: who will follow their example? Because Bill and Fred have taught us that love for a place is shown by doing the work, by teaching the next generation, and by being present, season after season.

To Bill, to Fred, and to the entire Holzkamp family: thank you. Your hands built parts of our camp. Your hearts have built us all.

# Camp Needs You

## RECRUIT NEW CAMPERS

Each year, LDBC needs an influx of rookies, and we rely on grads, parents, and current campers to spread the news about LDBC. We especially WELCOME ALL grads, kids, and grandkids. Please help us find the right boys who will benefit from LDBC's incomparable experience. Our camp has always relied on personal contacts by alumni, parents, and friends to find our campers.

Please spread the word to your family, friends' networks, co-workers, churches, etc. A new flyer for this purpose can be downloaded from Facebook or the camp website. You can also refer potential campers to the camper application on the website [www.lakedelawareboyscamp.com](http://www.lakedelawareboyscamp.com).

## WISH LIST:

Donations for upright and/or canister vacuums would be definitely appreciated to keep our camp buildings CLEAN!

Any tools that are used in maintaining a property: ie. gas powered leaf blower and power washer, etc

Monetary donations towards replacing Crack Platoon Rifles.

# Camp Financial Report

Thru November 30, 2025

TOTAL INCOME            \$396,836

### Major Expenses:

Food:	\$66,525
Personnel:	\$138,286
Insurance:	\$36,211
Repairs/Maintenance:	\$29,114
Supplies:	\$20,927
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$471,078

**Operating Deficit as of November 30, 2025: \$72,111**

## Around Camp

### STIRRINGS AT THE HOOK



As you approach the Hook and turn onto Lake Delaware Drive on your way to Ancrum, with the glorious tower of St James looming above, you'll notice a children's playground and festive flowers that you might not have seen before. Well, St. James, founded in 1914 by the Gerry family, is having a resurgence. Its pews are filled, and annual events such as Oktoberfest and Christkindlmarkt attract hundreds. What explains this new life and vitality in a small rural parish: the new rector, Fr. Paul Moore Jr., and his wife Jessica. They have re-energized the parish through creative programming, communal gatherings, and tweaks to the liturgy, attracting crowds. Keeping with tradition, the LDBC choir continues to sing at St. James for the annual St. James Day service each August. St. James had long been a quiet rural outpost of the Christian faith... its joyous rebirth is a blessing and a wonderful sight to behold.

### Anti-Rent War Remembered

This past August, as the battalion celebrated Andes Community Day by parading down Main Street, they marched by the Hunting Tavern, which had an exhibit on the Anti-Rent War. This 'war' in the 1840s was a farmer uprising against the feudal system of land ownership that existed in the Hudson-Mohawk valleys of upstate New York. Beginning in 1708, when Queen Anne granted a million acres to Johannes Hardenburgh, Robert Livingston, and other patentees, land was leased to farmers who would work the land, pay taxes on the land, and pay rent with their crops and the cash equivalent of a day's labor with a team of horses and a wagon to the landed gentry owners. After several poor growing seasons, farmers came together and refused to pay rent, forming bands of men disguised as Indians to prevent lawmen from evicting farmers for unpaid rent. These photos show original disguises used in the conflict. After much unrest, culminating in the shooting of undersheriff Osman Steele on an Andes farm, the New York state legislature abolished feudal tenure. Farmers bought their land from the patroons, and peace returned to the hills and valleys around Lake Delaware.



# Staff Report Summer 2025



Each year at the end of the season, the Colonel and General require a Staff Report from our tacs. So many of them are filled with love and insights that need to be shared. Here are a few from our "retiring" tacs.

## ~ Major Kyle Lamberson (camper, grad and tac)

"Colonel and General, I know a simple 'thank you' isn't enough, but right now, it's all I have to give. You two have been the most inspirational figures in my entire life. I've spent much of this life trying to make you proud. There are no two people from whom a compliment means more, and there are no two people I would have rather had raise me each summer."

"Beyond mentors, beyond family, beyond feeling like my grandparents, you've become true friends, and I will always be grateful for you."

"The sacrifices you've made for me, and for this place, are ones I now feel called to start repaying. As I begin my career, hopefully in aviation, I want to do it with the same dignity, integrity, and passion that you display every day. When I find the right woman, I hope to become even half the man you are, Colonel: a devoted husband, an inspirational father, and someone who raises exceptional children and grandchildren, just as you have. And General, I hope one day to raise a daughter who carries herself with the same strength, faith, and compassion that you embody."

I am truly blessed to have two shining examples of what it means to live a life devoted to the Lord and to the people and values you hold dear. I'll leave this chapter of my life carrying traits and convictions far beyond those of most men my age, and I have you both to thank for that. I love you both. And I love Lake Delaware Boys Camp with all my heart. I've lived a blessed childhood, one filled with love and purpose, and as I grow and look back on these years, I will always think of you.

Thank you.



# Staff Report Summer 2025

## ~ Major Kojo Arthur-Mensah (camper, grad, tac)

"This place changed my life. There is no Kojo without camp. Richard Beckett Ansa (a former camper and tac) telling me about the medical field when I was a Midget made me want to become a doctor. This place taught me about sports. It made me want to learn how to play basketball with my brothers. My beliefs and ideals were shaped by this place and the people it introduced me to. I have needed camp—and I still do."

"No matter what happens—no matter how high or low I go in life, no matter what type of success I find—I will always be able to attribute it to camp. And I will always be able to attribute it to Jim and Sue."

Thank you for helping raise me and for giving me opportunities you never had to give."



## ~ Major Kaitlin McQuade (daughter of a grad, and a tac)

"Being on staff for five summers has given me the unique opportunity to be on staff with people who were once campers while I was on staff. At first, I thought that might be strange, and at times it is, but it is amazing to see how much they grow and thrive over the years. I consider myself very lucky to be a witness to that. The sickness, injury, camper behavior, and heat presented many challenges, but the staff was ultimately up to the task. Each camper we had this year grew over the season in their own way. Some kids became more comfortable being away from home, some became stronger, and others made lots of new friends. I am confident that camp served every kid this summer in a way that they needed."

"Camp is a truly magical place. It has been a positive part of so many people's lives. Every year, the families and alumni who come to visit are a testament to that. Each one of them has a story to tell about how camp changed them and guided them to become the person they are today. The opportunity to come to the wilderness, disconnect from electronics, meet other kids from all different backgrounds, and form close bonds is an opportunity that I wish every child could receive. I am so incredibly lucky to have been a part of that opportunity for the last five years."

"Camp has become my second home. I will keep coming back to see how much every camper grows, notice the trees that grew larger, and reconnect with people I formed such close bonds with. The magic of camp does not disappear once you leave, but being there in person amplifies it even just for a weekend. I want to thank you two again for everything you have done for me and for every child who has walked through camp. Camp would not be what it is today without you, and we all have you to thank for the incredible opportunity to experience the magic of camp."



## From the Editor

And we are back...after a brief delay, you can expect the Valookie to be released semi-annually.

Before I introduce myself, it seems only fitting to start with a big thank-you to our most recent editor, Joe Arruda, for all of his hard work and dedication. Don't worry, he hasn't gone far! Joe has been an incredible help in getting us up and running. Thanks, Joe!

Now, on to a little bit about the McGovern men. My name is Lori, although you may hear me called Judy from time to time. Feel free to ask Kevin Lamberson about that one... you'll get a good story! You've likely seen me around camp during Grads Weekend, asking for money, as I help support the camp by running the Parents' Association basket raffle on Sunday and the 50/50 during the always-impressive talent show. With the support of the McGovern men, I'll be pulling together the articles, photos, and ideas for each edition.

### CONTRIBUTORS:

Special thanks to Lauri Gullow, Jim and Sue Adams, Eden Caravita, Geoff Dunham, Eric Schubert, Cliff Sporn, and who all provided information for this edition of the Valookie.

Speaking of the McGovern men, we'll start with the leader of our troupe, Craig '87. He'll be making sure our newsletter stays error-free. As a Floridian, he goes to great lengths to support camp; he's at nearly every work weekend and has never missed a Grads Weekend. Now our boys are proudly following in his footsteps.

James '23 will be enjoying his second year on the tactical staff. Patrick '25 is taking this summer off, but you'll still see him—along with Craig and James—at work weekend. Both boys are proud recipients of the bronze Founder's Medal. They'll also be reaching out to our younger grads for ideas and articles to ensure the Valookie includes something for everyone.

If you have ideas you feel would enhance the Valookie, please email us at [valookie@lakedelawareboyscamp.com](mailto:valookie@lakedelawareboyscamp.com).

We look forward to seeing everyone at Grads Weekend!



## A LDBC First?

A first at Lake Delaware Boys' Camp?

Four brothers – Owen, Graeme, Colin, and Beau Warder currently all attend LDBC. We wonder if there have ever been four brothers all attending camp in the same season. These four brothers are looking forward to being back at camp in 2026.



# 2025 Donors to LDBC – THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

(This tally does not include the generous donations of the Gerry Family)

**Total Donations: \$134,229**

## ANGEL \$10,000+

American Camp Association  
Anonymous Donor  
David McGowan

## FOUNDER \$5,000-\$9,999

Ray Byrnes  
Joseph Collins  
Thomas Dougan

## BENEFACTOR \$2,000 - \$4,999

Joseph Adams  
Brian and Christine Bradley  
Charities Aid Foundation  
Geoffrey and Carol Dunham  
Bruce Given  
Brad Harned  
Bill and Barbara Holzkamp  
Craig and Lori McGovern  
Glen and Diane Miller  
Akintunde Ola  
Sherine Titus

## PATRON \$1,000 - \$1,999

Gary Beck  
Boys and Girls Club of Geneva  
Byongmoon and Sooyoung  
Cho  
William Dassler  
Joladu Fapchunda  
Robert Fero  
Richard Fischer  
Paul Geertgens  
Peter Given  
Kevin Lamberson  
James McQuade  
Scott McQuade

## PATRON \$1,000 - \$1,999

Arthur Mensah  
James Rauscher  
Joseph Scalero  
Gordon Smith  
Faith Uti  
Lance and Linda Ward  
Richard Waring

## SPONSOR \$500 - \$1,000

St James Church, Lake  
Delaware  
Anuoluwapo Adewusi  
Joy Akadube  
Johanne Baptiste  
Oluchi Chulaka  
Dan DeNose  
Meagan Gaffney  
Victor Larsen  
Richard Lindahl  
Ted Luchsinger  
Leonard Ogbuewu  
Jackie Padmore  
Aaron and Sheri Palm  
Ingrid Robinson  
Ubong Udofia

## SUPPORTER \$250 - \$499

James and Sue Adams  
Toki Dada  
Suzette Farrer  
Michael Hepburn  
Vince Licata  
David Roberts  
Adonys Rodriguez  
Susan Smith  
Chiebere Uko  
Gerald Washington  
Anny Yau

## FRIEND \$1 - \$249

Carmel Ambrose  
Ayoade Ayemi  
Chioma Chiana  
Richard Coriasco  
Guy DeFeis  
Doug Geertgens  
Tom Geertgens  
Charles Hounsell  
James Johnson  
Odeyeni Johnson  
Mona LaPalmer  
Miriam LaRose  
Lauren Lamberson  
Chris Lavin  
Les Leviness  
Jane Luchsinger  
Jory Luchsinger  
Brian McElligott  
Herb McGrail II  
Robert Mondello  
David Ojesami  
Samuel Oladimeji  
Israel Osagie  
Emmanuel Ossai  
Folasade Oyebode  
Jose and Vivien Perez  
Patricia Riley  
Maria Rodriguez  
Eric Schubert  
Peter Schubert  
Town of Hamden, NY  
Sarah and Kenny Uko  
Stephanie Williams

# Join the Emblem Society and Support Camp's Future

Won't you join this list of generous grads who have left a bequest in their will to Lake Delaware Boys' Camp. We thank them for doing their part to make the LDBC experience possible for future generations of campers. If you have made this commitment and your name does not appear on this list, please contact Camp Secretary Laurie Gullow at (607) 832-4451 or [lakedelawareboyscamp@yahoo.com](mailto:lakedelawareboyscamp@yahoo.com).

THANK YOU to our newest member, Frank Enders, who added Camp to his will this past year!

Robert Aguilar '35	Doug Amzler '76	Alfred Anderson '38	Richard Clarke '60
Guy DeFeis '70	Geoffrey Dunham '79	George Deecken '38	Frank Enders '62,
Clint Graffam '50	Fred Holzkamp '55	William '55 & Barbara Holzkamp	Hank Huestis '42
Kevin Lamberson '86	Vincent '87 & Nancy Licata	JoAnn Martin	Craig '87 & Lori McGovern
Warren '62 & Corethia Oates	James Smith	William Stenger '39	Frank Strup Jr. '39

## 2025 IN-KIND DONORS

Jim and Sue Adams \$1,182 in kind donation of a computer for camp as well as \$470 for a new mattress and bed frame!

Aaron Palm: \$309.04 in-kind donation for sleeping bags, camping pads, belts, and ponchos.

Bobbie Mondello donated \$470 worth of canon shells!

Whiteford Systems for the generous donation of a new sound system for the mess hall.

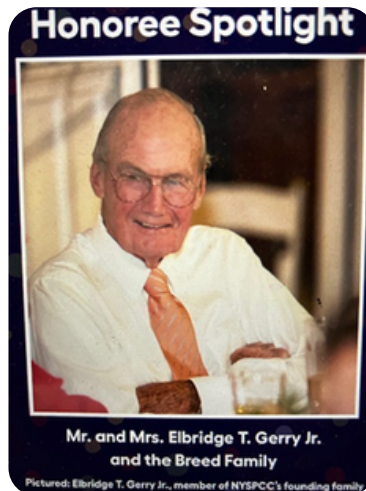
Sean's Rustic Designs donated their time and expertise, aiding Eric Schubert by burning the grad plaques.

Larry Hinrichs '66 donated \$1060 in new banners! The red, white and blue Aco/Bco banner for the Field House, a New Parade Banner which proudly led the battalion in the Ande's Parade, and a lovely new LDBC banner for the Mess Hall!



# Gerry's Corner

**New York Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children Celebrates 150 years and honors Elbridge and Kitty Gerry and Breed Family!**



At its Fall Gala at the Rainbow Room in Rockefeller Center, tributes were paid to recognize the Gerry Family as founders of the NYSPCC and the decades of dedicated support of Elbridge and Kitty and the extended Gerry Family.

The NYSPCC was founded in 1875 by Henry Bergh and Commodore Elbridge Gerry as the world's first children's protection agency, with the mission to rescue children from abandonment and neglect. These two men had already started the ASPCA, and when the case of Mary Ellen McCormack, a severely abused child, came to their attention. They decided a children's protective service was also needed, as there were no legal protections for children at the time. In the early decades, the NYSPCC not only rescued the children but sheltered them, prosecuted their abusers, enforced child support, handled runaway children, and child labor cases. As one local paper said in 1892, "If all the little children who have been rescued from starvation, cruel treatment, and lives of misfortune by Mr. Gerry's society were to march in a long procession through the avenues of New York, there would be thirty full regiments of them, a modern military corps." Once family courts were established in 1962, the NYSPCC became a partner to investigate cases, and today it serves children, families, and child welfare professionals with therapeutic supervised visitation, trauma counseling, and child welfare training. Learn more at [nyspcc.org](http://nyspcc.org)

We salute Ebby and Kitty and their family for carrying forward the extraordinary, dedicated vision of their forebears to improving the lives of disadvantaged and endangered youth. Did his father's founding of the NYSPCC inspire Robert L. Gerry to make his mark for the betterment of children and found LDBC? We think it's a safe bet it did. There is perhaps no other family in America with such a long and distinguished history of founding organizations (NYSPCC, LDBC, Boys Club of New York) that benefit the lives of children in need.

# Grads Weekend

## GRADS WEEKEND 2026

Don't wait till the last minute to make reservations as the Catskills have been discovered! Though the villages look the same as they always have, and the view from Ancrum has barely changed at all, new restaurants have opened and Andes boasts a hard cider distillery and brewery. Organic vegetable farms and heritage breed beef cattle farms have replaced many old dairy farms. With the Catskills now a summer wedding destination, the few B&B's, inns & airbnb's fill up quickly. If every place is booked, you are welcome to camp out in the parking lot!

## GOLF OUTING



Remember the laughs, the stories, and the friendships that made camp unforgettable?

Here's your chance to relive a little of that magic. You don't have to be a golfer to have a great time—only about 20% of people play regularly, but 100% of those who came had a blast reconnecting with old friends and meeting new ones.

Come join us and help add a few more smiling faces to the picture! Bring your camp stories—and maybe a friend or two—to share in the memories.

## GRADS PICNIC BASKET AND SILENT AUCTION REPORT

At this year's picnic, we continued the successful fundraising tradition of bidding on donated baskets and silent auction items. 30 baskets, including 8 from the indefatigable Barbara Holzkamp, lined our tables, and 7 items, including a stunning charcuterie board crafted by Charlie Hounsell, beautiful gift tags and cards hand-painted by the inimitable Kitty Gerry, and an LDBC wooden plaque, created by Eric Schubert and ready to be personalized for the highest bidder, were generously offered for the silent auction. Abundant thanks to all of our basket creators, auction donors, bidders, and helpers. We could not do this without you! A special shoutout to Patti Cole, who was both a donor and super ticket seller this year, for all of her support. Overall, we raised \$1,020. All proceeds go to support Camp.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Dunham

# Work Weekend - WE NEED YOU!



Each year, the LDBC Work Weekend offers something special—a chance to return to a place that holds so many great memories while helping prepare it for the next generation of campers. It's more than just a weekend of projects; it's an opportunity to reconnect with old friends, meet new ones, and spend time together in a place that has meant so much to so many. Whether you're painting, clearing a trail, or lending a hand wherever it's needed, the work goes quickly when it's shared with others who care about camp just as much as you do.

Of course, Work Weekend isn't all work. It's also about gathering around good food, sharing camp stories, and enjoying the laughter and friendships that make the LDBC community so special. There's something incredibly rewarding about giving back to a place that has given us so many memories. By pitching in, even for a short time, you help ensure that LDBC continues to be a place where new memories are made for years to come. Email [scndhalfbrick57@gmail.com](mailto:scndhalfbrick57@gmail.com) if you can attend. This will help us ensure we have enough food to go around.

## WORK WEEKEND 2025



Last year's Work Weekend was a great example of what can be accomplished when the LDBC community comes together. Volunteers rolled up their sleeves and tackled a number of important projects around camp, including painting the inside of the infirmary, installing new toilets in the infirmary, raking and clearing the ditch along Company Road, and planting new trees near the Armory and the Colonel's Cottage. These improvements not only helped keep camp looking its best but also ensured that facilities are ready and welcoming for the upcoming season.

## Camp Prayer

O God, who hast made and preserved this camp and sent us here to learn thy will: accept and sanctify our prayers by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit. Teach us to live together in comradeship, joy and peace. In our camp lives, give us the spirit of honor, understanding and perseverance; in our prayers the power to draw nigh to thee, and in our games true sportsmanship. Bless the founders and benefactors of our camp, Robert and Cornelia Gerry, for all they have given us and recompense them with the riches of thine everlasting kingdom, for Jesus' sake.

Amen.

### PASSINGS

Roger Rowe '63

Harrington Gordan Jr. '45

Peter Sporn '73

James Reilly ' 85

Edward Dunham '53

Robert Ahlborn '58

William Fedorko '42

Clint Graffam ' 50

Peter Enders '75

Christian Urig '51

Rev. Raynor Anderson, '60

Richard Cole '67

Grads weekend 2005. Raynor Anderson is on the left with Les Leviness and Ollie Nichols. Raynor was Major of the Battalion in 1960 and went on to become an Episcopal priest serving in the Diocese of Connecticut with a special ministry to hearing-impaired persons. As Camp reopened, Raynor was instrumental in starting our annual golf outing, which continues to this day.



### From the Archives

In the old days, just how did campers return home after the season ended...

**From 1941**, "This letter is printed for your convenience and must be handed in to the O.C. before 2 pm Sunday, August 24, 1941. Your letter must be written. This copy is not acceptable.

Dear Mother (or Father), I am returning home on Monday, September 1st, on the special cars of the Lake Delaware Boys' Camp. We shall leave Arkville, New York, on Train No. 534 at 12:55 pm and arrive at Weehawken at 5:22 pm. We will take the ferry at 6:22 pm and arrive at West 42nd Street Ferry at 6:35 pm. Please meet me at the West 42nd Street Ferry Terminal. Your son.

## 2024 Grads



Adebolurin Adedeji  
 Kweku Arthur-Mensah  
 Brian Cunningham  
 Jack Cunningham  
 Jack Fedan  
 Reece Fosu  
 Michael Idehen  
 Jonathan Iheanacho  
 Samuel Iheanacho  
 Jayden Lopez  
 Jimmy McQuade  
 Somto Ndukwe  
 Erik Palm  
 Malachi Robinson  
 Hayden Spies  
 Oluwatitofunmi Tokunboh-Salako  
 Menyeneobong Udofia  
 Emmanuel Whitley  
 Zion Jose Zuleta

**IN RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION** for their outstanding careers as members of the battalion and for their love and devotion to the ideals of Lake Delaware Boys' Camp on this final parade of the 2024 camp season –

**The Founders' Medal SILVER** is hereby awarded to: Major Kweku Arthur-Mensah

**The Founders' Medal BRONZE** is hereby awarded to:

Captain Aco Reece Fosu      Captain Bco Hayden Spies      Capt. Band Brian Cunningham  
 Capt. Band Jack Cunningham      Capt. Sacristan Emmanuel Whitley      Lieut. Health Officer Jack Fedan  
 Lieut. Band Malachi Robinson

**MONOGRAMS:** Grads = Ade Adedeji, Michael Idehen, Jonathan Iheanacho, Samuel Iheanacho, Jayden Lopez, Jimmy McQuade, Somto Ndukwe, Erik Palm, OluwaTITO funmi Takunboh-Salako, Menyene Udofia, Zion Zuleta

**100% PINS:** Medara Udofia, Thomas Harned, David Ojesanmi. Tim Fisher, Ebo Arthur-Mensah, Nati Titus-Edwards, Tom Geertgens.

**COMMANDANT'S CUP:** Major Kweku Arthur-Mensah

**ELBRIDGE T. GERRY BAND AWARD:** Zion Zuleta, Jayden Lopez, Patrick McGovern

**EDWARD H. GERRY A COMPANY AWARD:** Capt. Reece Fosu

**ROBERT L. GERRY, JR. B COMPANY AWARD:** Capt. Hayden Spies

**CHOIR CUP AWARD:** Ugo Uko, A J Moore, Justin Perez

### BEST TENT SCORES:

**1st place = Tent 6 Best Tent 2025!**

### PLAQUE SCORES

**A CO: 53.7 Winner of the plaque!**

## 2025 Camp Season Awards

**IN RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION** for their outstanding careers as members of the battalion and for their love and devotion to the ideals of Lake Delaware Boys' Camp on this final parade of the 2025 camp season – **The Founders' Medal BRONZE** is hereby awarded to:

Major Ugo Uko  
 Captain Aco Tom Geertgens  
 Captain Bco Nati Titus-Edwards  
 Capt. Band Patrick McGovern  
 Capt. Color Guard David Ojesanmi

**MONOGRAMS:** Grads = Nnaemeka Chilaka, Tristan Farrier, Austin Miller, Praise Obisesan, Jose Echevarria, David Esposito

**100% PINS:** A J Moore, Ebo Arthur-Mensah, Johnny McQuade, Landon Palacios, Owen Bradley, Cross Scantlin, Chris Paris, Justin Perez, and Jackson Schubert

**COMMANDANT'S CUP:** Major Ugo Uko

**ELBRIDGE T. GERRY BAND AWARD:** Austin Miller

**EDWARD H. GERRY A COMPANY AWARD:** Capt. Tom Geertgens

**ROBERT L. GERRY, JR. B COMPANY AWARD:** Capt. Nati Edwards

### BEST TENT SCORES:

3rd place = Tent 8

2nd place = Tent 4

**1st place = Tent 3 Best Tent 2025!**

### PLAQUE SCORES

**A CO: 51.55 Winner of the plaque!**

B CO: 48.45



## 2025 Grads

Ugochukwu Uko  
 Nnaemeka Chilaka  
 Jose Echevarria  
 David Alexander Esposito  
 Triston Farrier  
 Thomas Geertgens  
 Patrick McGovern  
 Austin Miller  
 Praise Obisesan  
 David Ojesanmi  
 Nathaniel Titus-Edwards

Dear Grads, Parents, Tacs, and Friends,

2025 saw another great year in the long tradition of LDBC: a battalion at full strength that included a large number of grads' sons and families, a 95+% camper return rate, and the amazing spirit of volunteerism and generosity that energizes every facet of Camp life.

From the new Mess Hall to the historic St. Joseph's Chapel, the traditions of LDBC play out each day on the company street, greatly unchanged since Camp's founding. Campers wake to the cannon and First Call and follow a full active day until Taps and lights out, just like when many of us were campers. Campers still share the camaraderie of their competitions, cheers stream from the Mess Hall after parade wins are announced, the sounds of organ music and the choir fill the air each day, and tears are shed at the end of the season when friends part. Most importantly, the impact of the LDBC experience on the lives of young boys and their families continues to be life-altering.

But this unique experience comes at a great cost.

High inflation has taken its toll on our finances. The cost of food, utilities, and insurance has risen dramatically since the pandemic, leaving us a significant operating deficit. In fact, since 2018, our operating expenses have increased 29% despite discretionary costs remaining fixed.

But there is a solution you can help bring about today.

Thanks to the support and commitment of the Gerry family, a private foundation has generously awarded LDBC a \$150,000 grant to close Camp's deficit, on one condition: continued and enhanced support from all sources.

This foundation will give this award IF we can demonstrate increased financial support in any measurable way. If you haven't given in recent years, or ever before, your gift counts toward this goal. If you give each year, any dollar amount over your previous gifts counts more this year. And donations from all sources will be counted toward this goal: grads, parents, tacs, and friends.

And the best news of all is that, if we meet this goal each year, the foundation has committed to considering increasing this award each year in greater amounts.

Any new or larger donation, in any amount, will help eliminate the deficit and prepare for the 2026 Camp season.

Won't you please take a moment now to consider making a tax-deductible contribution, in any amount, to ensure that the next generation of campers can benefit from the same values and experiences many of us received from LDBC?

Thank you, and we wish everyone in the LDBC family all the best in the New Year!

Very truly yours, Board of Directors and Lake Delaware Alumni Association.

\*Please make checks payable to "Lake Delaware Boys' Camp" and send to: LDBC, P.O. Box 31, Delhi, NY 13753, or donate via the camp website: [www.lakedelawareboyscamp.com](http://www.lakedelawareboyscamp.com).