The VALOOKIE

Lake Delaware Alumni Association, Inc.

Spring 2019

REMEMBERING FATHER RAY DONAHUE (1929 - 2018)

The Lake Delaware Boys' Camp family has been grieving over our loss of Fr. Ray L. Donahue. We know that we have lost a great soul. Yet we have also rejoiced, knowing that he is now in Heaven, lost in wonder, love and praise.

We all have a story of how Fr. D affected our lives.

My story with him began in 1969, when we were rookie staff members. I was a seventeen year old tac, he was the new chaplain, and it was the beginning of a wonderful friendship that lasted fifty years. During my years as a tac, it was his inspiration and example that led to my own calling to the Priesthood.

I began the ordination process as a communicant of St. Joseph's Chapel. At my ordination to the Priesthood in 1979 at All Saints' Cathedral in Albany, I was presented by Fr. Donahue and Elbridge T. Gerry, Sr., and joined LDBC's first Director, Fr. James Whitcomb as being ordained from St. Joseph's Chapel. During Fr. D's years preparing for ordination as a theology student at Hobart College (1947-1951) he was a communicant of St. Peter's Church in Geneva, NY, and it was through his introduction that I was called to become Rector of that Parish in 1981.

Sue and I and Father D maintained a close, loving and joyful friendship. Our favorite time of the year has been the past thirty summers we had with him at camp as directors, where we were able to work side by side with him every day serving the boys of LDBC.

Each of you has a story with Fr. D. He affected countless lives in profound ways. This is what I want to say to each of you who felt that your relationship with Fr. D was special. It was!!

He cherished his memories of you, he spoke of you, he treasured your chats, he loved each phone call you ever made to him, he delighted in every card and letter you sent. When he thought of you, he remembered only the best of you. This is true!

I would like to share a portion of the homily I offered at Fr. D's Memorial Service in December.

"Fr. D was my best friend for 50 years. So many of you knew him as the best friend you ever had. He had so much friendship to give. His sister, Anita has said to me numerous times: "He was always there for me whenever I needed advice, needed to speak with him." Over the years, Sue and I watched hundreds of people come to visit him at camp, wanting time with him, which was always gladly given to soak in his wisdom and calm inner strength. We always watched them leave looking grateful, encouraged.

He knew God as his friend, and he wanted us to know that God is our friend. Each year I would hear him tell boys at camp that the Bible is the Old Testament and the New Testament, and then he would add: "I call it God's Old Friendship and His New Friendship" with us.

His messages always glowed with the beauty of God's love for all, and were always positive, uplifting, encouraging. I heard him tell camp boys: "Jesus believes in conspiracy theories. He is always ready to believe the best about you."

He had about a dozen stories or so that he told the boys every summer in the camp chapel. Our campers return year after year, so they knew the stories well, and loved them so. As Fr. D would start a story, I would watch the boys realize, Oh, it's the one about the architect, and smile and settle comfortably in their seat. And hear of God's love for them.

Every camper and camp counselor is required to attend daily chapel at LDBC. With Fr. D as chaplain there was never a complaint about that.

One day this summer I listened as one of our camp counsellors, just returning from a day off asked another counsellor, "What did Fr. D say in chapel this morning? The story about "it is not just how to walk, but where to walk" answered the other counsellor. "Darn! I didn't want to miss that one!"

Lake Delaware Boys' Camp celebrates the Feast of the Transfiguration as its birthday. In that story, Jesus takes Peter, James and John to a mountain. On the summit, Jesus shines with the Light of God, brighter than any light on this earth. Peter, overwhelmed with the wonder of the moment, of being with his friends with Christ shining in their midst exclaims: "It is good for us to be here!" Fr. D often quoted those words of Peter's when he was so happy to be together with friends.

For fifty years at Lake Delaware Boys' Camp, we have said: "It is good for us to be here!" At LDBC we have been on a mountain, with friends, with Fr. D shining the Light of God's love in our midst. Through the wisdom of his messages, and the holiness of his life, all at LDBC had a glimpse of the Light of Christ in this world.

Thank you Lord, than you for the incredible gift of Fr. Ray Donahue, your servant and friend."

~ The Rev. James H. Adams, Camp Director

Memories of Fr. D

From Geoff Dunham G79

It was not possible to spend time with Fr. D and not hear these memorable lines that have lasted through the decades...

"Keep your powder dry."

"How are you Fr. D?" to which he would reply "Mean as ever."

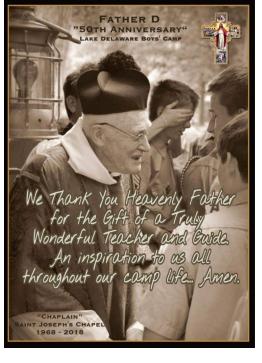
"How about that?!?"

"You are a gentleman and a scholar."

One of Fr. D's favorite quotes:

"He drew a circle that shut me out – Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout. But love and I had the wit to win: We drew a circle and took him in!"







From Bob Stumpf

I first met Father Donahue July 1962 in Margaretville hospital.

Father Donahue came to the ward offering communion to the patients.

I will always remember his kindness, warmth and compassion that Sunday so many decades ago.

The same kindness, warmth and compassion he bestowed as a Chaplain and Spiritual leader for the boys and young men of LDBC for half a century.

God Bless you Father D, you will always be in our thoughts and prayers

From Barbara Holzkamp

In the last few days I found a paper Father D. had put in our Christmas card for the last several years. How appropriate!!!

"One of the deepest delights of Christmas lies in the knowledge that we live in the memory of friends." What wonderful memories we have of Father D

Memories of Fr. D



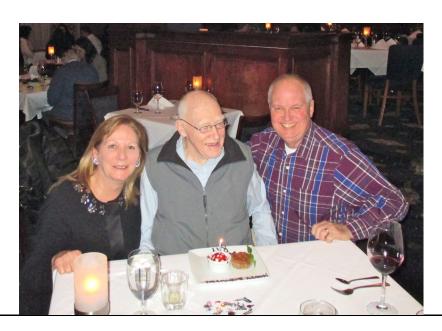
Father D. was always someone I could go to for advice and guidance. He was one of the most important mentors in my life and camp will never be the same without him. He helped me grow as a young man and tried his best to get to know me. I have many great memories with Father D. that I will never forget, and I know he has impacted countless other people's lives, in and outside of camp. His spirit will always be at camp, and he will be missed greatly.

Thank you for everything you have done for me Father D. Rest In Peace.

-Kyle Lamberson

Memorial Service for Fr. D- July 21st at 10 am

A Special Service will be held this summer on Parents/Grads Weekend to celebrate and give thanks for the life of Fr. Raymond Donahue. The service will be held on Sunday morning July 21st at 10 am, either in Camp at St. Joseph's Chapel or at the Ancrum under the tent as we did for the 100th Anniversary celebration. All campers will be in attendance and parents, alumni and friends are all invited to attend.



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 life, 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 that they have given us, and recompense them with the riches of Thine everlasting Kingdom, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

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Join the Emblem Society

As with the generous grads named below, we hope you will reflect on the impact LDBC has had on your life and consider leaving a bequest for Camp in your will. Your generosity will help make the Camp experience possible for future generations. 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 ldbc@delhitel.net so we can recognize your generosity.

Emblem Society Members: Robert Aguilar'35 Doug Amzler'76 Alfred Anderson, '38 Richard Clarke '60 Guv DeFeis '70 **Geoffrey Dunham'79** George Deecken'38 Clint Graffam'50 Fred Holzkamp, '55 William '55 and Barbara Holzkamp Hank Huestis '42 **Kevin Lamberson '86** Vinnie and Nancy Licata '87 JoAnn Martin Warren '62 and Corethia Oates John Sage '41 William Stenger, '39 Frank Strup, Jr. '39

From The Editor

Thank you to all who contribute to the Valookie. Special thanks to Geoff Dunham and Frank Enders. If anyone has articles, old pictures, old editions of the Valookie, stories of camp Old and New, please mail or e-mail them to me at the above contact information. I welcome any and all contributions.

Valookie Editor

Kevin Lamberson G86

Please direct all submissions, questions, suggestions, etc. by email or mail to: kevinlamberson0826@gmail.com

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From your President...

This year, LDBC will engage in two momentous acts: saying goodbye to the Rev. Canon Ray Donahue, or Fr. D as we all have known him since 1969 when he first became camp chaplain...and building a new mess hall. These two events mark the past and future of LDBC. We would not be where we are without having had Fr. D as chaplain. He helped define the essence of LDBC, and was the perfect presence on the company street...both loved and feared. Sharing time with campers during Slide Mountain hikes or on the deck of his tent or cabin to offer much needed reassurance, discipline or just to talk about anything...he was always aware of what campers were up to...for better or worse! Fr. D's perfect combination of unconditional love and high expectations is what pushed so many of us to seek our better angels. He will be forever missed and never forgotten. May Fr. D rest in peace.

As we mourn Fr.'s passing, we also plan for Camp's future, which is bright and hopeful. This is the year we build a new mess hall, which is designed to give us much needed space and to eliminate two old and compromised buildings that no longer meet our needs. When you receive our fundraising appeal, we hope that you will come through for Camp, as Fr. D did year after year, and offer generous support to help sustain LDBC through the 21st century.

Geoff Dunham'79

Quarterly LDAA gathering in NYC

Lizzy Adams, Nick Frigenti and Harold Turner are organizing an informal LDAA get together in NYC, please contact Lizzy at 315-521-2989 or Nick at 631-455-3505 if you are interested in getting together.





Help Recruit New Campers

Help keep LDBC strong by recruiting campers...we especially welcome ALL grad kids or grand-kids to attend LDBC...and their friends! Refer any potential camper family to the new camp website where they can find the camper application www.lakedelawareboyscamp.com. For new camp brochures to hand out to potential camper families, please contact Camp Secretary Laurie Gullow at ldbc@delhitel.net or (607) 832-4451.

Welcome to the Family Fr. VanBuren

We are pleased to announce that the Chaplain for Lake Delaware Boys' Camp for 2019, will be The Rev. Andrew VanBuren.

Fr. Andrew (age 30) is a talented, thoughtful and sincere young Priest. He is truly an outstanding young man, and is excited about being a part of LDBC.

We all know that we cannot expect anyone to come and be Fr. Donahue, whose wisdom and grace grew every year for 65 years as a Priest and 50 years as Chaplain for LDBC. We will still be grieving the loss of Fr. D this year, as well as honoring his memory.

We have told Andrew that his job is not to try and fill Fr. D's shoes; no one can do that. Rather, we told him, just bring your own shoes.

In addition, to his pastoral duties at camp. Fr. D impacted LDBC powerfully by his knowledge and love of hiking. Andrew will be able to share his interests in running and playing basketball with our campers. His fiancé, Becca, who is a music teacher looks forward to contribute by assisting in offering music opportunities for our campers. ~ Fondly, Jim and Sue Adams

Below is a brief personal introduction from Andrew:

"My name is Andrew VanBuren, and I'm excited to serve as the chaplain of LDBC this summer! I grew up in Hudson, Ohio, and went to college near Philadelphia, PA. When I was in college, I worked as a counselor at a Christian camp in the inner city of Pittsburgh, where campers studied reading, math, the Bible, and every sport you can think of! After college, I moved to Northern Ireland to work at a retreat center, whose mission was building peace and community among young people through games and activities. I was ordained an Episcopal priest in 2015 and began serving St. John's Episcopal Church in Clifton Springs, NY. Not long after that, I met a wonderful woman named Becca, a music teacher from Pennsburg, PA, and am looking forward to our wedding this Spring. In our free time, Becca and I like to run, bike, and play piano. We are both looking forward to joining the Lake Delaware Boys' Camp family!"







Chapel painting by Kitty Gerry

Alumni speech by Eric Shubert given at Parents meeting

There is a quote attributed to William Blake. It goes "I sought my soul, but my soul I could not see. I sought my God, but my God eluded me. I sought my brother and I found all three". This, I believe resonates with lake Delaware more than words could describe. I came here unsure of myself, out of contact with god, and I came alone. I left immeasurably richer for my time here.

My name is Eric Schubert. Camp Grad, Alumni Member, parent of 1 camper, soon to be 2, and uncle of another. About 20 years ago, I sat where your children are currently, and my parents were in your position. I was angry and felt abandoned. I even lashed out at my dad. I didn't want to spend my perfectly good summers in a rugged summer camp without electricity, AOL instant messenger, and the endless opportunities that would arise out of the boredom back home.

My father was steadfast and willing to take a risk on a place he found on the 1999 version of the internet. Initially, I think it was difficult for him to send me away to a camp for the majority of the summer. I think somewhere deep down, his conviction on sending me to an unknown summer camp may have waivered. I however, never saw that. I only saw the steel in his eyes and that's when I knew that I was going; Like it or not.

I was a Colorado mountain kid visiting my father in the salt city of Syracuse for the summer. It was then when he unceremoniously dumped me in a pseudo military Christian camp. I didn't speak to him the entire first drive down. I forgot my anger before he even left to go home.

I found a brotherhood and what have I since learned, is a lifelong fraternity. I found a place that I consider a home. I didn't realize it at the time, but I found a place that I would give the rest of my life to. This fraternity has manifested itself as other scared and angry kids that didn't know they wanted to be there too. It was personified as my tent commandant. A big 15 year old by the name of Erik Palacios. He was physically intimidating but extremely friendly. It was solidified by the lifelong friendships that I still hold dear today. This fraternity is now wedding invitations, birth announcements, and college graduations of my peers.

Most importantly, I found the magic that is the essence of this camp. There is an undeniable, intangible magic that exists here. During work weekend in May, you can only feel the absence of it. When the staff arrive in June, it starts to stir from its slumber, and it awakes when the first child arrives for the summer. This is the magic that runs deep and makes LDBC the most unique place in the world.

I spent 5 years as a camper at LDBC and there is no better way to spend a summer. The Gerry's really knew what they were doing and created a place where an adolescent male can thrive. Believe it or not, more than anything else, it was the regimented structure of camp that sticks with me even today. That structure lead me into the military. My first few weeks of basic, I was always in trouble because I couldn't resist stomping my left foot like we do at Lake Delaware. I couldn't help myself from slamming the butt of my rifle into the ground, a habit that was mastered in the crack platoon.

As you are all aware, Lake Delaware is a tuition free summer camp. We do ask for donations, but we do not ask that you cover the entire cost. This is part of what makes this place special and unique. The same was true during my childhood. One of the ways my father chose to offset the cost of my attendance was by attending work weekend and He brought me along. It is something that I have never forgot, and every time I see the safety rails on the tents (that my father designed and built), I beam with pride and appreciation. I appreciate that my dad found a place that gave me the skills to become a Man, a Father, and a productive member of society.

This is a tradition that I continue with today, with my own children. I am one of a fortunate few that have been lucky enough to spend time here as a Camper, an alumni, and a Parent. My son Jeffrey helped shingle the field house. Although the labor that day may have been difficult, I hope that one day he can reflect upon it the same way I do, and appreciate that his father was here at camp with him, forming memories that will last a life time.

What you may not realize as you sit in these pews today, is how deep these roots run here at Lake Delaware. Col. Adams and his wife are my godparents. Some of my closest friends are men that I attended camp with, and others are the men that attended camp with a different generation or during different decades. Father Adams attended camp, the same as your children, and now his grandchildren do. His entire family is involved in the operation. This place IS the definition of tradition and family. Fred and Bill Holtzcamp were 16 and Graduated camp in 1956. They are still heavily involved in Lake Delaware

Thousands of kids have attended camp and have formed their own memories and have their own attachments to Lake Delaware. Men have used their experiences at camp as the cornerstone in the foundation that is their life for 109 years. I am certain, given the opportunity, your children will build the same type of foundation. These foundations will stand the test of time.

I stand here as a testament to the fact that you have made the right decision to allow your children to attend camp. Through faith, competition, fraternity, integrity, duty and honor, Lake Delaware will give each of your boys the tools they need to become men of fine character. They will learn how to face hardships, challenges and obstacles with a resolve only befitting good and decent men.

Ultimately my message to you today, is that you have made the best possible decision for your sons future, just as my father did nearly 20 years ago.

I became a Lake Delaware man, my children will become Lake Delaware men, and as long as you keep up with the commitment, your son will too. On behalf of the Lake Delaware Alumni Association, We will be honored to accept new and future campers into the fraternity of Lake Delaware Alumni that stretches back to 1909, a brotherhood forged in the Catskills and solidified by god.

Congratulations to Father Adams

On January 6th, 2019 Fr. James Adams (our Colonel) celebrated his 40th year in the Episcopal priest-hood. Thank you for your service, commitment and faith that have blessed so many. We are grateful for your dedication to your parish and for your devotion to LDBC.



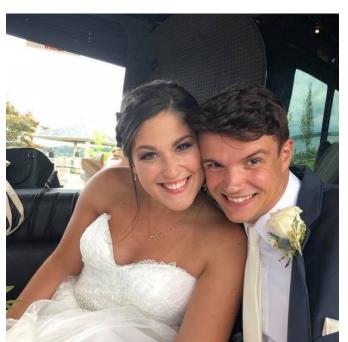




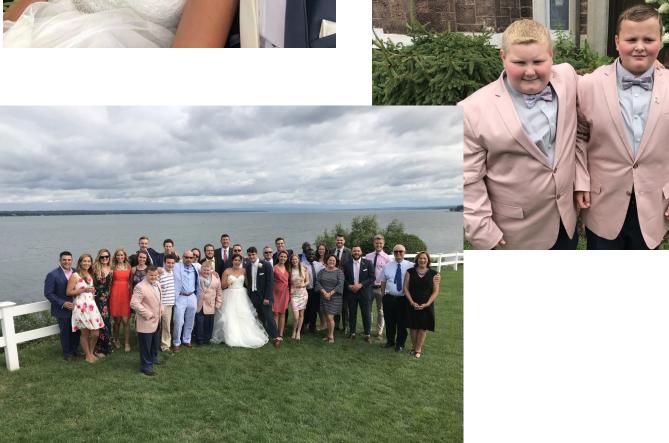


Another Camp marriage

Congratulations to Catherine Cunningham and George Howick who tied the knot on August 18, 2018. They met in the summer of 2014 when they were both members of the LDBC tactical staff. We wish you all the best and cant wait for the future camper to arrive later this spring.







LDBC Testimonials

Corey Whidbee, Grad of 1994

"this camp season for me has been one of clarity. I think that if the world just caught a glimpse of what goes on here at LDBC everyone would learn a valuable life lesson. LDBC has shown me that you don't have to be blood related to be family. Which is what Fr Donahue was trying to convey in chapel that love is costly and the price you pay is sacrifice and compromises. And it wasn't until Fr D said those word that I realized why I come back here every year. It is my sincere unchanging love for this camp. I am forever indebt to to this place. If it was not for this camp I do not know where I would be today LDBC is truly the cornerstone of my life."

Harold Turner, Grad 2004, counselor 2007-2009

"The family aspect of camp is the best The two parent home aspect of my life was missing at crucial points in my development and because of that I had not the slightest clue of what I was supposed to be. The same can be said for many other campers. Many are forced to grow up at home and here at camp they can be kids. That is one of the most amazing things about camp. The fact that you are guided and directed in your maturation and growth. I learned what it means to be a real man, I learned the strength and courage and all the other things that make a man for that I am eternally grateful.

Dustin Scales, Grad 2008

"Going to this camp was the experience of a lifetime and I feel I am a stronger man because of it. There is no other camp that teaches you lessons in life of how to be a true spirited man. There is no other camp that has so few campers but at the same time allows you to become a family of brothers. There is no other camp in which your character is built every second you are here. There is no other camp that relies so heavily on the leadership of older campers. I am truly blessed for having come here. I will take these experiences with me for the rest of my life."

A Grad of 2008: Going to this camp was the experience of a lifetime and I feel I am a stronger man because of it. I am truly blessed for having come here. I will take these experiences with me for the rest of my life.

A Mother and Grandmother of Campers: LDBC trains boys to become men with excellent characteristics. I take my hat off and give three cheers for all those who make LDBC possible.

A Grad of 1976: As I reflect back on my years at Camp, I can't help but think of the things I learned and how it developed my character and my values. I wonder if I hadn't had the opportunity to attend LDBC where I would have focused my life's goals and dreams. LDBC taught me independence, teamwork, trust, loyalty, dedication and devotion to duty and the value of people.

Richard Vargus, Grad 1976

"As I reflect on my years at Camp I think of what I learned and how it shaped my character and values. I wonder if I hadn't had the chance to attend LDBC where would I have focused my life's goals and dreams. LDBC taught me independence teamwork trust loyalty dedication and devotion to duty and most importantly the value of every person. What I learned from LDBC was how to endure and , persevere. I was given the ability to learn to lead and received an education in faith and hope. I had the opportunity to be involved in a diverse settling where I learned that color or ethnicity are the not the measure of a person. We lived as brothers and became part of an extended family to learning to treat each other fairly and without prejudice."

A camper parent

"I am not sure most people could appreciate the wonderful effect LDBC has had on my son. At LDBC he is living testimony that the concepts taught at camp: brotherhood, faith, challenge and structure –all fundamental to a boys growth—are key to his maturing process. I have noticed many changes in him since he began attending LDBC. Now he faces challenges in stride where before he got easily frustrated. Now he appreciates achieving honestly earned rewards and experiencing new things where before he was more focused on acquiring material tings. I have observed that he is more responsible and copes better with failure, is better mannered and knows what it means to work towards a goal. When my son entered LDBC he bore the burden of a certain level of insecurity and emotional immaturity. His time there has alleviated him of that. For that I am truly thankful for LDBC.

Dear Colonel and General Adams,

I wanted to thank you for yet another wonderful summer at camp. Great thanks to Father "D" and Eddie, and all the tactical staff that became our parents for the summer. But most importantly to all my brothers who I miss greatly. Even with that, none of it would be possible without Colonel and General, who keep the camp running in perfect condition. All of your jokes Colonel, and the General singing "Hey Dum Diddley Dum" at the top of her lungs, is a memory I will hold forever. The grad class of 2016 was a special one for sure. Great leaders, and now Alumni. I hope as every camper does that I will make it to that step one day to be a captain, or even major of the battalion, but in general a great leader like my dad once was. Once again I just wanted to say thank you, even if thanking you isn't enough for all you have done for us. ~ Kyle Lamberson

LDBC Testimonials

Zach Peraza

Good afternoon, everybody. My name is Zack Peraza. I am Mexican American, and today, I want to tell you about a trip that I took in the summer and how it changed my young life. To be selected to Lake Delaware Camp for Boys was the greatest honor that I have been given. Never have I ever been given an opportunity in my entire life to go to something this big, and to be so far away from my home. When I got to Lake Delaware, and saw new people, everyone was friendly, I felt at home. I was impressed by the tents, because I never actually saw, or slept in a tent. But you know what? I loved the idea that sleeping in a tent was fun, and it actually was! Going to chapel every morning brought me one step closer to God. Swimming, and hiking in the woods, exercising, eating like a big family, and spending time with other kids of different cultures, and spending more time outdoors, was the best thing ever. I could spend hours and hours talking about my experience, but the last thing I want to say is, thank you, Boys & Girls club, and to the General and the Colonel, for giving me the biggest experience. And thank you, Lake Delaware Camp for Boys, for treating me as if it was my second home.

Dear Colonel and General Adams,

The two summers I've spent at LDBC have been the most memorable experiences of my life. I've grown more in two years at this camp than I have in all 16 years of my life. I'd like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to realize that I am a part of something bigger than myself; I am a part of a brotherhood. Although my rookie year was in 2015, and my grad year 2016, I feel as though I have known my graduate class forever, and I miss them everyday. Now that I am an official alumnus of Lake Delaware Boys' Camp, I feel as if it is my duty to tell more people here in Atlanta about what an amazing place this is. God is truly present in this camp and there is not a day that goes by where I don't think about Father D's inspiring sermons, the tactical staff's infinite patience and care, the most difficult hike I've ever gone on in my life, and most importantly, the love for my brothers in B-Company. And I guess A-company too (*cough, cough*).

I cannot thank you enough for the love you have given to me and this camp, and I can't wait to recruit more soon-to-be graduates of LDBC. See you on Parents' Weekend!

Sincerely, LDBC 1026 graduate and 1st Lieutenant Adjutant, Eric Daily

Hey Colonel, it's Daniel Lerch.

I know it's late and you prob won't see this till the morning but I am laying here in bed and I can't sleep and camp came into my mind. I just want you to know that everything about that place, everything that you and Sue put into it - it's all worth it. Camp really did change my life, I'd never be half of the man I am today without you guys or camp and I love you 2 so much for everything you've done for me. I just watched my speech I gave at the bonfire, and missing my grad year of camp is heartbreaking, I wish I could get it back but I know I can't and I just really want you to know that I don't think I'd be anywhere close to where I am today, like going to Hobart this coming fall or any of that without camp. Just thank you for giving me the opportunity and blessing me with the chance to be a part of LCBC and to one of your countless sons that you've had through camp. Love you so much and thank you, really did change my life.

Dan Lerch – grad 2016

With a tear in my eye and Daniel's class picture in my hand, I am enclosing his last application for camp. I am reminded of the day that Lynn approached me in the Sacristy and said "why isn't this boy in camp? You have to let him go, you can't keep him and be selfish, he needs camp." Daniel was standing right next to me and I said, "ok, go ask Father Adams what you have to do." I was terrified. It was a conversation I will never forget. In the following days Rick and I went back and forth several times, we were both so uncertain. I finally said as Lynn said to me, "we have to let him go." Dan was 11 in 2011 and had never been away from home before, maybe one or two nights but that was it. I remember bringing his application to church and giving it to you, saying, "I have to get him out of here." When he first attended camp we were going through so many troublesome times. I thought it would help all three of us. Daniel said to me just the other night, "Mom, can you imagine how I would be if I never went to camp? I mean, I am so confident now to be away from home. Independent, I know I can handle being away from you guys, life on my own." It makes me happy to know what a tremendous impact you and LDBC have had on our son and our family. Right after that first year of camp, we started the habit of attending church more often and have become "regulars" at St Peters. Daniel has so many friends and has been exposed to so much more than he would have been because of LDBC. He has become close friends with Ben McGowan, Joe Arruda, Sam Alexander, Justin Chacchia, Nate Trowbridge, Mitch Burrall, Nick and Ethan Wagner, Zarian Chance. Sleepovers, stay - overs, weekend get -togethers. I am so grateful for this. I enclosed with the application the "

JUDY LERCH, parent of son Dan

Grads Weekend 2018











Grads Weekend 2018









GRADS WEEKEND PICNIC THANK YOU

Dear Friends,

Thanks to all of you who contributed to our Grad Picnic Basket Raffle and Silent Auction. We took in a total of \$ 1,251. Special thanks to Ann and Ray Lamberson, Bill Holzkamp, Carol Dunham, Rich, Anne and DW Burdett, Norma Vargus, Kathy and Jeff Fedan, Amanda and Chris Burdett who helped throughout the day doing various things including setting up tables ,putting on tablecloths, arranging and tagging baskets, selling raffle tickets, pulling winning tickets, cleaning up and delivering unsold items to the Parent's Sale in the Field House.

We had a total of 72 baskets given by 17 people and 8 donors to the Silent Auction. There were also several people among you who donated random items to sell. The first time we did this was in 2010 when we made \$622. Ann Lamberson and I have worked hard to encourage more people to bring things, including gift cards and have had growing success, but of course would like to have more. This year Ann found things for and assembled 26 Baskets(!!!!!!!!!!!) and I did 18. We can't thank our husbands enough for going along with us as we buy baskets everywhere, cart thing home from Florida, cover many surfaces in our houses as we sort and put together and wrap, plus transport them to camp having just enough room for us to sit. Friends and relatives know we do this and give us things all year. We also look at garage sale things, resale shops, check out dollar stores etc. We are both 77 (in August for me) and have decided we need to cut back as you can imagine how much time and energy it takes to do that many, and will do some but not nearly as many. The ideal would be to have more grads participate. Ann and I would love to have your ideas about how to make this happen. What made you bring one or multiple baskets? I've been thinking about putting an article in the Valookie.

As you can guess we really love camp and desire to do things that will benefit it. Many, many thanks for joining us in this effort.

Again I must thank the ladies of the Steck and Enders era who started making or bringing things to sell at the picnic and to Betsy Mc Grail for introducing the basket idea.

Best,

Barbara Holzkamp, Barbara wife of Bill, Grad of 1955

Grads weekend Thank you

A special THANK YOU to all those who volunteer to assemble baskets and other items for sale at the Grads Weekend picnic, especially Barbara Holzkamp, Anne Lamberson, Richard & Anne Burdett, Kathy Fedan, Carol Dunham and Kitty Gerry. Their efforts, along with others, have enabled LDAA to raise over \$1,000 each picnic for the last several years.

Also, a special thank you to all the people who work tirelessly to put together the whole weekend. There are too many people to name but the set up for the picnic, port-a-johns, food, beverages, tent, alumni service and all the other events only happen because of the hard work and dedication of our alumni and their supporting families. Thank you to all of you for your dedication and love of LDBC.

Parents Weekend Raffle Baskets

Thank you all for your loyalty and work to support the mission of LDBC.

Thank you also to the LDBC parents who raised \$2,624 for LDBC on Grads/Parents weekend with the basket raffle.

Great support for camp!

Cheers, Colonel and General Adams

MAKE RESERVATIONS NOW FOR GRADS-PARENTS WEEKEND

11th Annual Golf Outing Grads-Parents Weekend

July 19 July 20-21

Don't wait to the last minute to make reservations....The Catskills have been discovered! Though the towns look the same as they always have, Bovina boasts an excellent restaurant and Andes has two, in addition to several antique stores and a renovated Andes Hotel. Delhi is bustling and even has a hard cider distillery. Organic farms and llama and heritage breed beef cattle farms have replaced many old dairy farms. With the Catskills now a destination for summer weddings, the few B&B's, inns and hotels fill up quickly. Don't forget if every place is booked, you are always welcome to camp out in the parking lot!

Important Dates to Remember

Work Weekend May 18-19

Camping with the Stars

June 22-23

11th Annual Gold Outing July 19

Grads/Parents weekend July 20-21

For Recent LDBC Graduates

Remember, for three years following graduation from Camp, LDAA annual dues are waived and the picnic is free! This past year, we saw more young alumni attend the Grad's Picnic than ever before. We hope to see more of you in the coming years at the picnic and at Grads weekend.

Write to the campers

Want to share old memories of your time at camp? The surrent campers love to hear stories from the early days of LDBC. During the camp season, feel free to write a letter to the Colonel and General about your time at LDBC and they can share it with the campers. This is one way to pass along all the camp memories we all have.

LDBC

Attn: Colonel and General Adams 356 Calhoun Hill Rd. Andes, NY 13731

Brown Brothers Harriman

It will come as no surprise that the institutions affiliated with or founded by the Gerry family have long illustrious histories...Harness Racing Museum (70 years **BROTHERS** old); LDBC (110); the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (144)...but none are quite so old and HARRIMAN venerable as Brown Brothers Harriman &

BROWN



Co. Founded in 1818 as Brown Brothers & Co, and now celebrating its 200th anniversary, the Gerry connection with BBH began when it merged in 1931 with W.A. Harriman & Co., started by Averell and Roland Harriman, brothers to Cornelia H. Gerry. Though long associated with the Wise Men of post war American foreign policy (Robert Lovett, W.A. Harriman and Prescott Bush), BBH continues to be a leading investment firm, the country's top custodial firm, and the only private partnership in the American banking world. It is, in short, America's oldest private bank. Starting as linen merchants, BBH invested in shipping, cotton and railroads (think Union Pacific) before transitioning into financial transactions and banking. BBH's 200th celebrations, attended by partner Elbridge T. Gerry, Jr., included a firm trip on EH Harriman's old Union Pacific railroad cars up to the Harriman family's harness racing stomping grounds in Goshen, NY and estate at Arden. BBH currently has over \$5 trillion of assets under custodianship and \$100 billion under management. Though Camp's assets are but a drop in the billions managed by BBH, we are mindful of the historic connection between LDBC and BBH and thankful for BBH's prudent stewardship of Camp's endowment thru the years. In fact, many Camp meetings have taken place in the historic map room at BBH, its walls covered with an old map of the United States showing all the lines of the Union Pacific Railroad. With its ancient wooden roll top desks in the partners room, BBH, like LDBC, embraces its history while excelling in the 21st century. For more BBH history, go to www.bbh.com/en-us/our-firm/history

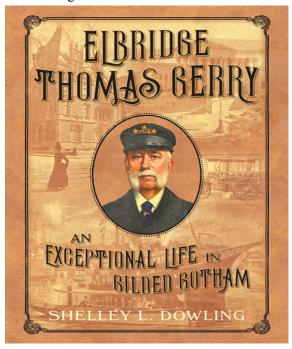
From the Photo Archives – LDBC 75th Anniversary





Gerry Family History

We know him as 'Commodore', on account of his leading the New York Yacht Club from 1886 to 1893, with his yacht Electra as its flagship. But Elbridge T. Gerry was also known for founding the world's first child protection agency, the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, helping found the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and leading the ban on hanging as a method of capital punishment. The Commodore also amassed the country's largest legal library and bequeathed his 30,000 volume collection to the Supreme Court, forming the basis of the Court's library. To celebrate the illustrious legacy of the Commodore and the Gerry family, author Shelly Dowling wrote the award winning biography, *Elbridge Gerry: An Exceptional Life in Gilded Gotham.* The book traces the Commodore's life within the gilded social circles of old New York families, many of whom he was related to, the Gallatins, Goelets, and Livingstons. With one foot in the era's high society balls, many hosted in his mansions on 61st St. and Fifth Avenue and in Newport, RI, and one foot in the philanthropic world of the Progressive era, the Commodore was a man of brilliance and passion. He also had an abiding faith, serving as warden for 30 years of St. Edward the Martyr (where Camp's Clubhouse was until the early 1960s) and helping fund the Cathedral of St. John the Divine and General Theological Seminary. It was the Commodore whose influence made St. Joseph's Chapel the center of life at LDBC. Together with the Supreme Court, LDBC owes the Commodore a debt of gratitude.





The Commodore's Richard Morris Hunt designed mansion, built in 1897. It is now the site of the Pierre Hotel.

From the Photo Archives-LDBC 75th Anniversary





2018 Donors to LDBC* THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Angel \$10,000+

Estate of Frank Strup, Jr. (\$25,000) Anonymous

Founder \$5,000-\$9,999

Anonymous William and Barbara Holzkamp Anonymous

Benefactor \$2,500 to \$4,999

Joseph and Christine Adams Victoria Gilbert

\$1,000 to \$2,499 Patron

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Darren McGovern Paul and Caroline Geertgens Bruce and Patricia Given Stephen and Tisha Gravina John and Cinthia Huggins Kevin Lamberson

Susan Lee

James and Margaret McQuade

Darren McGovern Nancy McGowan Herbert McGrail Warren and Corethia Oates Aaron and Sheri Palm James and Laura Rauscher Joseph Scalero Nicholas Schubert

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Nick and Nancy Cavalone

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Frederic Custance

Dan DeNose

Helen DiPasquale

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Muriel Falkey

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Judith Foster

Bruce Fueling Mike Garcia

Harold Good

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Richard and Helen Henseler

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Melanie Hill

Charles and Christine Hounsell

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Scott Hunter

Valerie Ignatowitz

David Ingangi

Gaweda Jakub

Raymond and Ann Lamberson

Keisha Lapalmer

Terrence Larson

Theodore LeViness

William Logan

Henry Lowry

John Lowry

Jane Luchsinger

Anthony Mantone

Virginia Marshall

Robert McCarthy

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Chris Meyer

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Randall Moeller

John and Sheila Platt

Kyle Prescott

Thomas and Margaret Quinn

Patricia Reilly

Henry Robertson

Douglas Robins

George Rowe

Sarane Ross

Sylvia Rozzelle

Eleanor and Daniel Salmon

Goldie Sherman

Thomas Shimkus

Barrie Simpson

Ralph and Harriet Sisson

Richard and Margaret Sisson

Marvin and Rebecca Smith

Richard Stumpf

Richard Tollner

James and Wendy Trowbridge

Ebenezer VanderPallen

Jacqueline Valentin

Daquan Wallace

William and Becky Wendt

Ken Whatley

Entriken and Ellen William

Marjorie Willis

Dennis Wolters

Ronald Wolters

Godfrev Woolsev

Richard Ziemba

CAMPING WITH THE STARS 2019

Lake Delaware Alumni Association members have supported LDBC through donations of time, treasure, and talents, especially through the Work Weekends. Most of the Work Weekend projects occur when the camp is still 'packed up'. The tents are down, the Field House, Armory and Chapel are filled with storage. Even the Mess Hall has Picnic Tables and other items stored for the off season. These Work Weekends are important in order to get the BIG building projects accomplished.

But, 8 years ago -- "Camping with the Stars" was born!

An extra Work Weekend with Benefits!

A totally different event happening at Lake Delaware Boys Camp.

Those who have attended continue to rave about it.

Hard to believe that this will be its seventh year!

The first year, we had 10 folks join us and last year - we had 50 guests!

We hope that you join us this year.

CAMPING WITH THE STARS 2019!

~ YOU are the STARS.

Festivities formally begin with Dinner on Friday, June 21nd, Saturday, June 22nd and end after lunch Sunday, June 23th.

The concept for this weekend is to bring Alumni and their families together to participate in some last minute Camp Craft Projects and also enjoy some of the LDBC experience!

Our staff will have emptied and set up the buildings for the camp season.

The boys tents will be set up. Some of you might choose to sleep in the boys tents 1 - 8....Aco or Bco and some of you might pitch a tent up in the Parking Lot. We will have a schedule which includes waking up to the Canon, Meals served in the Mess Hall, (Friday-Dinner, Saturday-Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner and Sunday-Breakfast & Lunch) Camp Grace said at all meals, Announcements with the Day's schedule, Camp Craft Projects, Open Swim, Hikes, Evening Games, Sunday morning Chapel with Fr. D, an evening campfire. The evening will become quiet with the playing of Taps.

Suggested donation for the six meals = \$30 per single adult or \$50 per family.

RESERVATIONS must be made in advance and no later than June 8, 2019! Email me (Sue Adams) at jimandsueadams@gmail.com

No one under the age of 18 will be allowed without a parent.

(Alcohol will be restricted to designated times and places throughout the weekend.

Absolutely no underage drinking. Please do not bring pets.)



50th Anniversary Celebration for Fr. D

CELEBRATING FR. D'S 50 YEARS AS LDBC CHAPLAIN

On July 20, 2018 the Gerry Family, Lake Delaware Alumni Association and the wider LDBC community celebrated Fr. D's 50 years as Camp Chaplain. Since 1969, Fr. D has inspired thousands of campers to be their better selves and to be the person God wants them to be. His particular domain has been St. Joseph's Chapel, the company street where he lived in a tent for decades and the annual Slide Hike which he lead for many years. The event was very well attended with Alumni and friends from around the country gathering at the Andes Hotel. Fr D. was presented with a painting of St. Joseph's Chapel created by Kitty Gerry (seen below) and people shared their love and favorite memories of Fr. D. What a great celebration of a great man, who will always mean so much to the LDBC family.









LDBC flashback by Richard deJongh—Bco- G56

Flash back:

Going back several years a funny thing happened. At church one Sunday (St. Dunstan's Episcopal) a parishioner came up to me and just said the following... LDBC.

I was totally taken back. What did you just say? He again said LDBC.

The parishioner and yes, an LDBC grad was Ken Whatley.

To add to the story, yes, we both went to LDBC. Ken was Capt. B Co in 1940 and I was 2nd Lt B Co 1958.

After schooling etc., we both ended up working for American Airlines. We both transferred to Tulsa, Oklahoma where American has there main engineering and maintenance facility.

We then happened to be going to the same church for many years unbeknown of our connections going back decades.

So fast forward to June 2018.

I was visiting friends in Tulsa in late June of this year. Had moved to the Denver, CO area last year. So was talking to an old church friend and asked how Ken Whatley was doing. She said he was now in a retirement facility and doing great. He did have some setbacks, losing his wife and recently his daughter.

So, set off to pay Ken a visit.

Found him in an exercise class. Doing his thing from a wheelchair.

He looked at me and was a little puzzled and maybe his memory was a little foggy. So, I leaned over and whispered in his ear...LDBC!

His eyes lite up. He then reached behind his wheelchair and what happened next was a shocker.

He pulled out a hat I gave him after I came back from the 100^{th} . It said LAKE DELAWARE on it. Could not believe he kept that LDBC cap all these years. He put it right on.

He then went on to tell me what a great experience he had at LDBC and how it helped shape his years that followed. He said he owes a lot to LDBC like many of us have.

He said the way he got to LDBC was because his father ran the commissary.

Talking to some of the gals at the home they tell me that he puts on the cap and then tells them stories about his years at LDBC. Amazing.

I asked Ken how old he was and he's 95. Feels great and loves the place he's at. He does have 2 other children living in the Tulsa area which is nice to have them close by.

So, on future visits back to Tulsa I'll make an effort to swing by for a visit with my Lake Delaware cap on.



Henry 'Hank' Huestis '42 A Remembrance

We were saddened to learn of Hank's passing on January 12, 2019, at age 93. Hank's life took a long journey from a tenement house in Brooklyn to a successful career at NBC as one of the first videotape editors. Along the way, he became acquainted with George Odom, Robert L. Gerry's horse trainer and was soon enrolled at LDBC. Immediately following Camp, Hank joined the Coast Guard and served in World War II. He became reacquainted with Camp in the 1990's when he joined the LDAA board of directors and immediately made his mark by setting up the Emblem Society to encourage those who love LDBC to leave bequests to Camp. This effort has resulted in several hundreds of thousands of dollars being donated to LDBC. We wouldn't be where we are without Hank's contributions. Always professional, enthusiastic and with a positive contribution to make, Hank was a true pleasure to work with and he will be dearly missed.



Henry Huestis turns on some of his editing magic as he readies some tapes for a news broadcast. Some of his engineering feats with tapes are amazing, and the finished reel, when played for the public, gives no indication whatever of his skillful handling.

Alumni Photos







Jaxon Luchsinger and Bill Holzkamp—work weekend 78 years ago



Thank You to Herb McGrail for 40+ years of Service!

It is not an exaggeration to say that LDBC would not be where it is today without the decades long committed efforts of Herb McGrail '53. Herb has served on the LDAA board for decades, but that alone is not what distinguishes his service to Camp. In the mid 1970s, as computers were in their infancy, Herb took it upon himself to create our first Camp database. And he has maintained and enhanced that database to the present, and is now passing on that torch. That has been our lifeline to you, the camp membership. Without Herb's efforts, for which he was awarded a rare Founders Medal Gold, who knows where we would be!

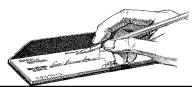
Herb attended St. Bartholomew's Church, in Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn and was an active chorister there and at Camp. His love of church continued when he moved to Northport, serving on the Vestry at Trinity Church, Northport, the church to which he has belonged since being married there in 1963 to his life long partner, Betsy. Herb's enormous contributions to both church and the Boy Scouts earned him the St. George's Cross and many more accolades. He has served the Scouts for 34 years and it is fair to say has mentored more Eagle Scouts than anyone on Long Island! He and Betsy showed true devotion to assisting youth in crisis by taking in children, sometimes for several years at a time, and installing a hot line in their home as part of The Place, a crisis non-profit.

Herb's lifelong commitment and dedication to supporting the next generation, both within his community and at Camp, has been exemplary. We simply cannot thank him enough!

Amazon Smiles

Thank you to Richard Burdett for arranging for donations to LDBC under the Amazon Smiles program. Please REMEMBER LDBC when purchasing items on Amazon.com Every donation helps us meet our annual expenses, no matter how small!

Dues and Donations



REMINDER:

Dues Reminder!!! Please help us reach our goal. Remember, you can also pay your dues online at www.lakedelawareboyscamp.com.

Please take a moment of your time to pay your dues today. Every contribution helps with the long term success of LDBC. Please mail your \$40 dues TODAY! Thank you!

Interested in giving more to LDBC? Consider sending in a small donation each month when you pay your bills. \$10 each month will have less impact on your budget than giving \$100 or more all at once. Just address 12 envelopes to LDAA, insert a check into each envelope in the amount you want to give each month and mail with your bills you pay each month. Also check to see if your company does a match to charitable organizations. Sometimes they will match dollar for dollar or more. If you need specific information like the Tax ID number or type of charity LDBC is, please contact the camp office at ldbc@delhitel.net. Thank you all for your continued support of LDBC.

11th Annual Golf Outing

11th Annual LDBC Golf Outing

Come and join the Gerry Family, your fellow grads and tacs (many from Scotland-the birthplace of golf!) on the Friday before Grads Weekend, July 19, for an afternoon of fun and fellowship. The \$85 cost includes pre game lunch, 18 holes of golf at the highly rated College Course, SUNY-Delhi, prizes, and post game hors d'oeurves. It is fitting our annual event is held at this course, as Mrs. Elbridge T. Gerry, Sr. was a decorated golfer here decades ago. It is also one of only three college courses to be designated an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary. Contact **Dr. Cliff**Sporn'71 at doccliff.s@gmail.com if you plan to attend. Cliff does an amazing job organizing everything so just

show up and have a wonderful time with your fellow LDBC grads.

Results from 2018

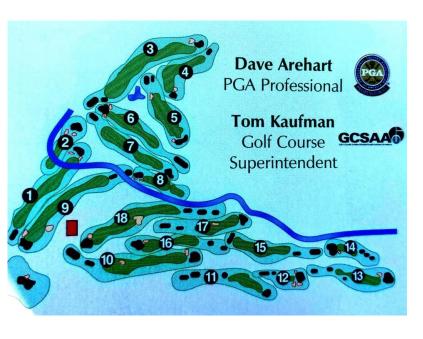
1st Place team at 10 Under Par Ryne Dailey (LDBC Staff) Matt Vergamini Robert DuPrau Ed Robinson

2nd Place team at 5 Under Par Hal Burrall Dan Lerch Bob McCarthy Jim Trowbridge

Closest to the Pin on hole 8: Daniel Learch – 16 ft. 8 in.

Closest to the Pin on hole 14 Mario Machado – 19 ft. 6 in.







LDBC End of Year Awards 2018

2019 Recipients of the 100% pins = Kyle Lamberson, Nick Mase, Joel Lawore, John Paul Schubert, Osmond Amoako, Leopold Devin Fosu and Michael Avedisian

Founders Medal Bronze were awarded to: Captain Aco Kaya Parara, Captain Bco Anthony Garcia, Captain Band Ethan Wagner tenant Aco Kwasi Hammond

Founders Medal Silver was awarded to: Major Mitchell Burrall

LDBC in Winter







LDBC Grads of 2018

Mitchell Burrall Gene Clemetson Dylan Comanzo Anthony Garcia Kwasi Hammond Damian Jablonski Ryan Larkin Christopher Maul Jamal McCleod Kaya Parara Kanya Postell Ethan Wagner Austin Wells



In Loving Memory of......

Dotty Enders, mother of Frank Enders

 Bruce Meyer
 4/12/18
 Grad 1964

 Frank Strup
 5/04/18
 Grad 1939

 Robert Willis
 8/27/17
 Grad 1942

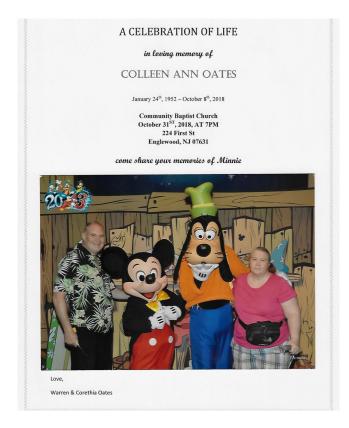
 Charles J. Farmer
 2008
 Grad 1954

 Henry Huestis
 1/12/19
 Grad 1942

Colleen Ann Oates-Sister of Warren Oates

Susi Shaver—wife of Tom Shaaver

Virginia Licata- mother of Rich, Andy and Vinnie



Work Weekend-May 18-19 Parents/Grads Weekend-July 20-21

Save the Dates:



2018 Plaque Scores: Aco 48 Bco 52

Spring 2019

Lake Delaware Alumni Association, Inc.

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