



Laurel Leaves



Fleur de Lis Camp Alumnae Newsletter

Spring 2018

We love #FDLMonth

We saw alumnae gather all over the country (and world) this year, intentionally creating trips and get-togethers to celebrate #FDLMonth. A huge thanks to all who submitted photos, shared on Facebook, liked on Instagram, and got together with your Fleur de Lis friends.

In 2016, we started a new tradition where, instead of hosting an “in-real-life” event in New England, we encouraged everyone in our Fleur de Lis community to participate in #FDLMonth. The basic idea is to reconnect with Fleur de Lis alumnae, family, parents, and campers in your area, then take a photo and use the hashtag #FDLMonth when sharing on social media. Doing a “virtual event” like #FDLMonth puts the power of technology in your hands, giving you a great reason to get together with people you share amazing memories with.

Congrats to Ladies Lauren Burnette, Kristen Burnette, and Matoaka Kipp who posted photos on Instagram and garnered the most likes (over 700 total)! They’ve got fresh new Fleur de Lis beanies coming their way (you can get your own on our website).



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Spring 2018

*Fleur de Lis
Camp*



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President

Diane Foster

Vice President

Libby Williams

Treasurer

Christine Hassig Cressey

Secretary

Elizabeth Ramos

Advisor

Claudia Geary Miller

Camp Director

Carrie Kashawlic

**Fleur de Lis Core
Values**

Integrity

Loyalty

Service to Others

Caring Community

More #FDLMonth:



Executive Director Search

Our search for our next Executive Director of Fleur de Lis is underway. We've had over 20 applicants and we're progressing to the interview stage. The Search Committee (Ladies Jane Lawson, Libby Williams, Diane Foster, Ingrid Scanlon, Rachel Schewe, Carrie Wickenden Finizio, Amy Bates, and Chair Liz Ramos) extends a heartfelt thank you to the many of you who have contributed to framing our vision for the future of camp and therefore the criteria we seek in our next director. We have hosted moderated discussions with parents, current and former staff, alumnae, and corporation members and have received a treasure trove of thoughts and ideas for the next era of FDL. We plan for our search to continue through the spring and to culminate in finalist visits to camp during the summer.

Lady Liz Ramos, Board Secretary

Corporation Meeting

I was thrilled, and a bit nervous, to lead my first Fleur de Lis Corporation Meeting as President on March 3rd. Our corporation meetings are highlights of the year for me as a board member. Our winter meeting provides the opportunity to look closely at camp in its not-for-profit business aspect. A gathering of so many intelligent, thoughtful, and committed members of the FDL community is truly an honor to be a part of. I'm always impressed to be in a room full of such a wide array of camp and life experiences. I consider it a privilege to be part of a camp that governs itself in this way. And it was exciting to report on and listen to the reports of Fleur de Lis' strength as a business. Thanks to donations from so many alumnae and families, our Be Like Jane campaign this past summer was a big success. We exceeded our \$100,000 goal and put camp's reserve fund over \$1 million. That's a huge accomplishment and a fit honoring of outgoing Board President, Lady Jane Lawson. Our goal to increase the number of families with young campers introduced to Fleur de Lis has also been and continues to be realized, which shores up our long-term camper numbers for the future. We were also able to celebrate the many contributions to FDL Lady Carrie Kashawlic has made over the past 8 years. Her work has certainly brought Fleur de Lis to a new level, and she will forever be a valued member of our community. The Corporation was able to contribute to the efforts of the search committee for our next Executive Director. It was an amazing day spent amidst incredible love and commitment to Fleur de Lis and all that it offers to the girls and women it serves.

One new member, Samantha Keogh, was voted onto Corporation (her bio is below).

Lady Di Foster, Board President

Samantha Keogh

Samantha Keogh began attending Fleur de Lis in 1996 at age 7 and never looked back. Sam was lucky enough to be a camper for 9 years and served as the bugler for the August session for 5 summers. Sam completed the CT program and one year on field staff and, in 2011 after graduating from American University, worked as Program Director. Every summer for the past 10 years, Sam has spent the weekend of Coronation directing the campers in this tradition. Sam enjoys helping to make the text and meaning accessible to each girl chosen to serve as Queen, Council, or a member of the Court. Their joy is contagious as they finally get to try out the "stutter-step" they've been practicing, and their faces light up at the privilege of going into the Farmhouse to see all the props and outfits. Sam has lived in New York City for the past 6 years to pursue her work as a multidisciplinary artist. Some of her on-going projects include a series of protest-art paintings, two blogs, one of which focuses on different issues around women's health and, curating a play reading series as the Resident Dramaturg of Theater in Asylum. Sam also works full time at the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, a New York City museum that focuses on issues and stories about immigration, migration and refugees in the United States.

Summer 2018 Here We Come!



Usually I think of February as the worst month for weather—but this year it is March! Wow, has this snow been crazy! I hope all our families and friends weathered the storms well and I am certain everyone will join me in the final welcoming of spring! Those few days of great weather were a tease—but we totally used them to camp's advantage to start getting summer-ready.

Our painters came out to start prepping all the buildings and Sir Richard's World of Windows was in full gear replacing the windows he had already glazed and using the non-snow access to take out a few more before summer arrives.

I'm very excited for a fantastic summer season 2018! Many of our staff from 2017 are returning to camp and many of our second year CTs are joining us for their first year as staff, too! We're almost to our 80% camper retention rate, which means many of our camper families (and your friends!) are returning to camp to meet our growing number of new families for new camp friendships on the cusp of being made.

We're continuing our welcoming initiative this summer for all our campers, staff, families, friends, and alumnae and we cannot wait to be on site to unleash the excitement. This summer for the first time we have new Activity Directors—one for Creative Pursuits, Land Sports and, of course, our Waterfront Director. These new positions will help us enhance the activity and

special programs to compliment all the time and effort our Unit Heads put into helping all our counselors make the camp experience fantastic!

As I am sure you are all aware, this is my last summer at Fleur de Lis. I am excited to see everyone back at camp; I know it will be bittersweet enjoying everything one last time! I will miss our community, but I am very proud of all we have done and will continue to do this summer season and into our future. Annually, we have dedicated, caring and skilled seasonal staff to care for our campers and our professional team of Sir Richard, Ladies Karin, Hannah, and Sarah work together well to help us move forward even further with all the work they do year-round. All of this is supported by our great Fleur de Lis Corporation and our Board of Directors, Ladies Libby Williams, Christine Hassig Cressey, and Elizabeth Ramos under the leadership of President, Lady Di Foster and our Advisor, Lady Claudia Geary Miller. With such a great, dedicated community of people, I know Fleur de Lis will continue to flourish.

I'm excited to see everyone this summer and here's to the melting snow and the spring colors of crocuses and daffodils pushing up and bringing summer into full bloom. See you at camp!

Lady Carrie Kashawlic, Executive Director

Important 2018 dates

- 5/5** Kimball Farm (11-2)
- 6/9** Lady Nurse Service Day
- 6/12** Specialty Training begins
- 6/15** Pre-camp starts
- 6/23** Opening Day
- 7/7** Two-Week Session ends
- 7/8** Visiting Day and Coronation.
Five-week session begins!
- 7/20** July Campfire
- 7/21** July session ends.
Changeover!
- 7/22** August session begins
- 8/4** Two-week session ends.
Family Day!
- 8/12** Camp Ends
- 8/17** Big & Little Weekend
- 8/19** Circle of Fleur de Lis
- 10/31** Early Camper Registration
Discount Ends

2018 Wish List

- Vinyl zippered pillow covers (25)
- Masking tape, 1" thick—lots! (for plays)
- Knitting needles (20, sizes 8-10, short length)
- Sleeping bag stuff sacks (5)
- Paintbrushes (for backdrop painting)
- Paintbrushes & foam craft brushes (25 each)
- Crazy Glue (3 tubes for Stained Glass)
- Quart-size Ziploc bags (100 for Stained Glass)
- Sharpies (6 for Stained Glass)
- Thumbtacks (500, plain metal, no "head")
- Highlighters (12 for play scripts)
- Clothesline rope (6)
- Clothespins (100)
- Bungee Cords, ~12" (24 for tents)
- Cornhusk brooms (12, for tents/cabins)
- Dustpans (12)
- Reusable, freezable ice packs (6 for Infirm)
- Softball mitts (6, previously loved welcome!)
- Puffy Paint (48 for Crafts)
- Sponges (24 for Crafts, Stained Glass, etc.)
- Magazines (for Crafts/Mod Podge)
- Duct Tape (24 design rolls, 12 plain rolls)
- Elmer's Glue (6 school-size)
- Ink Pads (various colors)
- Green & Red Taper Candles (12 each)
- Water balloons (250)
- Elastic (8 of each 1/8" and 1/2" for Sewing)
- Poly-fil (10lb box for Sewing)
- Tape Measure (4 for Sewing)
- Fabric (large pieces for Sewing)
- Gallon-size Ziploc bags (50 for Sewing)
- Tie-dye kits (enough for 50 shirts)
- White bandanas for tie-dye (50)
- Water guns (6-12 basic for Gold Rush)
- Gold spray paint (for Gold Rush)
- Uno cards (6 packs)
- Ping pong paddles (4)

Cast your votes for Fleur de Lis!

For the past few years, we have had the honor of being voted one of Boston's Best of the Best in Summer Camps. Winning this award really gives us a leg up on recruiting new campers to join the Fleur de Lis family. Voting for the New Hampshire Union Leader starts April 23, so set your reminders and get ready to vote!

We also want to prove we're competitive with other camps in the area: Fleur de Lis really is the place we all want to be, right? Spread the word and get your friends and family in on the vote:

To vote in Boston Parents Paper:

vote.fleurdeliscamp.org

To vote in New Hampshire Union Leader:

votenh.fleurdeliscamp.org

Lady Hannah Weiner, Assistant Director

Ambassador Program



We are so lucky to see the Ambassador Program transition into its third year! Thank you so much to all of our amazing families and campers that have participated in the program—it's been a huge success, amping up our number of Junior campers and we've seen other camps adopt our Ambassador program to watch their own camps grow, too!

Our Ambassadors this year met me at Camp Fairs and hosted Open Houses, spreading their camp enthusiasm and smiles everywhere they went. Fleur de Lis is lucky to have some really fantastic spokespeople!

The Ambassador program runs approximately 15 months, starting in the springtime and ending after two summers. Current Ambassadors help train and onboard the new class of Ambassadors to sustain the program and build upon existing ideas.

We'll also be implementing an alumnae/adult Ambassador Program for folks no longer tied to camp seasonally but who want to help get involved in recruiting. Reach out to Lady Hannah Weiner if you're at all interested!

We will be welcoming a new class of Fleur de Lis Ambassadors officially this summer, so keep a lookout for red shirts with "AMBASSADOR" on the back on Opening Day!

Lady Hannah Weiner, Assistant Director

Lady Nurse Service Day 2018



Mark your calendars, because Lady Nurse Service Day is right around the corner! On Saturday, June 9, 2018 starting at 10am, we will be hosting Lady Nurse Service Day. We offer this annual day of service to honor Lady Nurse, Diane Haessler, and all that she gave of herself to camp and the FDL community. For our regular attendees, thank you for your continued service to FDL, we are so looking forward to having you back at camp on the 9th. For those of you who have yet to attend Lady Nurse Service Day, this is your year! Come out to camp on June 9th to get camp ready for the summer.

We will have fun tasks such as raking, getting the boats ready, mulching, putting up tents, making beds, cleaning the dining hall, and so much more. Did we mention that lunch will be provided? Who doesn't love a good cookout in the midst of working hard at a place you love so dearly? It does take many hands to get camp ready for the season, so the more people that we have out on Lady Nurse Service Day, the better! We encourage you to bring friends and family out to camp with you. Help us out by letting us know that you can make it, this helps us with preparing lunch. RSVP to Lady Sarah Castro via phone 603-585-7758, email sarah@fleurdeliscamp.org, or Facebook. If you would like to go the extra mile, we would greatly appreciate it if you would share the FB event on your personal page, encouraging others to participate as well. Meet you on the Farmhouse Lawn on the 9th at 10am!

If you are looking at your calendar and won't be able to make it for June 9th, please feel free to contact Lady Sarah Castro (603-585-7758 or sarah@fleurdeliscamp.org) to plan a separate trip out to camp. We always have a running list of things that can be done throughout the summer and would love the chance to have you out at camp.

Thanks to Ladies Bridget Scollan and Sarah Coburn for coordinating this service day in memory of Lady Nurse!
Lady Sarah Castro, Assistant Director

Big and Little Weekend 2018

August 17-19, 2018



Our Big & Little Weekend continues to be a great experience for Littles, Bigs, and staff alike! The program returns for yet another summer on Laurel Lake this year!

If you know a girl (age 6-11) interested in summer camp but she isn't quite ready to make the jump to two weeks at camp, encourage her and her mom/aunt/grandma to register for our Big & Little program. The program is a great way to introduce girls and parents to the sleepaway camp experience without the homesickness and commitment to a full 2-week session. Go to fleurdeliscamp.org/about/big-little for more information and to register online.

Lady Hannah Weiner, Assistant Director

Why Volunteer at Circle Camp?

Giving back to Fleur de Lis Camp can come in many forms. Through a monetary donation, helping with a camp fair, donating equipment, or volunteering your time to help with Circle of Fleur de Lis Camp, each is a valued contribution. Giving back to the camp community is one of the biggest reasons why alums return to the shores of Laurel Lake each August to volunteer for Circle Camp.

Sunbathing on the Farmhouse lawn, singing at meals, and sleeping in a tent are just a few of the reasons why alums make the decision in early spring to become a counselor. Whether a new volunteer, a day volunteer, or a cabin volunteer each person sees the impact that the calm surroundings of camp have on girls from all over the east coast. Each camper has lost a parent and the fun that the girls have in five days is thanks to the dedication of the volunteers.

At the start of the New Year, returning volunteers make arrangements with their employers and commit to spending a week on Laurel Lake. There are employers that require community service hours, perhaps your company is one? Some volunteers are on summer vacation because of their school schedule, and some volunteers take a week of vacation from their job. We respect each person's decision and the need to check email or make important work calls during the week.

Throughout the week, volunteers sleep in tents and cabins and travel to activities with the group of cabinmates up and down the camp dirt road. Counselors will often be found jumping in Laurel Lake along with campers and they will encourage the girls to stand on the dining

hall benches to sing Father Abraham. A few volunteers commit to running an activity throughout the week, from sewing to archery, tubing to music and field sports to yoga, and we expand our activity options based on the skills of our volunteers. We also have plenty of counselors who participate with the girls in activities and lead by example. We also encourage people to reach out if they would like to run a special activity for just a day and are unable to spend the entire week.

There is time in the week to enjoy a warm outdoor shower, relax on your bed with the tent flaps rolled, walk out to the point, and rock on the Farmhouse porch. Since Circle Camp started six summers ago, we have heard each summer from the volunteers that they treasure the time they have to spend with the campers and that while they enjoy their free time, the most valuable part of the week is the time spent getting to know the girls. There are difficult times such as sitting through Circle Time listening to the campers in your bunk share the story of their parent's death, and there are happier times. Watching a camper's swimming confidence grow throughout the week, seeing the smile on a camper's face after their arrow hits the bullseye, and the joy the girls have when they reconnect with friends - it's these memories that last a lifetime.

There is no such thing as a perfect volunteer. We have parents, grandparents, FDL alum, friends of friends, recent college graduates, lawyers, teachers, nurses, social workers, and yoga instructors amongst our volunteers. There is no cookie cutter definition of a volunteer. A warm smile, an appreciation of the outdoors, and the energy to spend time with campers are just a few characteristics that make a good volunteer. What is holding you back from volunteering? Reach out to Lady Kate Allen (circle2@fleurdeliscamp.org) if you are interested in spending a week with a courageous group of girls in Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire.

Do you know a camper who would enjoy a week of camp? Reach out to Lady Jenn Maynard (circle@fleurdeliscamp.org).

Ladies Jenn Maynard and Kate Young Allen



See you at Kimball Farm!



Each year, we set up at Kimball Farm in Westford to meet up before camp begins. On Saturday, May 5, 2018 from 11am until 2pm, the Fleur de Lis Camp community will be hosting a meetup at Kimball Farm in Westford, Massachusetts!

and potential families to talk with staff, meet alumnae, friends to indulge in Kimball's flavors and of course: enjoy free ice cream! Lady Carrie Kashawlic will be there with tickets for you and your family and, Assistant Directors Lady Hannah Weiner and Lady Sarah Castro, will also be there.

This event is a great chance for families to meet up to talk about the upcoming summer, as well as for new

Share in the excitement of the (almost) summer season with your Fleur de Lis family! Save the date and we'll see you at Kimball Farm!

Lady Hannah Weiner, Assistant Director

Thank you to all current and past donors!

To all of you who gave to Fleur de Lis Camp this year, thank you! Your love, support, and financial contributions to Fleur de Lis Camp always astound us. You have made it possible for us to make the needed upgrades to the waterfront this coming spring (once the snow and ice melt of course). The donations you made to the winter 2017/2018 Friends campaign will help in ensuring we have a safe and modern docking system for FDL campers. We will have docks that can withstand decades more of campers perfecting their swimming strokes, becoming lifeguards, getting up on water skis for the first time, paddling across the lake in a canoe, kayak, or paddleboard, or simply jumping off the dock on a hot summer day. Thank you!



In addition to all of our donors who have given to the dock campaign this season, we would like to extended a heartfelt thank you to the Cogswell Benevolent Trust. We have just received news that they have accepted our grant application! This money will go towards replacing the Ski Dock, with lighter more portable material, helping to make the task of taking the dock in and out each season much easier.

Lady Sarah Castro, Assistant Director

Transgender Policy in the Works

A Fleur de Lis committee is at work this year crafting a policy about transgender campers and staff. The State of New Hampshire has required that all camps in New Hampshire put in place a transgender policy by the summer of 2018. Director, Lady Carrie Kashawlic; Assistant Director of Camper Development, Lady Hannah Weiner; Previous CT Director Lady Matoaka Kipp; and Board President, Lady Diane Foster compose our committee. We also have FDL community members who are our eyes on our policy drafts. The committee is charged with making a recommendation to the Board who will vote on a policy prior to the start of the season.

It is helpful to know what we are referring to when we talk about transgender campers. This is an identity that has had growing visibility nationwide over recent years. Gender is being looked at more closely and with greater fluidity than ever before in our country's history. When talking about gender, there are four categories that come into play.

The first is **biological**- the bodies we are born into. That's pretty straightforward.

The second category is **gender expression**. This is how we express ourselves, including how we dress, what activities we enjoy, our hairstyles, and how we carry ourselves, among other things. Gender expression is often thought of in terms of femininity and masculinity. For example, it is considered feminine to wear make-up and is considered masculine to play with trucks and video games. We have recognized fluidity within gender expression for decades and Fleur de Lis certainly affirms the importance of girls expressing themselves as they feel most comfortable and empowered. It wasn't that long ago that stepping into leadership roles and taking charge was considered masculine. That certainly is not true at FDL. Just think about how we were founded.

The third category is **gender identity**. Gender identity refers to who we know ourselves to be in our hearts: our true selves. People are born into a biological sex. This typically matches the gender they know themselves to be- so someone born a girl who feels in her heart and defines herself as a girl. Some people are born into

a biological sex that does not match their identity, so someone born a girl who feels in his heart and defines himself to be a boy. These are transgender individuals. Some people do not define themselves by either gender or as aspects of both. This is often defined as people who are gender neutral or gender fluid. You might also hear the terms gender queer (queer used positively here) or gender non-binary (not defined by two distinct categories).

The fourth category is **sexuality**. This category is not defined by gender, though it is often confused with gender, which is why we include it here. It is easiest to think of gender identity as who you are and sexuality as who you are attracted to. There are people whose gender identity match their biological gender and define themselves as straight, gay, bi-sexual, or other than these. Likewise, there are people whose gender identity do not match their biological gender and define themselves as straight, gay, bi-sexual, etc.

The Fleur de Lis Transgender Policy committee is using FDL's mission and values as the launching point and the metric by which considerations are measured as it goes about its work. They are also considering federal and state laws, our camp facilities, the experiences unique to overnight camps, and the culture of Fleur de Lis. They are talking with and researching other camps who have experienced transgender campers and/or have established policies in place as well as looking at other institutions and their policies such as schools and colleges. There are many nuances to creating this policy.

The committee, board, and corporation are proud to be taking on this topic and creating a policy that speaks to the mission and values that have been the steady backbone of Fleur de Lis throughout its history.

Please feel free to reach out to committee members to share your experiences with this work. You can reach the committee at fdltransgenderpolicy@gmail.com. We will share the Board's decision and other educational resources with the broader FDL community once a policy has been set.

Lady Di Foster, Board President

Announcements

A note in passing

Lady Elizabeth Curry, mother of Lady Susan Curry Barnett, passed away mid-March 2018 at 99 years old, just four months shy of her 100th birthday. Elizabeth's mother, Betty Cartwright Curry, was the camp nurse in FDL's early years, and Elizabeth was Waterfront Director -- and Queen, during the time when staff were Queens at camp. Elizabeth met her husband, Robert, at an OAK-FDL rifle match, and the two were happily married for 34 years. Aside from Fleur de Lis Camp, Elizabeth also loved raising Newfoundland dogs and the state of Maine. There is no funeral or memorial service planned.

Dr. Anne (Ford) Berkeley has opened her practice in Washington, D.C.
www.medicinetothrive.com

Congrats to Ladies Bridget Scollan and Katherine Collier on their recent engagements!

FDLers on the move

Two of our FDL alumnae are traveling the world! Lady Sarah Heller was last seen in Vietnam after spending time in New Zealand and Thailand. Lady Grace McDonough was last seen in Dublin while she bounces from country to country throughout Europe!

My husband Dave and I are thrilled to announce the arrival of our son, Thomas on August 31st. His big sister Lily (2.5 yrs) is a great help and loves giving him hugs. Now to decide if he will be William Lawrence or O-AT-KA bound!
Christina Proppe

I went to OAK this summer with my grandson. This was a first - a boy. Loved it but FDL will always be #1 with me.
Shirley Maynard

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Fleur de Lis Camp Mission Statement

Fleur de Lis Camp promotes the well-being of girls and young women socially, educationally and physically. We provide opportunities and experiences to help them become self-sufficient and productive members of their community and the world.

Fleur de Lis Camp program is conducted in a natural environment, both safe and nurturing, with the intention of fostering leadership skills, citizenship, and self-confidence, while helping each girl reach her full potential. The girls and young women of Fleur de Lis are developed in a spirit of cooperation and respect with a focus on friendship, mentoring, positive example, and challenges appropriate to the individual girl.

Fleur de Lis affirms its responsibility and obligation as a not-for-profit, non-partisan organization serving the welfare of girls and young women. In this spirit we strive to make our program affordable to all.