



# EAGLE ISLAND NEWS

August 2017

Eagle Island, Inc.

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## Volunteer Highlight

### Hannah Grill

Hannah works as a carpenter for Local 52, building scenery for television and film. Most recently she has worked on Mr. Robot, The Affair, Girls, The Blacklist and Ocean's Eight. Hannah has been an invaluable volunteer for Eagle Island for over a year. She brings her knowledge of carpentry, boat driving and Eagle Island camp from her time as a camper/staff (1994-2004).

Hannah recently purchased her own home in Teaneck, NJ where she lives with her two canine companions, Okee and Zeus.

Aside from taking on projects like building replacement railings for the Staff/Guest House she manages Eagle Island's presence on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter and makes sure that there is current information and interesting posts and photos from all generations of Eagle Island alumnae.



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## SUMMER 2017

### Lauren Parmington

Summer 2017 is off to a great start on Eagle Island, with volunteers and contractors hard at work on numerous projects, in spite of the rain that seems to never end. We're happy to report that the new roof on the Mariner Boathouse is nearly complete! There has also been some replacement of traditional log work and repair work on the underlying piers. Engineers have thoroughly evaluated the existing water and septic systems and have been busy designing the upgrades required; it is anticipated that this will go out to bid soon. On August 3<sup>rd</sup>, water flowed through the pipes in main camp for the first time since 2008! The successful test was an exciting step, but a great deal of work remains. The Board is working very hard to minimize costs by reusing as much of the old systems as possible, while ensuring the efficient construction of a safe and reliable system for many years to come.

We continue to work with the State of New York on finalizing details with regards to our \$500k grant and look forward to beginning more of the historic restoration work on the Island. Recent non-historic work includes refurbishing the shower house, painting, shingling, window glazing, rebuilding window screens and deck work throughout main camp, and much more.

Thanks to the many volunteers who have contributed their time this summer! For those of you that haven't made it out to the Island yet, there's still time to get involved. We have numerous projects for all skill levels. We will be hosting a final Open Island on August 19th to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the gift of Eagle Island. Please come join us - it really does take a village!

## JULY OPEN ISLAND DAYS

More than 25 volunteers helped – with everything from boat driving, leading songs, and giving tours during our two-day Open Island. Over 150 visitors arrived, some on scheduled boat runs while others paddled over in their own kayaks and canoes.

Two sisters (1990's campers) from northern NJ brought their husbands and families to the open island all because of a conversation that started when one met an alumna wearing an EI shirt. We continue to expand our alumnae network and the enthusiasm grows. **Keep wearing your Eagle Island t-shirts!**



## EAGLE ISLAND ON PBS

Mountain Lake Journal, Plattsburg, NY

Jack LaDuke, veteran journalist, spent two days on the island learning about its history and future by interviewing volunteers as they shared what inspires them to donate so much of themselves. He also spoke with Board members about plans and goals for the future. The segment was aired on the July 14<sup>th</sup> edition of the award-winning weekly television magazine that explores the issues and stories of New York's North Country.

<http://eagleisland.org/media-coverage/>



## PLANNED GIVING

Rowain Kalichstein, Esq.

Have you got an old life insurance policy that has outlived its useful purpose? An IRA that will be so heavily taxed that most of what is left of it will go to the government (and the government is not your favorite beneficiary)? A house that no one in your family will ever need or want? Have you got shares of a stock or a piece of land somewhere that you don't really want anymore but don't dare sell because the capital gains tax bite will just be too huge?

Do you love Eagle Island and wish you could find some way to help assure its success and its future?

"Planned giving" is the umbrella term used to describe identifying strategic opportunities that match one's individual family and financial circumstances, stage of life, and needs, both current and potential, to benefit a beloved charitable organization or cause. For some, those opportunities may be found in the pursuit of tax savings. For others, the opportunities may lie in the ability to make available at some future date funds or assets that are no longer needed. You don't need to be wealthy to plan a gift. The circumstances just need to be right and you just need to be willing...and a little creative.

For more specifics visit <http://eagleisland.org/planned-giving/> and talk with your tax or legal advisor.

## HIT THE GROUND RUNNING

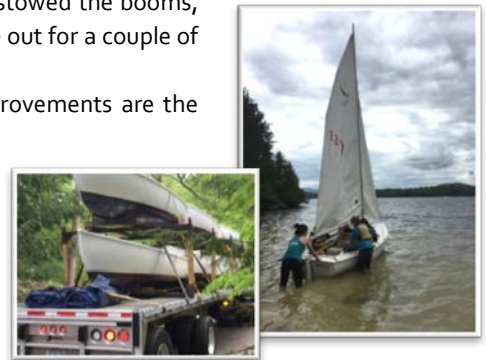
Memorial Day Weekend

Eagle Island's opening weekend for volunteers got off to a fast start with the delivery of six gently used Mercury 15 sailboats (donated by Peter Gow) delivered on Friday morning. With the help of a lot of volunteer human muscle, five were secured on their cradles by Saturday. We also sorted, dried and folded the sails, and stowed the booms,

masts, and rudders at the waterfront. Finally, we had a chance to take the sixth one out for a couple of spins on the lake.

Wendy Cohen got the volunteer kitchen up and running. A couple of key improvements are the addition of a small electric stove and firing up the walk-in freezer. We purchased a new metal food cabinet to safeguard our dry food and paper products, a vast improvement from storing everything in the walk-in refrigerator.

Upon our return to the Island, we found that the wet spring had left many of the porches and decks slick with algae and fouled by birds. The crew got out the power washer, mops and buckets and started cleaning. This work paid off as volunteers painted nearly all these freshly scrubbed surfaces over the next few weeks.



## EAGLE ISLAND FEATURED

*A Guide to the Architecture in the Adirondacks*



A new book by Richard Longstreth was recently published. One review says: "Featuring 850 unique structures - from Gilded-Age Great Camps to 18th-century homesteads, railroad bridges to cottage colonies - *A Guide to the Architecture in the Adirondacks* is both a travel companion and an invaluable reference work." It is available through AARCH (Adirondack Architectural Heritage) and local (Adirondack) bookstores. The book covers sites that are public as well as private properties with limited accessibility including Eagle Island.

## FUNDRAISING

### Pinebrook

About 40 guests from around the lake enjoyed an evening on the lovely Camp Pinebrook dock where we raised awareness of Eagle Island, outlined our needs and celebrated our shared love of the Adirondacks. Special thanks to our hosts, Harvey Cohen and Michael Tardif.

### 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Update

The 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary appeal has yielded over \$40,000 including 21 donations from people that did not make a contribution last year. **Thanks to everyone who has contributed so far, but we are still a long way from our goal of \$80,000 by August 19th and need your help.** The 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary appeal is separate from pledge payments, one-off donations, and in some cases, special fundraising efforts.

### Are you looking for a way to raise funds to help reopen Eagle Island to campers?

Consider what a few supporters have done and see if you could replicate their creative ideas: Joanne Cheung was getting married and decided to tell her wedding guests to donate to Eagle Island in lieu of a wedding gift. This resulted in more than \$3,000 in donations! Tricia Hawley created a "dress down Friday" event at her office with proceeds benefitting Eagle Island. A donation of \$5 allowed coworkers to go casual, and with many making even larger donations, she and her coworkers raised over \$1,200



## MISSION & VISION

### Eagle Island - "Where History Meets the Future"

Located on its own wooded island on Upper Saranac Lake in New York's Adirondack Mountains, Eagle Island is a youth camp, a National Historic Landmark, and one of the best-preserved examples of Adirondack Great Camp architecture.

#### MISSION

To inspire and empower girls and young women to be confident, collaborative, and courageous.

#### VISION

To provide an environmentally responsible island camp experience for youth, with an emphasis on girls and young women, while preserving Eagle Island's natural and historic character. Eagle Island, Inc. aims to develop leadership and team building skills through premier programming to help young people succeed in today's global landscape.

Revised and adopted by the Eagle Island Board of Directors, July 2017

## CALENDAR

**Adirondack Plein Air Art Festival Show**  
(Featuring Eagle Island Art, Saranac Lake)

Aug. 18 & 19

**Open Island Day & 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

August 19

**Historic Saranac Tour**

Aug. 22

**Fall CLOSE-UP Weekend**

Sept. 21-23

**New England Reunion**

TBA

**SOHO, New York - Fundraiser**

Nov. 16

## New Board Members

### Jane Lowell Evans

Jane Lowell Evans is a South Orange, NJ native who graduated from Cornell University with a BS and MEng in Electrical Engineering. She was a camper at Eagle Island from 1969-1972, a counselor in 1975, Sailing Director in 1977, and an occasional Women's Weekend attendee. After years as a digital hardware designer at Motorola, Jane took a parenting break, and then returned to work at her current job as a technical writer. Jane wears many volunteer hats, including Girl Scout Leader, Robotics Team Mentor, Community Garden Board Member, and Quilt Show Director. She lives in Needham, MA with her husband and two children.

### Michele Racioppi

Michele Racioppi resides in Highland Park, NJ. She is a Program Assistant for the New Jersey Historic Trust, which provides historic preservation capital and planning grants to New Jersey's many historic resources. She is also the part-time communications coordinator for DOCOMOMO NY/Tri-State, a nonprofit organization that advocates for the preservation of our Modern architectural heritage and where she volunteers with the local historical society. She has a Master's degree in Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies from Rutgers University. Her time at Eagle Island (1994 - 2005) played a large part in her interest in preserving our built and natural environment.



## PAT AUSMAN

### Volunteer Island Manager

When Pat was planning her first summer of retirement, she knew where she wanted to spend it. Pat retired as Director of Technology at Beaver Country Day School in Chestnut Hill, MA after 16 years. She has been an integral part of the Eagle Island organization from the beginning, setting up the original database and website. As the organization grew, she helped EI embrace new technology and software as needed. With her IT background, she has been behind the scenes guiding and advising. Even before coming to the island this summer she set in motion a new committee to manage and plan for island volunteers with the requisite forms and tracking databases. Among other things, Pat manages the transportation to and from the island for volunteers, contractors, and visitors and has stained more than a few decks.

Pat and her chocolate lab, Taj, made one room of the historic Guest/Staff House their home – no running water, but a direct Ethernet cable from the Dining Hall to ensure connectivity.



## NATURE TRAIL RECLAIMED & NEW GUIDE WRITTEN

We love how a team comes together and a project gets a new lease on life. About fifteen years ago while Mike Benson was on staff and studying forestry he led the effort to blaze a nature trail through the interior of the island past interesting and unique Eagle Island Adirondack features. In 2016, Adirondack Naturalist, Ed Kanze visited the island at the invitation of the Adirondack Committee and was so intrigued with the site that he volunteered a day to work with Mike to assess and expand the existing trail. In July, Allie Weill, PhD candidate at UC Davis and EIC alumna took the previous work and notes and created a wonderful Nature Trail Guide and led tours during the Open Island Days.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Share Eagle Island happenings with your friends, LIKE, JOIN, SHARE us on your social media.



friendsofeagleisland



Friends of Eagle Island Inc.



EagleIslandADK

*excerpt from  
the Eagle Island Nature Trail Guide . . .*

### Introduction

The Adirondacks are the ideal place to study the natural world. One of the greatest experiments in the history of the American conservation movement, the Adirondack Park is the largest park in the Lower 48 and is unique as a place where public and private lands are interwoven. Few places are better suited to help us understand how humans can live alongside wild lands while preserving them in perpetuity. Here on Eagle Island, we strive to be good stewards of the circle of land under our charge and keep in mind the Adirondack ethos of "Forever Wild" as we spend time living, learning, working, and playing here. We hope that children who spend time on Eagle Island will develop a "sense-of-place" here in the Adirondacks, learning to be the stewards of the future for these lands and wild lands around the world.

### Using This Guide

The Nature Trail consists of 10 points around the island that match up with the guide below. The trail provides a suggested route for exploring the nature of the island and provides information about the plants, animals, rocks, and ecological processes that characterize this island. However, we hope that the Nature Trail will be a starting point, not the end, of your exploration of the island's natural wonders. Nature is everywhere on the island . . .

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