



EAGLE ISLAND NEWS

December 2017

Eagle Island, Inc.

Vol. 7 Issue 4

Volunteer Highlight

LeeAnn Millar

LeeAnn's experience at EIC ("Tripper" 1969-1973) impacted her in many ways. Hiking, canoeing, and life on the island increased her love of the outdoors and the Adirondacks, and fueled her sense of adventure and trying new things.

A registered nurse of 39 years, LeeAnn recently moved to school nursing just in time to come volunteer at EIC.

She arrived on the island in July 2016 for the first time since 1973, and gushes that it was amazing to be there again. Meeting Kathy Gilroy, also a former Girl Scout but never an EIC camper –the two quickly learned they had lived parallel lives growing up in NJ. They connected and felt like they had known each other forever. LeeAnn also reconnected with Pat Ausman, her counselor in 1973. Despite no memories of each, the two enjoyed a stroll down memory lane and got to know each other all over again.

One of LeeAnn's favorite things about returning to the island was meeting and getting to know all the terrific volunteers and hearing their stories. LeeAnn has always had tools and done minor stuff around the house. Volunteering at EIC has allowed her to learn new destruction and construction skills, something she truly enjoys.



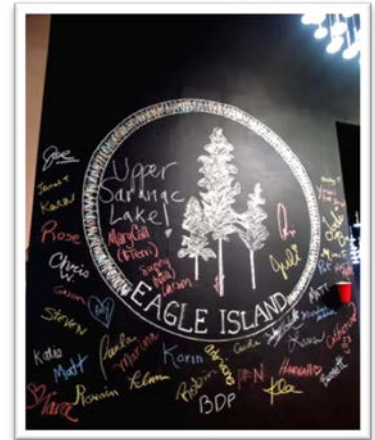
CAMP IN SOHO

Marina Lowry

After months of planning and preparation, our **Camp in SoHo** fundraising event on November 16 was a smashing success. We owe our success and give a huge thanks to a talented and hardworking event committee, numerous generous donors, and 225 enthusiastic attendees, some of whom came in from states as far away as Texas, California, and Massachusetts.

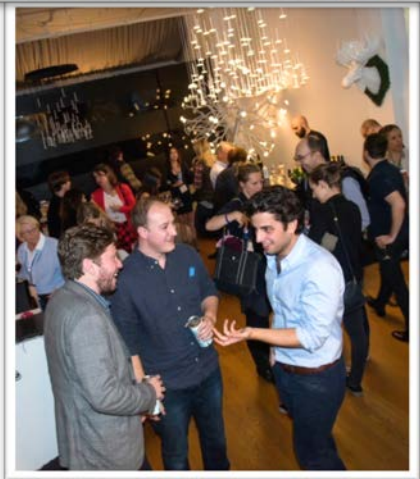
The SoHo committee was led by Lauren Parmington and her trusty assistant and daughter, Penelope. Committee members and volunteers included Jodi Bulvanoski, Lori Coleman, Kara Dorso, Pat Foody, Kathy Gilroy, Stef Goodsell, Marilyn Graber, Juli Greenberg, Hannah Grill, Chris Hildebrand, Ginny Hildebrand, Marina Lowry, Carole Mackenzie, Paula Michelsen, LeeAnn Millar, Katie Parmington, Michele Racioppi, Steve Reich, Karin Rutledge, Joanna Weill, Chris Wubbolding, and so many more, who performed all manner of tasks including solicitation of donations, purchasing, selling tickets, building the games and attractions, care package assembly, attractions oversight, and a whole lot of schlepping.

The event was held at the **Blackbody Showroom** in SoHo, New York City, generously made possible by Steven Sehm of Troubadour Special Events and his colleagues, Dirk Emery and Michael Overman. Upon arrival guests were greeted by "counselors" in camp garb and sorted into two "cabins," Green and Blue, and given a brief orientation on the layout of the event, where the food & drink were located, and how to find the games and silent auction.



Fun was had by ALL

Guests included friends new and old with differing connections to the island but all supporting the simple goal of reopening Eagle Island. Camp alumnae – representing EVERY decade of EIC history from the 1950s on – mixed and mingled and enjoyed a bar offering local Adirondack brews, scrumptious nibbles, and a soundtrack of “classic” Eagle Island tunes. Notable attendees included seven of the original Mariners from the 1950s, and Gwen Graves Shupe and her cousins, all descendants of Henry and Florence Graves, the original donors of Eagle Island.



Games and more

Two spacious and chic floors were transformed into a grown-up fun fair — attractions included a trading post of EIC goods, a photo booth (including EIC lifejackets, moose antlers, and a life-size cutout of Buz Graves!), make-your-own s'mores and popcorn stations, a crafts table, wine pong, a sailboat race, ring toss, archery, and cornhole with custom EIC boards. Winning tickets could be exchanged for a huge selection of prizes, including donated top-shelf fragrances and Vilac wooden toys.

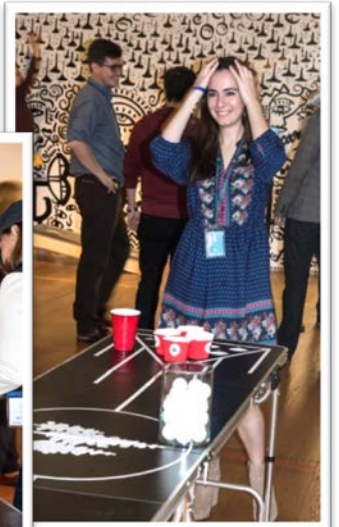


photo credits: Zoran Trifunovic



Silent Auction

A major feature of the event, the silent auction, started a few weeks ahead of the event and included stays in Mexico and Italy; cruises and flights; original art, handicrafts, and photography (including many images of Eagle Island); camp memorabilia; gift baskets and certificates; a six-course dinner prepared by an Iron Chef; a golf foursome; Saranac and Adirondack goods and services; book packages; and more. Thanks to all our incredibly generous donors and bidders, the auction alone raised over **\$16,000!**



What's camp without a Care Package?

Departing guests were given adorable Care Packages to take home, which included a green speckled Eagle Island mug and trail mix. (Missed out on the mug? You can buy them in our online [Trading Post!](#))

All in all, over **\$25,000** was raised by Camp in SoHo!

Thank you to one and all for your support!



Saranac Lake Winter Carnival February 2-11, 2018.

Eagle Island will participate in the parade (Saturday, Feb. 10) or in some other way. If you are interested in joining a small group of hearty alumnae and friends send an email to media@eagleisland.org or call 973-996-8306.

<http://www.saranaclakewintercarnival.com/>



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Inc.



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FALL PROJECT UPDATE

Mariner Boathouse

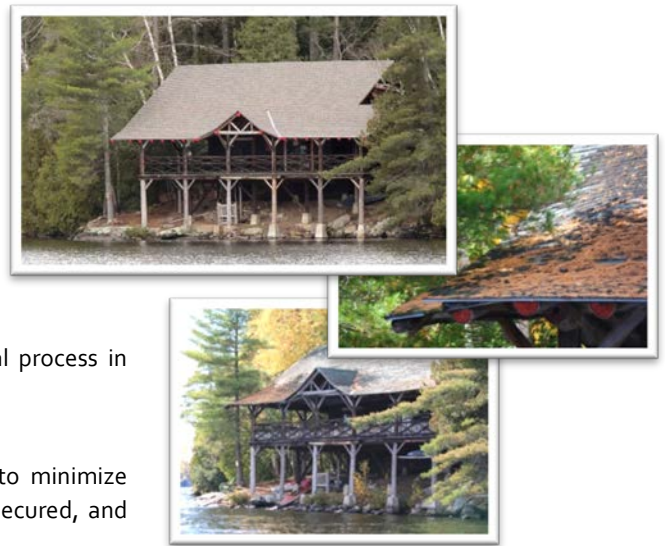
The top photo shows the completed roof replacement with traditional structural and decorative cedar log work, and support of the entire structure.

Dump Site

The former dump site was removed just in time before the ice came in. The need to remove the dump was known at the time of closing and the previous owner took full responsibility for the removal process in coordination with NY Department of Environmental Conservation and EI.

Ready for Winter

The boats are all set for winter and the bubblers were installed to minimize damage to the boats and the Service Dock, the buildings have been secured, and power shut off.



A TRUTH DISCOVERED

Marilyn Graber

This summer I went to camp for just one week. Not to swim or boat, but to physically work—as an old retiree, it's not something I have done recently. I cleaned out closets, relocated and organized the contents. I swept porches, helped in the kitchen, fetched and carried. I greeted guests at the 80th Anniversary event. No one was obliged to give me thanks. The Island, itself, gave me a great reward.

All of this activity led to a great discovery. What is camp, after all, but a place where you learn skills to meet physical challenges in the out-of-doors? It is a place you meet people; work both in teams and individually to meet challenges. Through this shared effort, lasting relationships are formed. That is exactly what I experienced in one week: facing a challenge, working with the team of volunteers, meeting amazing people, all in the most beautiful environment—Camp Eagle Island. One of the volunteers, Jodi Bulvanoski, had attended Family Camp at the same time I had. Our families had been in the same unit. She and her brother played with my kids some 38 years ago. We reconnected on the Island and then spent time together touring NYC while there for the fundraiser.

A song we used to sing, "Life's Mirror," had the line "Give to the world the best you have, and the best will come back to you." The best did come back to me! I got far more out of the experience than I put in. After a few days, I was walking around feeling physically more capable with a great sense of well-being. What I accomplished work-wise gave me a feeling of greater self-efficacy. Most importantly, my time spent alongside the other volunteers—the other "campers"—made me feel young again.

Whether as an adult volunteer or a child camper, the Eagle Island experience brings us together with feelings of well-being, accomplishment, and camaraderie. When children once again play, sing, and grow on our Island they, too, will feel this wonder.

You are never too old for camp. Do what it takes to get back to Camp Eagle Island. You CAN go back again. And when you do, look for me, because I'll be there looking forward to meeting you.

TRADING POST NOW OPEN

'S'well-like' bottles (16 oz)	\$25
Ceramic mugs (14 oz)	2/\$24 or 4/\$40
Beige/green baseball caps	\$20
Notecards (5-pack)	\$10
3" round patch	\$4
Bumper sticker	\$5
T-shirts	\$21.95

<http://eagleisland.org/tradingpost/>

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