

# CAMPANION

The Official Newsletter of the Connecticut Camping Association  
Winter-2018



CONNECTICUT  
**CAMPING**  
ASSOCIATION



## 2018 Board of Directors

President	Suzanne Richards Darien YMCA
1st Vice President	Ray Zetye Camp Jewell YMCA
2nd Vice President	Dan Albert CT Rivers Council, BSA
Treasurer	Andrea Kowalsky Hartford's Camp Courant
Secretary	Alexandra Thomas SJ Riding Camp

## 2018 Allen Beavers

### Memorial Professional Development Scholarship



Are you or a member of your staff looking to attend more professional development training? Funding is available through the Allen Beavers scholarship fund to cover up to 80% of costs associated with ongoing training and education. The fund was created to honor Allen, one of the founding members of the CT Camping Association. Allen whole-

heartedly dedicated himself to the camping community through his involvement in numerous organizations and committees, whose focus was the betterment of the youth outdoor camping experience.

Help keep Allen's legacy alive and enhance the quality of your programming by participating in new and exciting workshops and trainings.

For more information on the application process, or for general information on the Allen Beavers Scholarship fund, please visit:

[www.ctcamps.org](http://www.ctcamps.org)

## Members At Large

McKinley Albert	Hartford's Camp Courant
Lauren Bent	S. Windsor Parks & Rec
Jane Bielifield	ERFC
Steve Bloom	Camp Playland
Steve Daly	Horizons
Jillian McCarthy	Camp Hemlocks
Alyson Pequita	Hartford County 4-H
Dan Ruede	University of New Haven
Terry Thomas	SJ Riding Camp

## Immediate Past President

Keith Garbart	Winding Trails
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# Annual Youth Camp Licensing Meeting With the Office of Early Childhood

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

10:00 AM-12:00 PM: Winding Trails, Farmington

Join us! The annual meeting with the State of Connecticut Youth Camp Licensing officials will once again be held at Winding Trails. This meeting will cover important changes and regulation updates within the Connecticut camping industry.

Following the presentation by the Office of Early Childhood, we will offer two breakout sessions on hot topics within the camping industry. Stay tuned for details on the breakout sessions.

Is there a topic you are interested in hearing more about? Please send suggestions to:

**Suzanne Richards, Board President:**

[srichards@darien-ymca.org](mailto:srichards@darien-ymca.org)



## Schedule & Break Out Sessions

10:00-12:00-Office of Early Childhood  
Presentation

12:00-Lunch provided by Camp Jewel YMCA

Breakout sessions to begin at 1:00. There  
will be two sessions. Topics TBD.



## Bernie Moore Scholarship Deadline

Wednesday, November 28, 2018

A number of years ago, CCA established the Bernie Moore scholarship fund to provide assistance to students pursuing a career in the field of camping, recreation, outdoor education or a related field. The scholarship is awarded once a year at the CCA annual meeting in December.

Bernie Moore was the consummate Camp Director. Her spirit stayed with all who worked with her and we want to keep that spirit alive for years to come. Thanks to Bernie, we are able to offer this scholarship annually to an individual who is dedicated to improving the lives of young people through camping and recreation.

For more information on the application process, or for general information on the Bernie Moore Scholarship fund, please visit:

[www.ctcamps.org](http://www.ctcamps.org)

# Meet Your New Board Members

**What Should CCA Members Know About You?** I have been working at camps since I was 15. It is hard to believe, but I have been with the Darien YMCA for 18 years. I have a degree in Elementary Education but chose the YMCA over teaching.

**Favorite camp memory:** I didn't attend camp as a child, however my favorite thing about camp is watching campers experience new things and seeing their faces of wonderment.

**Family:** I have two beautiful children- Nicole is 18, and Dylan just turned 15. They've been doing camp with me since they were three and my daughter has worked at camp for the past three summers.

**Favorite Animal:** Dogs and elephants



**Suzanne Richards**  
**Board President**

**School Age Director**  
Darien YMCA

*'My years are dividing into two seasons-camp and not camp..'*

**What Should CCA Members Know About You?** I have been involved in camping since I was 12 years old. My start in the camping world was as a Camper and then Counselor at Camp Asto Wamah in Columbia. I then worked on Tall Ships for Ocean Classroom leading courses of applied Math, Science, and English for high school age students. From there I found myself back in my hometown looking for work and was blown away to find the amazing place that is Camp Horizons operating right in my own backyard. I began as a Camp Team Member there and now continue in that role with added responsibilities and growth. I love my position and the camp itself because it highlights all of the best aspects of any summer camp program and tailors it to be accessible to campers with special needs. 8 years later, it is still the most fulfilling place to work imaginable.

**Favorite Camp Memory:** So many, but mostly just every intake day at Horizons when the campers arrive to the excitement, enthusiasm, and willingness of our staff to go all in on the mission. Nothing really feels better than that.



**Stephen Daly**

**Director of Auxiliary Programs**  
Camp Horizons, Inc.

# Meet Your New Board Members



## Allyson Pequita

**Camp Director**  
Hartford County 4-H, Inc  
**Asst. Director/BC BA Consultant**  
James, Levine & Associates

**What Should CCA Members Know About You?** I've only spent five years in camping-I was late to the party! Prior to coming onboard with the Hartford County 4H, I worked as the Inclusion/Camper Care Director for Camp Kingswood, part of the Greater Boston JCC. The camp was in Bridgton Maine, and I was in charge of all campers with developmental or psychiatric disabilities.

**Favorite camp memory:** Sitting by campfires and chatting/singing with campers.

**Family and Hobbies:** I have three awesome children: Ailey 10, Sawyer 9, and Avery 2. I also have a rescue dog and currently foster doggies. I do not do well with "down time" I try to get to the gym when I can or at least get a run in, otherwise if I am not working I am usually at some sporting event of my kiddos.

'There are no prettier stars than the stars you see at camp.'

**What Should CCA Members Know About You?** This will be my 9<sup>th</sup> year with camps. I've worked in camps (this one, in particular!) since graduating high school during the summer. Once I graduated college, a full time position opened managing all of our day camp programs and here I am! I attended both the camp I currently manage and Hartford County 4H camp growing up, as well!

**Favorite camp memory:** Beating the boy's arm wrestling champion when I was 11

**Fun Fact:** I am a yogi + a yoga teacher!



## Lauren Bent

**Recreation Supervisor**  
South Windsor Parks & Rec.

# Meet Your New Board Members



**Dan Ruede**

**Assistant Camp Director**  
Camp Workcoeman (BSA)  
**Associate Director of Athletics**  
University of New Haven

**What Should CCA Members Know About You?** I have worked at Camp Workcoeman since I was 14 years old. I grew up in the City of Hartford so having the opportunity to get away from the troubles of the inner-city during the summer, I feel made a huge difference in my life. At camp, I have worked in nearly every role available. My primary roles included Swimming Instructor, Aquatics Director, Program Director and Assistant Camp Director. The best part of all is I met my wife at Camp!!

**Favorite camp memory:** I would say there are too many memories to really list one. I believe one of the most important camp memories for me is all of the people I have met there. Most of my closest friends are from camp and not school, in fact every person in my wedding party (with the exception of my brother) was from camp.

**Personal Quest:** To give back what I feel camp has given me.

## Save the Date-Upcoming Events

**American Camping Association National Conference**

February 20-23, 2018 Orlando, Florida

**American Camping Association New England Conference**

March 8-10, 2018 Manchester, NH

**American Camping Association Tri State Conference**

March 20-22, 2018 Atlantic City NJ

**Camp Yankee Training Event**

June 9, 2018 Camp Sloper YMCA, Southington



More board bio's coming in the next edition

## It Pays To Be A Member Join CCA Today!

If you are still not a member of the Connecticut Camping Association, now is the time to join! There are many ways in which a membership will benefit your camp, including:

- Ongoing training opportunities for full-time and seasonal staff
- Representation within the State Legislature-be an advocate for your campers and your staff
- Direct line of communication between the Office of Early Childhood and the membership-stay up to date on any changes that may impact those that you serve
- Information and training sessions on trends in the camp marketplace
- Great networking opportunities with other camps
- The sharing of resources and information with your camp colleagues



## Connecticut Camping Association Online Directory

Have you checked out the new Connecticut Camping Association website? We have just undergone an extensive makeover, and our new site is the go-to destination for those seeking unique and exciting summer opportunities. If you are currently part of our online directory and haven't yet renewed for 2018, now is the time!

Thousands of people utilize the Connecticut Camping Association website, including:

- Parents and guardians seeking fun and unique summer opportunities for their children
- Schools all across the state obtain summer resources for their students from our website
- Pediatricians and libraries take advantage of the website to share information with their patients and clients

**What are you waiting for? Sign up today!**

*'Time at camp is not spent, its invested'*



*'I went to camp expecting to make friends and ended up with family.'*



## CONNECTICUT CAMPING ASSOCIATION

### 2018 CCA Membership Application

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

The CT Camping Association is an organization comprised of camps licensed in the State of Connecticut. Membership to CCA is on an individual basis. Please feel free to enroll as many people from your organization as you would like – just make additional copies of this form. At only **\$40 each per year** this is a great way to provide networking opportunities for your staff. Make them part of a professional organization and encourage them to be active volunteers.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Camp and/or Agency Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Winter mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Winter phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Summer phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail your application and payment by December 31, 2017 to:  
**Connecticut Camping Association c/o Jillian McCarthy,  
Camp Hemlocks, P.O.Box 650, Hebron, CT 06248**

To help in planning programs that are meaningful and helpful for YOU, please indicate your top three choices for program topics.

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Issues    | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Dept/Licensure         | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteers      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Staff Training    | <input type="checkbox"/> Risk Management               | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Staff Recruitment | <input type="checkbox"/> Personnel Legal Issues        | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Service    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Staff Retention   | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media/Video Production | <input type="checkbox"/> Anti Bullying   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camper Behavior   | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent Communication          | <input type="checkbox"/> Security/Safety |

**\_\_\_\_\_ YES! I am interested in volunteering on a CCA Committee or Board of Directors. Please contact me to tell me more!**

Committees:  Program  Membership  Legislative  Finance

Make a Donation to the **Allen Beaver Memorial Scholarship Fund** to help Camp Staff fund trainings.  Yes I will donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Allen Beaver Memorial Fund.



## **CONNECTICUT CAMPING ASSOCIATION**

### **2018 CCA Directory Application**

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

The CT Camping Association is an organization comprised of camps licensed in the State of Connecticut. In addition to networking with your peers, attending dynamic workshops and keeping up to date on state licensing issues; another major benefit of being a member of CCA is the opportunity to market your camp through CCA.

Advertisement includes a listing on the CCA website with a direct link to your camp's website and a CCA Poster mailed to many libraries, guidance counselor & pediatrician offices, and numerous other childcare organizations in Connecticut announcing how to utilize the CCA website for summer camp options. \$100 per camp listing.

Camp Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Town where camp is located: \_\_\_\_\_

Session Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

# Campers/week: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost/week: \_\_\_\_\_

Winter Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Winter phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Summer phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Check all categories that are appropriate:

Girls  Boys  Coed  Resident  Day

Specialized (i.e. sports, riding, etc- please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

ACA Accredited

Please submit a new description describing your camp's programs and philosophy, up to 200 words. Please email this description to: Keith Garbart at [keith@windingtrails.org](mailto:keith@windingtrails.org). Please use "CCA 2018 Directory" as the subject in your email. (If your current listing is ok, please let Keith know in your email).

Please mail your application and payment of \$100 by December 31, 2017 to:

**Connecticut Camping Association c/o Jillian McCarthy,  
Camp Hemlocks, P.O.Box 650, Hebron, CT 06248**