



# Liberty Laketionary

*A quick reference of the people, places, traditions,  
and sayings that help make Liberty Lake the  
extraordinary summer home that we know and love!*

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## Andy & Jill

The owners and directors of Liberty Lake are a husband and wife who started Liberty Lake Day Camp in 2002. Andy used to be a school band director by day, and a professional musician by night. His songs used to be on the radio and TV- but the best song he ever wrote was probably the Liberty Lake Song! Andy likes the Mets, which has not been a good thing lately. Jill is a CPA, pays all the bills at Camp, and manages the office during the Summer. They have two children, hundreds more every summer- and they LOVE their job!

## Arrival & Dismissal Meeting Areas

Each division has a designated area where they assemble in the morning when the buses come in, and at the end of the day just before dismissal. **Turtles & Freshmen– Twin Cedars, Sophs– Lunch Tent, Juniors– Lakeside Amphitheater, Seniors– The Vista.** At the meeting area you check in with your Group Leader/Counselors at your table/bench, hear important announcements from your Division Leaders and place your lunch order. If you come to the June “Meet & Greet”, you can meet your Group Leader & Counselors at your arrival/dismissal area picnic table.

## Before/After Care

This is what we call Camp for the Campers who arrive before the buses in the morning, or stay at Camp after the buses leave in the afternoon. During this time, Campers play Ga-Ga, Tetherball, Wallball, Basketball, board games, card games, knock hockey, ping pong, play in the sand, make lanyards, draw pictures, go swimming (afternoons) or just hang out with friends!

**Big Pete** is our resident turtle & mascot who lives under the bridge. He got his name from his BIG size. Those who have seen him say that he is as big as Crush in *Finding Nemo*. He has many stories about him and has become a Liberty Lake legend.



## Brandi

Brandi Carnivale (BC) is the Camp Program Director. She worked as a counselor for the YMCA Camp that was at Liberty Lake before Andy started LLDC in 2002, and once quit her full-time job so that she could return to LLDC in the summer! Brandi personifies the Camp Spirit with her enthusiasm, positive attitude and creativity. She oversees Spirit Calendar events, Elective Activities, and the CIT/LIT programs- and works on them all year long. If you have ideas, send them her way!

## Buddy Check

While at the Pool and Lake, during Free Swim, we keep track of our Campers through *the Buddy Check System*. Each Camper is paired up and receives a group “buddy number”; buddies then swim together and keep a close-watch on each other. Every few minutes the Lifeguards will call “**Buddy Check!**” During a buddy check it is really important to be quiet, and stop moving. Every Camper grabs his/her buddy’s hand and raises it in the air. The Buddy Group then calls out their number when asked to do so. When all Campers are accounted for the Lifeguards announce that it is safe to swim again. The Buddy Check is our most important safety system at Swim, and everyone needs to help make sure that they run quickly and safely!

## Bus & Bus Captains

Most Campers take the bus to and from Camp each day (although many do not). Camp buses are just like school buses, except that we have fun on the bus too! Each bus has a number and a creature name to help you remember which bus is yours. Buses line up the same row every afternoon, with a “street sign” at the end of the row that shows your bus “creature” Counselors on your bus are called “Bus Captains.” They are there to help you and make sure that your ride to and from Camp is safe and enjoyable!



## Camp-A-Palooza

A special event held towards the end of the summer. Camp-a-Palooza is an arts and music festival (like Woodstock) held at Liberty Lake. Professional and Amateur Bands perform on different stages around Camp. Besides the music, LLDC art staff helps Campers create projects, and paint faces. Festival foods are available, along with a sport challenges and games. Every festival ends with an on-stage performance of the Liberty Lake Song with the headlining band.

## CIT (Counselors-in-Training) & LIT (Leaders-in-Training)

CITs are 10<sup>th</sup> grader “trainees” who are learning how to become better leaders so that one day they will make great counselors. They spend their days participating in leadership activities, helping out with Camper groups and assisting at electives. LITs are 9<sup>th</sup> grade campers with opportunities to learn leadership skills and “intern” at their favorite activities.



**Color War** is one of our most popular events at Camp each summer. The opening **Breakout** is always a surprise (Nobody knows when it takes place—seriously, not even your counselors), and is a VERY anticipated and exciting time! The Camp is divided into two teams – the Blue Team and the Red Team. Each year there is a different theme for color war. For example, one year it was the Blue Wizards versus the Red Ninjas. The two teams compete for a few days in all types of events, but it all comes down to “**The Sing**”, in which both teams perform a cheer, parody song and alma mater song, for BIG points. No matter who wins, Color War is always a great, memorable time!

## Counselor

Most groups have one or two Counselors, which are entering 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> Grade High School students. Counselors assist the Group Leaders, and their primary job is to play with you while learning leadership skills. Most Liberty Lakers look forward to becoming Counselors one day!

## Deep-Water Test

If you want to swim in the deep end of the pool and go on the water slides, or the deep end of the lake and swim out to the dock, then you need to take the Deep Water Swim Test with the lifeguards. This test is important to ensure that you are a strong enough swimmer.

*Don't you want to go down this* 🏊



## Divisions & Division Leaders

Liberty Lake Day Camp is divided into 5 groups or “divisions.” From youngest to oldest our divisions are called: **Turtles** (Pre K & K), **Freshmen/Frosh** (1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>), **Sophomores/Sophs** (3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>), **Juniors** (5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>) and **Seniors** (7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>). Divisions are then divided into groups of Campers, each named after a college. Each division has **Division Leaders**, who are in charge of the campers, staff and parent communication. Their job is to make sure that everything runs smoothly at Camp, and report to Andy, Jason, Brandi and Ellyn throughout the day.

**Davey Jones** is our amazing Pirate Ship Playground- *AHOY MATEY!*



## Dunk Tank

In our VERY popular dunk tank, Campers take turns sitting on the bench above the icy cold water. Other Campers take turns throwing a ball at the target. If the ball hits the target the person on the bench falls in the water. Everyone loves the dunk tank—including the kids getting dunked!



## Electives

All Campers, 1<sup>st</sup> grade and older, get to choose elective activities each week they are at Camp. On Mondays you bring home the elective sheet for the following week. By the next day, you and your parents need to log onto the Liberty Lake web site and enter your TOP TEN choices of electives. We have a computer program that works to make your schedule for the next week. You are guaranteed to get your first choice as long as it is being offered that week, and the other choices work off of that one. When you come to Camp the following Monday, your group leader will show you your schedule for that week. Sophs, Juniors and Seniors have the opportunity to switch electives on Tuesday into another elective that has open spaces- as long as they update their “Top Ten List” for that week. Parents, please remind your Campers- especially Seniors!

**Ellyn** is the director who helps our **Special Needs Campers** and their families. At Liberty Lake, we give all children a chance for a successful summer, no matter what their background, culture, or disability is. The way we look at it, kids with special needs are just like everybody else- they just need some extra “TLC”. Ellyn makes sure that happens at Camp. She works with the Campers, Team, Advocates, families and outside organizations, to ensure success for all.

**Family Night** is held on the **Thursday of Week 6 from 5:30-7:30**. Your family is invited to join us at Camp for the “Ultimate Barbeque Dinner” and participate in some of your favorite activities all across Camp. The Camp Musical Performance is held this night in the Amphitheater at 5pm, and 5-year Campers are inducted into the Old Timer’s Club (see next page) at 7:15. Even if you’re not at Camp Week 6, you’re invited for a great evening of fun. Make sure your parents wear their sneakers- they will need them when climbing the Tower of Power or Zipping across the lake!

## Fire Drill

To make sure that we are prepared in case of an emergency, we have Fire Drills every other week during the summer. A very loud horn will sound. When we hear the horn, EVERYONE goes directly to the blacktop in front of the office. Look for your division and group leader, and get in line with your group! Your group leader will tell you when the drill is over and you will go right back to the activity that you came from.

## First & Last Day of Camp

On the **first day** of Camp there are lots of new people for you to meet, and new experiences to have. You will quickly learn where everything is at Camp, and who the important people are. Everyone is a little nervous on their first day- even the staff- But get ready to have a lot of fun!

By **day two** you'll be a Professional Camper! On the **last day** of Camp you will be so sad to say goodbye to all of your new friends- there are lots of hugs & tears as we say "see ya next summer!"

## 5-Year Jacket (Old Timer's Club)

The Old Timer's Club is for Campers & Staff who have been at Liberty Lake for five years. This special anniversary is celebrated during Family Night when they receive their sleek Liberty Lake Day Camp 5-Year Jacket. You can wear your jacket proudly throughout the year to bring back the memories of the great times we have in the summer.



## Foam Party

At Liberty Lake we have our own foam machine. This provides tons of fun for all ages at our fingertips. Foam is fun to jump around in with your friends or as a way to make a hill snow covered for some summer "sledding" fun.



## Friday Assembly

While every day is great at Camp, Fridays are extra special. At the end of the day the entire Camp gathers at the Amphitheater to celebrate the great week that we have had. Campers get the opportunity to share and perform the new things they have learned during the week. Whether it is a new yo-yo trick, a funky dance, an amazing art project or a

new song on an instrument – this is the place to showcase your accomplishments. We end the day with an ice cream treat and a rousing rendition of the Liberty Lake song.



## Fun on the Bus

At Liberty Lake, "Camp" begins as soon as we get on the bus each day. We create a daily bus calendar of exciting games, competitions and fun- and get points for our efforts. The goal is to have more points than any other bus, so that your bus is awarded the Bus Spirit Trophy at the Friday Assembly.



## Fuzzy

At Camp we love to recognize good deeds. If somebody catches you helping somebody out, being a great role-model for other Campers, or putting forth an extraordinary effort at your elective, you might just find yourself the recipient of a LLDC colorful **Fuzzy**.



**Ga-Ga** is BY FAR the most popular activity at Camp. It is a game similar to dodge ball played in an octagonal court made by a wooden fence. The object is to slap the ball with your hand in attempt to hit other players below the waist while not getting hit yourself. If a person is hit they are out of the game- but the games go QUICK. The last person standing is the winner! Ga-Ga can be chosen as an elective, played at before/after care or as a Group Choice activity. Towards the end of the summer we have our annual Ga-Ga tournament. Every Camper is welcome to participate, and everyone has a chance to win! The end of the day we have a "Tournament of Champions" with all of the divisional winners. In 2003 a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader won it all!



## The Gate Guys

The Liberty Lake security team is led by Frank Renz (mornings) and CJ Johnson (afternoons). These two retirees take their jobs VERY seriously, and don't let anyone past them unless we know who they are. Frank is a retired home builder and Girl Scout Camp "Ranger". CJ is a retired post office worker, and the father of Kurtis, who runs our picnics and special events.

**Gold Rush** is a 2-day special event held towards the beginning of the summer. On the first day, groups compete to collect the most “gold” for points. On the second day, the **Gold Rush Auction** is held in which each group uses the value of their gold to bid on great prizes like pizza parties, slushies and exclusive activities.

### **Group Choice**

One period each day is designated Group Choice. As a group, Campers can choose the activity they would like to participate in together. Choices vary each day but include the Dunk Tank, Ga-Ga, an Sports Tournaments, Mini-Golf, group meetings, and sometimes our Spirit Events.

### **Group Leader**

Every group has a Group Leader; a college student or young teacher, who is the adult in charge of the group. Group Leaders are responsible for taking attendance and lunch orders in the morning, as well as the well-being and happiness of all the campers in their respective group. Many of our more talented Group Leaders are also activity leaders during elective periods.

### **Health Center**

Our exceptional and caring Nurses- **Alison and Kristine** can be found in the Health Center. They are there to take care of you if you don't feel well or get a boo-boo. They also keep any medicine that you bring to Camp and need to take during the day. You can call the nurses any time about anything health related, including allergies, as Alison is an expert in the field (thanks to her kids).

**Hulla-Ball** is the Liberty Lake version of the popular playground game Four-Square. It is played on a court made of four equal-sized squares. The object is to hit the ball to another Camper in another square without it going out of the lines of the court. After only one bounce, the next Camper needs to then hit the ball out of his square into another. It's just as addictive as Ga-Ga! If you mess up, someone takes your spot, and you just get back in line to go back in!



### **Ice Pops / Ice Cream**

At some point each afternoon, every Camper gets the special summer-time treat of the day.

### **Instructional and Free Swim**

Every division has a free swim period each afternoon. You have a choice between swimming in the pool or the lake. Turtles, Freshmen and Sophomores also have an instructional swim period each day. You are grouped by your swim ability, mostly with kids from your Camp Group. Each day your swim instructor helps you to improve your swimming skills, so you can move up to higher swim levels. The instructors send home progress cards every two weeks. Juniors and Seniors can pick Instructional Swim as an elective (as well as Swim Team and Jr. Lifesaving for Seniors).



### **Jason**

Jason Samuel is our dedicated Assistant Director. Jason oversees our pools, lake, outdoor adventure areas (he helped design and build them), coordinates our staff hiring, and anything else that comes his way. Jason used to be a news cameraman but couldn't stay away from Camp and the outdoors, so he came to LLDC in 2005.

### **Jell-o Tug o' War**

Exactly what it is. Losers end up head first in a whole lot of sticky, slimy Jell-o! Awesomeness.

### **Lanyard**

Lanyard is the name that we use for the activity and the actual medium that we braid together in amazingly beautiful and creative ways, called “stitches”. Lanyard (also known to many as “gimp”) is thin plastic rope that comes in every color imaginable. Some stitch examples are: box stitch,

barrel, cobra, and Chinese staircase. Lanyards can be made into bracelets, anklets, key chains and cool gifts for friends, family and Andy. Lanyard is an elective, group choice and before/after-care choice.



### **Legoland**

Our special area for Turtles and Freshmen where we have GIANT Lego blocks were Campers can build towers taller than they are, or anything they can think of. Don't trap your counselors in there!

**LLDC** stands for Liberty Lake Day Camp. There's a great Rap song on iTunes written by the 2008 Rap Elective called the "LLDC Rap". Liberty Lake was named by Peggy Jerome, the wife of Jerry and Mother of Terry, who owned and operated Liberty Lake Picnic Grounds for 25 years. Before that, it was called "Lisiora Lake", before that it was a farm!

### High Ropes Adventure

These structures at Camp are meant to challenge you and teach you skills such as bravery, leadership, teambuilding, and trust through the use of high element (catwalk, zipline, vertical playground, giant's ladder) and low element (wild woozy, nitro crossing, all aboard and some others) challenge courses. This can be chosen as an elective and is sometimes a group choice activity. For safety reasons you must be 75 pounds to use the zipline- which is literally 600 feet long and flies over the far end of Liberty Lake! When you land on the other side, you walk back by traversing the shaky rope bridge!



### Liberty Lake Foundation

Every year Liberty Lake donates money, Camper scholarships, use of it's facility and more to a variety of non-profit youth development and environmental organizations in our area.

**The Liberty Lake Song** is sung by the entire Camp most every Friday afternoon in the Summer at the Lakeside Amphitheater- with the help of a live, hot-rockin "house band". The rest of the year, we can't get it out of our heads!

### Lunch

Each division has a set lunch period each day. When you meet your group leader in the morning you will say whether you want the hot lunch entrée of the day, or a choice of sandwiches. Regardless, you can go right up to the pasta and salad bar and help yourself! The pasta bar has buttered noodles and red sauce. When your group meets for lunch at your assigned lunch table, there will be pitchers of lemonade, fruit punch and water on the table, and your group leader will pick up your group's tray for lunch with your pre-ordered choices. If you are still hungry after you finish you can always go up to the lunch counter to get "seconds". If you eat your main lunch, then there's always a yummy dessert like fruit, cake, cookies, jell-o, etc. There is plenty of food to go around so don't leave hungry but please only take the amount of food that you are going to eat.



**Mountain Boarding** is just like snow boarding except in the Summer... with brakes! Mountain boards are snowboards with large off road tires, suspension, and brakes. Digglers are a cross between Mt. Bikes and Razor Scooters. They have large tires, brakes, and suspension. Campers learn how to ride while wearing a helmet, knee, elbow, wrist and butt pads. Sophs, Juniors and Seniors LOVE Mountain Boarding!

**Mr. Nick** is the elder statesman of the Liberty Lake grounds crew. A self taught handyman, carpenter and mechanic, Mr. Nick has great passion for Liberty Lake, and is also responsible for building our Amphitheater and so many of the little things that make Liberty Lake beautiful.



### Office Team

The Liberty Lake Camp office is the heart of communications for Camp Families, Campers and Team members during the summer. Luckily we have a dynamic, veteran crew of dedicated "indoor" folks- **Joe Craig is our Administrative Director**, who runs the office throughout the year. Joe is assisted by **Jenn and Emilyanne**. **Tracy** schedules the electives, and **Sandy** coordinates the buses/bus fun. **Jill** holds the ship together, and helps keep things running smoothly.

### Outdoor Laser Tag

At this elective each Camper uses a laser gun that records when you hit or are hit by other lasers. The excitement of this game increases with the many obstacles and hiding places that you can use as protection.

### Pavilions (Point, Willows, Woods, Vista, Twin Cedars)

Pavilions are shaded areas at Camp where activities take place. Each pavilion has a unique and meaningful name, passed on over the years. You will quickly learn the name of each pavilion, and the activities that take place there. Check out the names on the next page...



### Parent Pick-up

If you don't take a bus to and from Camp then your parents will drop you off and pick you up. The drop-off spot is in front of one of the top "Twin Cedars" Pavilion. At the end of the day, after the bus kids get on their buses, parents stop at the gate house and show their **Camp Placard** (your identification that will come in the mail). Your name will then be announced over the loud speaker for you to be escorted to your parent's car at the end of the walkway.

**The Point** is the pavilion “across the far bridge”, home Guitar, Drums, Rock Band, and Football on the “Point Field”.

### Pre Week & Post Week

Campers sign up for two to ten weeks of summer fun at Liberty Lake Day Camp. The first week of the summer season is called Pre-Week (a lot of public schools are still in session). The next eight weeks are numbered (1-8) and then the last week is called Post-Week. Pre-Week and Post-Week are a little different than the other weeks. Instead of weekly electives, we have DAILY choices. Periods are longer, there are less Campers, and you have a chance to try out lots of different activities and find some new favorites.

### Project Morry Swim-a-Thon

Children that attend Liberty Lake are VERY lucky- Many kids are not able to afford such an amazing Camp experience. Project Morry is a foundation created to help underprivileged, inner-city kids attend Camp. Since it's creation 12 years ago, every Camper who has attended Morry's Camp has graduated high school and gone on to college or the military. Every summer, Liberty Lake and 20 of the best Camps in the country participate in a Swim-a-Thon to help raise money for this wonderful cause. On that day, try your best and see how many laps that you can swim because the money you raise goes to a great cause. For more info, go to [www.projectmorry.org](http://www.projectmorry.org)

### Renaissance Faire

Liberty Lake is the September site of the New Jersey Renaissance Faire- [www.njrenfaire.com](http://www.njrenfaire.com) During week 7, Campers will enjoy Renaissance-type activities that took place between the years 1400-1600s like sword fighting, Shakespearean acting, field battles, and lots of music and arts.



### Sandland

Sandland is our special creative play area for Turtles and Freshmen, created out of the old Liberty Lake baby pool. Campers can build castles and create whatever their imaginations desire out of sand.

### Senior Soiree'

Created because of ideas and feedback from Senior Campers, this is a “free-form” elective where seniors can hang out with their friends at the Vista Pavilion while listening to music, playing board games and participating in other friendly competitions and games.



### Slushies

These icy, sweet drinks are given out as birthday treats (please don't send cupcakes or anything because of allergies), as well as prizes for competitions and rewards for exceptional accomplishments. The big question at Camp is – What is your favorite slushie flavor? Andy calls them his “Pavlovian Behavior Modification Tool”, because Campers will do most ANYTHING for the opportunity to choose one of the 10 yummy flavors!

### Snack Shack

This is the place where slushies are served, as well as the afternoon ice creams, and all-day snacks- like pretzels and graham crackers. Even though campers can drink water at one of our water fountains and ice water jugs (with filtered water) at every activity area in Camp, they can visit the Snack Shack between periods to purchase bottled water, juices, Gatorades and BOT- natural flavored vitamin water: [www.botbeverages.com](http://www.botbeverages.com)

### Spirit Calendar (Special Events)

Every day of the summer is a different Spirit Event at Camp. Some special events are big parties, some are competitions and some are performances. Check out the calendar for every day excitement at Liberty Lake. Our Spirit Events are coordinated by “**Summer Santa**”, **Chris Focarile**.

### Specialist

Specialists are the adults who run most of the electives at Camp. Most of them are school teachers who work with children all year round. They are specially trained and/or have advanced skills in the area that they teach at Camp. They work with Brandi on cool new ideas to entice the Campers!

**Stuart** is our Head of Grounds. He has been working at Liberty Lake longer than anyone else (14 years), and it's the only job he's ever had. Stu helps keep the Camp looking pretty and helps set up big special events. Stu's real name is Sean, but when he started at Liberty Lake, there were 4 other Seans, so Jerry (the old owner) dubbed him Stu. Now his family calls him Stu. Liberty Lake lore!

**Survival Skills** is an elective where you learn how to use nature's resources to survive and outdoors. Survival Skill Campers maykenzie Morris participate in a Camper overnight once during the summer (Soph's and older).





**Team**

Our Summer Staff is called “the Team”, because we are a cohesive and supportive unit of 200 people. “All for one and one for all” is one of our mottos, as well as “We can always do it better”, and “EVERYTHING matters”. The administrators are called “**The Leadership Team**”. We are very proud of our entire team- top to bottom, as it’s absolutely the best part of LLDC!

**Tower of Power**

The Tower of Power



is our 25 foot rock climbing wall. There are four different climbing paths to get to the top, and everyone can try to climb it- Even Turtles!

**Twin Cedars** is the “top pavilion” where Freshmen meet, and Before/Aftercare is centered. During “Liquid Sunshine”, we use it for board games, knock hockey and other fun stuff.



**Ugly Shorts**

Every year we have a contest to see who has the ugliest pair of shorts in the Camp. At the end of the day, Stu lights them on fire and we raise them up the flag pole in a blazing farewell. Andy has won the contest every year.

**The Vista-** The best view of Liberty Lake- where the Seniors meet & Soiree’!

**Water Trampoline**

Our very own trampoline can be found on the deep side of the lake. This activity makes for some high jumping, bouncing and splashing. You can choose go on the water trampoline during Free Swim, and Juniors and Seniors

can also choose it as an elective.



**Willows** is the pavilion “across the bridge”. It’s the home of Gymnastics, Karate, Cheer, Bowling, Wiffleball and more. It’s the 2<sup>nd</sup> biggest Pavilion!

**Woods** is the beautiful and shady pavilion down through the Woods path past fishing, towards the High Ropes, home of Spa, Rocketry and much more.

**Yacht or Not**

This is perhaps the greatest annual special event of the summer. Groups are given a large cardboard garment box and a roll of duck tape. The goal is to create a boat that can not only float but carry their Group Leader across the pool. The actual race is one of the craziest, most entertaining 20 seconds in the world. Get your boat out quick if you win- You need to dry it out for the finals, last period!



**Yahtzee & Martucci**

The Senior Division can be a wacky place. They have their own indigenous expressions, with two of their favorites being “Yahtzee!” – an exclamation of joy, and “Martucci!” – which at this point is still indefinable. Blame BZ (Justin Brown).



**Yu-Poke’-Magic (Yu-Gi-Oh, Poke’mon & Magic Cards)**

Imagination runs rampant at this unconventional card playing elective. No Jacks, Queens & Kings... Instead Campers have a deck of characters with a variety of powers. Battles are fast and furious, and from the looks of things, it seems like a very enjoyable and addictive activity! Bring your own cards (we can lock them up) or use Camp cards.

***If you can think of anything we should add for the 2011 edition of the Liberty Laketionary, just let us know- [fun@libertylakedaycamp.com](mailto:fun@libertylakedaycamp.com)***