

A scenic photograph of a camp area. In the foreground, there is a calm pond reflecting the sky and surrounding greenery. A wooden gazebo with a striped awning stands on a grassy bank. The background is filled with dense, lush green trees under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

CAMP RISING SUN

2018

REUNION
YEARBOOK



The Alumni Reunion takes place the weekend in between the girls and boys session every year. Camp becomes a place full of joy, excitement, sadness, and nostalgia during this time. Camp is full of campers saying their sad “Goodbyes” to new life-long friends and Camp after an amazing 4 weeks. Camp is full of counselors who are emotional from having to say farewell to campers, tired from the long days, excited to celebrate the successes of 2018’s great first session and meet the new campers that would soon be arriving. As soon as the girls leave, Camp is full again this time with Alumni from many generations who are all excited to be back at Camp Rising Sun! This year alumni came from as far away as Kenya, South Africa, Egypt, Europe and South America as well as places bit closer like California, Utah, Colorado, Minnesota, North Carolina and of course, New Yorkers. We are thrilled so many alumni came to celebrate their major milestone anniversaries; 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50 year!!! The energy was palpable. All were excited and happy to be together at Camp. The LAJF board meeting was lively and welcomed twenty guests plus our dedicated board members. During Mandy and Libby day we honored some of our most dedicated alumni including Richard and Nita Luis, Sarah Uttermann-Merritt, and Michael Saratovsky. There was an array of Instructions and a Tour of the Red Hook campus.

On Saturday after dinner we sang our hearts out. That night around a glowing fire, we heard the wisdom of dear alumni. On Sunday we awoke groggy after a late night of enjoying each other’s good company. We were all humbled by a beautiful spread. Many shared hugs goodbye and hopes for reuniting next summer at the 89th reunion. The most common comment I heard throughout the weekend was, *I don't know why it's taken me this long to come back, but I'm glad I did.* And I was so glad they all came home too for the weekend!

A big thank you to the staff and dozens of volunteers who made reunion weekend possible. Preparations for this wonderful weekend began in September, just weeks after the 2017 campers went home. In 2019, we will be celebrating 30 years of women at Camp Rising Sun. LAJF is committed to honoring this wonderful occasion and offer a very special welcome to our pioneer women from 1989. We also look forward to welcoming our milestone classes from 1939, 1949, 1959, 1969 1979, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2009, and 2014 alumni.

-Helene Mattera, '97, '98, '00, '10-'12, '15-'18

LAJF Executive Director

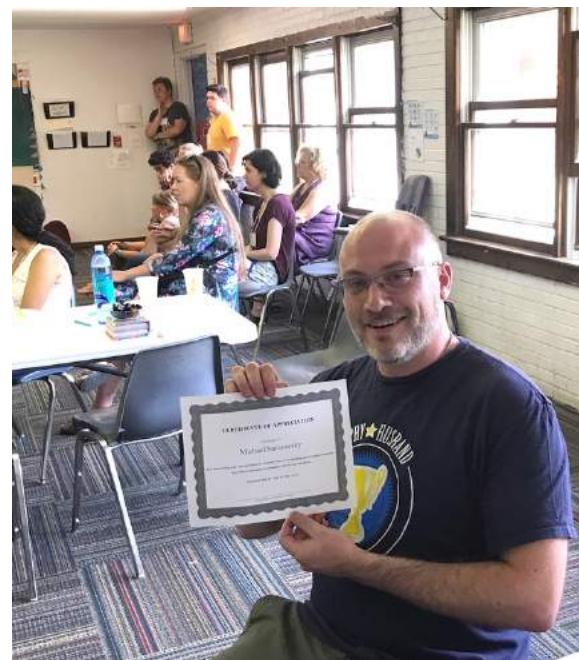
HONORING EXCEPTIONAL VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS

At this year's Alumni Reunion, it was with great pride that the Louis August Jonas Foundation presented Sarah Uttermann-Merritt with the 2018 Volunteer of the Year award. Sarah ('02, '03, '12-'16, '18) embodies the values and mission of LAJF in her service as head of selection for California, member of the Alumni Council, and volunteer counselor at Camp.

Sarah has touched the lives of many alumni through her service at Camp during her numerous summers on staff. She exhibits the utmost love and respect for our community and program. Sarah is an invaluable asset to the Foundation and to Camp Rising Sun!



Michael Saratovsky was honored for his significant contributions while overseeing the Building and Grounds Committee. LAJF appreciates his time and efforts to organize renovation projects at Clinton and Red Hook.



RICHARD AND JUANITA LUIS



Richard and Nita Luis were honored for their significant contributions to Camp Rising Sun and the Louis August Jonas Foundation. Their support helps ensure Camp thrives now and in the future. A catalpa tree was planted at the Clinton campus in their honor. Their legacy will always live on at Camp.

LOUIS AUGUST JONAS FOUNDATION SUMMER 2018 BOARD MEETING

An open board meeting was held during the Alumni Reunion. The board heard about fundraising, committee updates, Alumni engagement, and strategic planning updates. The board was inspired to hear how Camp's programming is excelling from the Program Director, Janessa Schilmoeller



INSTRUCTIONS

Media Literacy by Mai Anh -

Mai Anh led a discussion on media literacy. The topic of media literacy revolves around accessing media, analyzing content, evaluating messages and being able to create media for self-expression and communication. Participants in this instruction develop some necessary tools to be responsible and critical consumers of media



Watercoloring by Olivia - Olivia lead an instruction on watercoloring. She taught basic techniques for using watercolor, and participants created their own pieces.

Intelligent Robotics by Shannon Yasuda- Shannon led a discussion on the ever-changing world of robotics and artificial intelligence. In studying specifically robotic intelligence and robot-human interaction, this instruction challenged participants to think critically about the role machines play in our societies. There were discussions on the ethics of robots and the future of technology in our world.

History of Camp by Rick Richter - For years, Rick has visited camp and given campers the opportunity to hear more about the history of our program. This year was no different. We were happy to have Rick offer his instruction on the rich history of Camp Rising Sun during Alumni Weekend.

The Mens' Story Project by Pete Comas, Chris Varrone & Dan Vazquez - In this Instruction, there was a viewing of powerful video clips from the Men's Story Project, discussions on how male gender norms can affect health and well-being for people of all genders, and discussions on the idea of creating our own CRS Men's Story Project production. To learn more about the MSP, visit www.mensstoryproject.org.



FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY







1968

50th Anniversary



30th Anniversary



1988



Yena Purmasir ('08, '09, '11, '15, '16)

After completing a year-long research internship at NYU School of Medicine's World Trade Center Mental Health program, I'm excited to share that I'll be going back to school this fall! I'll be completing a Master's in Theological Studies at Harvard Divinity School, focusing on South Asian religious traditions and preparing for doctoral research in this field. I am also still actively writing, moving between poetry, prose, and fiction. This October will see the release of [Dis]Connected: Poems & Stories of Connection and Otherwise, an anthology exploring themes of connection, modernity, and the inspirational relationship between poetry and fiction.

Charles Kaiman ('63)

I have been a painter since age 13, and I show at blue mountain gallery in Manhattan. I moved from NYC to Albuquerque in 2003 with my wife of 40 years, Cynthia, and my son, Ted. Ted is now married and has a soon to be one year old son. In the best transgenerational tradition of Rising Sun, Ted is an attorney in Albuquerque, representing the interests of the poor, the elderly, and the young. Cynthia is a prolific multimedia craftsperson, and she and I spend our days working on our art. Chloe is our loyal dog.

Jacqueline Voluz ('07, '08, and '11)

My dears! In ten years so much has changed, and lots has stayed the same. After high school, I lived in Tatarstan for a summer, studied International Studies at Middlebury College in Vermont, studied in Moscow for a year, and worked in Tbilisi. After college, I moved down to Washington, DC for three years of pleasantly surprising opportunities to build community through my job working on international exchange programs, my writing group, and queer and anti-racism organizing. As of this year, I'm back in New York coordinating college leadership development fellowships at the Watson Foundation. Come meet up, eat sweets, or crash at my place next time you're in NYC! Big hugs!

Lee Peretz ('08 and '16)

This year is super transformative for me. At this time of the year in 2017 I was traveling in North India, in Ladakh not thinking at all what the near future holds for me and what a great jump I'm about to do personally. I started university, studying physical therapy in Ben Gurion University finishing my first year out of 4. I live with a wonderful partner and an old dog in the town of Beer Sheva, in the meantime. In this upcoming September our alumni association will be holding the world reunion, and of course I invite everyone who can and want to join us, or contact for any question.





Ana Baltasar Corral ('08 and '10)

I finished Med School and am currently training to become a Neurologist in one of Madrid's best hospitals. This is my first year out of four, and will be in Madrid all that time, so do not doubt to hit me up if you are ever around!

Lauren Miller ('08)

I am about to start my fourth year at UC Berkeley in their Classics PhD program, studying and teaching Greek and Roman poetry. I'm loving California but I hope I can make it to a reunion soon!



David Ford ('08, '10)

Served 2 years as a missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Brazil from 2011-2013. Married in 2016. Received Bachelors from Brigham Young University in Psychology. Currently a pilot cadet in the US Air Force (why he couldn't attend the Alumni Reunion).



Michael Saratovsky ('98, '99)

Can't believe its 20 years since my 1st summer. I live in Rockaway, Queens and work in Construction and Real Estate in the city. Love spending time at CRS in the off season, nothing like Clinton Maple Syrup.



Conor Sanchez ('02, '03)

Since my time at CRS, I've bounced around a lot (Los Angeles, D.C., Nicaragua, New Mexico). I got married in 2012, served in the Peace Corps, and I'm now in graduated school in Boston. Always happy to hear from CRS brothers and sisters.



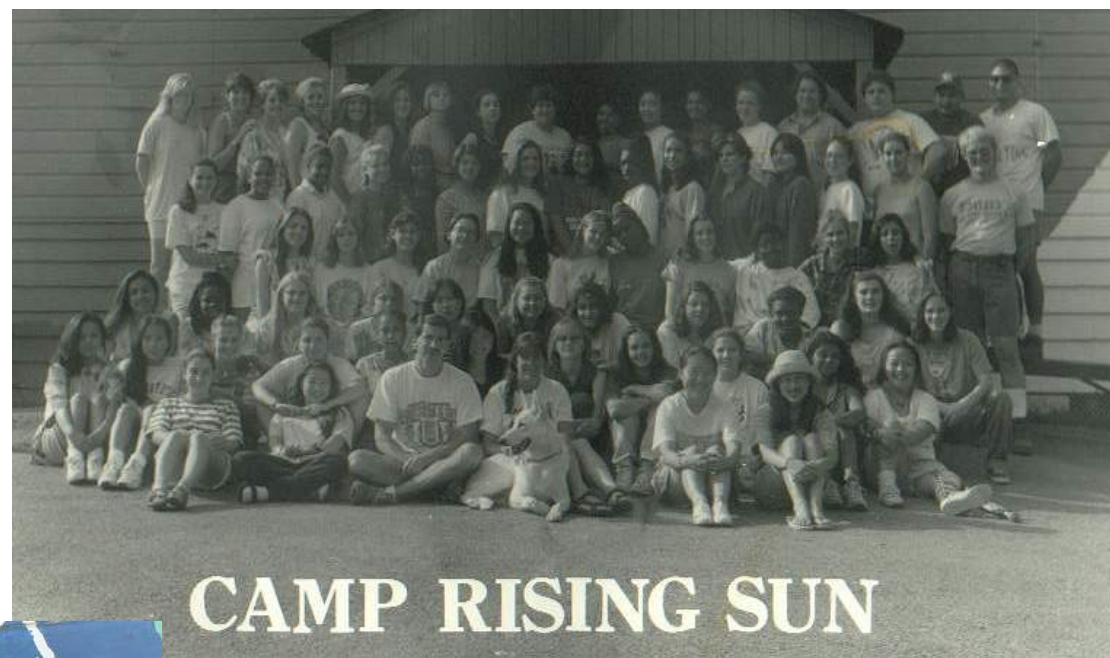
Richard and Nita Luis

Rick Luis '61 and Nita Luis were thrilled and deeply honored to learn a Catalpa tree had been planted in their honor at Clinton! May it grow and flourish with the seat around it for Campers to resemble the Catalpa tree at Red Hook. They enjoyed visiting with so many alumni from many decades of Red Hook, Clinton, & Stendis during the Reunion weekend at Clinton, after having just spent a wonderful evening in Oslo with Norwegian alumnae. The Board meeting provided a thorough update on operations, with many alumni attending and asking questions. They appreciated the tour Cameron Rylance gave of Red Hook, showing repairs that have been made and describing in detail the many challenges it would take to bring the property into compliance with current local and federal regulations. Rick enjoyed singing the Camp Henry, Red Hook, and Everybody Loves Saturday Night (in several languages) songs. Thank you to all who worked so hard to make the Reunion a success!



Rick & Nita Luis were pleased to be entertained in Oslo, Norway by Inga Semmingsen and her family in July, since Inga could not make it to Clinton for her 20th Reunion. Along with Karina Birkeland Kjellson, they enjoyed sharing many stories of CRS and alumni met through both Clinton and Stendis, where Karina had been a counselor.

1993



CAMP RISING SUN



25th Anniversary

1993



Thomas Berger '78
LAJF Board of Directors ('15, '16, '17, '18)



After my studies in medicine, I specialized early in medical computer assisted methods. I operated many years in the field of clinical contract research and cellular immunotherapy for U.S. based enterprises and acted as a general manager for a leading Japanese medical technology company. Before joining Cerner I was in charge of expert systems for genome data interpretation, acting as a Senior Vice President. As General Manager for Cerner's business in Germany, I advocate for digital transformation and population health management across health care organizations and surrounding communities.



I hold a medical doctor degree, as well as degrees in medical informatics and health economics. As co-founder of the Rotarian Jazz Fellowship I still play the guitar in various bands.

My wife Tanja and myself have two sons, Tim (2000) and Til (2003). Tim was a legacy camper in 2014. Til will join me for my 40th anniversary reunion at Camp.

I co-founded the German Alumni Organisation and was Head of the Organizing Committee for the 2010 World Reunion in Berlin. I joined the LAJF Board of Directors in 2015. I think, I became a 'camper for lifetime', no clue how that happened... ;-)

1998



20th Anniversary



1998



Sofia Eleftheriades ('08)

My dear sisters and brothers, I feel proud and honored to be part of the LAJF family. It is always a pleasure to meet with old friends or new alumni members - everyone is bright, innovative and a leader in their own community. It has been 10 years since I was a young and unaware camper, chopping wood, singing my lungs out before and after each meal, playing the piano in the forest on a Saturday night. Today I am based in London, working in international sales for a Hollywood film distribution company, and also I frequently take part in independent TV shows as an actress. Feel free to drop me a line if you ever happen to be in London, or just want to reconnect. Love, Sofia

Anthony Campana ('08, '10)

Since attending camp Anthony has moved from Minnesota to California for college. He now works in construction management and likes to spend time with the CRS California Alumni Association. Anthony hopes that third person was the right choice for this update but is willing to accept ridicule if it was not.



Wojciech Michalak ('08, '10)

I have completed my bachelor of science degree in Biotechnology in Wrocław, Poland. Then moved to Denmark, Odense, to work in proteomics research and pursue a Master's degree. I have graduated June 2018 with an MSc in Computational Biomedicine. Currently I live in Copenhagen and will start working as a researcher in clinical trials in September. All in all life treats me well, I plan on traveling a little next year, as my company will send me to Asia for 8 months. Besides that, European guys from 08' tend to meet up every now and then, so I hope that tradition will continue. All the best to 2008 campers!



Zachary Kaplan ('08)

After graduating from high school in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 2011, I attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where I majored in American Studies and Political Science. In college I discovered my passion for education, which led me to become a 5th grade social studies teacher in Durham, North Carolina from 2015 to 2018. In August 2018, I will begin a hopeful career in public interest advocacy by attending the Duke University School of Law in Durham, North Carolina. In addition to starting law school, I am thrilled to be marrying my college girlfriend Ashley in June 2019.

2003



15TH ANNIVERSARY



Blaise Tobia '68

Went to Brooklyn College and UCSD for an MFA in Visual Art. (Got married along the way; just celebrated 44th anniversary.) Worked as an artist in NYC. Taught in Detroit. Became a professor at Drexel University. In semi-retirement I continue to work in the studio and exhibit; on the side I recently served as president of my community association. Have travelled a lot (mostly Italy but also the rest of Europe and China). Wrote a piece for the Sundial on the "Black Sheep" season of 1968.

2008



5TH ANNIVERSARY



10TH ANNIVERSARY



2013





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