

# THE *Fun Times*

March 2006, Issue 4

56 Camp Allen Road, Bedford, NH 03110 603.622.8471



## Camp Allen celebrates 75 years of service 1931-2006

### SUMMER CAMP

An enterprise of interest to us, although not coming under our control, was the establishment of a camp for blind girls at Bedford, New Hampshire, by the Lions Club of Boston. The sponsors of this project came to Perkins for counsel, and Mrs. Cora L. Gleason, for many years our home visitor, was asked to co-operate. With her guidance adequate buildings were erected on a site presented by Dr. G. S. Foster of Manchester, New Hampshire. Twenty-three girls enjoyed the experience of camping during the summer, twenty of them being pupils of Perkins. Two members of last year's Harvard Class and one of our teachers were in charge of the camp.

from the 1932 Perkins Annual Report, page 21

### From the Director's Desk

So much is going on these days that it is sometimes hard to keep track! On March 7<sup>th</sup> AnneMarie Donovan, Assistant Director will arrive and spend the next 18 months working here at Camp Allen. Besides her summer responsibilities, AnneMarie will work on getting Camp Allen certified through the American Camping Association and reviewing and cleaning up our Archives. We are very excited to have her here with us.

Sessions are filling up more quickly than last year. We are happy to see many new campers interested in coming to Camp Allen, as well as old friends returning. We are receiving many requests for camperships and ask that you please look into service organizations in your hometown such as Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary, and Knights of Columbus etc. You may also want to

check with your local Area Agency or office of DMR because often they provide assistance. If you live in NH don't forget to contact the Harry Gregg Foundation at 547-3311 and speak to Peg at extension 401. At Camp Allen we will have a limited number of camperships available again this year.

We have been very busy hiring new staff from all over the world. Returning this summer are: AnneMarie of course, Cassie and Lois from England; Fady from Egypt; Stacy from Russia; Laura from Mexico; Patrick and Eli from NH; and nurses Glenn, Pam, Laurie, and Cindy, Chef Perrin will also return. For Day Camp we have Will, Allison, Laura, and Sarah returning. We have hired new staff from NH, France, Zambia, Germany, Australia, Poland, and Scotland.

**Mary**

## Sherry's Gift

Shortly after the holidays I received a phone call from Sherry's mom. She wanted me to know that Sherry had raised money over the holidays for the Camp Allen Building Fund. I called Sherry and yes, indeed, she had raised over \$300 to benefit the building fund here at Camp Allen.

Sherry is 41 and has been a camper here for several years. Last summer Sherry became our first camper/counselor. She spent a week in training (where we learned more from her than from anyone!) and then worked as a counselor for the next two weeks.

Sherry was born with Cerebral Palsy. "I was born in a car on the way to the hospital!" she recently told me. Sherry lives in her own apartment in Massachusetts since 1989 and receives some assistance from personal care attendants.

When asked why she raised money for the Camp Allen Building Fund, Sherry responded: "because I care about Camp Allen in a big way!" Some of the improvements Sherry would like to see to the camp are better accessibility in the bathrooms and an expansion of the dining hall. Sherry knows how crowded the dining hall can be some sessions.

At a recent meeting of the Camp Allen Board of Directors, all were impressed with Sherry's gift and made the decision to create a special fund. **Sherry's Gift** will benefit the Camp Allen Building Fund. Sherry encourages other campers and families to consider making a donation to **Sherry's Gift** because "we all care about Camp Allen in a Big Way!" For more information call the office at 603-622-8471.

The Camp Allen Board of Directors and staff wish to thank Sherry for her work at raising money and awareness of Camp Allen in her community.

plumbing, electricity, expanding and winterizing the Dining Hall, new buildings, grading the road, and creating a vision for the future.

### *Keep these dates free:*

**August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Night of Irish Music and Dinner**  
**Benefits the Camp Allen Building Fund**  
**Co-Chairs: Joanne and Charlie Pouliot**



**Tentatively Scheduled August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006**  
**Camp Allen Family Day**  
**Celebrating 75 years of service to campers and their families.**  
**Co-Chairs: Dick and Bonnie St. Jean**



**October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006**  
**Dinner, Dance and Auction**  
**Radisson Hotel, Manchester**  
**Celebrating 75 years of service**  
**Co-Chairs: Jean Lemire and Allison Parent**



### SUMMER 2006

We plan on making summer 2006, our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary the most fun ever!! We welcome ideas from our campers and their families. Call Deb or Mary at 603-622-8471

Watch for updates on our website:

**[www.campallennh.org](http://www.campallennh.org)**

### **Camp Allen Board of Directors Retreat**

The Board of Directors will meet on March 26 at Heritage United Way in Manchester to discuss the future needs and priorities of Camp Allen. Some of the projects to be discussed are upgrades to