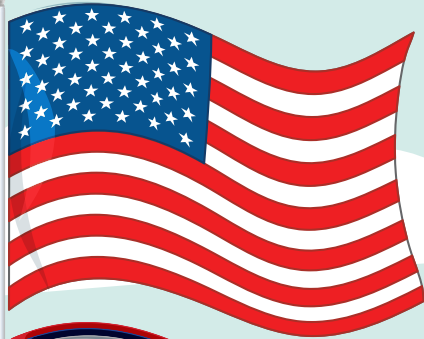


# THE LINEUP

DECEMBER 2021



## COMING UP



Our next event is snow tubing at Campgaw Mountain in Mahwah, NJ on January 29th, 2022 from 4-6 PM.

We will be providing hot beverages and snacks. Check your email for information on purchasing tickets.

## Better Together!

On December 11th, 2021, Camps Equinunk and Blue Ridge traveled to Life:The Place to Be in Ardsley, NY for our Winter Reunion! While we missed the seemingly annual snowstorm, mother nature made sure to include some rain. Of course, that wasn't enough to stop the fun, though! We played games, beaded for SCOPE, and caught up with our old camp friends at the always enjoyable event. We can't wait until we all get together again on January 29th for our snow tubing event at CampGaw Mountain!



## A Holiday Story from Richie

A young princess and prince were bored playing on the beautiful palace grounds, even though the swimming pool had a relaxing hot tub and manicured lawns that surrounded a har-tru tennis court that easily converted to a pickle-ball court. Their parents, the Queen and King, were perplexed by their children's indifference to these amenities as well as the gourmet, sumptuous meals that catered to their children's desires day and night. Fearing that their children were becoming jaded, the Queen and King planned a summer trip for the children to visit the countryside and enjoy the simple pleasures of farm life.

Although the sister and brother were initially skeptical, they were immediately captivated by the beauty and sweetness of the countryside, the friendliness of the many children who lived there and how they all became fast friends and in time were like sisters and brothers. They roamed the forests in shirts and T-shirts, climbed mountains, swam in endless lakes, cooked their own meals at a campfire and slept outdoors under one million stars.

The princess and prince discovered abilities they didn't realize they had. The weeks passed quickly and they were teary when said good-bye to their new best friends/sisters and brothers. They returned to the palace stronger, more outgoing, confident and eager to challenge new horizons.

The Queen and King adored having their children home and instantly noticed how the princess and prince grew physically and emotionally. That night before bedtime, the Queen and King asked their children what they had learned on their trip. They were taken aback by the children's declaration, "Our family must be poor!!" and at first couldn't understand that reaction. They then smiled with pride as the children went on to explain....."Here at the palace, we have a small swimming pool. At the farm, we swam in freshwater lakes and rivers that ran for miles. Here at home, we have a pretty lawn and in the country, we roamed forests and mountains that stretched to the sky. Here at home, we have one pet and at the farm, there are hundreds of animals to ride, feed and take care of. Here we play with one another and there we have so many children to laugh with and learn from. Here our meals are cooked and served to us and there we grow, harvest and cook with our friends." Finally, as the children grew tired, they complimented the beauty of the subdued candlelit palace grounds but yearned for sleeping under the sky that was lit by one million different stars.

As we passed Hannukah and approach the other holidays of the season, Sheryl and I hope that you, your friends, family and loved ones embrace all that we have, especially the simple joys; being together, sharing the best of yourself, finding generosity and working towards the common good. We hope that the holiday of lights reminds you of this story and all that we treasure at Blue Ridge and Equinunk.

Love,  
Richie

