



In this issue of Laurel Leaves

Our Board and Staff have been hard at work this year preparing to safely re-open camp this summer. This issue of Laurel Leaves is full of updates ranging in topics. Click through our table of contents and go right to the article of your choice or scroll to read all the camp updates!

Letter from Our Executive Director

Greetings from Laurel Lake!

We are so looking forward to the summer of 2021 and we hope you are too! We can't wait to welcome our campers and staff back to Fleur de Lis for a much-needed summer of fun and friendship.

While we have been busy with many of the typical preparations for camp, we have also been actively reviewing best practices from the camps that successfully opened in 2020 as well as staying up to date with the evolving science and protocols that will support a safe and healthy summer for everyone.

At this time, we are making plans based on the **current** guidelines for overnight camps from the State of New Hampshire, the American Camp Association, and the CDC. From these guidelines as well as other sources, we have been crafting the summer 2021 plans – and of course, re-crafting as the guidelines are ever-evolving. Three important keys to the summer will be the use of masks, social distancing, and of course, being outside on our beautiful site. For those activities that are typically inside such as crafts and stained glass, we have planned how to move them to larger, better-ventilated spaces. Our traditional activities like Field productions and EPs will happen largely in outside locations. Our much-loved special events such as Password and Evening Circle will carry on with a combination of social distancing and masks.

Our site will have some new additions and modifications, these include a new bathroom for our Health Center, the installation of handwashing sinks and sanitizing stations, and the addition of pop-up tents for program, as well as a dining tent to allow for spreading out during meals.

We will be creating a “bubble” of sorts for camp this summer. Our overarching goal in terms of COVID is to keep it out of camp. Campers and staff will have three required COVID tests – prior to arrival, upon arrival, and 4-6 days into a session. We will be utilizing a “pod” or cohort system in camp to create smaller groups. A pod will typically be made up of two tents or cabins that will be a nuclear group. This “pod” will be able to be unmasked in their living spaces, will eat together, and be the small group doing activities together for the first few days of the session. As we pass certain benchmarks, we will be expanding the opportunities for girls to interact more closely together as they have done typically at camp. While masking and social distancing will be required in a variety of places and activities and camp will be a little different in ways, it will still be camp.

We know we can provide the kind of summer experience that girls have loved at Fleur de Lis Camp for over 90 years. Soon camp will come alive again with the sounds of friends chatting and walking down the camp road, the dock squeaking and water splashing, and of course laughter and singing all around camp. We can't wait for our campers and staff to come home to camp for the summer of 2021!

Best,

MJ Parry

Letter from Our Board President

I am writing this on the first day of spring- a gorgeous, warm, sunny day- from an Adirondack chair in my backyard. It's the kind of day when you can't help but think about camp memories and feel excited about the memories that will be made this summer.

The state of New Hampshire is currently in the process of setting guidelines for camp reopenings for this summer. We are so excited that we will be able to welcome back our campers, CTs, and staff this summer. What a relief after a very long year. MJ Parry, Our Executive Director serves on the NH Camps Board of Directors and has been part of the working group that is making guideline recommendations to the State of NH Re-Opening Task Group. MJ and her staff are busy preparing for the standards that will be in place to help ensure a safe and joy-filled summer for our girls.

Several times over this last year, we have shared financial updates highlighting the impact of needing to close camp for the summer of 2020 and inform you about the board and other volunteer efforts to stabilize our finances and ensure a fiscally healthy camp into the future. At this time, we would like to share the latest financial picture and ways that you can continue to support the vibrant Fleur de Lis experience for our campers.

-Di Foster | FDL Board President

FDL Updates: Recruitment

Recruitment is well underway for the 2021 season. It's a unique year with virtual camp fairs and open houses. Helping introduce camp to new families is the most impactful way you can support Fleur de Lis at this time. Take time to share the influence camp has had on your life. What better joy for girls to have than to spend their summer coming together to make incredible friends, try new activities, play, laugh, and sing together- all of this in person, forming real relationships, not over Zoom! Help us share the magic of Fleur de Lis with new families. Keep looking for news from camp and social media posts to keep up to date on opportunities to help us with recruiting. And reach out directly to Executive Director, MJ Parry, or put prospective families in touch with her at MJ@fleurdeliscamp.org



Staff positions still available for Summer 2021

MJ is also hiring staff for the summer season. Please reach out to her if you or someone you know is [interested in a summer job](#). Those of you who have worked at camp in the past know what a fun and rewarding job being a camp counselor is! A successful camp season is key to maintaining the financial stability of camp.



FDL Updates: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Work

Last summer the board sent out a communication to all of you with a commitment to focus on strategies to promote racial equity at camp. As a board we are committed to undertaking efforts that allow for meaningful growth for Fleur de Lis. This work is not about social media posts or slogans, but about expanding our camp community as we realize new ways to live up to our mission of promoting the well-being of girls and young women. We are also committed to examining our practices and policies to build a welcoming, inclusive, and equitable camp community. Examining our own practices and systems for explicit and implicit bias is an important part of this process. This is ongoing work that will take time and focus.

[Read more about the steps taken.](#)

FDL Updates: Finances

Fundraising: Thank you to all who

Borrowing: As previously reported, we

generously contributed to our successful Come Home to Fleur de Lis Capital Campaign. Over 400 of you contributed to this campaign and raised just nearly \$550,000 thus exceeding our \$500,000 goal. We also want to thank our volunteer base who stepped forward to lead this successful campaign. Sarah Federman, Annie Lundsten, and Assistant Director, Sarah Castro, along with the campaign "Squad" were invaluable in guiding this campaign. This fundraising endeavor helped Fleur de Lis Camp recover from the financial setbacks we faced with no tuition coming in for the 2020 season.

Our annual Friends appeal and Circle Week fundraising efforts continue to be important avenues for Fleur de Lis to cover its operational expenses each year. Please continue to support these essential yearly drives.

Grant Work: When last we touched base, we had already secured our first Payment Protection Program (PPP) grant, which has since been forgiven by the government, meaning we will not need to pay back any of that grant money. We have also now secured a second PPP grant which helps cover payroll costs of full year employees. We anticipate that this grant will also be forgiven as well. Additionally we have now received funds from our successful New Hampshire Nonprofit Emergency Relief Fund (NERF) grant. We received \$285,000 towards lost revenue and Covid related expenses including additional medical supplies and nursing staff for the summer; renovations to the infirmary including a new upstairs bathroom which allows for increased quarantine rooms; outdoor tent structures which allow for more spaces to gather, hold classes, and eat outside; plus new handwashing stations and other equipment to help ensure a safe and healthy camp experience this summer. Our board treasurer, Christine Cressey and others have put countless hours into work with these grants and our financial institutions. Please join us in thanking her for the incredible work involved in these endeavors.

were able to secure a \$600,000 line of credit for camp. This allowed us to cover camp expenses while we did not have income. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and securing the grant money that we did, we have not needed to borrow against that line of credit. Fleur de Lis Camp remains debt free.

Scholarship Funds: Thanks to the Sue Curry Barnett Campership Fund and the careful budgeting work of our treasurer and director, we have ample tuition assistance funds available for the summer of 2021. As you talk with families about attending camp this summer or are making your own plans for your daughter(s), please be sure to note that partial-tuition financial assistance is available. We also accept donations specifically designated to this campership fund.

Overall Financial Health: This community should be assured by and proud of the financial management of Fleur de Lis Camp. Throughout the last year, a great deal of effort and generosity (both of time and money) have helped keep camp financially stable and allow us to move forward on solid ground. We have much to be grateful for.

This is great news overall. It's also important to recognize that strong financial health isn't to be taken for granted and doesn't happen magically. Fleur de Lis is a magical place in our lives and the lives of our campers and their families. We all need to work together to continue to help FdL grow and thrive so that it can continue to be that special place in the lives of girls and young women for generations to come.

Fleur de Lis Camp is on Amazon Smile

MAKE YOUR DONATION COUNT TWICE!

WHEN YOU ADD FLEUR DE LIS CAMP ON AMAZON SMILE, THEY WILL DONATE DIRECTLY TO CAMP FOR ELIGIBLE ITEMS. THAT MEANS WHEN YOU BUY SOMETHING OFF OF CAMP'S WISHLIST YOUR DONATION HAS TWICE THE IMPACT!

THREE EASY STEPS:

1. ADD FLEUR DE LIS CAMP ON AMAZON SMILE
2. SEND SOMETHING FROM THE FDL OR CIRCLE WEEK WISHLISTS
3. HAVE YOUR DONATION MAKE TWICE THE IMPACT



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[Fleur de Lis Camp Wish List](#)

[FDL Circle Week Wish List](#)

Volunteer Work Weekend

We could not be more excited to welcome campers and staff back to Fleur de Lis Camp this summer! With taking a year off, there is lots of work to be done to prepare the property for the summer season. We are looking for a select group of hard workers to join us **May 22nd & 23rd** to tackle some of the bigger preparation projects around camp. Tasks will include clearing and hauling brush, raking leaves (so very many leaves), painting, deep cleaning, moving program and cleaning supplies, and much much more.

In order to keep everyone as safe as possible during the weekend, we ask that those who come to help are 18 years of age or older, have their COVID vaccine, and are able to complete two days of manual labor. Alums, please feel free to bring significant others, family members, and friends. We will be asking for all participants to sign up beforehand as we have limited space available, first-come, first-serve. To sign-up for the full weekend (staying at camp) or for the day on Saturday or Sunday: [CLICK HERE](#)



Historic FDL Calendars - 25% OFF

Did you miss the Historic FDL Calendar sale in December? We have a limited number of calendars left and will be offering them at 25% off. [Get yours](#) while supplies last!



Spring at 120 Howeville Road



Fleur de Lis Camp | 120 Howeville Road Fitzwilliam, NH 03447

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