



ELIOT INSTITUTE

Fall 2011

Conferences for Unitarian Universalists, their families and friends...

where mind, body, and spirit rejoice!

JULY REPORT

I suppose if I really dig deep enough, I can find something sub-optimal to say about camp this year – kind of cold! Many of us never made it into the lagoon, an annual ablution missed. Oh, and the women's soccer team lost the World Cup final. Other than that: glorious community, fun new elements mixed with the old, robust children's and youth energy and programming, music, art, caring. I think our camps are like a bracing fizzy tonic – fun while you drink them and afterwards, the source of energy and inspiration for the rest of the year. I again came away from Eliot feeling a deepened sense of the wonder and joy of life, ready to spread that power outwards until we gather again for the next quaff. Let us give thanks.

Paul Blackburn,
July 2011 Board Representative

AUGUST REPORT

Hello Elioteers! Your Board Rep here to tell you that August '11 Eliot at Seabeck was an awesome camp! My first Eliot at Seabeck was inspirational, musical, colorful and really, really fun! The Speaker, Sharif Abdullah, whose theme was how to create a world that works for all, shared his vision with personal stories, challenges to overcome and many practical approaches to meet those challenges. His innovative and sometimes provocative daily sessions created some lively discussions amongst campers during small group time and beyond.

Overall, camp was fun and sunny and full of energy. We had a musical visit from the Starship Enterprise with its Captain and crew who brought along a few hitchhikers including Darth Vader and his lovely daughter Princess Leia and a very Shagadelic Austin Powers! Costume Karaoke was a popular hit and could be the start of a new tradition. The tie-dye projects were amazing and on Friday we were surrounded by the most colourful and diverse fibre creations. My first August Eliot was so much fun that I'm coming back next year!

Carla Mandy
August 2011 Board Representative

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Greetings from Portland!

Hard to believe it's Fall already and our July and August camps are months behind us. It was a successful summer by all accounts! Thanks so much to Sara Martin and Carl Thor for serving as Deans in July and to Cindy Leitner and Lynn Sabourin for "Deaning" in August. Thanks also to all the wonderful folks who served as staff members for these hardworking Deans.

Even though the summer's gone, it doesn't mean Eliot Institute lies dormant until next July. We still have Winter Eliot just around the corner! I'm looking forward to taking my family to join in the fun that Deans Dan and Juliana Leahy have in store for us at that camp. Word has it they've chosen a pirate theme for the days leading into 2012. I expect there will be plenty of plank walkin' between Christmas and New Year's Day – perhaps even into the lagoon, knowing Juliana's passion for the polar bear swim. It's not too late to register for Winter Eliot if you'd like to take part in the swashbucklin' fun!

There is also big momentum building for the start of our third summer camp at Seabeck, due to launch in 2012. The

PRESIDENT'S LETTER CONTINUED

new camp – “Arts Etcetera” – designed to offer a week of artistic collaboration for all ages, is scheduled for August 11 through 17, 2012. Staff for the camp has been selected and are already busy developing a theme and plan for the production of a wonderful play. You should check out the Eliot Institute Website (www.eliotinstitute.org) for more details about this new camp. And do take note there is currently a sale on registration fees for Arts Etcetera – for a limited time and for a limited number of early registrants. See elsewhere in this newsletter for specific details. This will be an exciting new Eliot experience you won't want to miss. Be sure to spread the word about it among your friends and in your churches and fellowships!

At the Board's January retreat, I will turn over the presidential scepter to Randi Niemer, currently your “President-elect.” I cannot express adequately, here, how much I've enjoyed serving on the Eliot Board. Thanks for giving me the opportunity. We are so fortunate to have so many competent and committed leaders, staff members and volunteers in this organization. Eliot Institute is a special community. It will remain in good hands with the Board that takes over in January.

See you again soon in camp!

John Bishop, President
Eliot Institute Board

ADMINISTRATORS' CORNER – FALL 2011 – ELIOT LOTTERY INFORMATION

Eliot is such a wonderful experience that we often have more people register for our summer camps than we have space for. In order for us to be fair to everyone, we hold a lottery drawing for available space.

All registrations with a postmark date of August 31 or earlier, are entered into the lottery drawing, which is held in early to mid-September. Some folks are confirmed before the lottery: camp staff, board members, and anyone left on the wait list from the previous year (provided they joined the wait list at least 4 months before camp began). Confirmations or wait list notifications are emailed to all campers in mid-September. Registrations received after the August 31st deadline are placed on the wait list in postmark order.

When the lottery is conducted, we draw names and assign housing until we've reached approximately 175 people. Since Seabeck's capacity is 250, this leaves 25 spots for newcomers and 50 spots for staff and their families. As the deans work to recruit and name staff, we find that many of these individuals already have confirmed spaces at camp, which means we have extra space to confirm regular campers. Your deans work very hard to complete their staff as early as possible, the sooner they're done, the sooner we can confirm wait listed campers.

Who gets in as family of staff? The staff member's spouse (or the person who would be their spouse if state law allowed) and children under age 21. Parents of staff members and young adult children age 21 and older, are not confirmed as family of staff, but must remain on the wait list until they rise to the top.

Newcomer spaces are held open until 4 months before camp begins. At that point, if we haven't reached our 10% newcomer quota, we release their reserved places and confirm more people from the wait list. If newcomer spaces are filled early, then newcomers are placed both on the regular wait list, and a separate newcomer wait list in case we get a cancellation from a newcomer.

Because we initially reserve so many spaces for staff and newcomers, a family's initial wait list notification may seem very discouraging. However, in every case over the past several years, everyone who registered for camp by August 31st, has eventually been accommodated at camp. In fact, the only folks left on the wait list without getting a spot at camp were those who didn't register until a month or two before camp began.

If you do end up on the wait list, and decide you'd like to make other summer plans, your deposit is fully refundable. It's only after you've received a confirmed spot at camp that your deposit becomes nonrefundable.

Please contact Peggy or Bev at EliotRegistrar@gmail.com if you have any questions about the lottery or any other Eliot concern.

Bev Hesterberg & Peggy Kent
Eliot Administrators

NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

Hello Elioteers! I'm providing a financial update, from the office of the Treasurer. The Eliot Institute is in good financial shape. Our operating income is sufficient to cover our expenses, and we're sticking close to our 2011 budget. Our operating reserves are adequately funded, and our scholarship fund should be sufficient to provide financial assistance to eligible campers in 2012. In addition, we expect to have the financial resources needed to successfully launch the new Eliot Arts Etcetera camp next summer, provided that minimum camper registration levels are achieved. And, in 2012, we hope to further build on our current fund-raising foundation and develop our community's resources, so please stay tuned for more news on those efforts next year!

All the best,
Jerry Elliott, Treasurer

NEW CAMP NEXT SUMMER!

Arts Etcetera! is Eliot Institute's newest multi-generational camp (for families, couples and individuals) offering a week of artistic collaboration for campers of all ages. Guided by skilled theatre, music, set tech and visual arts directors, campers will choose from among five program areas, culminating with a dynamic performance on the final day! The dates for next summer's camp are August 11-17.

The performance this year will be "People of the River" honoring the Skokomish Tribe, a First Nation local to the Seabeck area. Follow this link <http://www.eliotinstitute.org/pdfs/Eliot%20Arts%20Etcetera%202012.pdf> to find out all about this camp for all ages.

SALE ON ARTS ETCETERA!

To encourage folks to try out Arts Etcetera! next summer, we are offering a reduced rate for the first 60 campers. Register by January 13, 2012 and each member of your registered group will receive \$100 off the regular fees. Check out our regular prices at <http://www.eliotinstitute.org/pdfs/2012%20Fees.pdf>.

Wondering whether you can attend Arts Etcetera! and your regular summer Eliot camp? Of course you can! You know you want to! If Arts Etcetera! will be your second Eliot camp during the summer of 2012, then you will receive \$200 off of the regular Arts Etcetera! fees.

Act soon -- only 60 spots available at this sales price.

So, use this link to access the registration form: <http://www.eliotinstitute.org/registrationform-current.pdf> and register now to get in on the ground floor of Eliot Arts Etcetera!

See you at camp!

ELIOT'S EAGLE EYE

Sees a little, knows a little, tells a little,

... A Tale of Two Henrys. The Eagle welcomes two MORE babies to the Eliot nest! Henry Kristopher Jensen arrived on April 30 to proud parents Emily and Kris Jensen and beaming grandparents Lena & Carlos Mejia and Sue & Ken Jensen. Henry Jensen's first Eliot was August 2011. One week later, on May 7, Henry Williams Kadish flew in. His parents are Lindsay and Nathan Kadish; grandparents are Lisa Maas and Josh Kadish. The Eagle hopes to have Henry Kadish and his parents at an Eliot soon!

...The baby boom continues at August Eliot. Paisley Provan, daughter of Holly and Eric Provan and great-niece of Ray Nelson, also made her first Eliot appearance at August Eliot 2011. She was born February 1, 2011. Pencil in summer of 2036 or so for some Eliot weddings!! ;-)

...Not to be outdone, July Eliot is also in the baby birthin' business. The Eagle welcomes Leda Rose Eleanor Kaye to the nest. Born on September 19, 2011, Leda is the daughter of Sara and Tom Kaye, sister of Lila Kaye and Asa Davis,

ELIOT'S EAGLE EYE CONTINUED

and granddaughter of Prue Kaye. Leda will make her inaugural Eliot appearance at July 2012.

...The Eagle knows where these college-bound youth are this fall: Sonrisa Alter is at Oberlin College, Paul Kempler is at Vanderbilt University, Terra Setzler and Mitch Buechler are at OSU, Skyler Kersten is at Santa Clara University, Alison Sturrock is at Queen's University (Kingston, Ontario), and Nathan Engelmann is at the University of Oregon. The Eagle likes to know about ALL her fledgling young adults, so if you have info about what they're up to, please Enlighten the Eagle.

...In addition to babies being born, Eliot is also proud to announce the birth of two fledgling ministers: Julia McKay was ordained at Glacier UUF in Whitefish Montana in September, and Antonia Won was ordained at North Shore Unitarian Church in May.

... With a tear in her eye, the Eagle reports that Janice Elliott passed away in July. Her partner, Patti Pomerantz, would welcome messages of support though she is unable to answer most. Her e-mail is ppomerantz@uuma.org and her snail mail address is 3216 NE 14th, Portland 97212.

Enlighten the Eagle: send your bit of high-flyin' news to eagle@eliotinstitute.org for publication in our next newsletter.

ELIOT BOARD

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Please Visit www.eliotinstitute.org

Or E-mail: EliotRegistrar@gmail.com

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