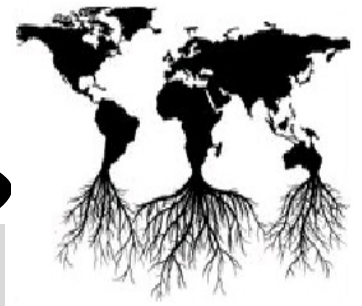


# The Bubbler



Camp Betsey Cox

December 2023



The camp with a song in it's heart



### Inside this Bubbler!

News from Far and Near

Camper applications are rolling in for 2024!

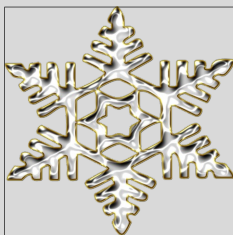
Winter light

Send in camper Applications- by the end of February Don't wait!

Bring a friend to camp!

Happy New Year!

Our warmest wishes to you and yours!



## Lines from Lorrie



One BC staff member recently reported, upon returning to home in Vermont from some out-of-state school vacation time, that the experience was like moving "from winter to April". Indeed, here in Vermont, the weather has been most unusual. Here just days before January 1, we have light rain falling, no snow on the ground, and 50 degrees of warm temperature.

The weather, in part, as we all know, is responding to climate change. For BC community members around the world, I am confident we have done small and possibly big things to help return our planet to balance including donating funds from third-session Popsicle Racers to organizations working on climate action. We have done so for many summers and will do that again in 2024. Third-session people! Start thinking about organizations we could support!

Without snow on the ground, I find that I notice different activity and different natural world winter phenomena as I walk daily around BC and Sangamon. First of all, on the day we joined people around the world for a celebration of the winter solstice here in the northern hemisphere, it actually was 10 degrees outside! My walk took me over a few very interesting winter puddles.



The brook from the lower pasture to the riding ring was frozen into an artistic winter mural! In the Farmhouse parking lot, my car was

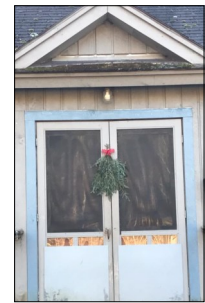
decorated with beautiful frost flowers. So were the windows in the BC vans and the Farmhouse. Lovely!



Did you know "frost flowers" and designs are the result of molecules repeating designs as very cold surfaces encounter warmer surfaces inside our homes and cars. If there are tiny scratches or dust on the very cold surface, the designs will vary! I also noticed ice thorns on branches large and small. "Nature is an amazingly creative force", said one author in speaking about frost.



The Solstice day was the coldest day we have had here at camp. When warm weather returned, I noticed different amazing things seen more easily because there are no leaves on the trees and no snow cover. I notice the designs tree branches make on those maples and oaks around camp—the ones that lose their leaves. And of course, our evergreens stand out regardless, happily proving to any observer, that resilience is possible in the natural world! I was grateful for the gift of some evergreen branches to decorate the Blueberry Hill Hotel and the Lodge.



Down at the pond, when it was 10 degrees, a thin ice film covered the surface, hints (we hope) of more ice to skate on later in the winter! Pond ice freezes in its own unique designs, but larger sheet designs rather than the flowers and ferns I saw on the car windows.

All around camp, the birds are around to sing almost as loudly as you all sing in the dining room...well almost. Without leaves, I see woodpeckers, doves, chickadees, blue jays, and many others. We have feeders at the Farmhouse and it is interesting to watch the species interact! The doves sit on the tree branches waiting for their turn at the feeders. Blue Jays and Chickadees and Woodpeckers seem to seize first chance. The doves remind me of all of us patiently waiting (mostly!) for the meal bells threetimes a day at camp.

Keep your sharp eyes on the ready this winter, whether or not there is snow on the ground where you are. There are amazing things to see!



News from near and Far...



Right after Thanksgiving, Lorrie and the Pittsford Village Farm volunteers built the traditional December sap bucket tree and prepared for the tree-lighting. The “tree” is built out of maple sap buckets in celebration of our town’s heritage in making maple syrup every year.

December is a very busy month for everyone. Around the world it seems as if most cultures find something to celebrate! Festivities and holidays provide lots of news and visits at camp. Here are just a few:

**Emilie, Abby, Emma, Piper, Clara, Makenna, Elly and Matt, Kim and Steve, Marcy, Sybren, Iyla, Ruby and Faye, Zora, Amara, Priya**—all these camp people were among those who gathered around a large birch grove fire on the Winter Solstice.

A fire in the lodge fireplace did its best to convince people that dining in the lodge at 10 degrees is a perfect temperature for a meal. Words were spoken, songs were sung, and on the frozen tennis court, some hoops were shot! It was a very fun evening. **Piper, Emma and Abby** all returned later in the month to build a fire at the Bird Mountain outdoor fire ring where they hoped to enjoy the December full moon. **Emma, Abby, Christie, Nina and Martha** showed up for a



walk around camp shortly after the Solstice. **Christie** has moved into a house close to **Lizzy, Judah and Nora**. **Nina** is enjoying teaching first graders. **Martha** is working on our country’s complex immigration systems. **Emma** is preparing to graduate from college and **Abby** is continuing school at the Culinary Institute.

**Priya, Iyla, Amara, Ruby, Faye and Zora** all performed in their school winter concerts. **Priya, Amara, Ruby and Faye** also performed at the Killington Grand Hotel where guests and locals enjoyed their musical offerings. **Emma D and Faye** also performed in the seasonal *Nutcracker* in a variety of roles. Word on the street is that **Makenna, Francie, Maeve** are all headed to the University of Vermont next fall! In other STAF college news, **Clara** will be heading to Mount Holyoke and **Hettie** to Haverford College. **Linnea** is in the process of deciding! You go, Staf students! Nice work!



Nurse **Kathy** hosted **Lorrie and Mike** for a remarkable cookie decorating event at her house.

**Pearl** was also present! **Don and MJ** sailed off on a European river cruise where they actually saw a statue of King Wenceslas in Prague, Czech Republic! **Dave and Alley** are enjoying life in their cozy Vermont house on the shores (or nearly so!) of Lake Dunmore. **Dave** repaired or reconstructed five

camp roofs this fall, among other projects!

**Devri and Sean** celebrated both Thanksgiving, the Solstice and Christmas in their new house in Rangeley, Maine. They have seen **Juno** and **Alex** now and again. They are all doing winter work around Saddleback Mountain ski area.

**Elodie** was in Vermont and spent an overnight at **Priya’s** house in Brandon. **Sarah and Elizabeth** shared some ski time together in Colorado where there was some snow! Reports came in about Dirt, Banjo and Mud from **Elizabeth, Tory and Natalie and Claire**. All happy camp kittens! **Jazz** was in touch and is busy at school and in a few performances! **Jazz** shared she is excited to be playing “Donkey” in her school’s upcoming performance of *Shrek the Musical* and “Bloat” in our community theater’s upcoming performance of *Finding Nemo*. Awesome! **Zhane** (BIRCH 2022) sent a funny holiday card from the UK. Great to hear from old friends!

More friends traveled together this early winter—**Marcy, Jane and Merrill** traveled together in Europe! Fun! **Merrill and Ari** also visited Devri this fall in Rangeley.



*A beautiful outside tree, lit by us with lights and decorations and reflections in the snow by Mother Nature!*

**Campers! Muggies! Staf! Staff!**  
Please share your news and pictures with us! Send any bits of news to [info@campbetseycox.com](mailto:info@campbetseycox.com). We look forward to hearing from you!



## Campers 2024!

### Applications are rolling in! Come Join us!

<p><b><u>Session 1</u></b>            Dahlia A            Wren A            Leo B            Eliana B-F            Jane B            Aubree B            Priya B            Amara B            Zora B            Carmela C            Grace C            Jo C            Rayann C            Ella C            Camille C            Emma D            Colleen D            Calix D            Naila FF            Carolina F            Jasmine G            Manya GP            Josie H            Avah H            Lexa H            Zoey H            Anouk J            Norah K            Abby K            Abby L            Ally L            Elsa M            Grace M            Analisa M            Samantha M            Anjali N            Nini N            Dottie O            Grace P            Julia P            Avalon R            Elsa R            Nala R            Ava S            Ruby S            Lily S            Plum S            Poppy S            Iyla S            Ruby S            Faye S            Greta S</p>	<p>Phoebe S            Claire S            Natalie S            Hannah T            Astrid VD            Cleo VW            Zoe W            Willa Z</p> <p><b><u>Session 2</u></b>            Elena A            Leo B            Elodie B            Mabel B            Jazz B            Priya B            Amara B            Zora B            Opal C            Rory C            Alex C            Annika C            Emiko C            Misa C            Kaya D            Calix D            Olivia E            Louisa E            Celia F            Caroline F            Evie F            Kelsey G            Iris I            Karen I            Piper J            Josie H            Avah H            Zoey H            Dylan H            Annika K            Caroline L            Penny L            Vera L            Winnie M            Josie M            Analisa M            Paige M            Samantha M            Sydney M            Maura N            Olivia O            Alex R            Roarke R</p>	<p>Maddie R            Lila R            Ava S            Ruby S            Margaret S            Iyla S            Ruby S            Faye S            Suzie S            Autumn S            Franny S            Hadley S            Greta S            Millie T            Shelby T            Zara T            Maci-Mae V            Molly W</p> <p><b><u>Session 3</u></b>            Louise BPC            Elodie B            Heron B            Jazz B            Priya B            Amara B            Zora B            Ella C            Eloise C            Anna C            Ashlyn E            Celia F            JJ F            Kelsey G            Iris H            Zoey H            Anouk J            Maren J            Viv K            Mara M            Callie M            Paige M            Olivia O            Nora P            Andie P            Hazel RH            Ella S            Ivy S            Talia S            Elisabetta T            Emilia T            Astrid VD            Maci-Mae V</p>
---	--	--





**BETSEY COX**

CAMP BETSEY COX  
Winter office  
PO Box 1093  
Rangeley, Maine 04841  
(802) 345-5974  
www.campbetseycox.com  
info@campbetseycox.com

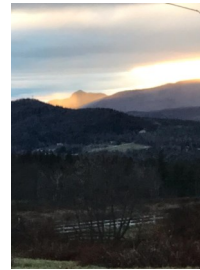


Solstice images: Lizzy W's Mom Selena, Solstice Crystal and Devri's Maine Solstice Fire!

### Sign on for summer 2024!

We recommend that you sign up by the end of **February 2024** to be sure there is space in the session of your choice.

There are a few campers who are penciled in, but not listed in this Bubbler. If you think you are one of them, make sure to be in touch!



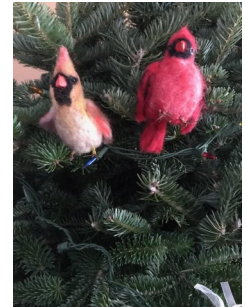
December light is short but lovely. December 21 marked the winter solstice and the shortest day of the year. "A solstice is an event in which a planet's poles are most extremely inclined toward or away from the star it orbits."

<https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/solstice/>

We look forward to the summer Solstice and the longest day of the year-June 21!

Kathy P made these cardinals!

Our RN, Kathy is multitalented and has taken up felting this fall and winter. She made these for Mike and Lorrie. I understand there is also a parrot out there that was made for her brother. So real!



### Spread the Word about Betsey Cox!

Tell a new family about Camp, and if they enroll for 2024 your family will receive a \$150 discount off your daughter's tuition.

If you recommend a family to our brother camp- Sangamon, your family will receive a \$100 discount.

Thank you for spreading the word about our camp community!



Leadership Application are due January 1.

We are excited to see the amazing group of applicants so far! We will be making decisions about the 2024 Leadership program this month, getting in touch with all of the participants and sending out the news to all of you in the February edition of the *Bubbler*.

*\* If you have not sent in an application and hope too, please reach out to Devri at [info@campbetseycox.com](mailto:info@campbetseycox.com)*

