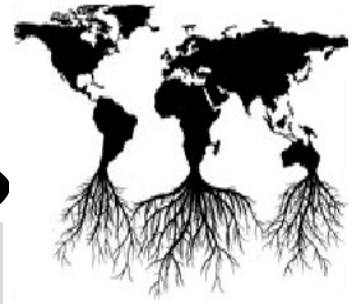


# The Bubbler



Camp Betsey Cox



The camp with a song in it's heart



## Inside this Bubbler!

Happy New Year!

"Love is Action"  
Victor Hugo

News from Near  
and Far...

Our warmest  
wishes to you  
and yours!

Sign up by  
February 2025  
For the session of  
your choice!



## New Year's Eve 2024

### Lines from Lorrie



Susan Cooper, in her poem *The Shortest Day*, writes:

*So the Shortest Day came  
and the year died.  
And everywhere down the centuries of the  
snow-white world  
came people singing, dancing,  
to drive the dark away.*

These words have always inspired me as winter settles over camp, bringing with it fewer hours of daylight. Along with the shorter days, however, come the December holidays—many of them! Across the northern hemisphere these magical days of celebrations filled with friends and family, brighten the darker days.

Many of us begin the celebrations with a Solstice gathering. Over many years now, the camp Solstice event brings warmth and light to those of us near enough to gather! This year was no exception! Around a blazing fire in the Farmhouse backyard, more than 20 of us gathered to celebrate the return of the sun! One additional minute of sunlight would be our fortune the very next day! I loved that this year, Devri, up in Rangeley, Maine, along with friends there, started a Solstice celebration at the town's cross-country ski area, Rangeley Lakes Trails Center on Saddleback Mountain. About 25 people gathered in single digit temperatures around a warm fire with candles for all to share the light.

For the past many Decembers, I have enjoyed tuning in to Public television where the Mormon Tabernacle choir and symphony sing in the Christmas holiday. It is a remarkable concert that includes a short play highlighting an important message for the season. This year, the play was about Victor Hugo. Most of us know him as the author of *Les Miserables*. He was a prolific writer and in the short play I watched this year, I also

learned that he and his wife were generous philanthropists who believed passionately in doing their parts to make the world a better place. In their case, their gift involved monthly and then weekly dinners at their home for those in need living in their community. Their gifts grew to provide clothing and other necessary items.

At the end of the play, Victor makes what I found to be a powerful message about Love. the kind of Love the Hugos offered to others in their community. The message was that **Love is Action**. Think about that! If you love a person, you can demonstrate that in all kinds of actions. You can give that person the gift of your time, the gift of a well-delivered smile, and yes...of course..gifts wrapped in colorful paper. But you get the point! My imagination ran to how much I love the camp land that I walk in all seasons. I love the land and my actions include doing what I can to care for it. I love our business, and my actions are to make sure it is the very best place for each of us who are there to grow and change. I love my planet, and though it is sometimes challenging to think of the actions that would reflect that love, I am always watchful for positive things to do.

As we all move into the new year, have a think yourself about how the people, places and ideas that you love can be enhanced by your very own imaginative actions! We'll share stories when we are all back at camp! And, as a writer named Leslie Anneliese wrote:

*Hold on to the light. May your heart shine bright with peace and joy even in the darkness. May your Winter Solstice be filled with expanding light, both within and without.*

**Happy New Year!**

# News from near and Far...



Right after Thanksgiving, **Lorrie** and the **Pittsford Village Farm** volunteers built the third traditional

December sap bucket tree and prepared for the Pittsford town tree-lighting. The “tree” is built out of maple sap buckets in celebration of our town’s heritage in making maple syrup every year. **Sybren and Robb** were among those helping. **Faye** sang in the school choir at the event. **Theary** cooked fancy sugar cookies for the event. **Jessa** came down for the Solstice. She is busy working in Montpelier with her sister. **Sarah** was also at the Solstice much to the delight of her high-school science students, **Priya and Ella**.

**Priya** sang in the Rutland High School Chorus and played the saxophone in the High School Band.

**Iyla, Ruby and Faye** are enjoying a new puppy who will look like Xena’s twin! **Michelle, Ava and Ruby** joined **Angie, Mya, Evan and Todd, Don and MJ** for some warm-up time in Florida. They enjoyed jetskis and volleyball along with time at the beach.

**Emma, Abby and Piper** stopped by the Farmhouse for a good visit. All of them intend to be at camp in some way for the upcoming summer! **Emma** is still in DC, **Abby** at the Culinary Institute, and **Piper** is in Burlington.

**Caleb** is still busy at his computer-chip work along with bio-engineering courses. **Piper** is getting a retail job in Burlington.

**Liv** is working on getting back to BC this summer! She has to check on her ponies among other things! YAY!

**Ella** is working on a creative way to be at camp this Summer too! Stand by for news!

**Pele** visited **Iyla and Priya** at Thanksgiving time. They all called **Liv** to check in on how things are going in the UK!

**Steve** has been keeping an eye on winter weather at camp. **Kim, Marcy and Laird**, along with **Lorrie** are frequent walkers around both Betsey Cox and Sangamon.

**Ely and Matt** are finishing up the first term of college teaching and will be taking a group to Greece this spring!

**Kathy** is making felted birds! They are gorgeous! She also spend a week in Rangeley with **Devri** and **Sean** building a barnboard bench for their mudroom. Barn boards from none other than **Amy’s** barn in Weybridge!

**Kathy** is getting ready to travel to the Galapagos Islands this March! Exciting!

**Sandi and Kathleen** made a trip to Florida where they stayed in **Jen’s** house while **Jen** traveled on a Christmas market tour to Europe. **Jen** and **Sandi** have mastered *Give Yourself to Love* on their ukeleles! It’s a performance you all should see/hear!

**Devri** is back welcoming people to the Rangeley Lakes Trail Center on Wednesdays. **Sean** grooms the trails in the early mornings. He catches lots of sunrises!

lighting.

**Zoe W** was orphan #2 in a school production of *Annie*. She is looking forward to returning to camp and seeing

her BC crew!

**Sam S**-staff from 2023, and long time BC camper/Muggie/Staf will be returning to the Tennis court this summer!

Hooray! **Laird** also plans to be on the court again. Lots of good matches to be had!

**Marcy** plans to be weaving away again too this summer! Good news for all of us!

**Freya**— alumni staff and **Ella’s** sister, sends hellos to all of us and is headed out on an 8-month solo backpacking trip around Australia and New Zealand! She promises to send lots of postcards.

**Lil Westaway** is traveling in Australia!

**Lizzy and Nora and Judah** are busy at the Woolfsden homestead and send hellos to all!

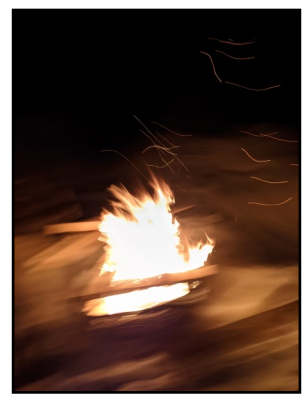
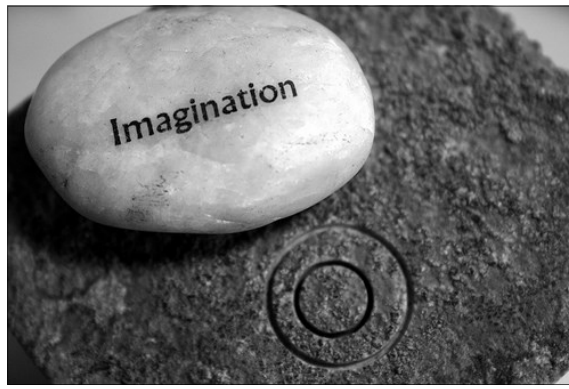
## A few moments from 2024!



College announcements for early action are starting to come to the 2024 Staf! Congrats to all of you! We already know you are amazing!

**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!



Woolfsden crystal decorated for the season, Imagination, and Devri's Maine Solstice Fire!

**Sign on for summer 2025!**

We recommend that you sign up by the end of **February 2025** to be sure there is space in the session of your choice.



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!



Vermont winter light! photo by Marcy

**Spread the Word about Betsey Cox!**

Tell a new family about Camp, and if they enroll for 2025 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!



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