

Liberty Laketionary



A quick reference of the people, places, traditions, and sayings that help make Liberty Lake the extraordinary world that we know and love!



Liberty Laketionary



Andy & Jill

The owners and directors of Liberty Lake are a husband and wife who met in high school, and started Liberty Lake Day Camp in 2002. Andy used to be a school band director by day, and a professional musician by night. His songs used to be on the radio and TV, but the best song he ever wrote was probably the Liberty Lake Song! Andy loves the Mets, which isn't easy when you live and work in South Jersey... Jill is a CPA, pays the bills at Camp, and manages operations. They have two children, hundreds more every summer- and LOVE their job!

Arrival & Dismissal Meeting Areas

Each division has a designated area where they assemble in the morning when the buses come in, and at the end of the day just before dismissal. **Turtles & Freshmen– Twin Cedars, Sophs– Lunch Tent, Juniors– Lakeside Amphitheater, Seniors– The Reneeborhood (stage near point), Teen Leadership CITs at The Willows and LITs at The Vista.** At the meeting areas you check in with your Groups at your table/bench, hear important announcements from your Division Leaders and place your lunch order. If you come to the June "Meet & Greet", you meet your Group Leader & Counselors at your specific arrival / dismissal area.

Backwards Bridge

There are two bridges that cross Craft's Creek at Liberty Lake, and the smaller one to the east MUST be traversed... BACKWARDS! If you don't, you will likely hear about it from many of our younger, rule-following campers- It's also bad luck to cross forwards!

Before/After Care

This is what we call Camp for the Campers who arrive before the buses in the morning, or stay at Camp after the buses leave in the afternoon. During this time, Campers play games and do activities at the Twin Cedars pavilion and even get to swim again in the afternoon. It's great "unstructured" time where campers can be creative and build friendships!

Big Pete is our resident turtle & mascot who lives under the bridge. He got his name from his BIG size. Those who have seen him say he is as big as Crush in *Finding Nemo*. We haven't seen him lately, but Pete has many stories about him, and has become a Liberty Lake legend.



Brandi "BC"

Brandi "BC" Carnivale is the one of the year-round LLDC Camp Directors. She worked as a counselor for the YMCA Camp that was at Liberty Lake before Andy started LLDC in 2002, and Brandi was the only person he hired from the YMCA camp that had rented the facility the prior few years. Brandi personifies the Camp Spirit with her enthusiasm, positive attitude and creativity. She helps oversee the running of Camp, with focus on the massive LLDC Electives Program, daily Spirit Events, and Teen Leadership Program- working on them all year long. *If you have great new ideas, send them her way!*

BUDDY CHECK!!!

While at the Pool and Lake, during Free Swim, we keep track of our Campers through *the Buddy Check System*. Each Camper is paired up with another camper. They swim together and keep a close-watch on each other. At least 3 times throughout the swim periods, the Lifeguards will call "**Buddy Check!**" During a buddy check it is really important to be responsible while being quiet and listening to directions. The Lifeguards will call out each pair of campers and the campers will say "Here!" When all Campers are accounted for the Lifeguards announce that it is safe to swim again. The Buddy Check is our most important safety system at Swim, and everyone needs to help make sure that it runs quickly and safely!

Bus, Bus Captains, Bus Spirit Trophy

Many of our Campers take the bus to and from Camp each day. Camp buses are just like school buses, except that they have air-conditioning, and we have way more fun! Each bus has a number and a creature name to help you remember which bus is yours. Buses line up in the same row every afternoon, with a "street sign" at the end of the row that shows your bus mascot. Counselors on your bus are called "Bus Captains." They are there to help you and make sure that your ride to and from Camp is safe and enjoyable. Camp begins as soon as you get onto the bus, and we have a daily bus calendar of games, competitions, and fun- that we award points for each day when the buses pull into Camp. The bus that shows the most creativity and spirit each week receives the coveted slushy filled bus trophy (now using small cups for each camper), and get their picture taken on stage at the Friday Assembly for posterity!



Camp-A-Palooza

A special event held Week 8, Camp-a-Palooza is an annual music and arts festival (like Woodstock) held on the fields at Liberty Lake, with professional, staff, and camper bands performing on stage throughout the afternoon. Besides the music, the festival is the perfect opportunity for Liberty Lakers to be creative and reflect on their camp friendships, while celebrating another awesome summer. The day is brought to a close with the house band, the camper band, and guest musicians collaborating on the Liberty Lake Song. Truly a day to celebrate our camp family!



Color War is one of our most popular events at Liberty Lake. The 3-day tournament begins with a **surprise breakout** (Nobody knows when it takes place- seriously, not even the counselors- so don't ask) and it is a VERY anticipated and exciting! The Camp is divided into five teams (Red, Tie Dye, Blue, Silver, Gold) with opportunities to demonstrate integrity, teamwork and spirit throughout the summer, and even the school year (online/social media.) The big 3-day tournament "**All comes down to the Sing**" in which the teams perform a cheer and song for BIG points. No matter who wins, Color War is always a chance for our campers to show their spirit and character- **if you're in 3rd grade and up, you and your family members remain on the same team... FOR LIFE!**

Counselor

Each camper group has one or two Counselors, which are entering 11th or 12th grade High School students. Counselors assist the Group Leaders and their primary job is to play with the campers while learning to become good leaders. Many Liberty Lakers aspire to become Counselors themselves one day!

Deep-Water Test + Swim Bands/Bracelets

If you want to swim in the deep end of the pool and go on the water slides, or the deep end of the lake and swim out to the dock, then you need to take the Deep Water Swim Test with the Lifeguards, and wear the appropriate swim band. Prove you are a strong enough swimmer, and you'll have access to more deep water FUN. **Don't you want to do this?**



Divisions & Division Leaders

Liberty Lake Day Camp is divided into SIX divisions. From youngest to oldest our divisions are called: **Turtles** (Pre-K & K), **Freshmen/Frosh** (1st/2nd), **Sophomores/Sophs** (3rd/4th), **Juniors** (5th/6th), **Seniors** (7th-9th) and **Teen Leadership** CIT/LIT (9th-10th) Divisions are split into groups of campers, each named after a college. Each division has **Division Leaders**, who are in charge of the campers, staff and parent communication. Their job is to make sure that everything runs smoothly at Camp, and report to Andy every day.

Davey Jones is our amazing Pirate Ship Playground- **AHOY MATEY!**

Dietary Specialist is the person who makes sure that kids with food allergies and other dietary needs, get the right food they need for lunch, snacks, and even in "Taste Buds" class!

Duke's Glen is the small stage and assembly area, just next to the lunch tent, near the Barbecue area. The Freshman division meets there before and after electives, and it's used for performances at Camp and during the Renaissance Faire (where it got its cool name.)



Dunk Tank

In our VERY popular dunk tank, campers take turns sitting on the bench above the icy cold water, while others take turns throwing a ball at the target. If the ball hits the target the person on the bench falls in the water. Everyone loves the dunk tank- dunking, and getting dunked!

Electives

All campers, 1st grade and older, choose activities each week they attend Camp. Elective sheets are online and we send the elective sheet home on Mondays for the following week. By the next day, you and your parents need to log into your account and enter your TOP 15 choices of electives. You are guaranteed to get your first choice as long as it is being offered that week. When you come to Camp the following Monday, your group leader will show you your schedule for that week based on your choices. We hope all campers aspire to try as many electives as possible and discover new passions!

Family Night is normally held on the **Thursday of Week 7 from 5:30-8pm**. Your family is invited to join us at Camp for a delicious "Mega Barbeque" and participate in some of your favorite activities all across Camp. **Parents- Make sure you wear sneakers!** Counselors are available for Parents to speak with, and the Camp Musical Performance is held at the Amphitheater at 5pm. The coveted longevity gifts for 5-10-15-20 years are given out in an "Old Timers" ceremony at 7pm. Even if you're not attending Camp that week, if you're in the big show or getting a



5-10-15-20 year gift, you are certainly invited.

Feather & Fur is a popular elective incorporating animal care with an assortment of our feathered and furry friends. You'll learn all about animals and their care and maybe convince your parents to get one!

Free Choice

One period each day is dedicated to unstructured play. This is a chance for campers to decompress, be creative, and develop important social skills on their own. It's a great balance to our elective program and allows kids time to just be kids!



Friday Assembly

Every day is great at Camp and Fridays are extra special. At the end of the day the entire Camp gathers at the Amphitheater to celebrate a great week. Campers get the opportunity to share and perform the new things they have learned during the week. A new yo-yo trick, a funky dance, an amazing art project or a new song on an instrument– this is the place to showcase your accomplishments. We also award fuzzies to deserving campers and team members, the bus spirit trophy is presented, we enjoy an ice cream treat and sing a rousing rendition of the Liberty Lake song!

Fuzzy

At Camp we believe in the importance of teaching and having strong character values. When campers do great, kind things that show great character, they are awarded either a colored bead (from our Character Campaign), or if it's exceptional... a special "Fuzzy." Those that show extreme exceptional character are recognized at the Friday assembly in front of the whole camp. Fuzzies are very special and serve as a reminder that we all should try and be the best person we can be!



GA-GA is BY FAR the most popular activity at Camp. It is a game similar to dodgeball played in an 8-sided court. The object is to slap the ball with your hand in an attempt to hit other players below the waist while not getting hit yourself. If a person is hit they are out of the game but the games go QUICKLY. The last person standing is the winner! Ga-Ga can be chosen as an elective, played at before/after care or as a Free Choice activity. Each summer we have our annual Ga-Ga tournament. Every Camper is welcome to participate, and everyone has a chance to win! The end of that day, we have a "Tournament of Champions" with all of the divisional winners.



Gate Guards

Your safety is a top priority at camp and the team members at the gate make sure that no one gets on campus without us knowing who they are. Our friends at the gate are always there to keep us safe, start our day with a smile and help dismissals run smooth!

Group Leader

Every group is led by a college student or young teacher who is the adult in charge of the group. Group Leaders take attendance and lunch orders in the morning, and ensure the well-being and happiness of all the campers in their respective group. Many of our talented Group Leaders are also activity leaders during elective periods.

Health Center

Our three Health Center Nurses are here to take care of you if you don't feel well or get a boo-boo. They also keep any medicine that you need at Camp. Parents can call the Health Center on their direct line at **609-372-4721** about anything health related, and can Email them at nurse@libertylakedaycamp.com.



High Ropes Adventure *(3rd Graders and older)*

These structures in the woods challenge campers through the use of high elements (catwalk, zip line, GIANT swing, vertical playground, ropes traverse & Pirate's Crossing) and low ropes elements. Our High Ropes Adventure teaches collaboration, trust, respect, aspiration and more as campers bravely navigate through the course. The zip lines are over 600 feet long and fly over the far end of Liberty Lake, over the heads of boaters. When you land on the other side, you take the RETURN Zip line back. We also have a GIANT SWING, a cat walk, vertical playground, giant's ladder, and a cool LOW-ropes challenge course.

Hulla-Ball is the Liberty Lake version of the popular playground game "Four-Square." It is played on an EXTRA large court made of four equal-sized squares. The object is to hit the ball to another Camper in another square without it going out of the lines of the court. After only one bounce, the next Camper needs to then hit the ball out of his square into another. It's just as addictive as Ga-Ga! If you mess up, someone takes your spot, and you just get back in line to go back in!

Ice Pops / Ice Cream

Each afternoon, every Camper gets a special, cold, summer-time treat of the day. Fridays we have special ice cream! Remember to respect the environment by making sure your popsicle sticks and icy wrappers go in the trash!



Instructional and Free Swim

Every division has a free swim period each afternoon. You have a choice between swimming in the pool or the lake. Turtles, Frosh and Sophs also have an instructional swim period each day. You are grouped by your swim ability, mostly with kids from your Camp Group. Each day your swim instructor helps you to improve your swimming skills, so you can move up to higher swim levels. The aquatics directors Email home progress cards each week. Juniors and Seniors can pick Instructional Swim, Swim Team and "Polar Bear Club" as an elective (and Jr. Lifesaving for Seniors!)

Joe (in the office)

Joe Craig is the Administrative Director, and has been working in the LLDC office for many years helping Camp Families with the enrollment process, finances, and the inevitable changes that may occur. His friendly and helpful personality gives parents the comfort of knowing that we are flexible, and that everything will be taken care of. Joe is a father of six, and a young grandpa. **When in doubt- Call Joe- 609.499.7820!**

Lanyard

Lanyard (also known to many as gimp or boondoggle) is thin plastic rope that comes in every color imaginable. Some stitch examples are: box, barrel, cobra, and Chinese staircase. Lanyards can be made into bracelets, anklets, key chains and cool gifts for friends and family. Lanyard is an elective, group choice, before/after-care choice and a great way to be creative!

L.A.R.P. (Live Action Role Play)

Originating in the Will's World elective, LARP is an epic battle of pvc, foam, and duct-tape on par with the Braveheart movie. The highlight of the summer for many, LARP is an opportunity for campers to show their teamwork to the highest levels!



Liberty Lake Foundation

Our nonprofit organization is inspired by the values of our camp. The Foundation is a community dedicated to providing opportunities for kids to learn, grow, and succeed. There are activities throughout the year to support youth and their families, provide thousands of dollars in camperships, and strive to support and strengthen local families in our neighborhoods. For more info or to get involved, check LibertyLakeFoundation.org

Look-A-Like Contest is an annual event in which campers and staff find people around camp that look like them. They get a picture taken, and then the WHOLE CAMP votes on who looks alike the most!!!

The Liberty Lake Song is sung by the entire Camp every Friday afternoon at the Lakeside Amphitheater- with the help of a live, hot-rockin "house band". The rest of the year, we can't get it out of our heads... (sorry!) Check it out on the Friday afternoon Live Streams, the many videos on YouTube, and in the annual Video Yearbook. BTW, the song was written by Andy before the first summer in 2002!

Liquid Sunshine is what we call "Rain" at Liberty Lake. Camp is about doing things that you don't normally do at home, and that includes safely playing in the Liquid Sunshine. Some of the best memories and creative moments happen on "rainy days" On the few days of Liquid Sunshine, be sure to wear your bad sneakers, because you're going to come home MUDDY!!!!



Lunch

Each division has a set lunch period each day. You will tell your group leader each morning whether you want the hot lunch entrée of the day, or a choice of sandwiches. You can always go right up to the pasta and salad bar and help yourself! The pasta bar has tasty noodles with oil or red marinara sauce. When your group meets for lunch at your assigned lunch table, there will be pitchers of water on the table, and your group leader will pick up your group's tray for lunch with your pre-ordered choices. If you are still hungry, you can always go up to the lunch counter to get seconds. There is plenty of food- so don't leave hungry. After we eat, we practice responsibility and respect as each group cleans up their area just like they found it when they arrived. Pre-assigned "cruisers" (a rotation within the group of campers) make sure the tables are clean before you leave. Friends don't let friends eat on dirty tables!

Magic Cards

Imagination runs wild at this sophisticated card playing elective. No Jacks, Queens & Kings... but a cool deck of complex characters with a variety of magical powers and spells. Battles are fast and furious, and from the look of things, it seems like a very enjoyable and addictive activity! Soph campers can also play Poke'Mon. Bring your own cards (we can keep them safe) or use cards from our extensive Camp collection. Big "Magic Tournament" near the end of the summer!

Meet & Greet

The week before Camp begins, we have a special day for campers to come out and meet their counselors! It's a great opportunity to place the name to the face, pick up your camp bag and t-shirt, and meet the nurses, aquatics directors and more!

Monday Assembly

Every Monday morning, the entire Camp gathers at the Liberty Lakeside Amphitheater (just like Fridays). We welcome new campers, announce the week's Spirit Events, and raise the American Flag. We also discuss the Star Point of the week

*****So don't forget- On Mondays, we head down to the Amphitheater!**

Mountain Man (and overnight)

A wonderful elective to explore the outside world with our bare hands, and tools- as well as how to utilize natural to survive and thrive in the outdoors. Juniors/Seniors can participate in an optional overnight during the summer, while Sophs have a late-stay. For those who can brave the darkness, and enjoy "roughing it," it's a great experience of outdoor cooking, campfire songs, marshmallows and fun. We do one night for the girls, and one for the boys- check the Spirit Calendar - **You must take the elective to be a part of the overnight!**

Office Team

The Liberty Lake office is the heart of communications for camp families, campers and staff. We have a dynamic, veteran crew of dedicated "indoor" folks- **Joe** is assisted by **Jamie**, with **Tracy** scheduling the electives, **Victoria** coordinating the buses & dietary needs, **Kurtis** booking the picnics and **Jill** holding the ship together and keeping operations running smoothly.

Parent Pick-up

If you don't take a bus to and from Camp then your parents will drop you off and pick you up. The drop-off spot is in front of the "Twin Cedars" Pavilion. At the end of the day, after the bus kids get on their buses, parents stop at the gate house and show their **Camp Placard** (your identification that will come in the mail). Your name will then be announced over the loudspeaker, and you will be escorted to your parent's car at the end of the walkway. Early pick-up/Late drop-off takes place at the front gatehouse.

The Point is the pavilion "across the far bridge", home for Guitar, Drums, Rock Band, and home base for Senior camp's free choice period on the "Point Field."

Safety Drills

To make sure that we are prepared in case of an emergency, we have Safety Drills during the season. A very loud horn will sound repeatedly. When we hear that specific sound, EVERYONE goes directly to the blacktop in front of the office. Look for your division and group leader, and get in line with your group! The "All Clear" sound lets us know that we can return to the activities that we came from. We practice this and other drills to stay safe.

Senior Soiree'

Created because of ideas and feedback from Senior Campers, this is a "free-form" elective where seniors can hang out with their friends while listening to music, playing board games and participating in other friendly competitions and games. This elective can serve as important "down time" for our oldest campers to strengthen their camp relationships.

Senior / Teen Semi-Formal Dance

The annual Dance takes place week 8, and is one of the highlights of the summer for many of our oldest campers. Staff and kids go home, shower, get dressed up, and come on back to camp ready to PARTY! There's always a fun theme, treats, and memories to be had!



Slushies

These icy, sweet drinks are given out as birthday treats (please don't send cupcakes or anything else because of allergies), as well as prizes for exceptional accomplishments, and bus fun winners. The big question at Camp is – What is your favorite slushie flavor? Campers will do most ANYTHING for the opportunity to choose one of the 10 yummy flavors, and are eager to cash in the Slushie Birthday Cards sent to all returning campers!

Snack Shack

The home of the Slushies, as well as afternoon ice cream and snacks- like pretzels. Even though campers can drink water at one of our water fountains, water filling stations, and ice water jugs (with filtered water) at every activity area in Camp, they can visit the Snack Shack between periods to purchase bottled water, juices, Gatorades and other natural drinks- PLUS, fun Camp Swag apparel, like Camp-a-Palooza shirts.

Southwoods

Liberty Lake's sister sleepaway camp up in the Adirondack mountains, just north of Saratoga and Lake George. Liberty Lake Campers enjoy a special discount if they have the courage to take the trip north and sleep over for 2-4-6 weeks!

Spirit Calendar Every day is a holiday at Liberty Lake!. Some days are big parties, some are competitions and some are just dress-up days, when there's a YELLOW STAR in the upper right corner of the box. Participating in Spirit Events develops teamwork & builds confidence by pushing beyond your comfort levels. Stick it on the fridge, check out the calendar for every day, and get dressed up too!



Specialist

The talented team of adults who run most of the electives at Camp. Most are school teachers who work with children all year round, and are specially trained and/or have advanced skills in the area that they teach at Camp. They work with Brandi on cool new ideas to entice the campers, while ensuring our Star Points are being practiced and recognized!

Star Points

At Liberty Lake, we model and coach campers and staff the 21st Century Life Skills to help each other become successful, contributing members of society. We do this by focusing on five main values: **FRIENDSHIP, TEAMWORK, INDEPENDENCE, ASPIRATION and INTEGRITY**. We work on these throughout the summer, at activities, and in-between times. Each week there is a "Star Point of the Week" that we focus on, and we look for the positive behaviors from the Star Point Values ALL THE TIME.

Success Team

Our Success Team includes our Nurses, Dietary Specialist, Support Specialist (social worker), and Inclusion (special needs) Staff who work with our campers who need extra support, as well as their families, and staff members to ensure a successful summer! Our Success Team works hard to ensure that all campers have the support needed to have the same opportunities to try new things, make friends, learn and grow while at camp!

Swim-a-Thon

Each summer, as the highlight of our "Foundation Celebration," Liberty Lakers swim as many laps as we can in order to raise money for the Liberty Lake Foundation, as well as Project Morry and SCOPE- foundations created to support underprivileged kids to attend Camp. On this day, try your best and see how many laps that you can swim because all the money you raise goes towards great causes, and people who really appreciate your efforts!

TASTE BUDS- The new name for our COOKING elective, or as Andy likes to say... the EATING elective!

TEAM- We call our Summer Staff our "Team" because we're a cohesive and supportive unit of 300 people, working together to teach, support, and inspire each other. "**The Leadership Team**" leads the way, working throughout the year to improve LLDC!



Teen Leadership Program- is two parts: **CIT** (*Campers-in-Transition and entering 9th grade*) & **LIT**

(*Leaders- in-Training entering 10th grade*). CITs and LITs

participate in daily workshops, participate in service projects, and challenge themselves to step out of their comfort zone. The Teen Leadership Program believes strong leaders have strong character values and the whole camp supports our teens as they aspire to succeed!

Tower of Power is our 25 foot rock climbing wall. There are four different climbing paths to get to the top, and everyone can try to climb it- Even Turtles!



Tug o' War

Groups show true teamwork as they battle like Roman gladiators at the lakeside every summer! Losers end up head first in a whole lot of sticky, slimy mess like Jello, chocolate pudding, or just mud!. Sheer, utter, gross, awesomeness. Besides teamwork, this activity also shows campers how much fun it can be to try something different, even if it seems a bit strange at first. We rinse off afterwards in the lake (and feed the fish.) *BTW- GIRLS usually beat the boys...!*

Turtle Town is our imagination station at the far side of Liberty Lake, created specifically for our youngest campers. We are big believers in the importance of unstructured, creative play, so Turtle Town was designed to foster imagination and develop important social skills.

Twin Cedars is the "top pavilion" where Freshmen and Turtles meet, and Before/Aftercare is centered. During "Liquid Sunshine", we use it for board games, knock hockey and other fun stuff.

Ugly Shorts

Every few years we hold a unique contest to see who has the ugliest pair of shorts in the Camp. At the end of the day, with permission, we light the "winning shorts" on fire and we raise them up the flagpole in a blaze of glory! *Andy seems to win the contest every year...*



The Vista is the best view of Liberty Lake- where the Teen Leadership LITs hone their leadership skills

Water Trampoline

Our giant, 30 foot trampoline is found floating on the deep side of the lake. This activity makes for some high jumping, bouncing and splashing. You can choose to go on the water trampoline during Free Swim, and Juniors and Seniors can also choose it as the “**Polar Bear Club**” elective.



Willows is the pavilion “across the bridge”. It’s the home of the CITs, Cheerleading, Wiffle Ball and more. It’s the 2nd largest Pavilion at LLDC!

Woods is the beautiful and shady pavilion at the end of the Woods path, past fishing, towards the High Ropes. It’s the summer home of STEM, and much more.

Will’s World is the home of our longtime specialist Will Lewis, and his like-minded minions who embrace the world of fantasy and controlled combat. LARP (live action role play), Dungeons & Dragons, Magic Cards and more- Will and his fantasy seekers literally “live the dream” at LLDC every summer!



Yacht or Not

Perhaps the greatest annual LLDC spirit event of the summer, in which groups are given a large cardboard garment box and a roll of duct tape with the goal to create a boat that can not only float but carry their Group Leader in a race on the lake! TEAMWORK and COLLABORATION needed to win! The actual race is one of the craziest, most entertaining 30 seconds you can imagine- check out a bunch on YouTube. Get your boat out quick if you win the divisional race- As you’ll need to dry it out for the campwide finals at the end of the day!

If you can think of anything we should add for future editions of the Liberty Laketionary, just let us know!

