



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 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 grown children (a yoga instructor and a camp director), hundreds more children every summer- and continue to LOVE bringing happiness to so many families for over 24 years!

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 Senior Stage (near Point Pavilion), 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 can meet your Group Leader & Counselors at your designated 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 bad luck to cross forwards, and there used to be a troll under there, from when the Renaissance Faire took place at LLDC!

Beads - the Colors of Character

Staff (and sometimes, Campers) give out beads to campers when they do nice things for each other- showing great character! Bead Color Code: *Red: Independence, Yellow: Integrity, Green: Teamwork, Blue: Friendship, Purple: Aspiration!*

Before/After Care

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

Big Pete is the resident turtle who used to live- or might still live- under the big bridge. Those who have seen him say he is as big as Crush in *Finding Nemo*. We haven't seen him lately, but there are many "Pete stories" about this Liberty Lake legend, and his offspring (kids) are all over the lake!



Brandi "BC"

Brandi "BC" Carnivale is the year-round LLDC Camp Director that oversees the program. She worked as a counselor for the YMCA Camp that rented Liberty Lake before Andy started LLDC in 2002- the only person hired from the prior camp- Making Brandi the longest running staff member (one more than Andy!) Brandi personifies the Liberty Lake Spirit with her enthusiasm, energy, and creativity. She helps oversee the running of Camp, with focus on the Elective Program, Spirit Events, Teen Leadership, and the Character initiatives- working on them all year long. If you have great new ideas, send them her way- bc@libertylakedaycamp.com

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. Once or twice during 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

Most 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 an animal mascot 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 displays 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 fun games and competitions. We award spirit and safety points for each day when the buses pull into Camp.



The bus that shows the most creativity and spirit each week receives the coveted bus trophy filled with blue slushie- and get their picture taken on stage at the Friday Assembly!

Camp-A-Palooza

A special event held Week 8, Camp-a-Palooza is an annual music and arts festival (like a mini-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. It's a wonderful afternoon to celebrate our camp family and friends!



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. The big 3-day tournament includes competitions built into our Electives and Spirit Events, but it "All comes down to the Sing" in which the teams perform a skit, 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!

Counselors

Each camper group has one or two Counselors, which are entering 11th or 12th grade High School students, 16 and 17 years old.

Counselors assist their 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, and more than half of them were campers- excited to pay it forward!!

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!



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 split into groups of campers, each named after a college. Each division has **Division Leaders**, and some have "Assistant Division Leaders." Their job is to make sure that everything runs smoothly at Camp, mentor their staff, communicate with parents, and report to the head counselors and 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, between lunch tent, and barbecue area. The Freshman division meets there before and after electives, and it's used for performances with campers and staff.



Dunk Tank

In our VERY popular dunk tank, campers take turns sitting on the bench above the icey 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, entering 1st–9th grade, 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 should 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 give you your schedule for that week based on your choices.

Family Night

Your whole family is invited to come out to LLDC on the Wednesday night of Week 7 (rain date, Thursday) from 5:30-8pm. Join us for a delicious BBQ dinner, and participate in some of our favorite activities across Camp. *Parents- Wear your sneakers!* Hang out with our awesome staff, enjoy the Camp Musical, and at 7pm, we hold our "Old-Timer's Club" 5, 10, 15, and 20 year gift presentations. The whole family is invited out for a great evening of fun- regardless of weeks attending!



Feather & Fur is a popular elective incorporating animal care with an assortment of our feathered and furry friends like chickens and goats. 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 play or chill- their choice!



Friday Assembly

Fridays are extra special at Liberty Lake, as at the end of the camp day the entire Camp gathers at the Amphitheater to celebrate a great week. Campers get the opportunity to share and perform what they have learned during the week- Dancers, Cheerleaders,

Rockers, Rappers – 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! Performances are recorded, and uploaded to YouTube for all to enjoy!

Fuzzies / FuzzyMan!

At Camp we believe in the importance of teaching and having strong character values. When campers do or say something REALLY AWESOME that shows our Star Points, they can be awarded a fuzzy. Those that show truly 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! **FuzzyMan** is our Camp Mascot, who spreads cheer, character, and community throughout the summer with the campers and staff. *Watch the last part of the 2024 Video Yearbook to learn about the magical origin of FuzzyMan...*

GA-GA is BY FAR the most popular activity at Camp. It is a cross between Dodgeball, Handball, and Gladiator, 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. In 2003 a 2nd grader won it all, and a few campers have won the tournament twice!



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 Group Leader- 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- while modeling and reinforcing our character values. Many Group Leaders are also activity leaders during elective periods.

Health Center

Our Nurses are found in the Health Center to take care of you if you don't feel well or get a boo-boo. They also keep any medicine that you bring to Camp and need to take during the day. 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 at Camp are meant to challenge kids through the use of high elements (Catwalk, Zip Line, GIANT swing, "Leap of Faith," and two level Vertical Playground) 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! The Giant Swing swings over the lake, over boats! High Ropes staff are specially trained/certified to be Spiderman superheroes!

Hulla-Ball is the Liberty Lake version of the popular playground game "Four-Square." It is played on a 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 treats, like 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 swim 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 Camp Director that oversees administration, and has been working in the office for 20 years helping Camp Families with the enrollment, finances, bus transportation, and the inevitable changes that occur throughout the summer and in the off-season. 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 cool grandpa. *When in doubt- Call Joe- 609.499.7820!*

Lanyard

Lanyard (also known to many as gimp) 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!

The Lagoon is an important tent just past boating, that is the hub for the CITs assemblies and training. It's private & cool!

L.A.R.P.

Originating in the Will's World elective, LARP is "Live Action Role Play" - an epic battle of strategy, determination, 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

A nonprofit organization inspired by the values of 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 that look like them. Many campers come dressed the same or wear costumes! The twins get a picture taken, and then the WHOLE CAMP votes on who looks most alike!!!

The Liberty Lake Song is sung by the entire Camp every Friday afternoon in the Summer 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 cool lyric video on YouTube, and in the annual Video Yearbook. It might be the best song that Andy ever wrote!



Liquid Sunshine is what we call "Rain" at Liberty Lake, but it's not raining at LLDC until Andy says it is! 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 might be coming home wet and 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. Older kids can always go right up to the pasta and salad bar and help yourself! The pasta bar has buttered noodles and 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. Turtles do "Family Style" with a tray of everything. 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. Pre-assigned "cruisers" (a rotation within the group of campers) makes sure the tables are clean before you leave. Friends don't let friends eat on dirty tables!

Magic Cards

Imagination runs rampant at this unconventional card playing elective. No Jacks, Queens & Kings... Instead campers have a deck of characters with a variety of powers. Battles are fast and furious, and from the look of things, it seems like a very enjoyable and addictive activity! Sophs can also play Poke'Mon. You can bring your own cards at your own risk (don't bring valuable ones!) or use Camp cards. We usually have a big "Magic Tournament" near the end of the summer!

Monday Assembly

Every Monday morning, the entire Camp gathers at the Liberty Lakeside Amphitheater (just like Fridays). At this assembly though, we sing the WAKE-UP SONG, 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!

Office Team

The Liberty Lake office is the heart of communications for camp families, campers and Staff. Luckily we have a dynamic, veteran crew of dedicated "indoor" folks- **Joe**, who runs the office throughout the year, assisted by long time Liberty Laker Taylor, with **Tracy** scheduling the electives, **Victoria** coordinating the buses, and Andy's wife **Jill** holding the ship together and keeping the camp 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.

Picnics – While Liberty Lake Day Camp has been around for 24 years, our weekend picnic business has been around for 50 years, hosting family reunions, corporate parties, charity fundraisers, and other fun events on the weekends. For more information on that, go to www.LibertyLakePicnic.com and check it out!

The Point -The pavilion "behind the backwards bridge", home for Guitar, Drums & Rock Band- can get a little loud sometimes!

Polar Bear Club – The cool (literally) elective for Juniors & Seniors at the deep side of the lake each morning- Very popular!!

Safety Drills

To make sure that we are prepared in case of an emergency, we have Safety Drills during the season. A loud horn will sound repeatedly. When we hear that specific sound, EVERYONE goes directly to the blacktop in front of the office. We find our division and group leader, and line up with our group. The "All Clear" sound lets us know that we can return to the activities that we came from. We also have a "scatter drill" in which we all quickly head to the wooded areas on the outskirts of Camp.

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 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 to PARTY! The lunch tent turns into a disco club, and the DJ plays the tunes that make your body groove! Pick-up is at 9pm, and don't be late, because we have camp the next day!



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. 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 mailed home to all returning campers!

Snack Shack

The home of the Slushies, as well as afternoon ice creams, snacks- like pretzels, and spirit-wear, like hats, shirts, and hoodies. Even though campers can drink water at one of our water fountains 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.

Specialists

Specialists are the talented staff who run most of the elective activities at Camp- Athletics, Fine & Performing Arts, STEM, and Adventure. Most are school teachers who work with children all year round. They are specially trained and/or have advanced skills in the area that they teach at Camp. They work with BC on cool new ideas to entice the campers, and teach them skills about their area of expertise, and character!

Spirit Calendar (*Special Events*) Every day of the summer is a different Spirit Event at LLDC. Some days are big parties, some are competitions and some are just dress up days. Participating in these events develops teamwork & builds confidence by challenging your comfort levels. Check out the calendar for every day excitement, as these are the fun and crazy things that we be talk about all winter! Calendar always available on the Quick Links webpage!

Star Points

At Liberty Lake, we have a character campaign to help each other become upstanding, 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 our character values ALL THE TIME.

Success Team

Our Success Team includes our Nurses, Dietary Specialist, Support Specialists, and Inclusion (special needs) Team who work with our campers who need extra support, as well as their families, and staff members to ensure a successful summer! At Liberty Lake, we tell our entire staff that we are ALL part of the Success Team. 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, during 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- 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 tasty, cool name for our COOKING elective, along with the new elective **CREATIVE COOKING!**

TEAM- We call our Summer Staff our "Team" because we are a cohesive and supportive unit of 200+ people, working together

to teach, support, and inspire each other. "The Leadership Team" leads the way, working throughout the year to improve ourselves!

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 real teamwork as they battle like Roman warriors at the lakeside! Losers end up head first in a whole lot of sticky, slimy mess like Jello, chocolate pudding, or mud!. Sheer, utter awesomeness. Other than 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 subsequently feed the fish.)



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 the Camp day, it's used for "Ooey Gooey" and "Frankie Photo."

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

Water Trampoline

Our very own trampoline can be found 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 at the "Polar Bear Club."

Willows is the pavilion "across the bridge". It's the new home of Will's World, Table Top Games, Magic Cards- and an important place during "Liquid Sunshine" for campers to play. 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, Spa, and much more.

Wilderness Skills (late stay or overnight)

A wonderful elective to explore the outside world without technology- with our bare hands- as well as how to utilize nature to survive and thrive in the outdoors. Campers participate in an optional late night (Sophs) or overnight (Juniors and older) during the summer. For those who can brave the darkness, and enjoy "roughing it," it's a great night of outdoor cooking, campfire songs, marshmallows and fun. We do one night for the girls, and one for the boys- check the Spirit Calendar!

Will's World is the home of our longtime specialist Will Lewis, and his like-minded camper followers, who embrace the world of fantasy and controlled combat. **L.A.R.P.** (live action role play), Dungeons & Dragons, Magic Cards and more-Will & his minions literally "live the dream" at LLDC!





Yacht or Not

Perhaps the greatest annual special event of the summer, groups are given a large cardboard garment box and a roll of duct tape. The goal

is to create a boat that can not only float but carry their Group Leader in a race in the lake!

TEAMWORK and COLLABORATION run rampant! The actual race is one of the craziest, most entertaining 20 seconds you can imagine. Get your boat out quick if you win- 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!