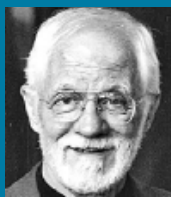


BEAVER TRACKS

REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER 2012

NEWSLETTER OF UNIRONDAK CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER



Joe Malkiewicz

UNIRONDAK DIRECTOR 1972-75, 1977-78

This Issue dedicated to Joe Malkiewicz

TRIBUTE BY DAN GOTTFRIED

Joe Malkiewicz, perhaps the most beloved director in the history of Unirondack, passed away on July 21st, 2011. Joe was a legend at camp. I remember staff members talking about him with such reverence when I first came to Unirondack in 1990 that for years I believed he had been at camp for decades.

Joe was Assistant Director in 1971, Director from 1972 to 1975 and then Director again in 1977 and 1978. In that time he touched the lives of a whole generation of Unirondack campers and staff members. They remember him as a warm and highly respected leader—a person of incredible poise and presence.

Joe lived the kind of rich life many of us at Unirondack aspire to. He ran his own dance/etiquette school, taught elementary school for 37 years, was a talented magician, worked on radio, loved folk and ballroom dancing, and was an avid cyclist. Joe was active in the UU Church of Buffalo and accompanied the Buffalo UU Church youth group for many Unirondack weekend retreats.

Joseph E. Malkiewicz touched the lives of so many people in so many places. We are grateful Unirondack was one of those places and our heart goes out to Joe's family and all of those who were close to Joe.

PERSONAL THOUGHTS BY DEVIN HOLLANDS

The passing of Joe is very hard for all of us who grew up under him to understand. He was a towering figure in our lives. As a camper he was a respected leader and holder of everything Unirondack. As a staff working for him we learned he could be harsh and hard to work with at times but that he got the job done. Joe was always a teacher, and I still carry a few of his life's lessons with me after 30 years. One time Joe had us remove all extra clutter from the camp grounds and anything not needed was removed. In ordering a home-made catamaran to be discarded he said "I know a few that will be upset with this... but." He also taught me that pranks were not just fun and always ended up costing the camp—financially or in other ways. One of my special memories is when I borrowed his typewriter to address letters for a business I was starting. He looked over my shoulder and told me to type the NAME in capital letters. "Everyone likes to see their name in caps." I had lunch with Joe and John Rex about a month before his passing. He was full of stories from his director days. We talked a lot about magic and he offered advice on the foundation drive for the camp.

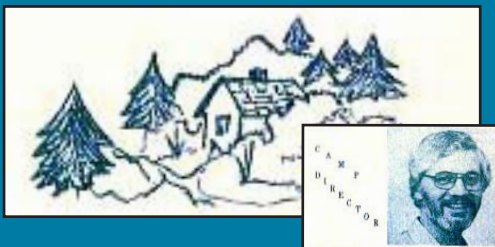
UNIRONDAK 1973
an educational camp

SUMMER SCHEDULE

JUNIOR HIGH JULY 1-14 (ENTERING 9th)
 FAMILY CAMP JULY 15-21 (SINGLES, COUPLES)
 YOUTH CAMP JULY 22-28 (AGES 9-18)
 JUNIOR CAMP JULY 29-AUG 4 (ENTERING 6th)
 FAMILY CLUSTER AUG 5-11
 SENIOR CAMP AUG 12-22 (HIGH SCHOOL)
 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INSTITUTE AUG 23-29
 FAMILY WEEKEND AUG 31-SEPT 3

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
 UNIRONDAK CAMP DIRECTOR
 JOE MALKIEWICZ
 5411 WEST FERRY ST.
 BUFFALO, N.Y. 14222
 PHONE: 716-884-8754

UNIRONDAK
 STAFF
 LOW
 315



UNIRONDAK IS ...

A HERITAGE

Unirondack began as the dream of a few in 1947, when a small group of Unitarists founded an Institute Committee and set up a summer program. The purchase of the present site made the dream a reality in 1951. The camp was dubbed UNIRONDAK - meaning Unitarists and Unitarians in the Adirondacks.

A PLEASING PLACE

Our nine acres of woodlands, nestled in the Adirondack foothills, border a crystal clear mountain lake. The gentle rustle and pungent odor of our stately pines will lull you to sleep in one of four double cabins or in six room Sweet Lodge. All are equipped with bathrooms, and good hot showers are available in the commodious shower house.

Hearty family style meals are served in Gilman Hall, which is equipped with a modern kitchen, a massive fireplace in the dining hall, a cozy lounge and a lighted stage.

Our boathouse on Beaver Lake is the home, not only of our canoes and rowboats, but also of a well equipped craft shop overlooking the lake.

A Director's cabin, Dean's cabin, infirmary, and Overlook Lodge complete our campus.

1978

AN ABLE STAFF

JOE MALKIEWICZ returns for his sixth year as Camp Director. Joe brings a wealth of experience - 15 years as a teacher and 4 years as Religious Education Director of the Buffalo Unitarian Universalist Church, as well as a varied background in dancing, dramatics and group dynamics. As the father of four daughters, Joe has an intimate understanding of the concerns of young people, as well as those of their parents.

UNIRONDAK 74

R.E. EMPHASIS CONFERENCE 74
 July 23 - July 27

Arrive 5 pm Depart noon

This year's conference will include workshops in the open classroom concept, the idealisms and realities which Church School teachers face, human growth and development, pre-kindergarten programs, working with the junior high school age group, and value strategies.

The St. Lawrence District RE Committee is co-operating with UNIRONDAK to make this an exciting and productive conference. Details of workshops and leaders will be available through the District RE Committee's mailings and RESources; however, register now to insure your place as a participant.

where do you fit in ...

CHANGING ROLES, NEW FACES, AND CONTINUED EXCITEMENT



From Dan Gottfried

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Unirondack has started to think ahead and to redefine what it means to take good care of this place we all love. We are embracing a new model of shared responsibility—with a leadership staff of experienced people whose job is to keep the big picture in mind at all times and to make certain that every camper, friend and staff member's experience reflects the best of Unirondack. Unirondack's new leadership staff will consist of an Executive Director, Executive Director for Development, summer Director, and Registrar/Administrator. In addition, we will continue to develop our Summer leadership staff. This collaboration has come a long way from my first year at Unirondack in 1990, when the leadership staff was made up of one person—the Director/Administrator.

My former co-director, Darren Cosgrove, will now be taking on the vital responsibility of leading our effort to secure Unirondack's future as our Executive Director for Development. I can't describe adequately how much I will miss planning each summer with Darren. At the same time, I am thrilled that a person of Darren's drive and vision will be leading our fundraising efforts. In addition, he will continue to be responsible for our weekend programs in the spring and our work weekends so he can stay close to the pulse of camp.

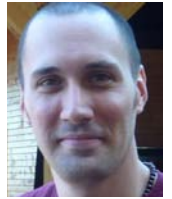
Darren's changing role has made room for me to appoint Kris Fiore as our new Summer Camp Director. Kris has impressed both Darren and I in his role at camp as the Program Director and then the Assistant Director. He is an incredibly well-organized and detail oriented leader, who manages to respond to all the individual camper and staff needs with compassion and wisdom, while still keeping the program humming like a well-oiled machine. I am looking forward to working closely with Kris this off-season and this summer as he assumes the leadership of our summer camp program.

We have also appointed Loraine Machlin as our Registrar/Administrator. Loraine's range of skills and incredible competence has long benefited Unirondack and we are pleased that she was willing to become part of our year-round team. Loraine is so seamlessly on top of everything that it is easy to take her skill for granted, from processing registrations to creating our publicity to re-designing our entire website, Loraine's professionalism is evident in every aspect of Unirondack's growth as a professional, well-managed, organization.

These next few years will be pivotal for Unirondack. We hope that with the development of new leaders, our efforts to secure our future financially, and our continuing commitment to both program and facility improvement, Unirondack will thrive for many years to come.

From Darren Cosgrove

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR DEVELOPMENT



As most know, I have shared the Directorship with my friend Dan Gottfried for the past three years and prior to that I was honored to serve as President of the Unirondack Board. Despite the joys and wonderful memories I have had during my time leading camp, I must now say goodbye. My current personal, family and educational needs have moved me in a direction where summers away from home are not a realistic option for me. I have spent many hours contemplating this shift and discussing it with both Dan and our Board and have found this to be the best time to say farewell.

In saying goodbye, I am pleased to help camp move in a new leadership direction with Dan Gottfried as Executive Director and Kris Fiore as Summer Camp Director.

As Kris and Dan prepare for the summer together, I will be spending my time focusing on Unirondack's capital campaign. I look forward to spending the next year on this exciting project.

I do not need many words to convince all of you what an incredible place Unirondack is. Like so many others who have been touched by camp, Unirondack has been an amazing part of shaping who I am, and I feel honored to have been entrusted with its leadership. I feel privileged to be able to continue to assist camp in the way that I can, while knowing that it is safe in the hands of two people I respect and admire greatly. Please join me in wishing Dan and Kris the best with their shared leadership!

From Kris Fiore SUMMER DIRECTOR

If reading this newsletter is your first introduction to Unirondack, you are left with the task of trying to imagine one of the most incredible places in the world through pictures and words. It's not just the campers that make Unirondack special. It's not just the staff members or the buildings or the campfires that conclude each day at camp. It's not just the community. It's not just the artwork on the walls, it's the camper who years later respects it enough to know that it once meant something to someone. It's also the camper who knows that the artist who painted it wouldn't mind if a new generation took its place.

Unirondack is about decades of people who have all worked together to create a place with meaning beyond the walls and a network that goes beyond age. At Unirondack I sometimes feel like I have mothers who are eleven, and little brothers who are 44. Few places feel as much like home than those acres of secluded woods hidden away in the Adirondacks.

In my new role as Summer Director I have been given the opportunity to be a more involved leader in this community than I ever have before. It's an opportunity I'm excited to have and it's created a longing for summer that's even greater than what I felt during my first few years at camp. So far this off-season has been as busy as ever. We are currently interviewing and hiring kitchen staff, crew members, and counselors. With each interview I get more and more confident that another great summer lies ahead. Every year I am jealous I never had the chance to be a camper at Unirondack and with the ideas I'm hearing already about next summer it doesn't look like that feeling will be going away anytime soon.

One exciting piece of news for 2012 is that we are finally going to have our ropes course finished, inspected, and ready for use! I was lucky to have had a pretty involved part in creating the course in 2011 and now its completion is on the horizon. The course will be inspected this spring and will be ready for use the first week of camp! I will have the opportunity to attend the 22nd Annual International Challenge Course Conference, which will give me the chance to meet with other professionals to see how they get the most out of their challenge courses, and I will learn how to make sure our ropes course is safe and fun for all ages.

Whether you are a regular camper at Unirondack, or a first-timer looking for information, I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and are getting excited about the chance to share the summer with us. I hope to see you when the weather gets warmer!



Securing the Legacy

UNIRONDACK FOUNDATION CAMPAIGN HAS BEGUN

With our foundation campaign to raise one million dollars to secure Unirondack's future underway, we are excited to share with you our current plans as well as some helpful information about how you can join us in our efforts.

We are thrilled to announce that we already have over \$120,000 in pledges and are now going public with our fundraising. We had a wonderful campaign kickoff breakfast at the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany earlier this month and we are looking forward to many other events throughout the Metro and Saint Lawrence districts.

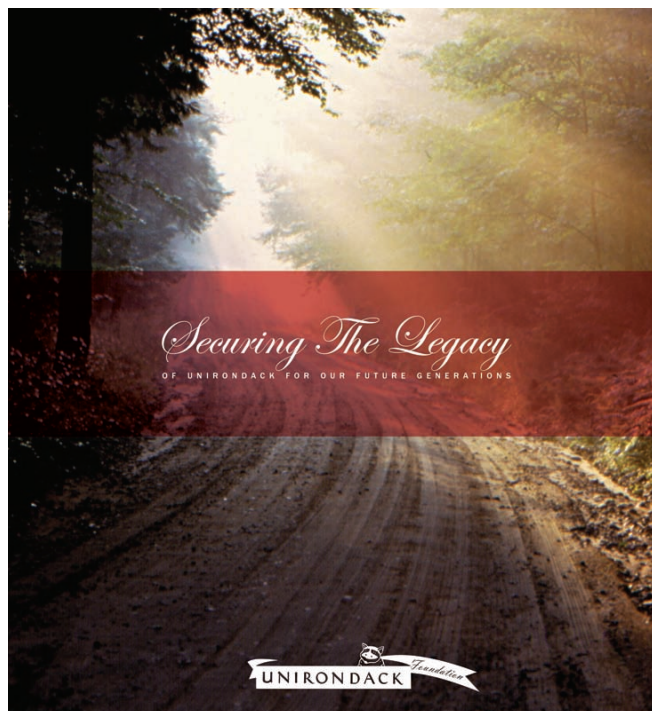
One of our donors who attended Unirondack in the 1980s has created a challenge grant of \$50,000. In addition to encouraging other 1980s alumni to match this grant, the challenge is extended to alumni from Unirondack's other decades to create their own matching grants.

We have plans to visit several other congregations to raise support for our efforts and we are extremely grateful for the friends of camp who have offered to host parties and dinners in their homes to assist in raising funds.

We are currently accepting donations online as well as by check. If you donate online, you have the option of setting up your donation as a onetime gift or as a recurring monthly or annual donation. In addition, you can donate directly from your bank account or by credit card. We also welcome planned and estate giving. Please contact us to discuss these options.

If you are interested in hosting a "Securing the Legacy" event at your congregation or in your community or have questions about making a tax deductible gift to our foundation please contact Darren Cosgrove at director@unirondack.org for more information.

Click here to donate now!



Foundation brochure, designed by Heather Smith Prisco.



News: FROM UNIRONDACK'S BOARD PRESIDENT

By Devin Hollands



In 2011, record numbers of summer campers, church rental groups and weekend guests enjoyed Unirondack during the six active months the camp was in operation. It is always fun to return to camp to experience the same things we've experienced for years and to notice the new improvements that pop up each year. The one beautiful element that rarely changes is camp's incredible environment. A big change over the last few summers is the appearance of bald eagles near camp. Growing up at Unirondack we all went to Eagle Falls, but never dreamed of seeing Eagles soaring overhead.

Looking Back

As the world looks on upon the Occupy Wall Street movement and ponders the 1% and the 99%, it's fun to remember where our camp came from. John Patterson, one of the original owners of the land that is now Unirondack, was at the top of the top of the 1% as the founder of the National Cash Register (NCR) company in 1884. National Cash Register controlled the worldwide market for adding, calculating and general business machines. When you see an old metal or wood cash register in an antique shop or old store it will have one name on it—National Cash Register. John Patterson trained a very large percent of all corporate leaders in the first half of the 20th century, including Mr. Watson who founded IBM. John loved the Adirondacks and purchased the property that is now Unirondack from the Fisher Forestry Company in 1916.

Unirondack's Fred Leining reached out to National Cash Register and secured a \$5,000 donation to keep the Patterson name alive. Our old lodge had a lakeside porch that became Patterson porch due to this donation. You can view Fred's hand-written letter and many other interesting pieces of camp history on the Archives page of our beautiful new website at www.unirondack.org/about/archives/. Go to unirondack.org, click on "About Unirondack" and then click on "Archives."

In 2012 Unirondack plans to make more history with all the great programs, adventures and special times our campers will have. I hope you will be part of it!

To spread the camp experience to the entire 99%, Unirondack continues to offer a very effective and important campership program that allows all those who wish to attend camp the opportunity to do so regardless of their financial situation.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT JOHN PATTERSON, CLICK HERE

Watch for announcements about our upcoming **UNIRONDAK BLOG!**

We are about to launch a new Unirondack Blog. Our hope is that the blog will become the primary source of regular updates about Unirondack for our community of campers, families, congregations, staff members, friends, and alumni, probably replacing our newsletters and hopefully reducing the need for mass emailing. Everything should be ready around the middle of this month and we will send you a reminder when we get going. Please look out for it and send us suggestions on the kind of information you would like us to share.



Beaver Lake at sunset

MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS SUMMER

Work At Unirondack

2012 staff applications now being accepted! Click here to apply.

If you are eager to work in a close-knit community whose mission is to broaden and enrich the lives of young people, Unirondack might be the place for you. We are currently accepting applications and setting up interviews for 2012 summer positions. If you are 18 years or older and have experience with or an interest in working with children and teens, you can apply to be a counselor. Responsible and skilled people who are 16 or older can apply to be on our kitchen or maintenance crews.

Being a certified lifeguard or having a specialized skill that can contribute to a positive experience for campers is always desirable.

In addition to camp counselors we are also looking for people to join our kitchen and maintenance crew.

All of the positions at camp require interpersonal and communication skills as well as a strong commitment to work for the well-being of others and a desire to create a safe, welcoming and affirming community for all.

Interested applicants should visit our website and explore our summer employment page at unirondack.org. Our staff application form can be filled out online at: www.unirondack.org/for-staff/staff-application/.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Summer 2011 In Review

Good food, good friends and great memories. This could describe almost any summer at camp (although we have heard that our summer menu has improved) and the 2011 season was no exception.

We were pleased to start the summer off by welcoming many strong staff members back to camp and inviting several new members to the team. Throughout the summer weeks our staff collectively offered some of the most exciting activities we have ever seen on Beaver Lake.

Whether you wanted to be relaxing in the art shop, exploring the waters by boat or letting your imagination run wild with friends, there was never a dull moment at camp.

Our Stevens Performing Arts center hosted many wonderful talent shows as well as a production of "The Little Shop of Horrors" and lower camp saw the construction of a low ropes course (to open in the spring of 2012).

Workshops included those focused on social and environmental issues, like "media and gender" and "consumption, waste and recycling." We also hosted programming focusing on music, creative expression, religion and spirituality, visual arts and athletics. Campers showed great interest in photography and journalism and we were pleased to publish a fabulous issue of our camp newspaper.

We were able to purchase new video equipment over the summer and campers had the chance to work on and be part of several short film projects including a zombie movie! As usual this summer seemed to be the best summer yet!

Your feedback is always welcome to help us shape what our future summers will look like. Don't hesitate to drop us a line.

HOT OFF THE PRESS — OUR 2012 BROCHURE

Our 2012 Brochure was mailed out on December 27 to those on our mailing list. A PDF of the brochure can also be found on our website. The brochure lists our Summer 2012 programs and information on how to register. [Click here for brochure.](#)

DON'T GET STUCK ON A WAITING LIST

Register Now for Summer 2012!



Every year we are amazed at how quickly our summer sessions fill up and are heart-broken when they reach capacity and we are forced to turn down later registrations or put people on long waiting lists. Registration began for our 2012 Summer sessions on November 1st and we have already received over 150 registrations. Until December 31st priority registration is being given to members of Unirondack. To avoid disappointment send in your registration and join Unirondack today!

To register simply follow these steps:

- Visit our website, www.unirondack.org and complete the easy online registration form.
- Send in your deposit. All registrations are on a first come, first serve basis and your registration is not complete until we receive your deposit. Members will be given priority until December 31st. You can become a member when you send in your registration.
- Complete our "Medical Form, "Community Compact" and "Permissions Form" and send to us by May 1st. (all forms can be found on our website).
- Get, excited, get ready, and get to camp!



[Click here for Summer Program Dates & Info](#)
[Click here for Online Registration Form](#)

Improvements to Camp in 2011



After the building of the Stevens Performing Arts Center in 2010, we figured it was time to rest for a while, to take a break from the stream of improvements to Unirondack's infrastructure. We thought we'd just spend a year doing basic maintenance and catching our breath.



Pete Howlett, Facilities Manager

And then Devin started thinking, Lauren looked around, Dan and Darren started dreaming, and we hired a new facilities manager, Pete Howlett. We know the weather is changing, but we didn't expect the storm of improvements that were somehow magically completed between May and October of 2011.

If you haven't been inside Gilman in a while, you may not recognize it. The stage has been removed. The floors have been refinished. There are large picture windows where the back of the stage used to be. Pine walls adorn much of the interior. The electric has been fixed up. There is a beautiful new wood stove in the corner with a stone hearth designed by Pete. You can walk between the tables! And the kitchen has a new booster unit for the dishwasher.



**Above: Gilman's new wood stove and stone hearth.
Below: Gilman's renovated interior with expanded dining area and new windows where the stage used to be.**



The Unirondack Crew working on the new steps between upper and lower camp. From left to right: Crew member Alia Shinbrough, 2011 Crew Chief Lauren Hunt, Crew member Everett Perina.



But Gilman pales in comparison to the changes in Chadwick. Our least popular cabin has been transformed. The porch was removed and the room expanded. The roof was redone. The floors were refinished. It is now insulated and heated. There are skylights, new bunkbeds, a new bathroom with a hot shower, back and front entrances, and completely updated electric. Even the septic tank was replaced. We hope everyone will enjoy having another comfortable space for the cooler times at camp.

Those two major upgrades to our spaces were not the only improvements at camp—not by a long shot.

Our maintenance crew rebuilt the entire stairway from the showerhouse down to the Stevens Performing Arts Center and joined Pete Howlett in building a ropes course for camp. Lighting and a stage curtain were added to the Performing Arts Center and the remainder of the electric was completed in our newest building. In addition, benches were purchased for more comfortable seating.

The roof on Overlook was completely replaced and the plumbing pipes were replaced under Overlook. The Sophia Fahs bathroom and the bathroom in the lodge were fixed up. A new hot water tank was purchased for the showerhouse and many of the showerheads were replaced, significantly improving the water pressure. The roof on the lean-to was replaced. A storage shed for wood was added near the campfire circle. Custom built shelves were added to the artshop and the wellness center. Tons of gravel were distributed on the camp road. The retaining wall between Gilman and the parking lot is being replaced. And in the spring of 2012 we will begin some significant repair to the boathouse.

Of course these improvements are only made possible by your continued support of Unirondack and by the tireless work of so many of our employees and volunteers. It is impossible to thank you enough!



Chadwick was fully renovated and expanded.

SUMMER 2011 PHOTO GALLERY



2012 Canoe Trip campers and leaders.



Barton camper experimenting with "goop."



A Channing Camp Council.



Photography was popular in 2011 and Parker campers created a great camp newspaper.



The Stevens Performing Arts Center—a favorite place for activities this summer.



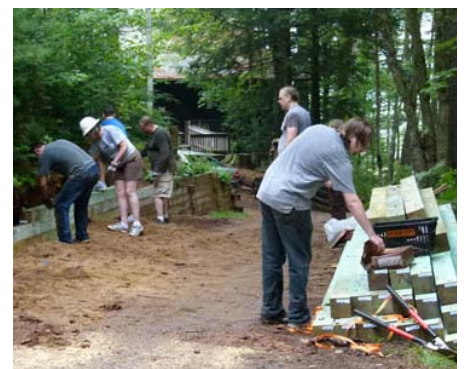
Channing campers acting in Unirondack's own zombie movie.



Our wonderful and wacky Unirondack staff.



Ballou campers relaxing in the lodge.



Members Weekend attendees working on a new retaining wall.



The 2011 Unirondack Staff enjoying a sunny moment during staff orientation week.



Ballou campers dressed for the Friday night banquet.

Unirondack 2012 Calendar

REGISTER NOW!

WEEKLONG SUMMER PROGRAMS

- JULY 1-7** **BARTON** (for ages 9-12)
JULY 8-14 **CHANNING 1** (for ages 12-14)
JULY 15-21 **CHANNING 2** (for ages 12-14)
JULY 22-28 **PARKER 1** (for ages 14-16)
JULY 29-AUG 4 **PARKER 2** (for ages 14-16)
AUGUST 5-11 **BALLOU 1** (for ages 15-18)
AUGUST 12-18 **BALLOU 2** (for ages 15-18)
AUGUST 12-18 **HIGH PEAKS ADVENTURE** (for ages 14-17)
AUGUST 19-25 **FAMILY CAMP** (for families of all kinds)



FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

unirondack.org

SPRING & FALL WEEKENDS

SPRING WEEKENDS

- MAY 11-13** **WORK WEEKEND** (opening up camp)
MAY 18-20 **GAY-STRAIGHT ALLIANCE & ADVOCACY RETREAT** (for H.S. students)
MAY 25-28 **FAMILY & FRIENDS WEEKEND** (for families, friends & Unirondack alumni)
JUNE 1-3 **WORK WEEKEND**
JUNE 8-10 **MEN'S GATHERING**

FALL WEEKENDS

- AUG 31- SEPT 3** First Unitarian Society of Ithaca Retreat
SEPT 7-9 Kingston Unitarian Fellowship Retreat
SEPT 14-16 May Memorial UU Society Retreat
SEPT 21-23 **WORK WEEKEND**
SEPT 30-30 First Unitarian Church of Rochester Retreat
OCT 5-8 **MEMBERS' WEEKEND** (free for members)
OCT 6 **UNIRONDACK ANNUAL MEETING**
OCT 12-14 **WORK WEEKEND** (closing up camp)

BRING A FRIEND WITH YOU



UNIRONDACK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President**, Devin Hollands
Vice President, Phil Lewin
Secretary, Renee Panetta
Treasurer, Sarah Stevens-Miles
Member at Large, Paul Eisemann
Member at Large, Michael Bikales
Youth Representative, Zoe Harter-Saunders
Alternate Youth Rep, Luke Mendola

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dan Gottfried

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR DEVELOPMENT

Darren Cosgrove

SUMMER CAMP DIRECTOR

Kris Fiore

UNIRONDACK CONTACT INFO:

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P.O. Box 795, Nyack NY 10960

SUMMER MAILING ADDRESS (AFTER JUNE 15)
8722 Unirondack Road, Lowville NY 13367

YEAR-ROUND EMAIL: director@unirondack.org

YEAR-ROUND PHONE: 845-675-9001

YEAR-ROUND FAX: 866-929-2836

