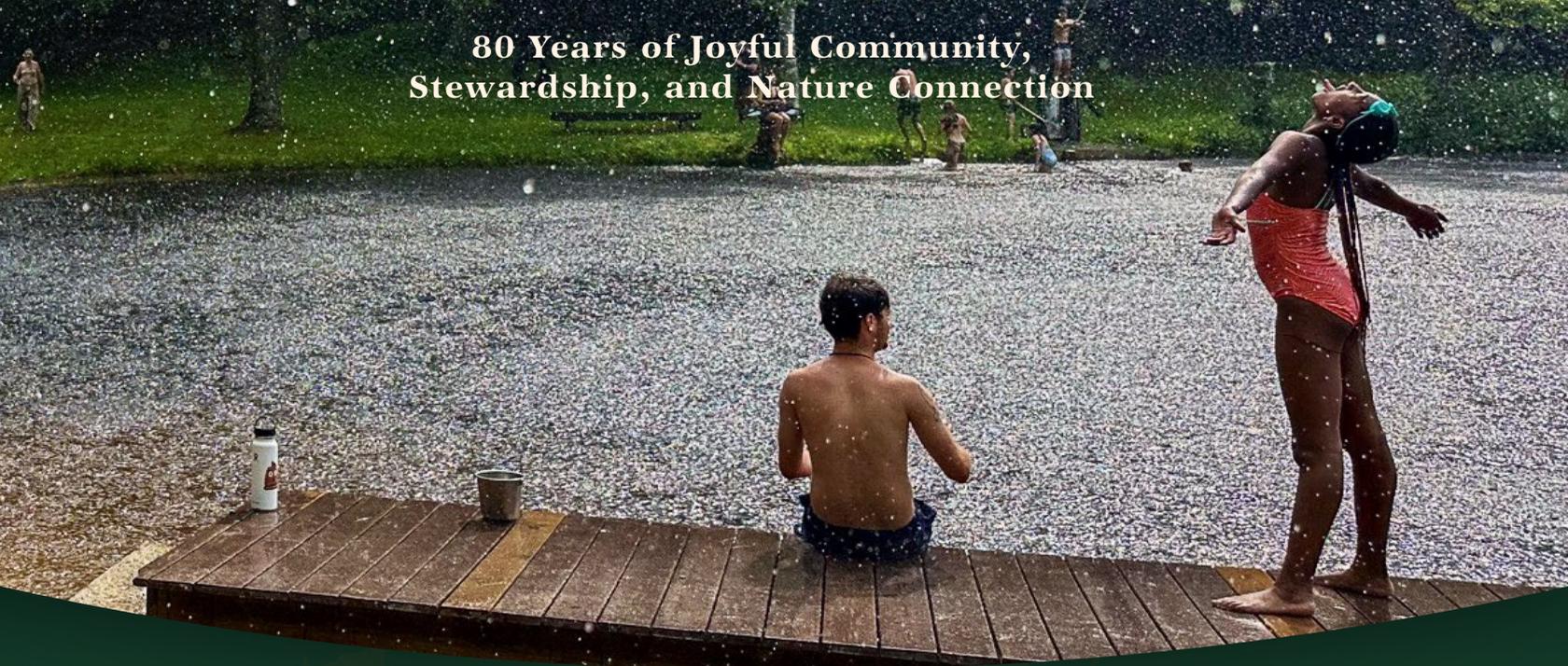




**80 Years of Joyful Community,
Stewardship, and Nature Connection**



Glen Brook continues to find ways to leave the world a little better than the way we found it, and inspire those who come here. So much happens here in the course of a year, I thought you'd enjoy a few numbers. In the past year at Glen Brook:

- 1,423+ people came to experience this magical place
- 21,000+ meals were served
- 4,200 (estimated) tetherball games were played
- 8,686 pounds of produce were grown, with 2,500 pounds donated to our local food pantries
- 152,136 kWh of solar electricity were generated (avoiding 130,200 pounds of CO₂)
- 8.5 million pounds of CO₂ were sequestered on our forest and farm
- 12 baby animals were born
- 137 people made philanthropic donations to support Glen Brook

This last number makes our current Puzzle Piece campaign so exciting: having finished our 80th summer, we're confident that an additional 500 people who love this place, and are invested in it thriving for another 80 years will join our circle of supporters in service of the children who need this place. You can read more about this campaign on page 6.

We are all so lucky to be a part of this special place. I am grateful to have the opportunity to support Glen Brook in thriving in service of all those who will come to experience it in the coming years, and for all those who join me in that support.



Our Joyful Work Dan Foster • Youth Program Director

You can't see the Milky Way from Long Island, at least not from the suburban town where I grew up. But if you're a sixth grader studying astronomy at The Waldorf School of Garden City, you can take a bus four hours north and find yourself on a hilltop in New Hampshire. There on a clear night, huddled beside your classmates, you'll gaze upward and find the whole galaxy stretching across the sky. Orion and Casseopeia are there, too: classroom characters from Greek myths and star charts, now shimmer above you in their constellations. A curriculum is ignited with wonder, a young life is connected to a timeless truth.

Many years ago, it was my chance to stand on this hill as a student and look at those stars for the first time. The memory of that moment shines among countless experiences I've had at Glen Brook over the years. And now, as a member of Glen Brook's year-round staff, I get to welcome school groups from across the northeast to share this magical hilltop.

The Waldorf curriculum truly comes alive here in a special way. This fall, we've had fourth graders studying local geography, fifth graders studying botany, sixth graders studying astronomy, seventh graders studying teambuilding, eighth graders taking on big challenges, tenth graders studying meteorology, and eleventh graders orienteering using compasses and topographical maps. As a former class teacher, I've enjoyed seeing how each class connects to this place through the curriculum and through the way of life at Glen Brook. As we prepare to receive each group, it's clear that as staff here, we are not so much teachers as orchestrators and facilitators of experiences. As the students study their subjects and live out the rhythm of our days, can we create situations in which they tap into a deeper place - a deeper experience of themselves and of the world, with each other? Can we awaken their senses - their awareness and consciousness - and help them stretch and grow in ways that meet their developmental stage?

We see this happen in so many ways: the surprise encounter with a red eft on a trail in our woods, the thrill of swinging on the Giant's swing at our ropes course, the feeling of accomplishment building a bridge across the brook with Grant, and the joy of pulling a carrot out of the soil in Gabriel's Field with Farmer Sam and cooking it in a soup over the wood fire with Chef Robyn. Can we string a constellation of moments like these together so that students connect to themselves, to each other, and to the world in a deep way? Can Glen Brook itself be the teacher - a place where students gaze at the stars with their friends and are lost for moments in the goodness, beauty and truth of the world?

The answer is, yes! And for all of us here at Glen Brook, this is our joyful work.

Joy is Ineffable Charlie Strickland • Bear Co-Leader



Joy is ineffable. Gautama Buddha said that its pursuit was antithetical to the experience. Joy, like grains of sand, falls through our fingers faster the tighter we try to hold on. At times it feels paradoxical, a cruel trick of human nature. The very thing that makes life worth living is fleeting, a shadow that vanishes as our eyes glaze over.

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot,” the children sing, not knowing they are the chariot, carrying us home. Sunsets roll across the sky like waves, drenching the world in orange, gold, and red. Children sprint through fields, kicking up mulch, their faces lit by a glow no camera could capture. Their smiles burn bright enough to light up the whole world.



Working at Glen Brook this past year felt like a gift. Glen Brook is an act of remembering. What happens when you remember authentic community, stewardship, creativity, play, and connection with the land on which you live? Elation, clarity, depth, and yes, joy.

Tucked in the woods of New Hampshire, Glen Brook cuts through the noise. There is no scrolling, no endless comparison, no curated screens. Only people, nature, and the steady rhythm of days spent together. Awe and laughter fill the space technology leaves behind. Joy sneaks in where you least expect it. When the phones disappear, so does the scrutiny. Children get to just be. Present, open, alive. Freed from performance, they return to themselves, and joy flows through them, unforced, unmanufactured, simply real.

Humans are meant for each other. Everywhere, the more connected we are, the happier we become. Glen Brook builds community on purpose, weaving together songs, circles, and traditions until strangers become family. The bonds do not dissolve at the edge of camp. They ripple outward, shaping lives long after the summer ends.

At camp, children feel part of something larger than themselves, tied to the land, to the community that eats from it, and to the cycles of life that sustain us all. In this way, nature does not just accompany joy, it makes it possible.



In the end, joy is less about chasing fleeting moments and more about returning to what grounds us; community, nature, and meaningful work. At Glen Brook, farming, play, and song are not separate activities but parts of the same whole: a life lived in rhythm with the land and with each other. In that rhythm, children rediscover what our fast, fractured world so often forgets, that joy is not something to pursue, but something that grows when we live simply, together, and in harmony with the earth.



The Quiet Work of Care Samuel Gow • Farm Director

Glen Brook is a beautiful place, yet it does not remain so through the stillness of idle hands. It is the dedicated work of staff, students, campers, and all of our many other visitors and supporters that maintain the bucolic atmosphere and ecology of the hills and hollows that shape our campus. Often as I begin to lead a group in stewardship of this space I offer a reminder of our universal responsibility to care for Glen Brook and beyond that, to view our care of these pastures, forests, and buildings as a microcosm of the care and attention that we owe both the world and ourselves at large.

While rebuilding old stone walls, pulling milkweed out of the grazing pastures, or cutting back invasive shrubbery can feel tiresome or even a little futile, it is small daily acts of care that yield great growth. The farm offers me and its many visitors opportunities to engage in small daily acts of care that provide an abundance of lessons and growth opportunities that transcend the material food we produce. The farm is a living classroom yielding lessons on patience, compassion, and resilience.



The farm continues to teach me that calm persistence yields better results than the stress and frustration of trying to force nature to bend to my will and designs. On the farm, I find that patience is not passive, but rather active waiting and consistent effort paired with acceptance that growth, healing, and achievement require steady care and trust. I can water and weed, offer row cover and compost, but I cannot force tomatoes to ripen before their time, demand the carrots to lengthen, or even admonish the animals into the stock trailer. Nature follows her own rhythms and cares not for my timelines, but compassion for the world germinates patience, which in the face of adversity becomes resilience.

For campers and students, this becomes a life skill. Growth takes time and does not have a terminus and though we still, throughout many long years, continue to mature and learn, we always have the opportunity to be of service. On the farm and in life, there are few shortcuts and despite the speed of Amazon deliveries and microwavable food, good things still take time. Seeds are tucked into the soil long before they sprout, watered and weeded for weeks before they offer anything in return, just as the slow nurturing of our minds and bodies takes time, patience, and trust that we too are growing. Each day I tend to the garden, animals, and myself, and I continue to learn the hard and quiet truth that much of life comes in its own time.

In Memory of David White

 **Grant Butler • Facilities Director**

David White was a cherished member of the Glen Brook Community since its inception in 1946. David's love for Glen Brook, and his presence here, was such a gift, and his deep love for the Camp community will remain with us always.

This year marks a closing with one of Glen Brook's oldest and most engaged neighbors. What is unique to David White's relationship to the camp is that he was here from the inception, and never lost interest in its evolution over the 80 years of its operation.

A couple of years before William Harrer saw a listing for the Beedle farm, David's father Robert White purchased the smaller farm adjacent to Glen Brook, across Horse Hill Road and opposite our little pond. David recalled neighbors coming to his house and sharing the news with skepticism that a man from New York had purchased the Glen Brook farm, and was planning to turn it into a summer camp. Robert, who headed the department of psychology at Harvard, would say in his thoughtful demeanor: "Well, let's give it a chance."

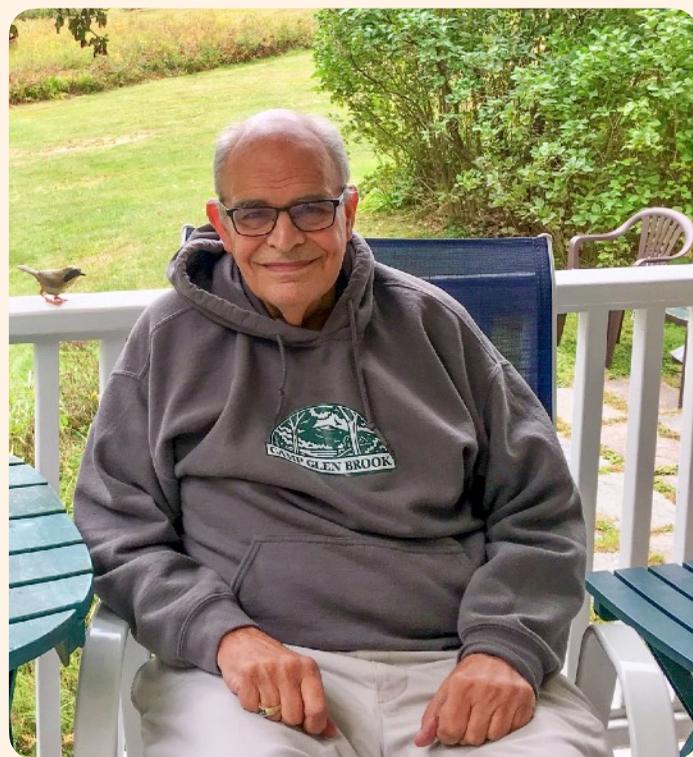
After Glen Brook's third summer, David was old enough to attend as a day camper from 1949-1956. After taking a couple of summers off, he came back as a staff member for three more years. He recalled with fondness the opportunity to assist William's wife Dorothy Harrer with animal care. Ponies, cows, goats, sheep, dogs, chickens, ducks, rabbits, and cats were all part of Dorothy's flock at one time or another, and clearly made lasting impressions on David and his fellow campers. In a recent article David shared the memory of seeing the mother rabbit build a nest with its own fur for the forthcoming babies.

In 1999 Dr. Robert White and his son David gifted their beautiful Colonial style home, along with its 50 acres, to Glen Brook. It was an enormous gift, as we have had multiple staff members use the house. The land plays an important role for our farm, and most of our solar panels now occupy the peak point of the hayfield there.

David's interests and time investments took him to other places he built community with: He attended High Mowing Waldorf School, where he remained a loyal supporter. Like his father, he loved music and the Marlboro VT Music Festival, and he worked as the music librarian seasonally. To that end he gifted many tickets to campers interested in attending a Sunday afternoon concert. And through Glen Brook, David kept a keen eye on the comings and goings at the Waldorf School of Garden City. He most often knew the names of the class teachers, and many of the supporting staff.

But Glen Brook was the first, and most endearing place for David. More summers than not, he would make a special trip to visit the traditional Music Night, still held on the last Wednesday of summer camp. And often he would make other visits to have a drive around the campus to see any changes, or just to visit his old home we now call White Meadows. One of the bonding qualities we all admired in David was his ability to align names and dates to Glen Brook staff and even campers. It was amazing to witness how David could recall names of people from any of the decades whether he had been present for the summer or not! It was this deep love of each person that led David to be a steadfast philanthropic supporter of Glen Brook for his entire life.

David's fondest memories of summer camp in most cases were from events loosely or strongly resembling what we do here today. These events included Wednesday trip days, Saturday night entertainment, Thursday square dancing, and Sunday Circle. His intimate knowledge of the personalities who started such traditions was truly engaging. And his desire to see current and future children live those same experiences endeared him to us all. We were fortunate beyond words to have his presence with us for all this time. It's nice to now picture him joining the spirits of all those people he helped us connect with when he was here.



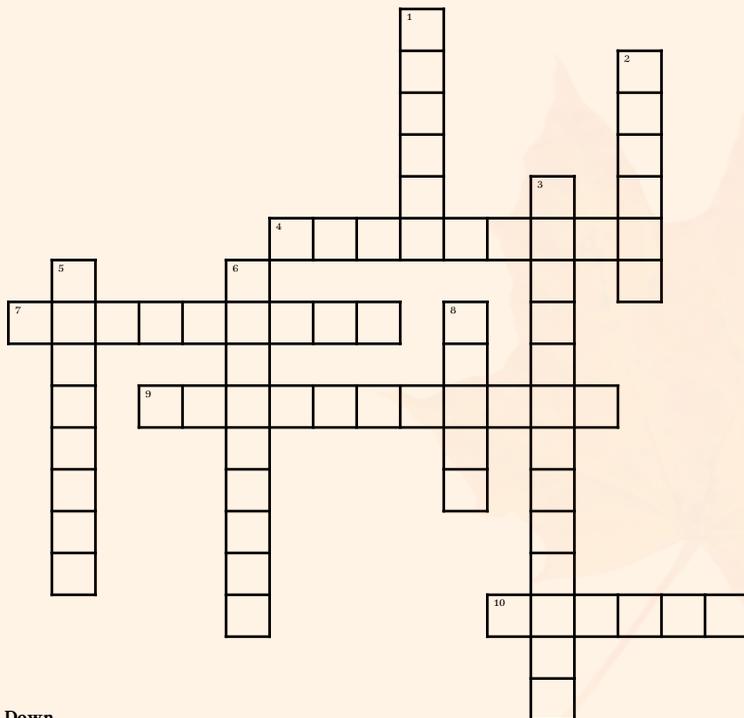
Become a Piece of Camp Glen Brook's Puzzle!



We are so excited about our Piece of the Puzzle Campaign: a new initiative to support our campership fund and all the camper families who rely on it. When 500 people who love and cherish this place each give \$100 and become a piece of the puzzle, we will raise \$50,000 and close the current financial gap in our campership fund, making Camp more accessible.

We know that the collective power of our community can accomplish great things and that a modest contribution by a large number of people can have an enormous impact, making it possible for campers in need to have a life-changing summer. It takes all the pieces to make the puzzle complete! Visit glenbrook.org/puzzle to make a gift today.

Glen Brook Puzzles



H D M E A L C H O R E S U W L
 D T F F K L L E W J Q G A A Y
 W U A A G L E N B R O O K R C
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 N A L A H I L L H O U S E C L
 O G O C P W O W R W U D Q E B
 M Z C V N I B A C E G D I R F

Down

1. Hilltop location that is great for stargazing
2. The last name of Glen Brook's founder
3. Where to find fresh produce
5. The path you take to go for a swim
6. The famous mountain that our region is named after
8. The A-frame across from the Hill House

Across

4. Large porch that runs along the main house
7. Where the kitchen, dining hall, living room, and library are located
9. ___ Glen Brook, he lives up the quartz-lined path
10. Sleeping structure by the lake's edge

Word Search Clues

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|
| GARRET | FALCON | GABLE | CANOE |
| FARM | GLEN BROOK | BARN | GAZEBO |
| LIBRARY | PARLOR | REC HALL | MEADOW |
| WELL | SINGING | LAKE PATH | MEAL CHORES |
| MONADNOCK | COLONNADE | HILL HOUSE | RIDGE CABIN |

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JOIN US for Camp Glen Brook's 80th Summer Camp Reunion!



We are thrilled to inform you that the Camp Glen Brook 80th Summer Camp Reunion will be hosted over Labor Day Weekend 2026 from **September 4-7th**. We cannot wait to welcome generations of Glen Brook Alumni back to Camp to reminisce, reflect, and enjoy classic Glen Brook traditions. You can find more information by visiting glenbrook.org/reunion. Registration for the event will open in January 2026.

We hope to see you there!