



Hagan Newsletter APRIL 2015 Visit CampHagan.com

Dear Campers. It's time. Your story for the Hagan Time Capsule is due June 1, 2015.

"Stories are the creative conversion of life itself into a more powerful, clearer, more meaningful experience. They are the currency of human contact." --Robert McKee

Grab a cup of coffee or tea, find a cozy chair, and start reminiscing about what made your time at Hagan meaningful, fun, memorable.....

All of us who spent summers at Hagan, whether they were two weeks, eight weeks, one summer or ten, carry within us experiences and memories that have helped shape our values and beliefs and the people we have become. Creating a story for the Hagan Time Capsule is an opportunity for us to preserve and share those unique experiences. Stories are powerful. They remind us of the bonds we shared and share. They strengthen and build connections between us. They teach us the importance of listening. They are a record of our lives, and they leave a legacy for the future. Everyone's story matters.

There are two ways to submit your story: 1) You can write it; or 2) you can find a favorite Hagan photo (your own or from the CampHagan.com website) and describe why it is meaningful to you. Your story can be serious, funny, emotional or something else entirely. You can sign your name, or it can be anonymous. Your story will go into the Hagan Time Capsule whether or not you can be present at the September 2015 Gathering.

You can email your story (HaganGathering@gmail.com) or you can send it by mail to the address at the bottom of the Newsletter, c/o Sandy Dempsey.

For more details about the Time Capsule stories, go the Hagan website and click on "Hagan Time Capsule" in the menu bar. [Click here to get to the Hagan Website](#)

THE HAGAN TIME CAPSULE HAS ARRIVED

The Hagan Time Capsule was purchased from Heritage Time Capsules. Their clients include Nike, Disney, Boy Scouts of America, Toyota, U.S. Air Force, Coke and many more. The Composite Rectangle container is glass reinforced epoxy resin. The exterior size is 19.8 x 18.2 x 10.3 inches. The interior is 18.6 x 16.6 x 9.3 inches. It weighs 16 lbs. Its stable material withstands large temperature fluctuations (-40F to 250F). It has a high chemical resistance to acids and alkalis and can be buried with no additional enclosure. It is easy to seal, watertight, and lightweight. The manufacturer suggests it will last for centuries.



Here are some questions to think about while you ponder the kind of story you want to create for the Hagan Time Capsule:

- What was your favorite time of day at Hagan?
- How did Hagan influence who you have become?
- What does the Delaware River mean to you?
- What was your happiest moment at Hagan?
- How did you grow spiritually at Hagan?
- What lessons did you learn at Hagan?
- If you could hold on to one memory from Hagan, what would it be?
- What effect did spending so much time in Nature have on you?
- Why do you think you remember most of the lyrics to the songs we sang?
- What was hardest about leaving Hagan at the end of your weeks there?
- Why do you still feel connected to Hagan after all these years?
- Why do you come to the reunions?



Top view of the Hagan Time Capsule

"Camp was the single most important part of my growing up, and I strongly believe that, in one way or the other, everything I am I owe to camp. Our camp director was the one person in my life who believed in and encouraged me. I didn't realize it at the time, but she was my *mentor*, a word that may not have existed then."

-- Jean Sack Wollan, *Birchwood*, 1942-53

Sleepaway: The Girls of Summer and the Camps They Love © 2003

CAMPER PROFILE

Anne Marhefka Lehr (Floppy)

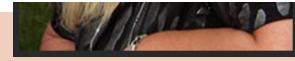
Camp Hagan 1962 - 1968

"You Are Going To Camp Hagan For Two Weeks In August!"

What did she say? I'm going where? Why? I began to cry.... My mother was not a great communicator and you did not dare ask any questions. When she saw my tears, I was lectured about how



ungrateful I was and how many girls are never given an opportunity like this. I was eight years old and afraid of the unknown.



Uniforms and name tags were ordered and a trip to the Army/Navy Store produced a trunk, bedding, towels and a flashlight. I remember handing my mother my Bible to pack.

The drive to Hagan seemed to never end. My mother pointed out Fred Waring's Shawnee Inn and shared about Jackie Gleason playing golf there. The road was bumpy, and suddenly I saw girls sitting on a large concrete block. Friendly faces directed us up the Hagan Road. My memory is fuzzy about walking to Jr. 3. I do remember my mother leaving quickly. I began to cry, and my counselor sat me on her bed and brushed my long brown hair into two pigtails. She told me I looked like a puppy with floppy ears. From then on she called me Floppy. Needless to say the name stuck, and Hagan became my sanctuary for at least one month annually for the next seven years.

I was born and raised in Easton, Pennsylvania, the daughter of an Otolaryngologist, and my mother was related to the Binney Family (Crayola). My sister, Joannie, also loved Hagan and brother Jack went to Miller. We were all sent to prep schools. I graduated from the Knox School on Long Island in 1971. Then attended and graduated from Centenary Junior College in 1973 and transferred and graduated from American University in 1975. My summer months in college I spent in Avalon, New Jersey waitressing at the Windrift, Golden Inn and Shelter Haven. My internship in college was with the CBS affiliate WTOP working on a TV show called NINE IN THE MORNING. They actually hired me for a few short months, and then back to Easton I went to assist my father in his office. My first marriage ended in divorce, but produced a wonderful son named Kevin. Sadly my second marriage made me a widow, and now I'm in a relationship. I have been a Community Advocate sitting on several boards and received a Philanthropy Award for my work in fundraising.

I love to golf and have been in several leagues through the years. I have never had a Hole-In-One, but I have won the Pot of Gold (cash) in tournaments. I also saw a nesting eagle on the Shawnee Golf Course.

The month of August at Camp Hagan was the best!! Swimming in the Delaware was probably my favorite activity. Mastering different strokes like the Trudgen was an achievement, as was Yellow Cap!! I worked for one tie - I think it was called a Red Chevron. I also enjoyed all the other activities - Nature, Arts & Crafts, Pioneering, Religion, Entertainment and sports. I may have forgotten a few.... but the piece de resistance was HAGAN CHRISTMAS!!! Making gifts and ornaments, stringing popcorn, dancing around the flagpole, breakfast in pajamas, the CITs on the kitchen roof, a scrumptious Christmas dinner and the CITs singing, TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS. So much fun and nothing

elaborate --- I wish we could relive those days.

My brother's first time at Camp Miller I signed us up for the Brother/Sister Hike. When we arrived at Camp Ministerium, my brother threw his arms around my waist hysterically crying and begging me not to leave him. A Miller staff member helped me calm my brother down, but in the end, I had to pry him away from me. He was so home sick!!

The dances with Miller were so exciting...street clothes, hair in a flip and makeup. I remember making out with a Miller kitchen boy under the starry sky. So great and so bad!!

Vespers, campfires and singing brought me a sense of peace...even at the recent reunions I find myself emotional as we remember all the camp songs and our voices still beautiful and harmonizing after all these years. Life at home was chaotic, full of fury and dysfunction. Experiencing structure, respect, stewardship, support and camaraderie at Hagan helped me realize there was another way to live one's life. Nancy Hartman helped me in ways she'll never know. Thank God she was my counselor that year in Intermediate 10 --- always present with a listening ear, advice and a hug.

Through the years and my many journeys, I have crossed paths with Hagan women I have known --- Greta Wagner, Wendy Robertson, Marty Conboy and Judi Hartman, all wonderful women who blessed my life. I look forward to the reunion in September. Hope to see you all there, and if not, then in spirit!

Warm regards and Hagan hugs,
Floppy
Anne Marhefka Lehr



Anne sinking a putt



Breydan Anne Kevin

NEWS & UPDATES

- The Hagan website has been updated. Look at some of the new drop down menus on the Home Page Menu Bar. For example, "Camper Profiles" are now under "About Us."
- If you haven't yet made your your reservations at the Shawnee Inn, please do, so that we will know if we need to set aside additional rooms.
- The Hagan "In Memoriam," (under About Us) on the CampHagan.com website now has a more complete list of those Hagan women who have passed away.
- It's never too late to send us photos for the "Hagan Then & Now" Photo Gallery. Email your "then" and "now" photos to:
HaganGathering@gmail.com

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