

## Happy New Year!

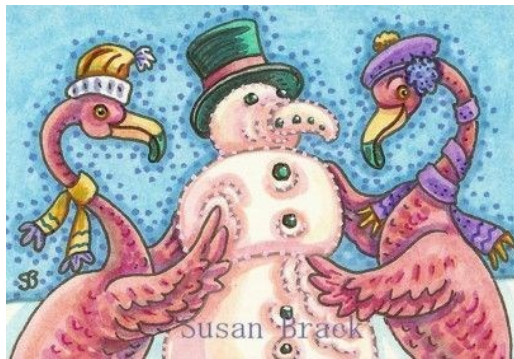
The New Year is often a time of reflection and re-focusing for the coming year. Sometimes people take this time to set a “theme” for the coming year, whether it’s education, money saving, physical fitness, etc.—it’s what they are going to focus their time and energy on in the coming year. At Fernwood Cove, we’ve designated 2014 as The Year of Friendship. We will spend a significant amount of time focusing on the connections and friendships that are built at camp and what we can do to support the development of those connections during the time we’re at camp, as well as the off season. We look forward to forming stronger bonds with each of you, as well as helping support healthy connections and friendships between you and your fellow Campers and CITs as well as the Fernwood Cove Counselors. Here’s to 2014, The Year of Friendship!

### Memories last a lifetime...

Check out the new vignette video of the Fernwood Cove Natural Horsemanship Program here:

<http://fernwoodcove.com/current-parents/activities/horse-back-riding/>

A huge “Thank You!” to all of the campers and staff who worked to help make this video a success!



We are so excited to see many of our incoming seniors at the upcoming

### SENIOR SKI WEEKENDS

(Session 1: January 24-26; Session 2: January 31-February 2)

Everyone can look for photos from both Ski Weekends in upcoming editions of the Fernwood Cove Mooseletter!

### WHO AM I?

By Bella Young (Session 2 Camper)

When I think about sitting down at my desk, and writing a personal narrative about myself, it's very difficult for me to choose what to write about. I mean, I'm young so how can I possibly know exactly who I am? Well, I honestly don't. But, when I think about the place in the world where I'm happiest and where I can be my true self, I think of camp. I go to Camp Fernwood Cove. It's in Harrison, Maine. It's located on a huge lake called Island Pond. It's my second home. We call Fernwood Cove the “extraordinary world”. And it's self-explanatory. Everyone who goes to this camp is extraordinary in their own way. And we push ourselves to be the best versions of ourselves throughout camp, and also to bring back some extraordinary into the ordinary world throughout the year.

I've only been going to this camp for 2 years but it has already made such a huge impact on my life. I remember the first day of my first year, I was scared, nervous, yet really excited. But when I got to camp I was instantly relaxed and I already felt like I was at home. Now, I'm positive that camp is my second home.

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## friend

noun

1. A person whom one knows, likes and trusts
2. A person with whom one is allied with in a struggle or cause.

From an Indo-European root meaning “to love”



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The friendships that I built were amazing, and it was incredible how I became so close with people that I just met, over 3.5 weeks. My best friend is named Emma. We have been in the same bunk for the past 2 years. And we are complete opposites. She is up to my elbow, and she is outgoing while I'm shy. She's the cream cheese to my bagel, the honey to my bee. But most of all, she is the best to my friend.

Another huge part of who I am is my horse Faby. At Fernwood Cove, we have a Natural Horsemanship Program, which means we approach horses in their natural way, and we treat them like people. Horses have different personalities, and we give them whatever they need to be the best horse they can be. We call Faby the gentle giant and it is also self-explanatory. Faby is a Cheval Canadien, and she's probably the most gorgeous horse that I've ever ridden. Also, we have the same exact personalities; we are both right brain introverts. This means that we are shy, timid, and we are constantly thinking about what will happen next. We constantly ask "what if" and we need love and support in everything we do. Faby and I have so much in common, like we hit a rough patch in our lives but we got through it. A couple years ago, she basically split her neck in half. It was so bad that the owner was able to see her lungs. Someone had to literally hold her neck together for an hour before a vet arrived and gave her over 300 stitches. She had to get hung from her neck and legs for 2 weeks and she was hand fed every 2 hours day and night. But she had such a will to survive and that's what I love about this horse. Now I didn't nearly have it as bad as she did. But I can still relate. And that's what made our bond so strong. Every single day at camp before I rode her I went out of my way to run to the other side of camp and get her an apple, then sprint back to the barn before the bell rang. Every single day I spent the whole morning looking forward to seeing her. And every single day I never took anything for granted when I was riding her. She is such a special horse, and a huge part of my life. As you can see, the most important things about me are when I'm not even in Maryland. But that's what makes it so special. This is who I am.

(Thank you to Bella for sharing this essay she wrote for school.)

## Jim & Beigette Visit the Windy City!

Jim & Beigette recently traveled to Chicago for a weekend of visiting with Fernwood Cove campers! They had a great time reuniting with returning camp families and meeting new campers as well.



## Fernwood Cove Winter Tour

*Los Angeles*

February 20—23, 2014 with Jim & Beigette

*Philadelphia*

February 26, 2014 with Marran

*New York (Manhattan)*

February 27—March 3 with Jim & Alicia

*Boston*

March 6-9, 2014 with Marran

Contact Marran (Marran@fernwoodcove.com) to schedule a visit when we are in your area!

## Fernwood Cove is Extraordinary in White!

There is something truly magical about camp—the same can be said in the winter months. While it's much quieter, the energy and enthusiasm of the Extraordinary World still follows us through each day. The days of green lawns and a mirror surface on the lake are replaced by a blanket of snow and crisp air. The energy and laughter of the campers, CITs and staff are replaced by the buzz of various construction tools, chatter of plans for new projects and the joy and laughter of recounting memories of the summers past when campers reenroll for the coming summer. This winter is no different—camp is abuzz with planning and projects and almost daily campers are enrolling for their first summer or to return to their summer home. Take a look at what's been going on at camp for the past few weeks—we can't wait for you to see it in person this summer!



The interior stone fireplace has been completed in the Chick. The concrete platforms at the wall are now covered in stone as well.



The Fernwood Cove Living Library is getting an update as well. New paint colors and comfy seating have been added. There will be other cozy details like curtains and rugs added before this summer!



A huge "Thank You" to Nurse Linda's husband, Jim, for this amazing winter picture of camp!