

SUMMER  
2007

Kimberton Hills News

# Seasons and Cycles | **Diedra Heitzman**

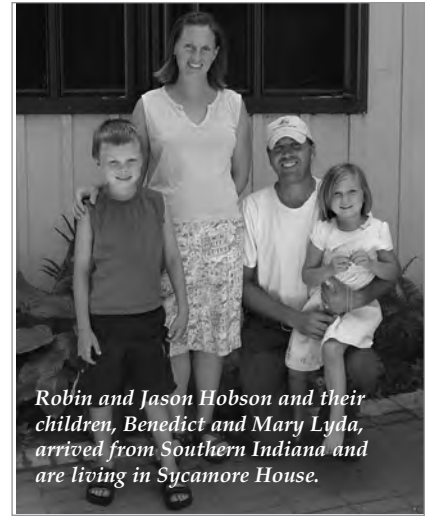
In summer in Kimberton Hills, we inhabit new spaces. The air, the landscape and the water become different and inviting. Everything is as we remember it from last summer, but it has all changed, too. We are different!

Around us, much we imagined through the winter has been brought forth by nature or our friends—or ourselves! There are flowers upon flowers in spring, the beginnings of garden produce, hay ready for cutting, orchards promising fall fruit, events and much music, visitors and guests, students, families, friends. Then suddenly we hear the sound of the cicadas and know that the summer is full and fall is in sight. The garden is producing bounty that the CSA members are picking up. Cows are happily burying their noses in lush green. The second cut of hay is neatly rolled into white lines at the edges of fields. We have picked off Japanese beetles in the vineyard, sprayed biodynamic preparations, cleaned out closets, imagined and re-imagined how we can make changes when new people arrive, and kept the steady beat of daily work, meetings, holidays, and planning.

Some of our harvest is in: The Clees have welcomed new baby Maeve Grace; we have welcomed the Hobson family into Sycamore; moved a lot of former Sycamore-ites to Sankanac, chosen the fall's crop of service volunteers (one year co-workers); finished Rose Hall's new stucco and trim, painted other buildings inside and out, put the swimming pool into our daily schedule, and rejoiced that rains have come when needed.



*One of our cows*



*Robin and Jason Hobson and their children, Benedict and Mary Lyda, arrived from Southern Indiana and are living in Sycamore House.*

Amidst it all, we had sad news of the death of Donald Klein, MD, our stalwart friend, mentor, Board member, counselor and of course, Amy's father.

In August we began Café renovations; two families and a new villager are expected in September. We are revamping workshops and preparing for exciting changes in our bakery. The now Annual Golf Classic is coming in October. I invite you to read on and see what else has been and will be happening!

## What's Inside

Happenings .....	2
Visitors to the Village .....	3
Remembering Donald Klein.....	4
Looking to the Future .....	4
Second Annual Camphill Classic .....	5
Friends and Family Day .....	5
Village Profiles:	
Tom and Sebastian French-Corbett .....	6

*Camphill Village  
Kimberton Hills*

# Happenings

Earlier this year, Kathryn Keegan and poets from the Schuylkill Meeting Writers Group worked with Camphill Kimberton residents to develop a group poem for a May Day performance with music in Rose Hall. About 30 people participated in a lively collaboration that resulted in a poem about spring. (right)

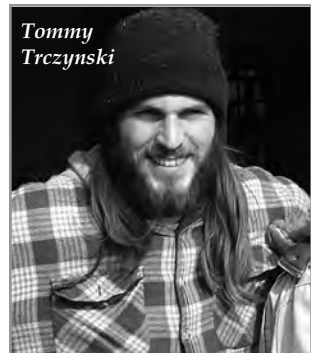
This spring we celebrated new life and welcomed Maeve, daughter of Steve and Sue Clee. Born on May 10, she joins sisters Ella and Lily.

Astral Artistic brought two exceptionally fine classical concerts to Rose Hall, and Venezuelan music rang out in a stunning music and dance concert presented by Casa de Venezuela. Shortly after Ethan Hazzard-Watkins and his group Figments presented a lovely evening of folk and country dancing music

On June 9, we kicked off the summer with the annual Hootenanny, a festival of music and food. There was a great crowd here in the village to hear folk and bluegrass music by local musicians, try some delicious food from our café and enjoy the children's activities including water games, face painting and pony rides.



*The Hootenanny signaled the start of summer's long days of sun and fun.*



*Tommy Trczynski*

Also in June, we said farewell to Tommy Trczynski, who was in his fourth season as a coworker on the farm. Tommy headed to New Zealand to work with a grazing dairy operation, home to 400 cows. His joyful, frolicsome, and hard working presence is missed in the Village. (His talents as a mimic were utilized in many village skits!)

The Camphill Café officially closed for renovations following an Evening Meal celebration on July 27. A new outdoor seating area and pathways will connect the Café and Rose Hall, creating an exciting and attractive Village center. Stay tuned for updates on this project.

Another delightful musical production by Kimberton Hills debuted on the Rose



*The cast sings Oom-Pa-Pa in Oliver!*

Hall stage. Adults, our children, the orchestra, a chorus from the music workshop and some local children participated in a production of *Oliver!* Directed by Veronika Roemer, it had almost full houses for four performances (one a dress rehearsal with a full audience!) and was well received.

## THANK YOU!

Donors Marcia Holland and Alan Wiegand were inadvertently omitted from our 2006 Annual Report. We apologize for the oversight. Thank you for your generosity!

## In first Spring

*In first Spring  
A kiss! A call!  
Lightening dash.  
Thunder flash!  
The play unfolds on Nature's stage.*

*The orchestra tunes the greenwood tree.  
Spring peepers, giggling tadpoles, fiddling ferns  
Harmonize with  
Ringing rivulets.*

*From the wings  
Light from hearth and heart  
Life!  
Longing to flower with soft persistence  
Violets and snowdrops nod awake.*

*Honey bees bumble.  
Moths, wasps whiz.  
Stink bugs ding. Beetles dance. Ants track.  
The actors have gathered.*

*Into their midst, guilty creatures, bulldozers,  
Churn,  
Turn bluebell, dandelion, stinging nettle meadows  
Into cereal box houses.*

*So struck to the soul, neighbors rebond,  
Bless the earth.  
Growing plants lift their faces while  
Happy cows leap over Beltane fires.*

## A gift today, and in the future

Providing for the future well-being of your family while supporting the mission and community of Kimberton Hills can be accomplished through a number of philanthropic opportunities known collectively as planned giving.

Planned gifts include gifts you can make through a will, trust, insurance policy, or retirement plan. These plans are the best way to combine your personal financial objectives with your charitable goals. Great wealth is not necessary. Planned giving is simply an opportunity to provide benefits to family now, and in the future, while making a statement about your belief in us – supporting living in community, discovering vocations, and stewarding the environment. Planned giving also may have beneficial tax implications. You should consult with your tax advisor to learn more about the specific tax implications resulting from a planned gift.

If you are interested in learning more about planned giving please contact the Development Office at 610-935-8660.

# The magical escape...

In May, 11th graders from Rudolf Steiner Waldorf School in Manhattan spent a week volunteering at Kimberton Hills. A week or so later, 11th graders from the Chicago Waldorf school volunteered for two weeks. Martha Cownap coordinates these visits and others, integrating students into daily work and helping them get a taste of Camphill life.

Below are some comments we received from the Manhattan students:



*"We've been so stressed out," said one student, "I have felt so out of it. I felt like I couldn't learn anymore; I came here and thought I'd be cranky*

*and impatient, but the opposite happened. I am filled with curiosity. Before I regarded disabled people as 'others' but once you know them, there is no category in which to fit them. Everyone is different and unique. These people are sometimes referred to as having special needs. Well, the term special is right. These people are special."*

*"This year has been so hectic for us," another student shared. "It has been so wonderful to have a real work day, to have real conversations with my classmates, my teachers, the villagers and the co-workers."*

*"It is impressive how happy everyone seems. Amazing that such a community has been created."*

*"I couldn't really tell the difference," said another student. "I don't see even why there should be different names, such as villager or co-worker. I have people in my family who are mentally challenged, but they are not lucky to be in an environment like this. They are not asked to work. Work is a magical escape. It lets you lose yourself but then you find yourself."*

*"I was a little nervous about coming, but I love this place and the people – I love it more than any place I've ever been."*

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A group from LEAD, a component of the Philadelphia program, Building with Books (BwB) organization, returned to Kimberton Hills in June for a service learning trip. Last year they persevered through rain and storms; this year it was the heat and humidity.

The LEAD program reaches out to youth in the communities where it works. The service learning objectives include accomplishing a meaningful goal, taking on leadership roles, seeing the impact of their

physically and mentally challenging work, and learning more about the organization, the issues at hand, and the community.

This year's group found it challenging to be in rural life, but were able to overcome the lack of city amenities and settle in nicely. No doubt some lost a little sleep, but their enthusiasm for the garden resulted in many garlics sorted and weeds pulled.

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Who else has toured recently? The American Planning Association met in Philadelphia and a delegation visited to see local agriculture effectively nestled among suburban areas. Township supervisor and farmer Ken Miller and his wife Sue, who lease our cheese house for artisanal cheesemaking, joined our own Steven Clee and Sebastian Kretchmer in presenting our integrated gardens and dairy. "Being good neighbors makes all the difference," says Ken.

Members of the Main Line Unitarian Church, introduced by Mary Kane, visited to see what the village has done with sustainable building. They had lunch in the Café and a chance to meet some of us and learn about other aspects of our lives.

Dave Hollowell brought friends from Lancaster area's Friendship Village who serve people with area group homes and sheltered workshops. While our work has some similarities, the topic of the day was geothermal installations for heating and cooling!

A group of Radnor Middle School science students and their teachers (right) visited to learn about innovative ways to manage wastewater and "run-off."



A Master of Environmental Science class from the University of Pennsylvania and Prof. David Harper visited to learn about land use planning and sustainable agricultural and building practices.

## Items Needed

**Kerria House** would like some camping equipment, especially a lightweight tent and sleeping bags. They could also use a cordless phone. **Helios House** needs a small, apartment-size or dorm-size refrigerator.

Please call 610-935-8660 if you'd like to donate any of the above items. THANK YOU!

# In Memory of Donald Klein

Recently, we learned of the passing of Dr. Donald Klein, our dear friend and father of villager Amy Klein.

Donald was a pediatrician and medical school professor whose compassion, especially for the developmentally disabled, brought him to Kimberton Hills. It was a perfect fit: Donald had even cautioned families in his practice to “avoid T.V.” He and his wife, Sandra, served as members of our Human Concerns Committee, and Donald has served as chairman of the board. As an Emeritus Board member, Donald sadly had to withdraw somewhat as illness overtook him in the last two years.



Donald’s legacy of service began before Kimberton Hills separated from Copake as a member of the long standing “Work Wardens,” the precursor to our Board of Directors. He and Sandy spent many hours discussing the issues of Kimberton Hills on their way to and from Baltimore and our Board meetings. They counseled wisely, and in tandem they offered humane, thoughtful support. They strongly supported “individuality, productivity, self-deduction, satisfaction, and dignity” for people with disabilities, well before those values were widely held. Those ideals nourished Kimberton Hills through many years. Donald was well loved by his patients and their families, wife and son and daughter, and by all of us who got to know his warm heart, generosity of soul, and deeply compassionate wisdom.

While it is impossible to put into a few words what Donald has meant to us and this village, his warmhearted spirit will be lovingly remembered and sorely missed.

The following poem was displayed above Donald’s desk. Let us take strength and inspiration from it, as our friend Donald did each day.

## The Salutation to the Dawn

by Kalidasa, Indian Dramatist

Look to this day!  
For it is life, the very life of life,  
In its brief course  
Lie all the verities and realities of your existence:  
The bliss of growth  
The glory of action  
The splendor of beauty,  
For yesterday is but a dream  
And tomorrow only a vision,  
But today well lived makes every yesterday  
a dream of happiness  
And every tomorrow a vision of hope.  
Look well, therefore, to this day!  
Such is the salutation of the dawn.

## Looking to the Future

With excitement and a healthy dose of fund-raising efforts, we have finalized the plans to transform an architectural vision of Rose Hall and Café into a lively, welcoming cultural and dining site at the top of the hill. Think Van Gogh’s Café Terrace at Night.



Both Rose Hall and the Camphill Café are in need of significant renovation. Rose Hall serves as a cultural site for the greater community; it has not been updated during its 27 years. For the Café, our vision is

to renovate and enlarge it, thus allowing us to serve more people and potentially enter into partnerships with one or more organic food providers. Connecting these two venues will be a welcoming terrace with gracious landscaping offering a setting for sipping or eating under the stars or warm sunshine. This design will bring vitality and beauty to both and just as importantly, if not more, will move our Village forward in being accessible and welcoming to all.

We still need \$100,000 to reach our fund-raising goal. To make a contribution, please contact 610-935-8660 or [rachel@camphillkimberton.org](mailto:rachel@camphillkimberton.org).

## Make a new friend

Lynn Schatzburg and friend are looking for some weekend days out, approximately once a month. If you’d like to help out or are interested in working with us as a volunteer, please contact Bernadette Kovaleski at 610-935-0300, ext. 12 or [bernadette@camphillkimberton.org](mailto:bernadette@camphillkimberton.org).

## CALENDAR

OCTOBER 15, 10:30 am: THE SECOND ANNUAL CAMPHILL CLASSIC at Stonewall, Elverson, Pa. Call 610-935-8660 for details, to register or become a sponsor.

NOVEMBER 8: CULTIVATION DINNER at the Kimberton Inn. Join new friends and old as we raise support for Kimberton Hills. Contact Rachel Martin Swartz at 610-935-8660 or [rachel@camphillkimberton.org](mailto:rachel@camphillkimberton.org).

# Second Annual Camphill Classic set for October

Following the success of our first (and a half) golf tournament, we will return to Stonewall Golf Course in Elverson, Pa. for the Second Annual Camphill Classic on October 15, 2007. The proceeds from the Classic will directly support Camphill Kimberton. There are several ways you can help make this event another success and surpass last year's final tally.

The Development Committee is seeking sponsorships for the Classic. This is a great way to highlight your business while helping support the mission of Camphill Kimberton. Personal sponsorships are also available – you or your family can sponsor a hole, the lunch, or the event itself.

Are you a golfer who loves to try new courses? Here is your chance to play one of the area's most exclusive private clubs. Stonewall's famous original course is ranked in the top 50 best modern courses in the country. The day begins with a buffet luncheon and with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. You will also have a chance to win a Porche or Escalade. Not a golfer but still want to get involved? Why not attend the evening portion of the event? Starting at 5:30 p.m., join us for drinks, hors d'oeuvres, dinner and the auction. Also consider donating an item for a door prize or to be included in the auction. Are you an artist or craftsman? Do you own a vacation home or your own business? Why not donate a piece of art, a week's stay in a vacation home, an hour of service – landscaping, business planning, car detailing, music lessons – whatever it is that you do! All contributors will receive recognition in our program and annual report as well as the attention of a captive audience of golfers and friends.

With your help we will take a big step toward helping those who are financially unable to cover the cost of living in the Village. Please join us in making the Camphill Classic a huge success! Contact 610-935-8660 or [rachel@camphillkimberton.org](mailto:rachel@camphillkimberton.org).



## Family and Friends Day 2007

June 2 was a sunny Saturday for our annual Family and Friends Day. A potluck lunch was held under the tent and our guests found some shady spots to visit with one another. The festivities included a performance of a scene from *Oliver!* and a chorus of "Consider Yourself" as we joined voices and sang to our visitors to "consider yourself, one of us!"



*We also fêted Herta Hoy's 50th Anniversary of living and working in Camphill communities. This significant milestone celebrates a remarkable life of service to others.*

*Above: Herta and children in her first Camphill Village.*

*Right: Herta and Maeve Clee*



*Left: Susan Newcomb and Music Therapist Kerry Lee*

*Below: Nathaniel Hecht and his father, Martin*



*Tommy Tzciniski joins Claudia Swenk's family for some fun. L to R: Tommy, Robin Hilton, Robert Swenk, Claudia, Jana Ellixson, Mike Swenk*



*Holly Bicking and her brother, Sam Bicking*



*Betsy Church, Sue Clee and Ross Church catch up.*

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## VILLAGE PROFILES: Sebastian and Tom French-Corbett

Bernadette Kovaleski

For as long as his dad can recall, Sebastian French-Corbett has been a “schmooser.” Always the life of the party, he enjoys socializing with friends and family. Further described as a “ham” by his father, Tom French-Corbett, Sebastian does light up a room when he enters.

It should come as no surprise to learn that both Sebastian and Tom make quite an impact on the people they meet, including an award-winning actor, who helped them start on their journey toward life with Camphill Kimberton.

Tom and his wife, Carol, did not want to send Sebastian to the public middle school 15 miles away from their home in Kentucky. They asked around to find alternatives and one of Tom’s former students, actor Martin Sheen, suggested Camphill Beaver Run. Soon after, the French-Corbett family was on their way to a long-term relationship with the Camphill Movement. On the way home from a visit with Sebastian when he was a student at nearby Beaver Run, Tom and Carol stopped at Kimberton Hills to purchase fleece and yarn. Carol was intrigued that the community had sheep and

sold yarn, yet had no weavery. In order to set one up, Carol and Tom applied to be volunteers and became householders. They spent almost 12 years in the Village.

After Beaver Run, Sebastian graduated from Soltane and came to Kimberton and lived with Tom and Carol. He recalls that time as his favorite thing about the Village. “I enjoyed living with dad and mom and the coworkers,” says Sebastian. “We had fun in Helios.”



Sebastian & Martin Sheen

Today, Tom and Carol live with their daughter and her family in New Jersey and Sebastian lives in Kerria, but has worked in Sycamore, Oberlin and Pfeiffer, as well as in the garden and the woodworking shop. Because the wood shop is closing, Sebastian now spends his afternoons in the weavery.



Tom & Sebastian French-Corbett

Sebastian enjoyed participating in plays at Soltane and frequently had the lead role. At Camphill Kimberton, he was recently seen on the stage in *Oliver!* in several roles.

“Camphill has meant an awful lot to Sebastian,” says Tom. “And he is the one who led us here. It is a wonderful environment; the setting has a certain energy to it – the farmlands, the trees, the gardens and the integrated life. It is a real privilege to live and work in this community.”

Tom is now helping the development office with preparations for the Camphill Classic, an annual golf tournament to raise money for village support. Sebastian, always a “schmooser,” also volunteered at last year’s Camphill Classic and had the opportunity to meet the participants.

Upon Tom’s request, Martin Sheen became a sponsor for the golf outing and a donor to the silent auction. Last year he gave an autographed copy of the final script from his popular television show *The West Wing*. A friend at the outing bid on the script and gave it to Sebastian as a gift. “It is a very proud possession of his,” says Tom.



Carol & Sebastian at Family & Friends Day