Hive's Newsletter

the buzz

2026

Dearest Hivers,

I've been thinking about you all so much! I've been wondering how this next season is going for you. A lot has happened since we said goodbye to Hive at the end of the summer. School, sports, clubs and activities, and all the other busy-ness of the Fall are sure to have kept you on the go. The same has been true for me: we had a wonderful Reunion to celebrate Hive's 110th summer in August and I've been traveling around the country on our fall tour with Char (Aloha's Director) and Ridge (Lanakila's Director) meeting up with camp families. I still find myself thinking about our Hive community often and what we learned and built together.

We created a pretty special place where we could let loose and be silly. And challenged ourselves to do better when mistakes were made. We celebrated each other's big and little wins and took pride in our own achievements. We thought about and practiced Bee-ing Somebody for the community, each other, and ourselves.

At camp, we talk about striving to be our best selves a lot. Bee Somebody is a great way to encompass that message. It's not just about picking up a piece of trash (though that is a great thing to do) or returning someone's lost sweatshirt to them. It's also things like supporting a friend who is

continued on page 2



IN THIS ISSUE: 3 SURVEY 4 HIGH RANKS 6 POETRY & PROSE 8 2027 DATES



continued from page 1

homesick because you know what it feels like and being mindful of the impact you have on a campsite because you want it to be a place for people to enjoy for years to come. I heard many times around camp on a regular day, "Way to bee somebody!" The community really seemed to embrace and live out this ideal.

Now that you're home and in school and involved in activities, how are you Bee-ing Somebody in those spaces? What are you taking the initiative to do when somebody should respond to a situation? Beeing Somebody isn't just about being kind, it's also about seeing yourself as a person who can make a difference and that's empowering! Each of us has a different way of Bee-ing Somebody because we all see different ways to contribute meaningfully. I may pick up 12 hair ties off the ground on the way down the hill to breakfast, but you may notice the Lolander who is walking alone and looks like they need a hug. Both are valuable and help a community to be its best.

One of my favorite things about Hive is how inclusive we are: how we care for each other, challenge each other, bring out the best in each other, and have fun together. It starts with cheering when you first arrive at camp and can be felt in a million different ways during the summer. I miss our special community after the summer is over, and I am already so looking forward to being together again for Hive 2027!

It has been such fun reconnecting with some of you at our open houses, but if I don't see you, please know that you're on my mind. I'm cheering for you (with pom poms!) and sending all the hugs and camp magic your way.

Aloha,

Ellie



Ellie Pennell
Hive Director

WE ASKED...

1 What's something you **DO AT CAMP** that you don't get to do at home?

"Be an unplugged baddie!"
Ari Sansom, Anti-Q

"Get to sleep in a tent!"
Charlie Bates, Dolphin

"Eat so much Cholula."
Blessing Drakes, Dolphin

"Choose what I do during the day."
Rory Mitchell, Lolander

2 What's a moment this summer when you **SURPRISED YOURSELF**?

"Getting my golden bee (an award for attending all the departments) even though I was scared to try some of the activities not knowing if I would like them."
Avery Lewis, Dolphin

"I surprised myself by playing in the camper-counselor pickleball tournament—I'm not very good at pickleball or tennis, but decided to be brave and try it."
Charlotte Hall, Anti-Q

"Eating perogies (I hate potatoes)."
Megan Hall, Lolander

"When I made more friends there than I thought I would, and bonds that will last forever."
Virginia Sraeel, Hilander



POLL: A DEAD HEAT!

50.75%	Mississippi Mud
49.25%	Harry Potter Day

YOU ANSWERED!

3 If Hive had a **MOTTO**, what would it be?

"Welcome to the Hive, where you can Bee you!"
Juno Waite, Hilander

"Friends are forever, Hive makes it happen!"
Myla Patten, Dolphin

"We play fair-lee!"
Lilah Gilbert, Anti-Q

"Bees that work together can make the Hive better!"
Penny Morhardt, Anti-Q

4 **BEST MEMORY** of summer?

"Tattoo after tattoo!"
Ellie McKnight, Anti-Q

"Running to my best friend on opening day."
Mia Leventi, Anti-Q

"Anti-Q overnight."
Mielle Astrachan, Anti-Q

"When I won 'Monarch of the Court' in Pickleball!"
Ruthie Frydman, Anti-Q

5 What's the best example of **"BEE SOMEBODY"** you saw this summer?

"A Hiver was cleaning up the Dungeon and hung up towels, swimsuits, and other random items for people to find—it was nice that she was cleaning up belongings that weren't hers instead of leaving them there."
Grace Copper, Anti-Q

"When someone was nervous to do an activity, so someone else randomly offered to join them, and they both loved it!"
Hailey Byrnes, Hilander

"Letting someone have a turn on the seesaw."
Lou Lou O'Neal, Lolander

"When I saw people doing things that pushed themselves, or when people branched out to people they did not know."
Pippa Sullivan, Hilander



by Valerie Pelusi, Dolphin

EARNING IT

Advice from Campers Who've Been There

High Rank and Rover are some of the biggest goals a camper can take on, a summer-long commitment to mastering a skill and giving back to camp. We asked campers who finished what it was really like.

The hardest part...

"Time management. I felt like I wasn't going to finish... I had to learn to step back and tell myself 'you can do this.'"
Elizabeth Magee, High Rank in Canoeing

"My community service project. I got many splinters and got very hot wearing long sleeves, jeans, goggles and gloves in the hot sun."
Anika Batten, Rover

"Either the service project or the inter-camp match I had to plan, because it took lots of time."
Elizabeth Drossos, High Rank in Tennis

The best part...

"Being able to tell yourself 'I did that, I finished!'"
Elizabeth Magee

"Painting and showing camp my rover chair... I can't wait to sit in it every day next year."
Anika Batten

"Seeing how happy and proud all the counselors were when I got each thing done."
Elizabeth Drossos









Advice for next summer...

"GO for it. The worst thing that can happen is that you won't finish, and in that case at least you tried."
Elizabeth Magee

"You shouldn't be afraid to do hard things. Just start and keep working towards your goal."
Anika Batten

"Don't stress too much about getting everything done fast. The counselors will help you."
Elizabeth Drossos





THE SORTING HAT

An Interview

Q: Hi Sorting Hat, thanks for joining me in an exclusive interview for the Hive Buzz. When did you first come to camp?

A: *"Thank you for having me. I first stopped by when Helen Shaw invited me in 1967, and visiting Hive is a great way to spend my summer holidays when I'm not at Hogwarts."*

Q: What department would you be in if you were a counselor at Hive?

A: *"Hmmm, a good question. I'd struggle to be in Archery, because I am a hat. I have no way to hold the bow and arrow. I think I'd be in Performing Arts. As you may remember, I have a flair for the dramatics."*

Q: What house would Ellie P. be sorted into?

A: *"She is certainly a woman of wit and her passion for camp is unmatched. Readers may not know this, but she enjoys puzzling in her spare time. I think it must be Ravenclaw."*

Q: What's your favorite camp meal and song?

A: *"I'd have to say my favorite camp meal is Sunday Lunch. It reminds me of the roast dinners at Hogwarts. Yum. My favorite song is The Woods are Lovely Dark and Deep. It contains words of deep wisdom and reminds me of the Forbidden Forest back home."*

Q: Before we go, a quick-fire round: Hive's birthday or Mississippi mud?

A: *"Definitely Hive's birthday. I'm still wiping Mississippi mud off the back of my brim from 1991. That was enough for me!"*

Q: And finally, do you have a message for the Hive community?

A: *"Yes certainly. Keep the camp magic alive during the year, and I can't wait to sort you all in 2027! Farewell for now! "*



Where I Belong

Sunday Assembly reflection by Elizabeth Magee

"Before I came to Hive, nature was just there. I mean, I would play in the woods with my friends, and I enjoyed hiking with my family, but I haven't really felt like I was part of nature. In school, we learned about how to take care of nature and pick up trash and all of that stuff. But to me, that was just like, okay, we shouldn't just leave our junk around everywhere—that's not very nice.

Well, soon enough, camp came around, and I trudged up the hill to my first Rainbow's End, and that's when it clicked. As I sat on a bench in this magical place, I felt like I was part of nature. As the fern in my hair danced in the wind, and the trees cast their long shadows across me, I felt like I was where I belonged.

Ever since then, every Sunday assembly, every Rainbow's End, every trip, and every adventure, I have always treated nature as an equal. Because I know that that is where I belong—in the heart of the woods, among the trees. And even when I'm not there, it's with me. And if I close my eyes, I can still hear the rustle of the trees and the chirping of the birds and feel the cool, soft breeze on my face.

Because camping taught me that we are all a part of nature, and nature is a part of all of us.

Embracing Embarrassment

Anti-Q Assembly speech by Helen Berry

"Being a leader can be shown in different ways. A very important part of being a leader is embracing embarrassment. That means if something embarrassing happens, just laugh it off. If you learn how to let things roll off your back with a laugh, then people will learn to laugh with you, which makes a more fun environment for everyone! I learned this once at soccer practice, when my friend kicked a ball when I wasn't paying attention and it hit me in the head and I fell over like a domino. Thankfully I wasn't hurt, but it was very embarrassing. Instead of getting mad, I just laughed it off, and now me and my friend have a funny joke to tell. Embracing embarrassment is being a leader by making a fun environment where people are encouraged to have fun and be themselves."



Candlelight

by Victoria Pennoyer

Lolander summer, all fresh and new,
Now I'm an Anti-Q in forget-me-not-blue,

Dolphin summer, starting to figure it out
How to braid hair without a pout,

Hilander project, all games and fun
The taste of smores on the tip of my tongue

Second session yet to come
So much fun I might just run

All these memories that I have made
On Lake Fairlee, I hope they don't fade,

Hive has been great, but I'm ready for more
Come on Aloha, open that door!

Aloha Means

A poem by Maggie McFarlane

Hive oh Hive feels so alive,
With laughter and friends and spirits high.
The five different units so unique and friendly,
They all have their very own personalities.

Lolanders the lowest on the hill,
With a unit full of fun and lots of giggles.
A swing and see-saw you may find
Are almost always occupied.

Dolphins in the Dell, that giant oval,
You'll know almost everyone's name.
The way those tents have been arranged
The dolphins should know pretty well
That we all envy their awesome dell.

Hilanders, the hill's highest have such a hike (especially H9).
I may be biased and they certainly know
that the Hi Pro is no small show.
And the playhouse, oh you can't go wrong
By playing a little bit of ping pong.

Anti-Qs, the antiques of the Hive,
All ready to thrive before we say our final goodbye.

Odds and Ends, my camperless friends,
And I'm just saying this: Is it really fair
Their little amount of KP? We'll see...

Departments, departments galore: what interests you today?
Please write down for swimming in the lake, baking a cake,
Crafting a gift for a friend, exploring the land,
Getting a tip on my backhand,
Climbing the ropes, feeding the goats, sailing a boat,
Learning how to paddle, having a kickball battle,
Tying a counselor, singing for Aloha
A backhandspring, a bullseye, just please take a shower!

All my years at Hive have taught me that
Aloha means hello and it also means goodbye,
Until we meet again beneath some tropic skies.



HIVE
ALOHA FOUNDATION

2968 Lake Morey Road
Fairlee, Vermont 05045



Mark your calendars for 2027!

ENROLLMENT IS OPEN!

FULL SESSION: Friday, June 25–Wednesday, August 11
1st SESSION: Friday, June 25–Sunday, July 18
2nd SESSION: Tuesday, July 20–Wednesday, August 11
1st INTRO SESSION: Friday, June 25–Friday, July 9
2nd INTRO SESSION: Tuesday, July 20–Tuesday, August 3
VISITING WEEKEND: Saturday, July 17–Sunday, July 18

ALOHAFOUNDATION.ORG