



The Emerald Bay Chronicle

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Message from the Chair

Generations

Living life is an exercise in learning new things. Some of these lessons we learn “the hard way,” some of these things we learn through painstaking research and schooling, and some of these lessons we learn from those close to us who have been generous enough to share their experience with us. We don’t know where Nathan and Brian have picked up many of their tricks as great facilities managers, but I can only assume many of them have been earned in valuable ways from those very close to them. I have recently been reminded that many of the lessons I have learned over the years, the ones passed down through the generations, were the most valuable.

We begin a new generation in our circle with every summer session and the 2015 staff is just starting to take shape now that staff applications are in and interviews have been conducted. I can’t wait to see what lessons our returning staff and those of us who have been around for many years, learning valuable lessons from our previous generations, are going to be able to pass down to the new generation.



Nathan Erlandson, Facilities Director at Emerald Bay, on the porch of his new home.

New Facilities Chief

Nathan Erlandson began as the Facilities Director at Camp Emerald Bay in August of 2014 after Brian Pierce moved to Camp Whitsett to become the Council Director of Facilities. Nathan is an avid outdoorsman, hunter, sailor, an Eagle Scout and has a background in facilities management. All of this makes Nathan perfect for Emerald Bay.

While attending college, Nathan came out to California from Minnesota looking for adventure. He found it driving boats on Catalina Island. After graduating from college, he came back to

the island to work for CELP, an outdoor education program based in Howland’s Landing, next door to Emerald Bay. The year round staff at Howland’s got to know him and discovered that he had a “handyman background” and offered him a full time job on Howland’s staff working with the facilities director. While working there he met his future wife, Jillian, and the kindly ranger at the camp next door, Brian Pierce. When Brian knew he was leaving the island, he recommended Nathan apply for the job (See **Facilities Chief** on page 3)

Emerald Bay Skyline

Emerald Bay’s skyline is expanding. With the completion of the four two-story cabins on South Hill and the two above the dining hall, housing in camp is no longer one-dimensional and is reaching for the sky. Year round and summer staff will utilize the new housing. After the summer camping season is completed and the seasonal staff leaves, winter groups will be able to

rent the cabins.

The cabins have a variety of room configurations. Three of the cabins have two and three bedroom apartments, each with one bathroom, a living room and a kitchenette, designed to provide year round staff with permanent housing. The other three cabins are configured like dormitories with four bedrooms (See **Skyline** on page 2)

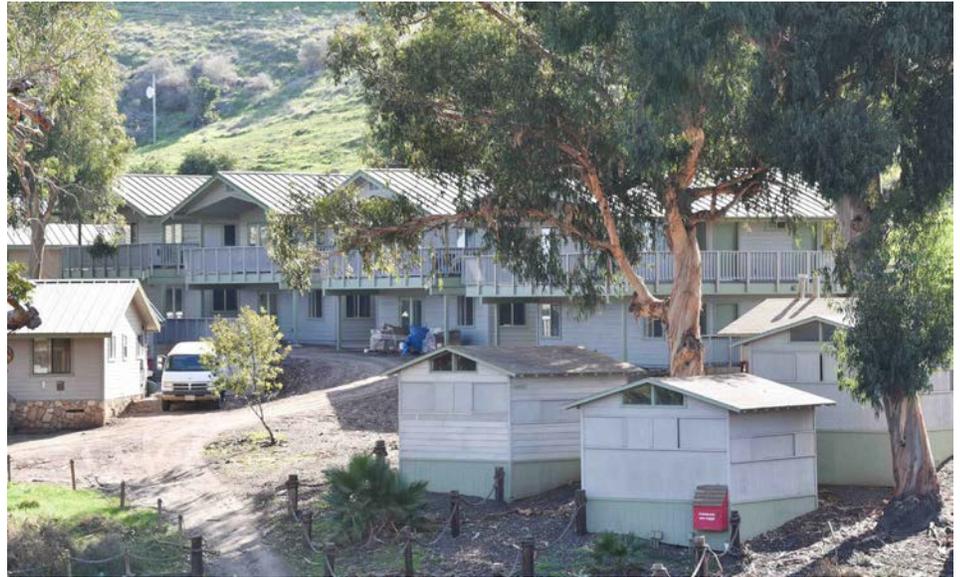


Skyline (from page 1)

sharing common bathrooms on each floor. The upper units have porches that feature ocean and camp views.

Construction began more than a year ago and was managed by Brian Pierce. All of the materials were brought in by barge to Emerald Bay. Bob Hawkins, whose construction company is responsible for many buildings in camp, was a major contractor on this project.

Lee Harrison, the COO of the Western Los Angeles County Council, was responsible for fundraising for the construction, thanks all of the generous donors, including the Emerald Bay Association, which helped make the



The four new two-story cabins on South Hill that will provide much needed housing.

project possible by providing funding for one of the buildings.

The new buildings ease the housing crunch for the summer staff, provide comfortable residences for the year

round staff and additional housing for off-season groups. This furthers the goal of making Emerald Bay a year round destination for both Scouts and others looking for a unique island destination.

Camperships Matter

The Emerald Bay Association provides funding for camperships for Scouts who could otherwise not afford to attend Camp Emerald Bay. Generous donors contributed over \$10,000 in 2014 to camperships. The Association

received this letter from a grateful Scout who was able to attend Emerald Bay on a campership in the summer of 2014. Thank you to the donors who have contributed to the camperships. Without this support, this young man would have missed this opportunity to experience Emerald Bay.

To Whom It May Concern:

I want to start off this letter by saying “thank you” not just for letting me go to camp, but for the memories that you gave me! If it weren’t for your generosity, I wouldn’t have gotten to experience the great Camp Emerald Bay where so many Eagle Scouts were made into men. Thank you. I’m now almost Star Scout because of the merit

badges that I earned. The ones I earned include Camping (where I learned how to prepare), Lifesaving (where I learned how to save lives), Wilderness Survival (where I learned to survive), and last but not least, Nature (where I learned the importance of everything.) Also at camp I overcame my fear of sharks while snorkeling in the middle of the ocean. My favorite memory from camp was sleeping under the stars during Wilderness Survival.

In the future, I hope to give another Scout the same opportunity as I had! As an American I am proud to be a part of the Boy Scouts of America.

Sincerely,

2014 Campership Recipient



Mammal Studies in the Nature Area



Facilities Chief (from page 1)

he was leaving. Nathan applied and was selected for position.

Nathan has many ideas for improving the camp. He is interested in technology and will use it to be more effective in his work. He says he is going to computerize all the maintenance schedules and logs and look for patterns and trends in the data that will improve

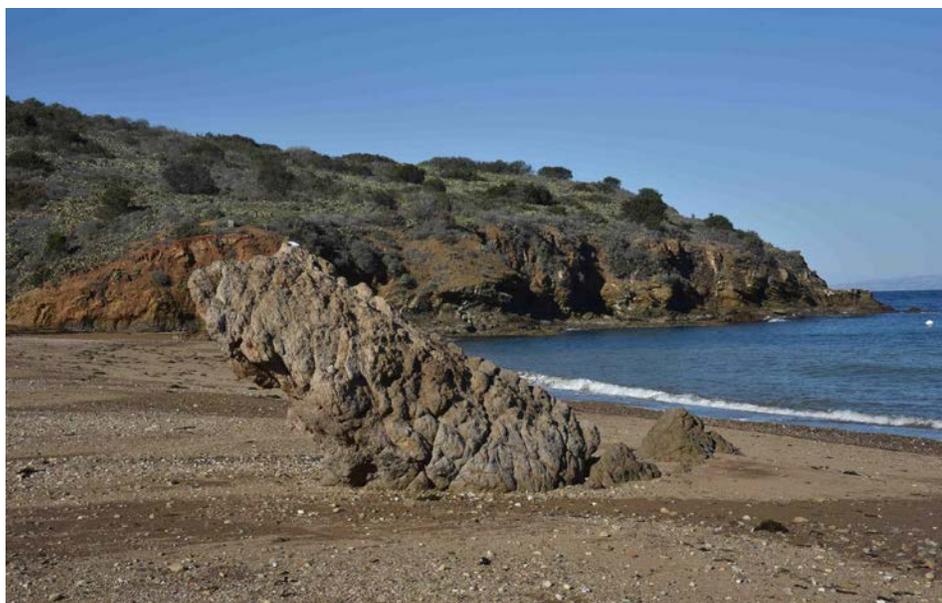
efficiency. Now that the construction on the new housing is wrapping up, Nathan wants to focus on making the camp more “aesthetic” and less like a construction site. Nathan believes that three things affect the experience of campers at Emerald Bay in addition to the program: the food service, the maintenance of facilities and the tents. He says he can’t

do to much about the food service, but is determined to improve the other two areas.

When asked how the Emerald Bay Association fits into his vision for camp, Nathan says he wants to cultivate relationships with alumni, meeting and getting to know them. He want alumni to feel welcome and enjoy the camp experience. He appreciates the contributions the alumni make to keep the camp running through contributions, work parties and more specialized help. Nathan stated “Jill and I hope that we are as welcoming as past rangers so we can continue the tradition of service and support that the alumni provide.”

Nathan seems like a perfect fit for Emerald Bay. His forward thinking, outdoor skills, knowledge of maintenance and youthful energy will serve him well as he manages the facilities at Emerald Bay.

Where on Catalina Island?



Where is this distinctive rock formation located? It juts out of a sandy beach in front of a neighboring summer camp and next to a yacht club. It is not located on Sandy Beach or in Parson’s Cove. Hikers can see it from the road as they are traveling between the Isthmus and Emerald Bay. It is located on the beach in Howland’s Landing east of Emerald Bay.

Calendar of Events

- Jun 07 First Camping Session
- Mar Alumni Ski Trip
- Aug 15-16 Emerald Bay Alumni Reunion
- Aug 15 End of Last Camping

Yes, I want to support Camp Emerald Bay.

I am enclosing: () \$50 () \$100 () \$250 () \$500 () \$1000 () \$_____

Name _____

Email Address _____

Please send your donation to the Emerald Bay Association, P.O. Box 959. Venice, CA, 90294
To learn more and donate online, please go to **www.EmeraldBayAlumni.org/donate**.



Leeward

www.emeraldbayalumni.org

Scenes from Emerald Bay in Winter



Where the buffalo roam...in the campfire circle!



A Catalina Island Fox saunters through camp.



Brian Pierce, Lee Harrison and Nathan Erlandson inspect the new construction where the Ambassador cabin used to be.



Brian Pierce and Jerry Guire complete their inspection of the new two-story cabins located on the hillside above the dining hall.

Emerald Bay Association
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Address Correction Requested