

Discovery

Joy is an Inside Job: Our Theme for 2020

Written by Cathy Stackpole

“Fear is most afraid of joy.” (Debra Landwehr Engle)

While Ferry Beach is often a place where we are “escaping” to get away from all of the current challenges of the world and particularly our current state of political affairs, we often take our worries with us. We come to believe there is no joy.

Fear that blocks our inner joy is a choice we make. My mom raised seven kids with an alcoholic husband who struggled with jobs. She instilled in us the belief that universal love breeds more abundance. Every week, even though we barely had enough to feed ourselves, she always donated a bag of groceries to the church for the less fortunate. She told me later in my life that each Sunday she would drop money in the basket as it went around, sometimes praying in her thick NY accent: “ya know Gawd, this is my last dolla.”

We often spend more time listening to the voices in our heads reminding us of our limitations and our vulnerabilities which lead to fears and judgments. How do we acknowledge the joy we see in the children playing on the beach or running through the volleyball court? It is the same joy that once existed within us.

Many of us worry about the future, the planet, our children, our grandchildren, our democracy and our beloved community at Ferry Beach. Yet, many spiritual traditions teach joy as our natural birthright. We touch upon joy in the warm and loving reunions we have with friends and family and Ferry Beach. We are all worthy of the abundance and beauty of the world around us.



This year, we will be exploring the theme of joy as a spiritual gift, a natural state we are born with – joy is inside of each of us. Debra Landwehr Engle, who teaches at Ferry Beach from the Course in Miracles, says that many of us are “suspicious of joy. We don’t trust the people who walk around exuding joy. We wonder what’s wrong with them.”

When I was the Executive Director of a battered women’s shelter in Kansas City, I had a Unity minister on my board. She believed whole-heartedly in joy and universal love. She often chided our board to set our intention and focus on the good. She believed that we would have all of the funding we needed to run the shelter. Initially, I

IN THIS DISCOVERY

1-2
Joy is an Inside Job

2
Leaving a Legacy
A Conversation

3
A Conversation (Continued)

4
Summer 2020





thought she was crazy and met her joy with fear and pessimism. However, as I came to believe in this universal loving energy, I found myself drawn to the places that helped me and other board members raise the needed dollars to keep the shelter open. Her belief in the abundance of the universe, made our work almost effortless.

We have an opportunity this year to re-discover the joy that lives within. Surely you already know the roadblocks to joy that live within you. What keeps you from returning to the joy with which you were born? Explore what fears hold you back from knowing that wherever you are, joy is.

A Good Life - William C. Metz

Written by Elizabeth McNab

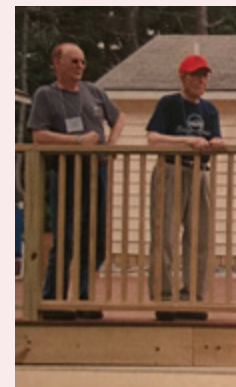
Billy, son of Bill and Clarice Metz (who met and honeymooned at Ferry Beach), was truly a Ferry Beach child.

As a young boy in the 1940s he loved to collect the sand dollars on the beach; stacking them up and then tossing them back to their sea water homes. As he grew up, he has a lot of fun camping in the old World War II platform tents in the Grove. Bill enjoyed carefully organizing his things in the orange crates next to his folding cot and exploring the paths amongst the large pine trees.

Playing ping pong in Rowland Hall was a favorite pastime as a teenager, and he was really good at it! Bill enjoyed listening in and watching the happenings in the theater from the balcony (especially during World Affairs Week).

As an adult Bill felt a strong pull to preserve the sense of community and fellowship. He saw an opportunity with his sisters Margaret and Elizabeth and his architect brother-in-law Kevin in creating the Metz Village. Happily this plan has meant a lot of enjoyment for many Ferry Beachers – a place where people can have some personal space and yet be together.

Thank you, Bill, for all you did to continue to make Ferry Beach a special place. Due to lung problems brought on by Agent Orange in the Vietnam War, Bill died on August 13, 2019. A full obituary including his many accomplishments can be read at averystortifuneralhome.com/obituary/william-bill-metz



Conversation Between a Member, Board President & the Executive Director



Member: The place looks great! Can you tell me some of the changes you have made in the last year?

Marty: Well we have done some cosmetic changes like our branding – new flags, new sign on Route 9, brighter signage in the dining hall, etc. You can also see some of the structural changes that have high interaction with our conferees: the Dolphin room, removal of the annex, the board walk and the renovation of the Rose Pavilion.

Cathy: We also tackled some things you can't see, roof replacements, electrical and plumbing challenges. Living at the beach, these roof replacements are an ongoing activity! We also added heat pumps to all the meeting rooms in Rowland this year, having done that 2 years ago in DeWolfe.

Marty: If you are a member and you go to the annual meeting, you know we have made by-law changes in the last few years to keep us current with the world around us and the not-for-profit best practices around meetings, quorums and the like. These changes are keeping us current in our field.

Cathy: Not-for-profit organizations are governed by strict guidelines and rules that primarily come from the Internal Revenue Service and are monitored by watchdog organizations like BoardSource and GuideStar. Funding from foundations, corporations and corporate foundations often hinge upon whether or not an organization is following these best practices and rules from the IRS. What you may not know is that our board and executive director are always looking to make sure we are following our industry standard.



Member: Wow, so that is a lot of governance type issues that we as members never see. What else have you done like that?

Marty: In the past few years we have: 1) operated in the black; 2) not borrowed from our endowment; 3) created a communications policy; 4) added or removed items from our by-laws to be following Maine not for profit law; 5) created an ethics commitment for our board work. We also routinely, have an annual board retreat in which we set goals for the year; we review the work of the executive director in the fall; have an annual audit at the end of our fiscal year with an outside firm and we pass an annual budget.

Cathy: Yes, we are busy as an organization also making sure we are in compliance with labor laws by paying summer people minimum wage at least, addressing the need for both exempt and non-exempt staff, making sure people get breaks, etc. It is a lot of details to keep track of but the organization is on surer footing when we take care of all of those compliance details.



Member: You have enlightened me, I didn't know about all of this. I came to the Labor Day event and the people I met were over the moon about the food, the band and just the whole event. What do you see on the horizon for Ferry Beach?

Cathy: We loved Labor Day too. We had more than 180 people here and consumed over 150 lobsters! We got a lot of really great feedback from new people who had a blast. We have already asked the band to come back, they were great.

Short-term, we are making the transition to being open year-round.

We are thrilled to welcome guests in September & October as well as April & May in all our lodging and in the winter months, in our warm cottages, cabins and hotel style rooms. We also now have heat in Rowland so the downstairs will be open longer in the season and we look to finish insulating so we can keep the lodging rooms open upstairs.



Marty: Long-term we still have some challenges ahead with our buildings. Gardiner needs to be replaced, the building is beyond the cost of repair, however we want to wait a few more years before we start a capital campaign. We are looking to build a more robust volunteer corps that is local to help us with special events and activities. As a board we are looking to diversify in all ways and reach out to many more groups. Now that we are open year-round, we have lots more to offer our communities!



Member: Thanks so much for talking with me and helping me understand what a dynamic organization Ferry Beach is!

Discovery

NOVEMBER 2019



Hogwarts has just opened a new campus: Ferry Beach in Saco, Maine! Do you want to be a member of the very first class? Orientation begins April 18th, 2020. Bring your family and explore your options, engaging in Hogwarts curriculum and social activities for five whole days. What destiny will the sorting hat choose for you? Spend time in the Dark Arts creating uniforms and casting spells to enhance your team's performance in the Quidditch tournament. Learn how the local flora and fauna can be utilized in the magic of herbology, and how in turn, your skills in herbology can benefit the environment. Practice transfiguration using a variety of magical materials, using them to enhance the developing campus. Show off your potion making skills and add to your potion recipe book. Discover your patronus and learn how to draw strength from channeling such a powerful spirit animal. And finally, celebrate your first weeks' accomplishments with your fellow wizards, witches, and families at the concluding party. Your owl-delivered acceptance letter awaits! Bring your family April 18-22, 2020 and explore your options engaging in Hogwarts curriculum and social activities during the spring school vacation week.

Learn more at ferrybeach.org/hogwarts

Did you make your reservations yet?

Many programs are already filling up for next summer - so if you have a favorite spot, reserve it now. Online registration not yet available - however call **207-282-4489 x1** and someone from our registration team will gladly help!

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 6/12-21 Profound Treasury | 8/8-14 Circle of Music |
| 6/21-7/4 Youth Camps | 8/8-14 Company of Women |
| 7/4-10 RE Week | 8/16-21 Sacred Circle Dance |
| 7/11-18 GAYLA | 8/16-21 Women's Healing |
| 7/11-17 ChoralFest | 8/17-21 Soul Path Renewal |
| 7/18-25 Two NEW Family Conferences! | 8/22-24 Beach Getaway |
| 7/25-8/1 Family & Friends | 8/22-26 Finding Hope |
| 8/1-8 UUFAF - Yoga - Paddle | 8/22-28 Quilting by the Bay |
| | 9/4-7 Labor Day Weekend |



Thank you to those who participated in our Fall Festival and contributed over \$15,000 in donations! If you weren't able to attend but would still like to contribute, visit ferrybeach.org/giving