



Honoring the Life of Ernestine Hall



Ernestine Hall was one of the individuals who helped bring Camphill California to life. Her son, David, was accepted as one of the first residents in the House of Ishi. After searching for decades for a communal environment that would allow her son, David, to flourish as an individual living with developmental disabilities, Ernestine and her family found themselves constantly moving schools and houses, with limited choices that would meet the needs of her son. Despite these adversities, Ernestine never gave up. "I always tried to do things along with David that would help enrich his life - I held a dream for him to have as complete a life as would be

possible," Ernestine shared in a Camphill interview in 2002.

In the mid-nineties, Ernestine began meeting with a friend in the Bay Area region of California, Kathleen Namphy, who connected Ernestine with the Camphill movement. Through this supportive networking she met Julie and Alex George, co-founders of the Camphill California Task Force. She and David attended two task force meetings and knew that this was the place they had been searching for.

Roswitha, another parent of a Camphill California resident and part of the California Friends of Camphill Task Force, commented how in the early stages of developing Camphill California, "Ernestine showed up at an outreach meeting in San Francisco out of nowhere saying 'I am alone and have no friends or relatives in the area that my son could stay with and he needs to go to Camphill.' That's how I met her. She was quite self-assured and determined enough and David was one of the first friends admitted. It was so touching."

In a Camphill California newsletter from 2002, Ernestine recalled her

experience of integrating into the Camphill Community. "My dream has come true," she wrote.

Rest in Peace, Ernestine. We are honored to have been able to fulfill your wishes, and to have had David in Camphill until the end of his fulfilling and fruitful life.

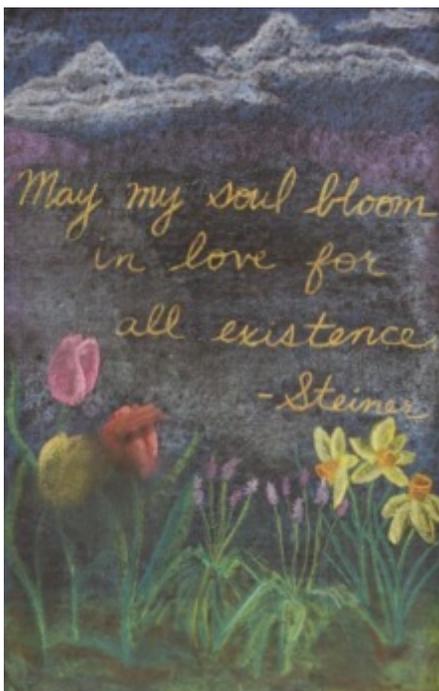
Following His Passions

Anyone who has spent time with Matthew knows of his love for outdoor power tools. Leaf blowers, weed whackers, lawnmowers, electric trimmers, Matthew has become an expert in them all! No wonder, then, that Matthew is a part of the Camphill California Landscaping crew where he helps create and maintain the lovely properties in our community. In his most recent project, Matthew helped create the new and beautiful landscape of Camphill California's newest home, Chrysalis. You can also find Matthew trimming the hedges and leaf blowing at the House of Ishi.



Matthew working at the Arboretum.

We are proud to announce that Matthew has begun working at the UCSC Arboretum as part of the Community Life job coaching program. His main tasks at the Arboretum include mowing, weed whacking, and clearing the trails visitors use as they enjoy their way through the Arboretum. He also enjoys volunteering his skills at the Homeless Garden Project farm on the westside of Santa Cruz.



Soul of the Home

In Camphill, our house communities are "Beings"- spaces that we create together to embrace the unique qualities of each individual who lives there; while also creating a shared environment where all can feel comfortable and belong. The soul of the home is at times a mood, a presence, an awareness, "Holding space" for those who live there. At times it is like a fabric, the color and quality of which can change according to who is present, and the activities, tasks and events that make up the day, the week, the seasons, the cycle of the year. Like the cycles from Spring until Winter, the home wakes, goes to sleep, and wakes again.

Enriching the soul of one's home can be cultivated by cooking and preparing food, shared meals and good conversation with friends, playing music together,

reading a daily verse, or lighting a candle. The soul of the home and the wellbeing of those who live there can also be enhanced by walks in nature; collecting flowers, stones, feathers, autumn leaves- items that bring joy and warmth to the heart. Objects can be displayed on a small table, reflecting the season at hand. Playing music together, singing songs, celebrating of festivals and birthdays, these are all ways that enhance the quality of "Home". By bringing nature, music, conversation, shared experiences into the home, the space is continually renewed; like social seeds being cultivated and allowed to grow.

Contributed by Anya Hobley, co-Director

The Human Race

It's that time of the year again and Camphill California is preparing for the annual Human Race! The theme this year is Give More. Grant Wishes. Make Magic.



Camphill California Human Race team from 2016

The Human Race is the largest collaborative fundraising event in the Santa Cruz County. Nonprofits, local businesses, schools and many more will gather on Saturday May 13th to walk, jog or run 5 miles along West Cliff Drive in Santa Cruz. We look forward to this event every year as we get to relax and have fun together, rain or shine, while supporting Camphill California.

You can help our community participants reach their goals by donating on their [fundraising page](#). You can either donate directly to an individual or to one of the Camphill California houses. Once you click on one of the houses below, each individual team member will be listed on the right hand column.

[Sunrose](#)

[Marimi](#)

[Ishi](#)

[Evergreen](#)

[Chrysalis](#)

We hope to see you there!

Camphill California is thriving especially due to the continuous interest and support from you all. Thank you so much, we couldn't do it without you!

We have added new items to our [Wishlist!](#) Check it out below



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