

## 2012 Season – Ready for Action!



As the counselors and staff were arriving in Weld on Wednesday afternoon to begin our Staff Training Pre-Camp week the skies cleared from an over-night drenching rain, and remained dry for the entire week! This was a great boost to our set up efforts and led to the Diving Platform Crib and Docks going in on the first full day! Kris Tyler, Ed Watson, and Jack Fader coached many other staff members in the difficult work that led to this happy result. Oh – and the water was cold!

Year two of the new athletic fields did not require as much work as in '11, but still kept the crew led by Will Ryan, Evan Jones, Sean Simpson, Mike Altmaier, and Cameron Cisco quite busy. One addition that the athletic department added this year was new poles and netting which will prevent lost balls from disappearing into the woods. The good news is that the new fields have handled hurricanes and spring floods and still look great!





Preparing Sailing for camp is always a big job and Rees Tulloss, and his mates Luke and Sam were up to the task and the fleet is looking good! An exciting new addition to the sailing department this year is the new Hobie Cat which I'm sure you will be hearing more about.

All other departments including Ropes, Rifelry, Water Skiing, Boating, Kayaking, Art, and Shop were busy, painting, cleaning, raking, setting up, spreading wood chips, revising levels, re-supplying and many other details making way for safe, fun, and challenging activities – just add campers!

Nature is getting a major re-boot this year: Spencer Branch, Ben Zambito, and Ginna Malley-Campos are preparing to plant a camp garden and help camp become a more sustainable and earth-friendly place by putting into

place a site composting facility, and greatly improving our recycling efforts. We can't wait to get the kids digging it!

One highlight of Pre Camp is always the Weld Town Dinner. Sean Minear and his crew put on an incredible feast, and the counselors make our many town friends welcome as we celebrate the good will that Weld and Camp Kawanhee have enjoyed throughout the decades.





Another highlight was the Staff Tumbledown Hike! Over 40 hearty Kawanhee souls hiked the Brook Trail to the top of Mount Tumbledown. Ironically, it was the only day of the week that wasn't sunny! But spirits were as high as the mountains as a number of the intrepid hikers dove into Crater Lake and made the famous swim to Blueberry Island. After lunch we broke up into smaller groups and shared goals that we each have for making this the best season ever.



Many, many thanks to the entire Kawanhee Staff for making the Staff Training Pre Camp week a safe and successful one. The camp looked great on opening day – just the way the campers remembered it!

~ Dan Webster

## Working together – the Kawanhee WAY!



Walking back into camp after ten months just takes my breath away. I live in Arizona and go to school in New Mexico so getting to come to Maine is just such different scenery and I love it so much. I've been coming to camp since I was ten and I now am a counselor here.

My favorite thing is that we are family and so accepting of each other. When all the counselors showed up it was incredible to watch. People who hadn't been to camp in years were greeted with hugs and smiles and got reacquainted with old friends, while people who hadn't seen each other where finding out about each other's year away from camp (aka their off season). The new staff members were left out for only a few moments until people had been reacquainted and then it was their turn to be accepted into the family that Kawanhee is. By the end of the first night they were no longer considered new, they were just family members we didn't know as much about.

As pre-camp went underway, everyone worked together and joked together through the jobs that had to be done. There was no issue with people being from other countries or being new, everyone just worked together and had a blast and was a big family.

This is one of the few places that I know of where this can happen and it just makes Kawanhee such an amazing place and I hope that it keeps being here for generations because I think that every child should be able to come to a place like this.

~ Robert Di Prima

# 2012 Directors of Activities (DOA's)

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## **JP Rullan**

Dear Kawanhee Family,

This summer marks a threshold for me in a brilliant way. Not only was I chosen to help manage Kawanhee, but it is the first time I share camp with my best friends from home. Never have I felt a more thrilling or different season in my life. I get to feel the daily joy of seeing my once two separate families interact and mesh in a very natural and gregarious way.

This marks only my tenth summer yet I also have the unique privilege of being able to serve camp as a Director of Activities. I have had to learn a lot of new things in a very short amount of time, but I certainly feel enriched as a person and in outdoor childcare, which is my ultimate dream, in fact Danny, Ginna, Frances, Edgardo and my brother John Fritz all share this common vision of providing a character building camp experience in Puerto Rico, our home.

Sharing this duty with Ed Watson has helped immensely since he has more years of experience at Kawanhee than I have breathed across calendar years. I feel we

create a dynamic and well balanced team. I am incredibly grateful for this opportunity and the only thing I can truly say about myself in this new position is that I care intensely about doing a good job for the camp and the well being of all the people involved, and as long as I am in good health I will strive continuously to make this summer unforgettable for the boys. Every day I only appreciate more and more the tireless work of so many individuals and even generations of braves who have for so long made this giant clock "tick", I can only hope to be as strong and consistent a "gear" as those before have been for me. May there always be a Kawanhee...

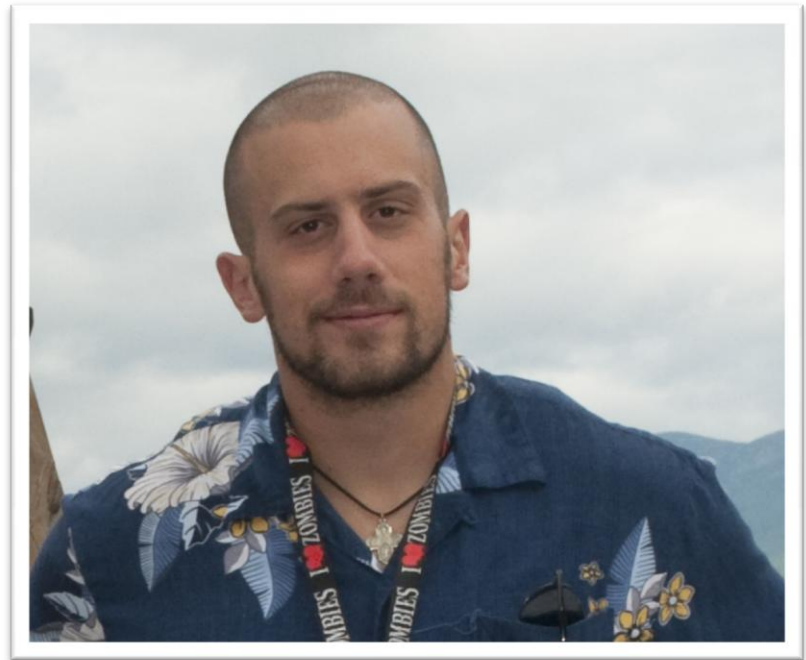


## Ed Watson

Dear Kawanhee Family,

Hello. My name is Ed Watson and I am one of the two Directors of Activities (DOA) for the 2012 Kawanhee season. I've been coming to Camp Kawanhee for Boys for the past twenty-three summers, and have loved every minute of it. I played here, taught here, met my wife here, was married here, and now my wife and daughter are here with me.

Working with campers here inspired me to become a teacher, and I have spent the last seven years teaching Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics, and Religion in Ohio and Vermont. I am currently working on a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership. At Kawanhee I have been Director of Kayaking, Boating, Swimming, the Waterfront. There have always been leaders here at camp that have inspired me--Mark Nelson, Liz and Mark Standen, Herb Birch, Walter and Jane Estabrook, and countless lodge and activity counselors who walk the trails of Kawanhee and help to kindle the fire of brotherly love in the hearts of those around them. This dedication to an ideal larger than themselves, and the willingness to lead a life of virtuous example is what drew me to camp.



All that I can humbly hope for is that I can have the same effect on the lives of others that those leaders had on my life. I couldn't be more excited for this summer, and I have a great partner in crime--J.P. Rullan, who is as dedicated as I am to sharing the Kawanhee spirit this summer. May the fire of Kawanhee burn forever brightly in your hearts.

~Edward Watson - Director of Activities

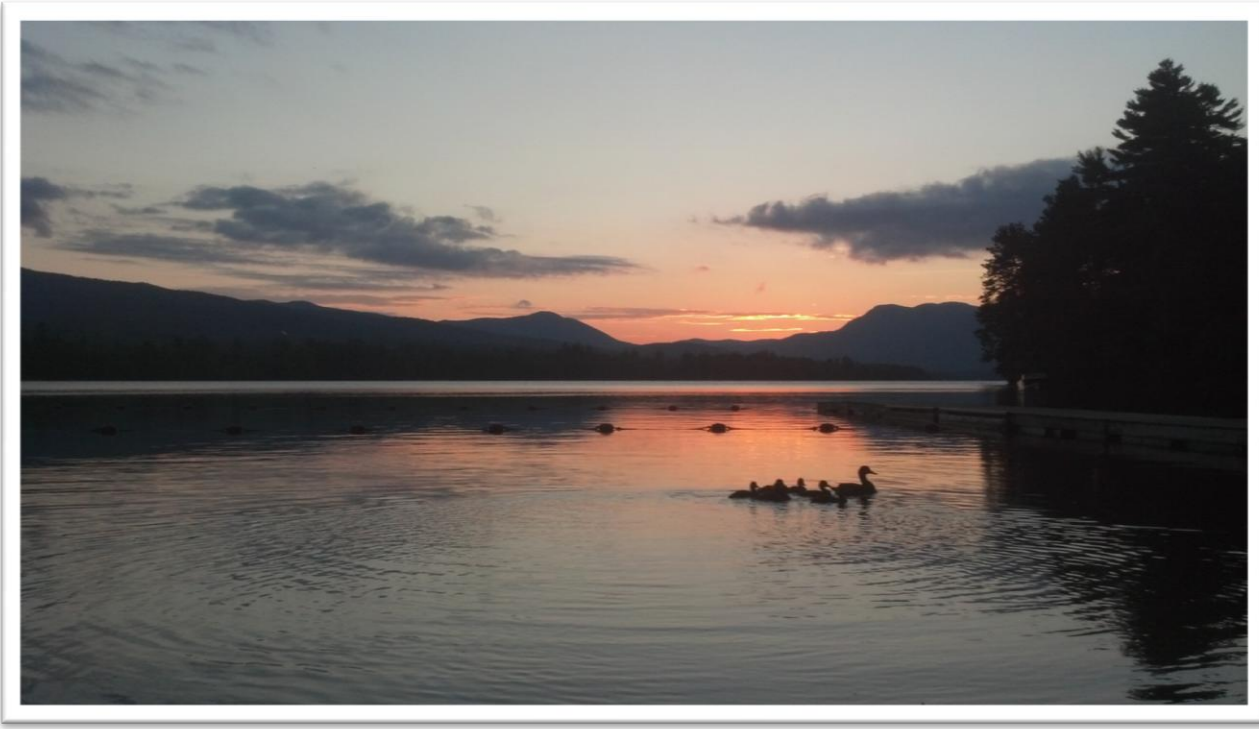


Photo by Cameron Cisco

### **First Timer**

For a first timer, there is naturally a period of resisting the oddity of new names in flocks: the overwhelming sensation of threading thick lives through a few seemingly arbitrary tags. Eventually the faces surrender to names, and our duties slowly reveal themselves. I have very easily come to love it. This entire, pre-made instant family of sorts; bound by circumstance and direction, whose names need not acquire sense but do continue to amass meaning as the days progress. It is also important to hint at the meaning of such fortune, as our family still expects its better part, all its prodigal sons, for whom these names make seemingly arbitrary preparations. We have been scurrying, and we have been working. Yet, it is as if I do not know how to expect you, brothers. You approach and I am unfazed by the concept of new names. See, you bring so much more to be kept and cherished into this home.

Mom, Dad, the kids will be fine. Can't you feel them beating within your spaces, only with stronger sounds, with faces so much fresher than names?

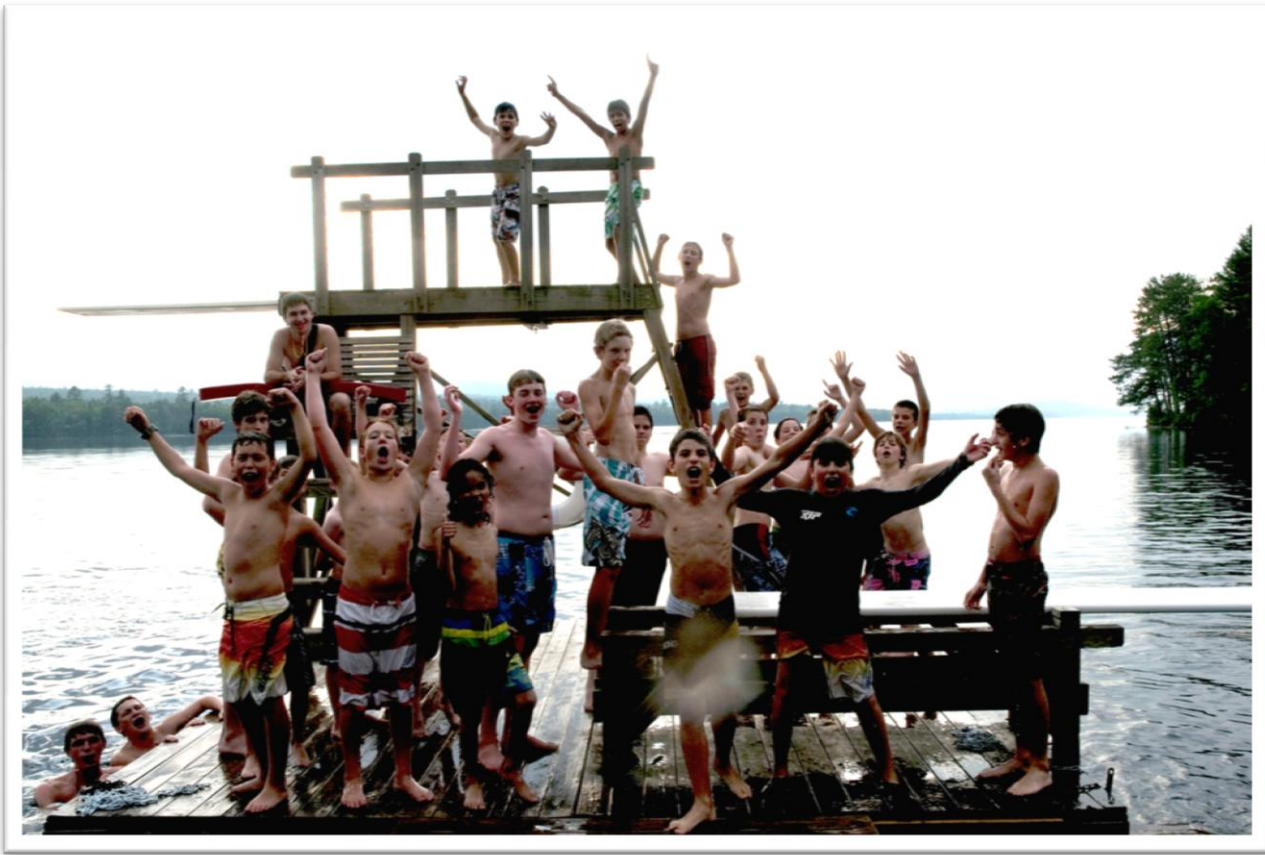
Egardo Tormos – Crow Lodge SC

# Campers Arrive!

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Please check out the Kawanhee Photo Galleries by following the link on the camps homepage or bookmark this link:

<http://12moons.smugmug.com/Camp-Kawanhee/2012-Camp-Kawanhee-Photographs>

**\*\*\*( Remember the password for the photo galleries is the rock in the lake where camper's swim or walk too in order to get a 'K' painted on their paddle. The password is all lower case and is one word, for example if the answer was "Oak Trees" the password would be "oaktrees")**

## The Lodges...

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Eagle



Falcon



Pinetree



Hawk



Deer





Beaver



Moose



Lynx



Wildcat





**Trout**



**Coyote**





**Bear**



**Loon**



Crow



Badger

**Look for another issue about this time next week!!!**