

e~wigwam

Camp Kawanhee for Boys ~ Weekly Newsletter ~ 2013 Camp Season - Week One - Issue 26

First Week of Camp

One week has passed since the beginning of camp! How is that possible? Does it not seem as though it was just yesterday that you drove down the camp road to drop off your boys, or waved goodbye as they boarded their flights bound for Maine? And yet the time has passed and each moment, each hour of each day since that first has been filled with more activity, conversation, smiles, and fun than is possible to describe.

Each and every camper has certain shared experiences at camp and also many individual ones. The concept that

we call “Camp” is really a unique experience that is like a ray of light splintered into a thousand different beams, each revealing an original perspective.

In this eWigwam you will hear from some of those beams of light that will reveal to you unique reflections of our collective summer...Enjoy!

The ceremony of the **Coming of the Chief** is one of the finest in a full quiver of traditions at Kawanhee. Every one of our campers and counselors – over 200 people – gathered in silence and darkness...a powerful, shared experience. One by one the fires of **The Four Winds** begin to reveal the mysterious shrouded figures seated at the cardinal points of Council Point. Next the lighting of the Central Fire of the Great Spirit illuminates the physical presence of Chief Kawanhee, who until this point has merely been a voice that emerged from the dark forest. Powerful.

During this ceremony the intent that fuels the morality of the Kawanhee community is shared. Every person is invited to participate in an initiation. This ritual in which a stick gathered from these woods by each person is placed into the fire inducts all into the tribe. By this deliberate and timeless act we seal our covenant with the ideals of Kawanhee.

North Wind ~ “Be Just. Speak the truth. Play fair as you compete.”

East Wind ~ “Be Cheerful. Smile whenever you can. Be glad you are alive.”

South Wind ~ “Be kind. Be brave. Conserve and protect wildlife always.”

West Wind ~ “Do justly. Love mercy. Walk with humility and show respect for all life.”

May these precepts not only guide our actions and intentions while at camp, but be ideals to which we strive for the rest of our lives.



A Day at Kawanhee with the Eagle Lodge

By Cameron Cisco

Ding, Ding, Ding, Ding, Ding - Seven AM wakeup call has rung and there is already excitement with polar bears running from all corners of camp to jump in the lake and start the day off right. After the third bell rings, our beds are made and our tummies are warmed up with hot chocolate. We salute the flag as it's raised in silence before stomping up the steps with our fellow noisy companions to wash our hands for breakfast. There is no telling what breakfast will be, but we know for sure there will be the largest selection of cereal that anyone has ever seen. Once we say Grace we head up to the front of the Dining Hall to get a bowl of whatever mixed cereal we want, along with a banana or some delicious grapes. Sometimes nobody wants to get a fruit so we get the choice of fruit or veggie so we can make our own decision! Breakfast was yummy although most of us wish we had bacon yesterday. We all agreed it was fine though because we played the game "Freeze" most of the meal. Announcements started and although none of us really listened to them, everyone chimed in intently as soon as some guy named Mike stepped up with his announcement -ending trivia question. Two of the boys in our lodge this year have won candy so far by answering the trivia question right! Breakfast ended and all of our plates were "stacked." We made sure to leave the table nice and messy for the waiter to clean up.

Inspection has begun. Now comes the time to roll around on our bed trying so hard to tuck in one corner while the



are only three brooms, so we all just take turns sweeping. That is, of course, after using it as a machine gun or flying broom first. Once the bell rings to end inspection, everyone scrounges around to get ready for our next activity. Between Skiing, Range, Nature, Boating and oh so much more, we stay busy throughout the entire day. We have four periods over the course of the day; the first two being right after inspection. When period two ends we are free to choose any activity we want during what the counselors call free time. Most of us run off to Range to shoot guns because Archery is not yet open. Free swim is one of our favorite free time activities but sometimes it is either too cold or rainy.

The bell has rung for lunch so we all run up the steps even though we know we are not supposed to (they can get a little slippery sometimes) then we go over the same meal routine as breakfast only with more announcements. Now that lunch has ended the mail is passed out, and we must be in our beds and ready for rest hour. The dessert we just ate at lunch isn't helping any of us rest although we all do our absolute best to hold in those whispers and drumming fingers itching to be heard. The counselors finally fall asleep and we gradually let our whispers grow louder and louder. But someone laughs a little too loud and the counselor wakes up. Then it's back to reading or writing our letters.



other corner keeps popping right back out, and others throwing wet things to the "nails" on the line 7 or 8 times until they stay. All seven of us want the broom but there

The bell rings for third period so we throw on the gear needed for the next activity and make sure to prepare for fourth period as well, since there is not much of a break between the two. It's so much fun going from period to period with my fellow Eaglets. The more time we spend together, the better friends we become. Fourth period ends and we all get our choice of activities during 4 o'clock free period. The bell signals us all again and it is time for dinner. We are all so hungry by now that we are ready to eat anything. The food here tastes amazing, however and no matter what is on the table most of us eat it all up or at least are able to go get something else. Transition from dinner onward is quite easy since it means that camp store is open, plus we have so many activities to choose from that happen before tattoo bell at 8 PM. We have activities like baseball games, free boating, free swims, gaga ball, game night, s'mores at camp craft or Debi's and even more! Tattoo at 8:30 PM is the bell that rings to signal everyone in camp that it's time for showering, brushing teeth, and using the re-

stroom before 9 PM taps. When we hear the bell ding nine times the entire camp goes silent while we in Eagle sneak under our cozy covers and listen to the trumpet sound taps across camp. Goodnight Camp Kawanhee..... till tomorrow.



Collecting Sports Cards

by Michael Altmaier

I have started a sports card collecting activity as I did last summer. So far about 25 campers have signed up and are collecting football, basketball, baseball and hockey cards. Everyday, we get a few new people to join. Cards are distributed twice a week on average, and each boy has a notebook with card collecting sheets. I know some of the boys who participated last summer kept collecting over the winter. I'm hopeful that this hobby will be something the campers will enjoy. I collected baseball cards as a boy and hope the boys will enjoy the hobby as much as I did.



My First Day at Range

By Carson - Eagle Lodge

At Rang the people who
run it first tout us how to
shoot it and the rules
about guns. Some of the rules
are treat ever gun as if it's
lodded. Never put your finger
in the trigger guard ~~in~~ unless
you plan on firing, don't
aim at something unless you plan
on firing at it. So we went
up to the lady and said
may I please have a rifle.
And we were shooting 22's
And after that she gave
us a rifle and are targets.
And after each person
got a gun and put their
targets up. She said ready on the
line. And we said nothing because
that means yes. The she said
load aim and fire!

So we all did what she
said and a bad pow!!! Went
off I hit a inch away from
the black dot

The Old Dining Hall

by Michael Altmaier

The first three structures built at Camp Kawanhee were the original dining hall and Eagle and Falcon lodges. All these buildings are now gone—all lost in the fire of July 20, 1977. I especially remember the old dining hall. It was made of logs like many of our lodges. It had a huge fireplace that kept the dining hall warm on cool and wet days. The staff who lived in the dining hall lived upstairs and not downstairs as they do in our current dining hall. I remember when announcements were made. A microphone was kept in a bag on the first steps of the stairs going upstairs. Pop Nowald, who was Director of Activities in those days, would grab the microphone and when it was time to start he would say, "ok now, ok now," or something similar and everyone would get quiet.

The old dining hall was much smaller than our current dining hall and you really had to use your flexibility to get between the tables. The porch was in front of the dining hall and looked out onto the lake. From the porch, stairs descended to a small porch that had a flag-pole. I remember if you had overslept and still wanted to make flag raising and you lived on the senior side of camp you could walk to the dining hall by going from porch to porch on the lake side of the lodges. When flag raising happened, you paused on which ever porch you were on and you could see the flag in the distance. Of course, this never happened to me since I awakened at 4 AM to look for the rare African Goldfinch on my bird walk. Ok, I'm joking.



Dining Lodge — Among Stately Pines
Where Finicky Appetites Are Soon Forgotten. Boys Standing at Attention for Colors

In the years before the fire, the dining hall was really too small. They had eliminated the porch by enclosing it, and several lodges sat in that area. Some of the logs of the front of the dining hall had been cut, so it seemed like people sitting on the porch were actually in the dining hall.

On the night of July 20, 1977 the dining hall and three lodges were destroyed by a tragic fire. It was a dry sunny night and I can still remember seeing it burn completely in just a few minutes. It was a sad moment. Luckily, it was not windy or perhaps we might have lost the entire camp that night.

Kawanhee continued with great spirit, even with three and a half weeks to go in the camp season. Boys from the lost lodges slept on the stage of the rec hall and in the library. New clothes were bought in local stores. We ate breakfast and dinner at campcraft with the help of Salvation Army trucks. We ate lunch at the Kawanhee Inn. Camp owned the inn in those days.

A new dining hall was built and ready for the next season and Kawanhee's great spirit continued. But, I have to admit I still miss the old dining hall and that majestic fireplace.

Report from Ropes

By Jared Stinson

Well the first week of camp is almost all done. We have accomplished a lot in 6 days. Wingspeed came out and trained the ropes staff. This year we were able to have our JC and two Master Campers train with us. It was great to have their energy and enthusiasm. We got through the safety lectures as a group and were able to start spending time with each lodge. We had fun playing some simple games like "Bumpity Bump," "Zip Zap," and "How are you doing?" We also finished the bulk of the planning for our exciting ropes trip to the White Mountains that will happen during week 4. We look forward to really getting into climbing fundamentals next week.



Checkers Tournament Underway

by Michael Altmaier

The first annual Kawanhee Checkers Tournament has started. About 16 campers have entered and matches have already started. We have a new outdoor checker board that campers play with stones that lie beneath the board. All campers are striving to win the "Golden Checker" trophy. I will have final results in a week or so. Good Luck to all ! Soon we will start a chess tournament.



Grey and Maroon - 2013

Phil C. (Grey Captain) - Peter E. (Maroon Captain)
Caleb T. (Grey Co-Captain) - Sam R. (Maroon Co-Captain)



Greeting from our 2013 Maroon Captain

Being selected as captain of the Maroon Team is the greatest honor I have ever received here at Camp and probably in my lifetime. Coming into my eighth season at Kawanhee I have never felt so excited to be here and to be a part of the Kawanhee Family. Over those eight seasons I have looked up to my captains, with great names such as Dan Alexander, JP Rullan, Ben Zambito, and Luke Randall. I hope through my interactions with them and the way they helped shape me into the person I am today, that I too can influence this new wave of campers and future captains after me. This is after all the greatest honor that can be bestowed upon someone at camp and I hope that I can carry this proud tradition as well as those before me have done.

I am extremely excited for this season to really get under way and to have the campers start scoring some points. It is an extremely great group of guys this summer and I know that both teams are going to have a great time, and at the end it's going to be a close score one way or the other. Hopefully this first week of rain clears and makes way for a

sunny and bright season full of laughter, friendly competition, but above all strong bonds of friendship that forever

connect the Kawanhee family. As I close, I would like to thank everybody who has made this possible for me Dan Webster, Ed Watson, and JP Rullan for giving me this honor, as well as all of this years SC's, and my fellow captain Phil and our Co-Captains Sam (Maroons) and Caleb (Greys). But most of all I would like to thank my Mom and Dad for making it possible for me to attend this beautiful place. Thank you, and I love you very much!

May There Always Be a Kawanhee,
Peter – Captain of the Maroons



Greeting from our 2013 Grey Captain



First of all I would like to welcome all parents, campers, counselors and all former Kawanheens to another wonderful summer on the shores of Lake Webb. I am overjoyed to be the captain of the Greys this year and am looking forward to an exciting seven weeks. All my energy and effort is focused on giving everyone at camp the summer they dream of while in the throes of a long and cold offseason.

This being my eighth summer at camp, I have experienced the many great leaders that have come through Kawanhee. They are people that I have always looked up to and who have made me the man I am today. I have taken



these lessons and incorporated them into my own life. I look forward to being the mentor to this year's campers, just as Dan Alexander, Ned Carson and Will Ryan were for me when I was younger. I am excited to try and fill my older peers pretty big shoes. This summer, as usual, will be about pure fun and enjoyment. Hopefully I, along with the 200 other kids in camp, will learn some life lessons along the way.

I am hoping to embrace new challenges and look forward into the future, while also holding dear the traditions that make the K-wan family so strong. It is these traditions that I grew up with, and I hope to instill these values into a whole new generation of young leaders at camp.

I would like to thank Dan Webster, the DOAs and all the SCs at camp for giving me this wonderful opportunity. Let's have the best summer ever!

Phil — Captain of the Greys

P.S. Go Greys!

Kawanhee Mealtime Trivia

by Michael Altmaier

Well, mealtime trivia is off to a good start and excitement is running high. Kudos to Alec R. of Beaver Lodge and Adam M. of Falcon Lodge for each answering two questions correctly. So here is another selection of questions and answers. Thanks to Mr. Coons for sending me some questions.

1. How many ways are there to change a quarter?
2. What was the name of the dog in the Brady Bunch?
3. According to her official bio, she claps her hands 720 times during each 30 minute show.
4. What is the only rock eaten by humans?
5. What is the only state name that can be typed using only one row of the keyboard?
6. What is the only U.S. state name that starts with an "A" but doesn't end in an "A"?
7. According to official rules, the racquets in this sport can only have 50 dimples per one square centimeter.
8. What is the most landed on property in Monopoly?
9. What character was on the first metal lunch box issued in 1935?
10. How many feet is a fathom?

((Answers On Last Page))

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Trívía Answers

1. 12
2. Tiger
3. Vanna White (most of the campers said, "Who is Vanna White ?")
4. salt
5. Alaska
6. Arkansas
7. Table Tennis
8. Illinois Avenue
9. Mickey Mouse
10. 6

See you next week !

Announcements:

I hope to upload week two photos on Sunday. The password for all of the Kawanhee Photo galleries can be found in the email that sent this newsletter to you.

Please email gibby@kawanhee.com with any questions.

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