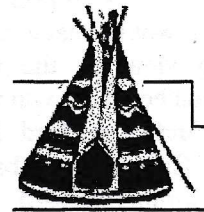


WIGWAM



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Camp Kawanhee, Weld Maine
<http://www.kawanhee.com>

August 5, 2003

A NOTE FROM THE CAMP MOM

by Debi Brown, Camp Mother

This summer is flying by! We have had a wonderful summer here at Camp Kawanhee. As a camp mom, I am happy to report that only a few boys were feeling homesick at times. I played many games with many campers, and even the occasional tetherball game! We had our yearly treasure hunt where all the campers involved received a small reward.

Christmas in July was a success. All the campers loved their surprises from Santa and we enjoyed a festive breakfast together.

We made donuts over the open fire in the evening to end the campers' busy day. We made smores a few times and relaxed by the small campfire. There was a new addition of snack time this summer at 8 p.m. most evenings. I enjoyed this new event because I got to see almost every boy each evening. Everyone went to bed with their stomach full from their nutritious, nightly snack.

ANOTHER ARCHERY TOURNAMENT

by Nancy van den Honert, Co-Director of Archery

Despite dreary, rainy, cool weather, Kawanhee archers created a beautiful day August 1st when they shot at Camp Fernwood with the girls in the annual Kawanhee-Fernwood Pairs Tournament. Each of the 12 archers was paired with a Fernwood archer and the two shot as a team against 5 other teams in each of two age brackets, 12 and under and 15 and under. The day began at 6:30 a.m. with a wake up call by Chuck Compher, Archery co-director. After driving to Auburn, the group stopped for breakfast at Burger King to refuel for the tournament to come. Upon our arrival at Fernwood, sighting rounds were shot, and the scoring rounds began.

The 15 and under pairs shot from 40 and 30 meters while the 12 and under pairs shot from 30 and 20 meters. During the morning, light rain fell from time to time, but the pairs were able to shoot 7 ends before the lunch break. A delicious lunch was provided by Camp

Fernwood in their beautiful rustic lodge. However, during lunch, the rain came down more heavily, and the Fernwood Director of Activities decided to cancel the remainder of the tournament. Final results were tabulated based upon the shooting which had taken place before lunch. Final results showed that Tyler St. Denis and his partner placed 3rd, Matt St. John and his partner placed 2nd, and Robbie Savacool and his partner placed 1st in the 12 and under division while Ryan Parrish and his partner placed 3rd, Dan Alexander and his partner placed 2nd and Mark Anderson and his partner placed 1st in the 15 and under division. Other Kawanhee participants included Tommy Bolon, Francisco Garcia, Steve Harvell, Evan Jones, Chris Smith, and Jack Wellborn. As we boarded the van to return to Kawanhee, all agreed it had been a wonderful day. We look forward to hosting next year's pairs tournament at Kawanhee.

HAPPY MEMORIES

by Harris Adriaance, Alumnus from Longmeadow, MA

I just received the July 8th Wigwam and am of an age where I was drawn to the obituaries. Thanks to Raymond Frank who was our Scoutmaster during the winter, I was a camper at Kawanhee for five summers from 1931 to 1935 in Polecat, Pinetree, Beaver, Moose, and Wildcat lodges. The lodge lineup now is greatly expanded. I was never a standout but did become Junior B High Point Winner one year.

I remember Hal Myers as a lanky, very blond fellow with glasses, but a bit older than I. I vividly recall Dean Miller. He was very lean and very brown and could skip rope better than anyone that I've seen before or since. He was a master story teller at Saturday night campfires. I recall that he, Colonel Sweet, and the Frank brothers would harmonize on "Now the Day is Ending" out on Bass Rock, which I can hear to this day. Bill Altman was Athletic Director and I can still remember exactly how to disarm someone who comes at me with a knife in his right hand, though I have never had to do it - although I practiced on my sister. Bill

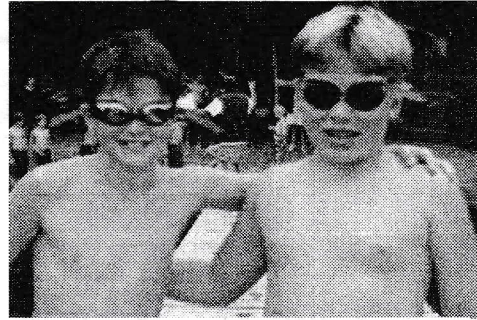
(continued from page 1)

thought I would make a good lawyer since I took the opposing view on the nights when we needed lodge lecture and he let me win a few.

Andy Crawford, Jim Milligan, Bob Larkin, and I built the Crawlark – a barge with cabin and four bunks and the camp outboard. We were allowed to sleep on her on the lake occasionally, and the Crawlark was featured in the camp catalog for years after we four departed. This always amused me because we were subject to discipline while on board. I could tell you exactly where my two lean-to's were, our total failure at cooking breakfast, shooting two Bars of Expert at the Rifle Range under Rafe Marshall and how Ma Frank cared for me when I was sick at the Infirmary. Just give me the chance to say what a big part Kawanhee played in shaping my life and how grateful I am for that experience over so many and successful years since then. Continued success to Kawanhee and the Estabrooks!

NEXT WIGWAM ISSUE

The next issue of the Wigwam will be published in September and will include full reports of the different activities, a listing of awards, and Grey-Maroon results. Also, in the September issue, there will be a list of all of the many donations.



John Fritz Rullan of Deer Lodge and Foster Baker of Beaver Lodge share a moment of camaraderie

Pete St. John, an English teacher and the Director of Kawanhee's C.I.T. (Counselor-in-Training) and J.C. (Junior Counselor) programs, challenged campers and staff to put into writing a report of "The Best Things That Have Happened to Them at Kawanhee" – we list below some of the responses.

THE BEST THING TO HAPPEN AT KAWANHEE YET

It is unmistakably clear what the best thing to happen to Kawanhee is. This is, of course, the cultural differences and separate backgrounds between campers and counselors. In particular, the first top difference is that the campers are not, in most cases, very familiar with most of the activities that they have to do every day. The counselors obviously know this and make things a lot easier for the campers to handle – hence making things quite a bit more enjoyable. The second difference is between campers from the United States and those from Spain, Puerto Rico, New Jersey, Mexico, France, etc. The separation in cultures is even more mixed up because the Americans are also out of sync in that most are from big cities and suburbia. The living environments are foreign to everyone – not just the "foreigners."

My first year was in 1999 and I was in Lynx Lodge with Travis Hadley, Doug Mitchell, and Sean Duncan as my counselors. This was the first time that I had been in Maine and I had not quite realized how little was actually out here. After a flight from Columbus, Ohio to Portland, Maine, and then a drive from Portland to Weld, I finally came into camp. The rest of the Columbus crew and I had gotten into camp directly before dinner so we all went right up to the Dining Hall and hence sat at our appropriate tables. Because the only person that I knew at camp was my younger brother, and he was sitting with Pine Tree Lodge, I felt quite out of place. I just kind of sat there and ate dinner. Sean Duncan, who was a Kawanhee veteran, started to make me feel more comfortable by joking around and being nice to me. He was acting as if he had known me for years. I soon started to make many friends all through camp because I was now at a state of ease. However, I was still pretty foreign to most of the activities – especially Kayaking, Water Skiing, Sailing, and Campcraft. These activities were ones that I had never done before but soon became my favorites. I loved the control one has with the kayak; the feeling of cutting across the wake behind the ski-boat; the speed you can get from different sail angles in the wind; and of course, the sounds and feelings of cracking and splitting wood and the feeling of heat and smoke from a fire out at Campcraft. I think the reasons that I enjoyed these activities so much was that the counselors were so open to helping and letting me learn how to do each thing. The reason I love Campcraft so much was that it was the least similar activity to anything I could do at home. Nate Duncan, James Strawbridge, and Travis Hadley were all nice to me and made the activity loads of fun. They are the reasons why I have always been so obsessed with Campcraft, and always eager to pass Junior Maine Guide. I am glad that I cannot do Campcraft type activities at home because it is what really makes me want to come back each year. Nate, James, Travis, Sean, and Douglas all made camp feel like a second home for me my first year – no longer was I a foreigner here. (to be continued on page 3)

The other style of being foreign was in the usual sense of the word – with people from other countries. The only person in Lynx '99 that was 'foreign' was Javier Galiana from Madrid, Spain. He actually became one of my best friends my first year of camp. I believe this because I was so enthralled with the fact the he could come over here from Spain year after year without really knowing English very well and actually have fun. Javier was different from the other kids in the lodge and I think neater because he was from Spain. My Spanish has improved from him and his friends speaking in Spanish. I love the fact that we are all up here out of our natural and comfortable environments and get along fine. I believe that since we are not with our usual gang from home, we can build different, better, life-long, and more meaningful relationships with people here at camp. Not to mention the fact that if I am in Europe or South America, I know of over 15 families I can visit during the off-season.

Camp Kawanhee has been even better since we started to take in campers from other countries. The counselors have made the place that much better as well. They are always there for you in times of need – especially your first year when you are just a wee little boy feeling as if I have known all of these people my entire life. It is very hard to choose what the best things to happen to Kawanhee are because there are just so many great things. However, I do believe that these reasons do hit the tops of the charts.

Samuel Morris, Moose Lodge Junior Counselor

The best thing to happen at Kawanhee yet is ironically one of the things which occurs most frequently. It happens at the end of every week and while it happens, the entire camp is together. I am of course talking about Saturday night campfire.

For those of you who don't know, the campfire is held at Council Point in a clearing that is flanked by tranquil Lake Webb and the solemn pines of Kawanhee's forest. It is here that the camp joins together in singing and laughing. We find out about our friends' best achievements ... or their greatest downfalls, which are recorded in Mike Altmaier's log. We hear reports from all of the activities and watch skits that describe memorable scenes from the week's events. The fire which is dedicated to the Great Spirit and lit by the Campcraft staff, is a tremendous blaze which roars and crackles wildly. Flames can reach up to twenty feet high and sparks and members create miniature tornadoes in the night time air. At the end of the activity reports, as the fire burns down and the sun sets, the entire camp turns to the west and sings taps as the sun slides below the mountains of the gap.

The campfire truly is the best thing to happen at Kawanhee yet because it brings the members of camp together and helps us to be, as Mark Nelson puts it, "Family for a summer, family for a lifetime."

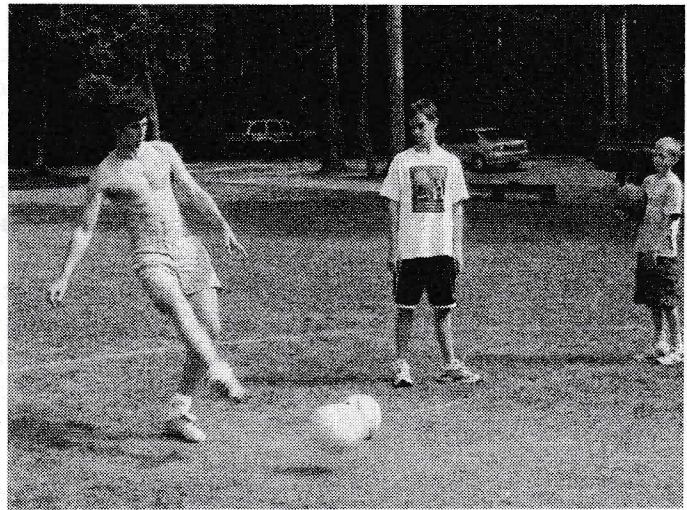
David Wirth, Crow Lodge Counselor-In-Training

The best thing that ever happened to me at Camp Kawanhee is the sheer anticipation of returning each year! As ten moons go by, we light our Kawanhee Christmas candles, e-mail our friends, and anticipate sparkling Lake Webb. We begin to dream of waking to the mysterious ever-charging Tumbledown and watching the blazing sun set behind it. Familiar friendly faces, our summer family, are waiting to meet us again. The remembrance that "we will never all be gathered here again," (to quote Chief Kawanhee) makes each camp friend and acquaintance precious. Even the weekly trip to WalMart is fascinating! Unceasing pleasant activities, sounds of sharp rifle cracks from range, sailing sheets snapping in the breeze, hands slapping volleyballs, and laughter are some of the wonderful sounds of Camp Kawanhee. I look forward to letting the bell, not my wristwatch, tell the time. I'll always remember an Eagle camper on top of Mt. Bald asking me "Can we still hear the bell up here?" The scent of the white pines, Sean's cooking, and Debi's homemade donuts all await us for another summer at Kawanhee. Culminating all the events are the coming and going of the Chief and affirming ourselves to be true "Kawanheean". We close at the blazing final campfire to anticipate the next Kawanhee season!

Kate Branch, Kawanhee Nurse and parent of two campers and one Senior Counselor



Walker Tice of Pine Tree Lodge



**Left: David Sentis, Senior Counselor of Lynx Lodge,
Center: Mason Tice of Coyote Lodge,
Right: Robert DePrima of Falcon Lodge**

The George and Raymond Frank Foundation is most grateful for the loyal, generous, and steady support of Kawanhee alumni and friends.

In the event you wish to make a tax-deductible contribution, please make your check payable and mail to: George & Raymond Frank Foundation , P.O. Box 12, Weld, ME 04285. Gifts for Camp Kawanhee scholarships should be so designated with "Scholarship" on the memo line of the check. All other donations will be used to enhance the Camp Kawanhee facilities and program, making sure that Camp Kawanhee endures forever as a character building force. Either way, your gift will be tax deductible.

All donations received this spring and summer will be listed in the September issue of the Wigwam.

Wigwam Editor: Jim Estabrook

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