

e~wigwam



Camp Kawanee for Boys ~ Weekly Newsletter ~ 2014 Camp Season - Week Three - Issue 34

A Look Back at Week Three

Lee Pagni
Co-Activities Director

It's hard to believe we are almost to the halfway point of camp. We just completed week three and the boys have plenty to show for it. This week alone we've had campers going to Monhegan Island, hiking in preparation for Mt. Katahdin, competing in a basketball and a soccer tournament against other camps, watching the Wilton blacksmiths, listening to two local bands, and enjoying open mic night. The boys have been taking full advantage of the phenomenal weather we've been having by playing plenty of intra-camp league games, enjoying the waterfront activities (swimming, canoeing, kayaking and sailing), and of course making their own fun with tetherball and gaga ball. The baby chickens in Nature are about a week old and are a huge hit with a number of campers. As I write this, a group of young boys are in the Nature building watching a group of chicks walk, scratch, and peep around in front of them.



The discussion of weather can sometimes be used as a crutch when you don't know what else to talk about. But the weather this summer has been so fantastic that it has to be mentioned. Although our activities don't depend on sunny, dry weather, it definitely helps. And we've had so many great days that the boys have had tons of opportunity to play outside on the fields, on the courts, and in the water. The Grey/Maroon "Swim Meet"

water extravaganza was held under perfectly sunny, 81 degree skies. The evenings have been idyllic with their golden light filtering through the camp conifers and serene Lake Webb in the background.

As the co-Activities Director, I find that it is impossible to give an accurate depiction of all that's happening here at camp. Part of my job is to make sure that activities are scheduled and run well by the counselors/staff both during normal periods and free time.

But there are so many other spontaneous things that happen- pick up games, chess, fishing, feeding chickens, working in the garden, board games at the library... Like the campers' energy and enthusiasm, the list of activities happening at Camp Kawanhee is never ending. Keeping things running smoothly isn't always easy, but the reward of seeing campers playing and hearing them laugh is an incomparable reward. We're making the most out of summer here at Camp Kawanhee. Thanks for being a part of it.



JC's Volunteer on Monhegan

Riley W.

I and small group of Junior Counselors boarded a ship headed for Monhegan Island for a community service trip as the second week of camp had begun. For many of the JC's who had signed up, it was not their first time on the island. This was not the case for me; I had never set foot on the island and I had no idea what to expect. Little did I know, Monhegan Island would have a profound impact on me.



As our hour-long ferry arrived within the port, the island's beauty became evident. I had never seen a landscape like Monhegan's, and I could not wait to work on, and explore, the island. Shortly after our arrival, we had set up our campsite, and were enjoying the rest of the day before we began our maintenance on the island.

The next morning, we awoke and set out to meet the assistants who were to aid our group with the projects. Once we met up with our guides, the JC's split into two separate groups, each assigned with specific tasks. My group was assigned trail maintenance, so we set out on some of the numerous paths amongst the island and cleared them of obstacles. We continued our work on the trails for several hours throughout the three days that we spent on Monhegan. During our stay on the island, whenever people passed us, we only received big smiles and gratitude from both natives and tourists. The work that we were doing there impacted Monhegan itself, as well as the community throughout the island. The smiles and the gratitude that we received made us all feel great about what we were accomplishing during our stay. It was an incredible feeling.



While the groups of Junior Counselors were not working, we spent our time exploring the island. One morning, our entire encampment woke up early in order to witness the sunrise. We arrived to a spot on the cliffs on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean, and watched what was one of the most incredible sunrises of my entire life, and it is a sight that I will never forget. On the third day of our stay on Monhegan, we all went on a hike

around the entire island. Through this hike, we were able to see the entire coast of the island leading out into the vast Atlantic Ocean. It was a challenge to leave each individual spot that we stopped at.

On the final day of our stay the entire group worked together to expand one of the commonly-used gardens on the island, with the hopes that within the upcoming years the island would be able to become self sustaining for a majority of its produce. In order to expand the garden, our group of JC's worked for three hours pulling stalks of an invasive species of bamboo, as well as cutting back weeds. We made a pile of bamboo that stood around five feet tall, and we laid the weeds that we cut over plant beds in order to create natural compost. As we worked, we received countless forms of praise from inhabitants passing by. To think that we were taking some of the first steps in order for the island to become more self sustainable, was incredible. I hope to return to the island within the next few years to see how our work progressed.

After we had concluded our work on the garden, it was time to depart from Monhegan. We had packed up our belongings onto the ferry and shipped out. My feelings were split with regards to our departure. I loved every minute that I spent on the island and I was sad to leave, while the other side was eager for the shower that awaited our arrival back at camp that every single one of us desperately needed. There was something incredible about Monhegan that I simply cannot explain; one must experience it for oneself. I look forward to the possibility of visiting the island again in my future.



Soccer Tournament

On Tuesday the 8th, Kawanhee made the trip over to Camp Androscoggin to play in the annual U15 soccer tournament. Camps in attendance included Camp Caribou, Camp Laurel, Camp Kawanhee, Camp Androscoggin and a couple others from the area. Although there is always Spanish and Puerto Rican flair to be found in the Kawanhee squad year in and year out, most of the other camps that participate are strictly sports camp and therefore often have fine-tuned and well-polished teams. Nevertheless, Tuesday morning we packed our lunches and got in the vans to make the trip over to Andro. The first game was against



the hosts themselves, and a rough start lead to a 3-0 Andro win, as Kawanhee saw little possession and few chances. However, after an hour long break with some water and sandwiches, the Kawanhee squad saw their luck change in the game against Camp Caribou. Jason H. started the scoring with a strike from distance into the upper left corner, Joel M. put a left foot shot into the bottom corner, and Pedro R. scored two goals including a free kick

into the back left post. After a great 4-0 performance, we took the boys out for ice cream at the local general store and eventually made it back to camp in time to watch the Brazil-Germany game.



Ping Pong and Tennis Tournaments Update

by Michael Altmaier

The first week of the ping pong tournament saw some good matches and several players advancing to the semi-finals and two players to the finals. The Jr. C-Junior B tournament has had three boys advance to the semi-finals. Diego P., Giancarlo V., and Gonzalo C. have all advanced. The Jr. A tournament has one player already in the finals- Edu de no V. , and a semi-finals match between Will F. and Alex K. Alvaro R. has reached the finals in the Senior division and will wait for the semi-final match of Jeff K. and A.J. D.



The tennis tournaments are also proceeding. In the Jr. C-Jr. B tournament , Peter K. and Diego P. have advanced to the semi-finals. The Jr. A division is already in the finals. Edu de no V. and Will F. will meet for the championship. The Senior division is in the semi-finals. Jeff K. and Luca C. play in one semi and Preston P. and Ricardo F. play in the other semi. This should be a great semi-final as it includes two division champions from last summer and one of those boys was "Champion of Camp".

Chess and Checkers Tournaments Continue

by Michael Altmaier



The chess tournament has had some good matches this past week. Alec R., a defending champion , has already advanced to the finals. Edu. de no V., also a defending champion, is in the semi- finals. Edu is awaiting the quarter-final match between Daniel M. and Jordon P.

The checkers tournament is already getting closer to finishing. Edu and Ethan H. will play in a quarter finals match and the winner will play Daniel M. in the semi-finals. The other half of the bracket is in the semi finals. Will F. and Alec R. play in that semi-final.

I'll be back next week with more updates and hopefully some champions.

Nature News

On Thursday, July 3rd, during afternoon free time, Alex K. was the first to hear the distinct sounds of peeping from the incubator - a day early, the much anticipated hatching of the chicken eggs had begun. The egg had only one tiny crack, but the tip of the chick's beak could be seen working away at the shell, pausing at times to peep loudly. Alex and several other campers helped move 24 eggs from the "cradle" onto the wire screen inside the incubator where the newly hatched chicks would dry their downy feathers. Jordan P. rushed to help complete the brooder box where the baby chicks would spend the first few weeks of life under a heat lamp. The first chick emerged from its shell at 6:29 pm and was named "Luke" after counselor Luke Randall, who saved the day by providing an inverter that allowed us to plug the incubator into a staff member's truck when camp lost power for four hours during a thunderstorm the previous week.

Excited campers and staff crowded around the incubator until well after the tattoo bell watching the chicks hatch. Over the next two days 16 eggs hatched and 12 chicks survived. Baby chicks grow quickly and these have already nearly doubled in size. In a few weeks they will be able to join the chickens already in the enclo-

sure behind the Nature building. The ten hens in residence provide eggs that campers use, along with fresh vegetable from the camp garden, to prepare scrambled eggs and omelets in Camp Craft. Two of the hens are already raising a brood of 17 chicks that are now 3 months old, so our new "babies" will have lots of company.

This week, campers have been learning the basics of bird biology, the care and feeding of



baby chickens, and have been training the chicks to come to the sound of pecking on the side of their box, drink from their water dish, and eat food from their trough. In the last few days campers have been handling the baby chicks, teaching the chicks to perch on their fingers, and to scratch and peck food from the ground. Nature has been very busy this week with many campers coming in during free time and after dinner to tame and train "their" chicks. Don't be surprised if your camper wants to bring home a chicken at the end of the season!





Kawanhee on Monhegan Island - 2014

As is the ritual here at Camp Kawanhee, the tripping staff and 30 campers headed to Monhegan Island this past week. One group left Monday, staying till Wednesday afternoon, while the second group arrived Wednesday afternoon and stayed till Friday. All campers enjoyed a wonderful sit down meal at the Trailing Ewe on their first evening, a pizza party the second night, and lunches everyday also provided by the Trailing Ewe. Both groups spent time hiking the various trails, watching the sunset at Whitehead cliffs, doing watercolor and art with myself, visiting Manana (Monhegan's sister Island), and shopping at the local boutiques. Many Islanders stopped me throughout our stay to compliment the campers and ask questions about the camp in general. The experience is a memorable and positive one for all involved. We would like to thank everyone on the Island, the Monhegan Associates, the tripping staff, and campers and their families for this amazing opportunity. Please check out the pictures of camper artwork from the Island, also included with this eWigwam edition - thanks to Mark Gibson. If there are any questions about Monhegan or our trip to the Island, please feel free to contact us or research this amazing Island on your own.



Andy Bourassa - Residential Life Director (senior side)/ Leadership Team

Camper Artwork from Monhegan Island -





Quotes from a letter to a parent

After ALL the activities James participated in last week his highlight during our Sunday phone call was from the Captain's (I am repeating here- so maybe he meant the team captain) words at the morning service- he was really struck by living in the moment. WOW. Lucky him! At 10 and he is exposed to such a profound way of being. I had written to him earlier last week about not thinking about how long he was staying or when I was coming and to try to just enjoy each Kawanhee day and when I reminded him of that during his Sunday update he said.. "ya mom, you sort of get it"...too funny!

Deb- we have a homemade donut place here on the island. They use a family recipe that has been handed down for generations. People line up for blocks and pay a fortune for donuts. James told me yours were WAY BETTER!

Camp Kawanhee during World War II

by Michael Altmaier

In December of 1941, the United States was pulled into the Second World War. The war, of course, had great effects on every part of life in the United States as we fought a huge two front war. As I've learned more and more about the history of Kawanhee, I wondered what effect the war had on Kawanhee. I was able to put together some information by reading the Kawanhee catalogs of those years and the weekly "Wigwam".

First, Camp Kawanhee continued to exist during the war. By comparing the camp population of the pre-war and war years, I found that the enrollment at Kawanhee stayed consistent from the pre-war years. This, perhaps, isn't too surprising, since most campers were too young to serve in the military. I'm guessing some parents saw a summer at Kawanhee as a chance for their sons to get away from the stress of the war for a summer.

The war did play an important part in the hiring of counselors. Several articles in the "Wigwam" make it clear the staff is "older" and that some counselors have returned to Kawanhee after being away for many years. There are other articles in the "Wigwam" that refer to shortages because of the war. One article talked about a sugar shortage and talked about the great benefits of honey. Another article talked about gas rationing and how that affected travel to and from camp. Another article talked about Kawanhee boys collecting scrap metal.



Usually the first "Wigwam" of each summer of the war years had an article about former counselors who were in the service. The article seemed to note that many former Kawanhee sailors had joined the U.S. Navy. One former counselor fought in the Battle of Bulge, another was a guard in Berlin after Germany surrendered and others saw action in the Pacific. The "Wigwam" never mentioned any former campers and counselors who lost their lives.

I know from the pictures in the catalogs of those years, Kawanhee boys did a lot to help the war effort. Kawanhee boys often worked in local fields picking beans and other vegetables. I show some of those pictures in my Kawanhee History slide show at the beginning of camp.

In the last issue of the "Wigwam " in 1945, it talks about a victory ceremony that occurs at the Kawanhee chapel. It was led by the Kawanhee chaplain and from the tone of the article it appears to have been a solemn observance rather than a wild celebration. Camp went much later in those days. Camp always ended on August 25th, and Japan's surrender in mid August was several weeks from the close of camp.

It appears from the information that I've been able to gather ,that Kawanhee was able to continue as a character-building force for boys, even during World War II, while at the same time, boys and staff were able to make sacrifices and work for the war effort.



Dining Hall Trivia

by Michael Altmaier

Questions this week:

1. The 2010 World Cup final was watched by 3.2 billion people. At the time this made up approximately what percentage of the world's population?
2. In 1950, what two nations were not allowed to compete in qualifying for the World Cup?
3. What team has had the most Super Bowl MVP's?
4. Michael Jordon and Wilt Chamberlain both share the record for most consecutive NBA scoring titles. How many consecutive titles are they tied with?
5. How many stanzas are there in the "Star Spangled Banner"?
6. Who was the first athlete to be featured on a box of Wheaties?
7. What is the largest joint in the human body?
8. What color is the most distinctive to the human eye?
9. What team won the first two Super Bowls?
10. How many sides are there to a pencil?

(Answers after Photos)





Dining Hall Trivia Answers:

1. 50%
2. Japan and Germany
3. Dallas Cowboys-7
4. 7
5. 4
6. Lou Gehrig
7. knee
8. lemon yellow
9. Green Bay Packers
10. 6- so they wouldn't roll off tables



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Announcements:

Please check out our Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Camp-Kawanhee-for-Boys/132213696858301?ref=hl>



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Week Three photos will be uploaded this weekend. The password for all of the Kawanhee Photo galleries can be found in the email that sent this newsletter to you.

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