

Another Great Start to a Great Camp Season



On Opening Day morning Mark Standen bravely welcomed and greeted the campers and families anxiously massing at the camp entrance. His purpose was to hold back the excited campers and campers-to-be until the appointed 9:00 a.m. entrance time, giving counselors and staff the chance to finish breakfast and put the final touches on lodges, activities and camp. Bernice, Chelsea, Kayla, Liz, Tracy, and Camp Mom, Debi were there at the registration table to check everyone in, and get them headed in the direction of the Infirmary to see Amber and Emily Lou before they could at last – meet their counselors and move into their cabins!!

It was hot on opening day and in true Kawanhee fashion the Swimming department – Kris, Jack, Cam and Meghan held the first Free Swim (!) of the season after lunch so that campers could enjoy the cool clean water of Lake Webb!

If camp opened to hot, dry weather it soon turned rather wet quickly! Luckily, we squeezed in a dry night for the Coming of the Chief Ceremony.

Camp Craft boys Tash Doughty, Fritz Rullan, Jamie Bolon, and Edgardo Tormos prepared the Central Fire of the Great Spirit and kept it dry during the rainy Saturday before the Ceremony, and helped the Four Winds – Nate, Don, Colin, and Juan of Birch Lodge prepare the North, East, South, and West individual fires – all to perfection. After the Kawanhee History slide show by Mike Altmaier, Fred from Crow Lodge and Morgan from Bear led the silent procession to Council Point with tom-tom and rain stick. Chief Kawanhee was summoned from the woods and in turn called upon the Lodge Sachems to unearth the message buried 10 months before and read the message from the Sachems of 2011 to the campers of 2012.

Lodge Sachems for 2012 are Tyler (Eagle), Rodrigo (Falcon), Aiden (Pine Tree), Patricio (Hawk), Justin (Deer), Dennis (Beaver), Salvador (Moose), Kyle (Lynx), Conner (Wildcat), Miguel (Trout), Jack (Coyote), Liam (Bear), Nick (Loon), Alfredo (Badger), Kevin (Crow).

Chief Kawanhee reminded all of the great privilege and responsibility that we have as we dwell in this beautiful place and embody the spirit of Kawanhee.

A couple of days of heavy rain sent us into rainy-day mode in activities while the lake rose and rose...and rose until we briefly had no beach and no diving platform! Those days have given way to sun and warmth and great activity all over camp.

In this eWigwam you will read messages written by the 2012 Grey/Maroon Captains, Mac and Max, who with Co-Captains, Forrest and Bobby energized camp with their swearing in ceremony, team selection and first speeches. Team Captains are a fine Kawanhee tradition and these young men are examples of the great influence that camp life has on our sons.

As we sail into the second week, let us be thankful for and to our Kawanhee parents and forebears who have made it possible to dedicate ourselves to this seven-week paradise!

~ Dan Webster – Camp Director



Polar Bear

By: Aiden & Luis of Pine Tree Lodge

Luis: Polar Bear is fun but cold and wet. You have to wake up at first bell.

Aiden: First bell, is a bell that wakes you up at 7:00 am.

Luis: My friend Aiden wakes me up if I'm not by then.



Aiden: It's fun waking Luis up because every time he jumps up and says, "WHAT!?"

Luis: I'm trying to do 100%, that's every day! Wish me luck!!



Nature has gone Birdie!

Camp Kawanhee Nature department has gone to the birds! Literally! We are in the process of creating a bird blind for campers to observe birds without disturbing them in their natural habitat. We have various feeders, suet cakes, a birdbath and hummingbird feeders. We will provide campers with journals to draw and write about birds and field guides to identify the many species that live around camp. We will, also, have an owl pellet dissection activity, birding field trips to Gilsland Farm Audubon Sanctuary, and Mt. Blue State Park for owl calling. We have set up a Camp Kawanhee wish list on Amazon for more field guides and binoculars. If you would like to visit our wish list, please go to Amazon.com, click on Wish Lists and search for “Camp Kawanhee.”

Thank you! Tracy Webster



2012 Grey & Maroon Captain's



(Right to Left – Captain of the Grey's - Max Z. and Captain of the Maroon's - Mac M.)

Grey Captain

Being announced captain of the Grey team is a huge honor. First, a little bit about me. This is my ninth summer at camp. I am from Columbus, Ohio. I play volleyball at my high school. This summer, I am a junior counselor in Lynx lodge, and work in Basketball and Campcraft. My primary mission over the course of this



summer is to ensure that every camper has the best experience possible. The emphasis will be placed on working hard, being a good sport, and having fun. As long as there is a collective effort to do these three things, the points will come. The Grey and Maroon competition is an integral aspect of camp. I will do my best to complete the task of being captain with grace and enthusiasm. However, this competition is not about me. It is about the campers. They are the ones that are important. It is my job to ensure that they are the focus of my actions. In addition, I would like to thank my co. captain, Forrest W. Forrest has been one of my closest friends for seven years. He is an upstanding young man, and I am confident that he will do a great job. In conclusion, I am so excited to see how this summer progresses--camp has all the ingredients for this to be an unforgettable experience. However this competition ends, the important thing is that all of us are brothers, and all of us have the spirit of Kawanhee in our hearts. Go Greys!

Sincerely, Max Z. ~ Captain of the Greys

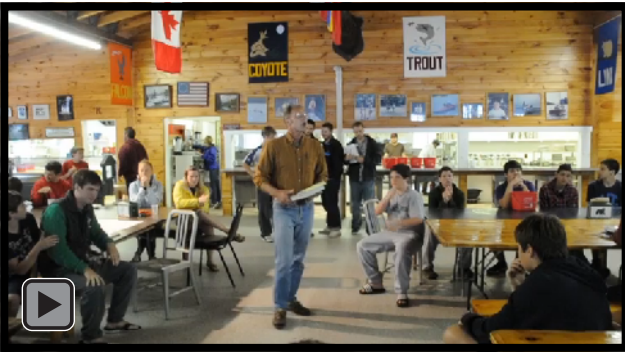


Maroon Captain

My name is Mac M. and I hail from Wilton, Connecticut. Ever since I started camp at eleven years old, I have respected and admired the Captains of the Grey and Maroon

competition more than any other counselors in camp. I can still remember the feeling of being picked by favorite counselors and the joy of holding a conversation, however short, with those captains. This year, when I had the fortune to be selected as a captain of the Maroons, I joined the company of these men who I hold in such high standing. And let me tell you, as a 17 year old, that is absolutely unbelievable to me. I am so glad to be able to inspire campers and try to affect their lives every day. This year, I find myself presented with the tasks of keeping a high energy level 24/7, demanding sportsmanship above all, and remembering countless names. I take on these tasks with enthusiasm, so excited that I can give back to this place I love so much. Luckily, I will also be helped by my Co-Captain, Bobby S.. A Kawanhee veteran, Bobby is one of the hardest working counselors in camp, Junior or Senior, and knows the in's and out's of Grey and Maroon competition. This competition fuels most of the activities in camp, from a Nature level passed on Monday afternoon to the camp-wide Capture the Flag game on Saturday afternoon. All summer, campers will be working together towards the ultimate goal of winning this competition. The the campers every Saturday, the main objectives are having fun and trying your best over all else. If you try your best and fail, the rest of the team will always support you. That is a magical part of Kawanhee that makes this place so hard to forget. The knowledge that you can fail time and time again and still be loved by those around you is a power that I cannot stress enough. The brotherhood that Kawanhee forms changes your life from the minute you enter, and makes this wonderful place impossible to ever truly leave. My closest friends in the world are from this place, one of whom being my rival captain of the Greys this summer, Max Z. What's more, this rivalry, instead of driving us apart in bitter competition, will only make us closer as friends who push each other towards the ultimate goal of having the best summer of our lives. I have immense respect for Max as a leader and as a person, and am so glad our leadership skills could be pitted against each other this summer. Whether your son is a Grey or Maroon, we will both attempt to make this summer especially memorable for each and every camper. I hope I articulated my feelings about this captainship as well as a man can, and would like to thank every parent who reads this for sending their son to camp. My parents find it harder and harder to let me go each summer, but I believe make the right choice of letting me come back to Kawanhee each summer. This amazing place has had more influence on my life than any other one thing, and I am so glad I am able to give back this summer. Go Maroons!

Mac ~ Captain of the Maroons



A Note From The Camp Mom Debi Sullivan

Well, the boys got through the first week of camp with a few butterflies, and stirring feelings...

*Some of excitement to once again be back on Lake Webb

*Some children unsure of what to expect *Some unsure about what camp is like *And some sad feelings about missing their families.



There were a few that really struggled but I'm happy to say all of them came through the homesickness!

Well as week two started, I decided to ask some of the boys to tell me what went through their minds during the first week. Here are some of their thoughts:



Javier C.: "The first week is the hardest but all the other weeks you're having so much fun at activities that you actually forget about home."

Luis N.: "I don't get homesick, at home, I get Kawanhee-sick!"

Andres F.: "The first 2 or 3 days you might be homesick but the other days you get distracted with all the fun and the days start passing faster."

Rodrigo F.: "Camp is very fun and it has lots of activities!"

Ethan C.: "It's fun... you may get a little homesick but you can come and see Debi and she makes it all better."

Luis E.: "At first camp is very depressing for me and I started to feel homesick. Then, when time passed by, things got very exciting and fun. I am accomplishing so much! Today I passed the Lake Swim!"

Alex G.: "The first week is always the hardest but you just have to push through it to get to the good part."

Camp Kawanhee is a place where you can get away from your everyday struggles and the stress that is put on you. (like school, homework, parents, gossip). It makes you feel happy and relaxed, it's like a home away from home."

Diego P.: "Camp Kawanhee is awesome!"

Kirkwood W.: "I feel really good at camp and I like rifle range"

Ben C. (Age 9): "It's really fun, it has a lot of activities to do."

Ben C. (Age 8): "I think it's just fun, period!"

And my favorite response...

Xavier A.: " If you are homesick, that's good, that means you have a nice family at home."

The great part about my job is getting to know the boys so well in such a short time. I am so glad I can help them through the tough time of being without their parents, and see them grow as young men into wonderful people. I've been Camp Mom for 13 yrs now, and I am proud to see some of those little boys now counselors and even Camp Directors!

On to week 2! Smiles, Debi (:



Wish List!

"A number of campers have expressed an interest in modal rocketry, and Luke Randall has picked this up in the past as a activity for these engineering minded boys.

Tracy Webster has found a kit that includes rockets that boys get to paint and build themselves and then fire off under the supervision of Luke."

Click on the link below to view the wish list.

<http://shop.hobbylobby.com/wishlist.aspx?w=4777a04f705b4f11ac9eb2e8ea73a073>

Please check out the Kawanhee Photo Galleries by following the link on the camps homepage of 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 to 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")**

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