

## INAUGURAL ISSUE OF ALUMNI WIGWAM HITS NEWSSTANDS!

We welcome you to the first issue of the Alumni Wigwam, designed to inform Kawanhee alumni and friends of the Camp's and the Foundation's goings-on, people and aspirations. As this issue hit the press, we were already beginning work on the next, which is scheduled for November.

To help keep these pages interesting and up-to-date, we would love to hear from Kawanhee alumni and friends with news about their lives, reminiscences about their times at camp, names and contact information for other Kawanhees with whom you are in touch. Please e-mail us at [alumninews@kawanhee.com](mailto:alumninews@kawanhee.com)!

### AN INTERVIEW WITH PETE ST. JOHN, OUR NEW CAMP DIRECTOR

Alumni Wigwam editor, Mark Standen, caught up with Pete St. John recently to get his perspective on his camping past and his new role at Camp Kawanhee. (Editor's note: The rare photograph of Mr. St. John in a jacket and tie, below, has been authenticated.)



*Your experience with summer camp goes back to your childhood as a camper at Camp Mowglis in New Hampshire. How did you get started as a camper there? Looking back, how do you view your experience at camp?*

Camp Mowglis is a traditional boys camp which was founded in 1903, when the summer camp movement was just starting to get up steam. The founder, Mrs. Holt, wrote to Rudyard Kipling when he was living in Vermont, asking him to use the themes from his Jungle Books as a basis for the structure of her camp, hence the name. My parents enrolled me there in 1969 when I was eight, as that was the year my father took up the post of Director at Camp Onaway, a long-established girls camp- also on Newfound Lake in Hebron, NH. Mowglis' Director had been my father's English teacher at Choate back in the '40's. My involvement at Mowglis was to last for 25 years, as camper, counselor, and Assistant Director, and I continue to serve as a Mowglis trustee today.

As so many veterans of the traditional seven-week camp experience can attest, the summers I spent at camp as a camper and counselor have been one of the single most inspirational and formative aspects of my education, largely due to the strong relationships built with counselors and friends.

*How did you come to be associated with Camp Kawanhee?*

I had just arrived on the teaching staff at Mountain Valley High School in Rumford, ME, and happened to break up a fight- John Bell, also on the MVHS staff, grabbed one kid and pulled, I grabbed the other kid and pulled, and in the subsequent introductions, I learned that he had had a similar camp career to mine at Kawanhee. At that point, I was giving thought to providing the camp experience for my son Matthew, and working at a camp just down the road from home seemed an ideal way to provide him with it. I met with Walter and Jane Estabrook, and was given a post in the Campcraft department.

*So you know two summer camps very well and probably know other camps to some extent. What distinguishes Kawanhee from other camps, if anything?*

The deep loyalty that camp alumni feel for their camp is certainly a feature they all have in common and the routines that grow up around the seven-week experience seem such a natural way of life which makes perfect sense, even though

(Interview – to be continued on page 2)



these routines may differ widely from place to place. If you asked any Kawanheean, for example, whether it made sense for a group of campers to lead the camp in singing "Johnny Appleseed" at the start of lunch, even though as a musical experience it leaves much to be desired, as everybody manages a different pitch and a different tempo, and the whole effect is one of a herd of some sort of quadruped lowing in a high breeze- why, that Kawanheean's answer would be, Well, yeah, of course it makes sense.

What Kawanhee has that is unique is a great blend of productivity and laid-back-ness. This relaxed atmosphere is something the camp cultivates very deliberately. When I first arrived, somebody remarked to me that you kept waiting for everybody to stop being so nice to each other- and they don't! The productivity is achieved with the combination of the level system with the team competition: when the Team Captains make their rounds to encourage campers to pass levels to earn points for their team, it gets results.

So campers can fill their days with a great variety of fun and exciting activities in which they can make demonstrable progress every day, and they can compete in well-matched games of soccer or baseball or basketball or ping-pong, and they can also spend time just taking it easy with their friends. It's a great balance of structure and choice.

***Your roles at Kawanhee over the past 8 years have included campcraft counselor, director of the Junior Maine Guide program, and mentor to junior counselors. As Camp Director now, your relationship with the camp may change quite a bit. How do you think your day-to-day life at camp will change? Are there any challenges of your new role that you are particularly excited about? Any that you are particularly apprehensive about?***

The exciting challenge is to be a steward of an educational institution which has played such an important role for so many, to work to keep the place strong and healthy for the generations ahead.

I see my chief responsibility as representing the parents who make this all possible- to ensure that their kids are safe, productive, and happy- even (reasonably) clean. As a parent myself, I know what it is to want someone on the lookout when I'm not around. So I expect that I'll be spending a much greater part of each day getting to know the kids better, talking with the staff about how the kids are doing, and talking with parents.

The most daunting prospect is that of mastering about 200 names in the first 72 hours!

***Are there certain features of Camp Kawanhee that you feel ought to be changed during your watch as Camp Director? If so, what would some of those changes be?***

Kawanhee has gotten the formula right since 1920, which explains our constantly full enrollment and remarkable proportion of returning staff. And since it ain't broke, I don't see that anything needs fixing. But we shall keep it fine tuned!

Where so many people are stakeholders in the place- and as a non-profit, Kawanhee belongs to the people who care about it- I feel major decisions about the direction of the place need to be taken after much discussion with anyone who has a contribution to make.

That said, I wonder if those parents who drive up from Columbus and other points south need to sit through a 4+ hour award ceremony?!

***What are other features that you would be determined to preserve?***

For me, the most important aspect of Kawanhee is its emphasis on character development, and our expectation that the members of this community treat each other with dignity and respect, while conducting themselves in a manner that lives up to their full potential. And as they gaze out at those amazing sunsets across the lake, Kawanheean's can't help but acquire a deep sense of appreciation for their surroundings, and I think we need to continue to foster a sense of responsibility for that environment.

***So what is the value of a Kawanhee summer for a typical boy in the early years of the 21st century? In other words, what can camp do for a kid these days?***

Kids are under amazing pressure these days. In the constant quest to get into a good college, kids (or more, perhaps, their parents) feel compelled to get straight A's, compete at the highest levels in sports, and contribute long hours of community service. Kawanhee offers a break from that pressure. Our kids can take a deep breath, and take time to really enjoy the day. The learning is still very much present, so are the sports, so indeed is the community service, but the boys' competition is against the other team, not the other kids. There's no pretense at Kawanhee; we get to know each other too well for that. So we're all on a first name basis- Eagle lodgers alongside of our most venerable veterans on the staff- which seems actually to increase the respect with which we treat each other.

And at the same time, as our gleaming roster of alumni will show, Kawanheean's have gone on to excel at the highest levels in all walks of life, and they will consistently cite Kawanhee as one of the most important contributors to that success. The real lessons learned probably have a lot less to do with knots and first aid and levels than with the best ways to work with other people: how to collaborate, how to compete, how to build trust, how to maintain integrity.

And they have fun!

*(Interview – to be continued on page 3)*



*As an educator year-round, do youngsters ever wear you out?*

Noise, hyperactivity, bizarre biorhythms, slavish addictions to junk food and video games, peculiar and noisy eating habits, woeful ungrammaticality: what's not to like?

*Kawanhees talk about continuing camp in perpetuity, and I think we'd all agree that this is to be hoped for. From your vantage point, what are the challenges that Kawanhee faces over the next 10 years or so?*

Kawanhee's chief challenge as a young non-profit is to grow stronger in the years ahead by maintaining a full camp, with a top-flight staff and great facilities. Our program needs to be responsive to the needs of today's kids and parents (by adding a Lacrosse clinic this year, for example!). Our chief resources for recruiting new campers are the happy clients of the previous year.

A host of possible calamities lurks just over the horizon, and for Kawanhee to be able to withstand them, we need to increase our alumni involvement and participation. Alumni refer campers as only people can who have had the Kawanhee experience. Along with parents, they are a mainstay for contributions to the annual appeal, which is indispensable to the yearly operations of the camp, and I would very much like to see Kawanhee take up the long-term commitment to raise a multi-million dollar endowment. I know the effort would be successful, as the recent camp acquisitions of property across the street and across the lake will show. At that point, our kids will know for sure that there will always be a Kawanhee!

## EIGHTY-FIFTH!

Last August, days after Kawanhee's 7-week season had drawn to a successful close, the camp season began anew for the many alums and their families who rolled into camp to celebrate Kawanhee's 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The revelers represented at least three generations of the Kawanhee family and came from all parts of the U.S. and beyond. Many arrived with their Kawanhee paddles to receive the freshly-painted insignia of the 85<sup>th</sup> reunion. Tom and Paula Lutz arrived from Louisville, Kentucky with three generations of Kawanhee medals and ribbons for the Kawanhee archives, including a 1928 award for boxing!

The four-day affair included plenty of revelry and reminiscing, and no shortage of things to do. From the Thursday evening reception to the Sunday morning brunch, laughter and Kawanhee spirit filled the days. There was the war canoe race, won convincingly by the Greys, but in doubt until the Greys synchronized their strokes and prevailed in the teeth of a tough headwind.

This same gap wind made for some great sailing. And the softball game, in which everyone able to lay a bat on the ball remembered to run the bases counterclockwise! And a spirited tug-o-war, one of the few reunion activities where the increasing girth of grown-up guys actually helped the cause! And the lobster dinner, and the polar bear swims in the morning mist, and Big John Detrick, the reunion's organizer, leading a rowdy rendition of the 1970's classic "My Hat, It Has Three Corners" at Council Point.

People came from far and wide. Juan Fuster, known to his friends as "Gordo Fofu," traveled from Madrid, Spain! There were several Kawanhees from California, including Betty Frank Brassington, daughter of Raymond Frank, and her husband, Mike. Some other states represented were Florida, Nebraska, Wyoming, Washington and Louisiana.

Many thanks to Big John Detrick, who has now organized three reunions, in 1995, 2000 and 2005.

## CAMP KAWANHEE'S FIRST ANNUAL FAMILY CAMP

**AUGUST 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>**

In August, Camp Kawanhee will be hosting its first-ever Family Camp. This program will run from August 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, after the close of the regular camp season, for families, alumni, prospective campers and newcomers to participate in some of Kawanhee's activities in its extraordinary setting on Lake Webb. Activities will include swimming, archery, sailing, fishing in the Narrows, tennis, state-of-the-art ropes course, canoeing, arts and crafts, day hikes up Tumbledown, Bald Mountain or Center Hill, gold panning, basketball and softball. Families and individuals are able to stay one, two, three or all four nights at a reasonable cost, which includes sleeping accommodations, meals and programs.

Family Camp offers a wonderful opportunity for families, groups or individuals to enjoy a vacation in a beautiful setting. It is an ideal location and opportunity for a family reunion, or for a family considering Camp Kawanhee for their son. We have begun taking registrations, and encourage you to get yours in soon. If you have any questions or wish to request registration information, please contact **Mark and Liz Standen** at:

Camp Kawanhee, PO Box 789, Yarmouth, ME 04096

(207) 846-7741

[ckawanhee@yahoo.com](mailto:ckawanhee@yahoo.com)



## ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

*We thought readers would enjoy the reproduction of a 1921 letter from co-founder, Raymond C. Frank to one of his new hires, George C. Hodges:*

March 24th, 1921

Dear Mr. Hodges;

Your letter of the 18th is at hand concerning a position in our camp for this summer. There is a place open, and after making a few inquiries at the alumnae dinner last evening concerning your work at the college, I will keep the place open until I hear from you providing you care to consider it.

We are very anxious to secure some boys from Springfield for this summer and from your letter I should judge that you would be in touch with the class of people who send their boys to a private camp. Our camp is new and is limited to thirty or thirty five boys, we have no big reputation as yet and so desire to secure boys from as many places as possible. You can readily see the advisability of this.

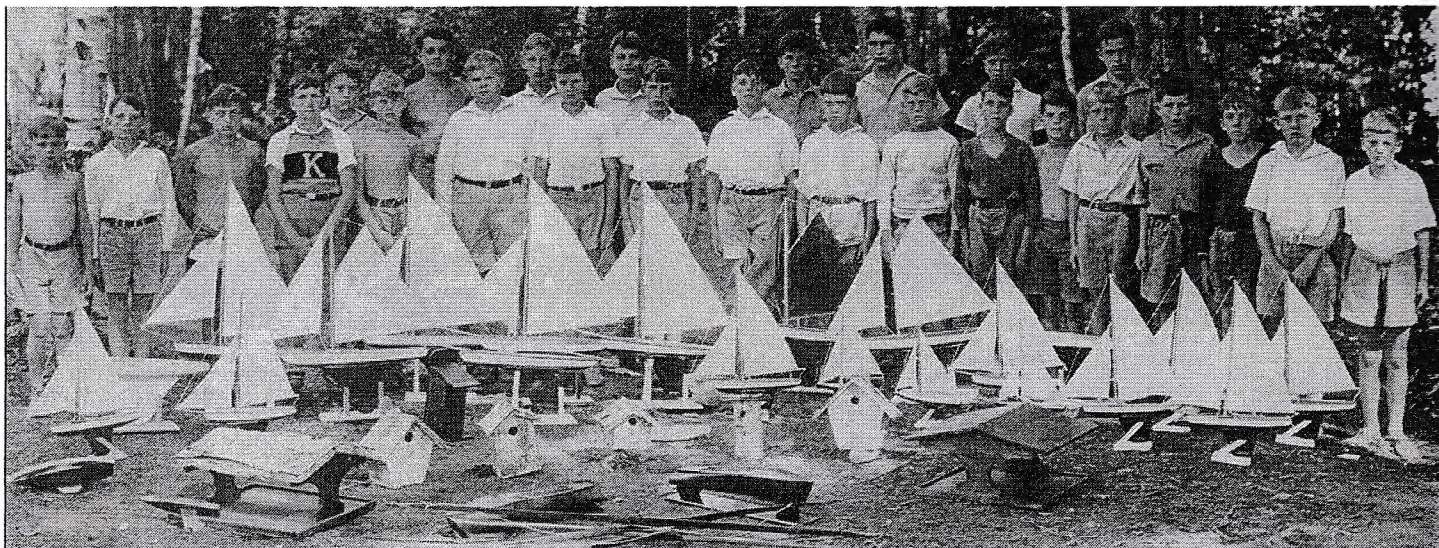
All of our councilors are coming with this understanding, that they sign up at least four boys for camp, and each one is hired as a councilor and not for one special duty. We pay your expenses from Springfield to camp and return and one hundred dollars per month or two hundred for the camp season. No leader can give his best service and be tied down to his work all the time so arrangements are made to leave camp for at least one day each week. For any boys you secure over the first four, we pay a liberal commission.

As for a camp site, ours cannot be equaled in New England and we have a fine equipment, large athletic field, tennis courts, beach, mountains, boats, etc. I would have to have a definite answer around the first of the month if possible. I hope you may see your way clear to join us.

Very cordially yours,  
Raymond C. Frank



Lakefront in the late 1920's



Display of completed Shop projects around 1930's



*Many thanks to Michael S. Mathews, who sent along these photos of Junior Maine Guides accepting their awards at the State House in Augusta. Michael's recent letter to Kate Schoedinger recalled his Kawanhee past in general and the JMG award ceremony in particular:*

I have tracked Camp Kawanhee through the years and was pleased to have my third son, Alex, attend for two years in the early 1990's. For various reasons my older two boys missed out on the Kawanhee experience but that is another subject. I will never forget arriving in the middle of Camp (outside the Rec Hall by the War Canoes) in 1992 to deliver Alex for his first year. Standing there for the first time in more than 30 years, someone stopped and called me by name. Soon a cluster of old friends was discussing the Maroon/Grey competition when I was Captain in 1957(?). My son and wife were quite impressed that after a long time the traditions and values seemed to be unchanged.

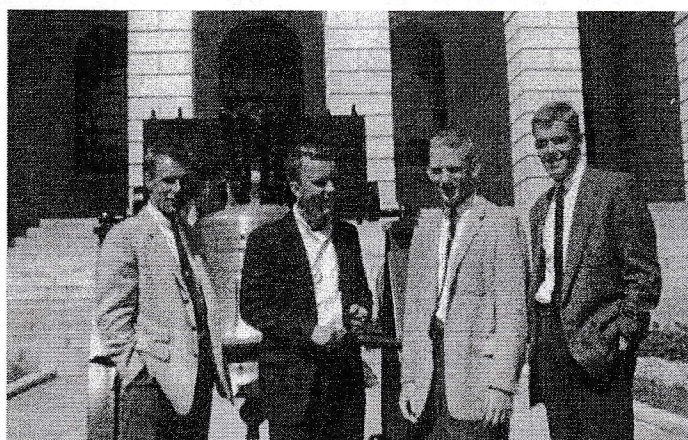
I am not certain what shape your archives are in but I enclose a picture taken in August 1956 when I was 15 years old showing me with my older brother and with Joe Shepard, both of whom were Columbus Academy, Class of 1957. The fourth person is John Pethick who was from New Jersey.

We were in Augusta to receive our Junior Maine Guide Certificates from the Governor and the award ceremony was in the State House Senate Chamber. It was a very big deal in those early years. The Governor at the time was Edmund Muskie who went on to greater fame. Although he signed our Certificates, as I recall a deputy stood for the Governor that day.

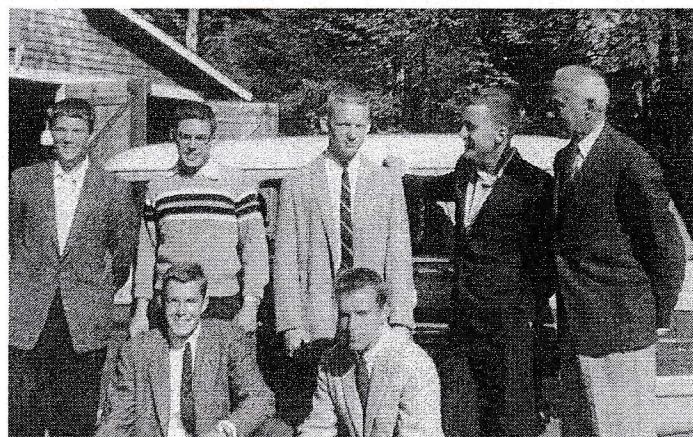
This was the second year that Camp Kawanhee had participated in the JMG program. The first year, which I also participated in but fell short by one or two tests, was in 1955 and, as I recall, only one person passed. His name was Art Downey.

And so this picture is 50 years old this summer and represents the second time Kawanhee sent representatives to the JMG encampment. The first year there were six of us who went and one passed. The second year, I think we sent two groups of six, and I guess five or six passed. I know the Program continues as the Canoe Paddle now holds the letters JMG as one of the achievements that is "paddle worthy". Perhaps if I bring my paddle back, someone can stencil JMG in the appropriate place. Yes, I still have my paddle for what it is worth.

Best Regards,  
Michael Mathews



L to R: Bob Mathews, John Pethick, Joe Shepard, Mike Mathews  
Augusta Maine – August 1956



Standing: ? , ? , Joe Shepard, John Pethick, Ross (Dean) Miller  
Kneeling: Mike Matthews, Bob Mathews  
August 1956 before going to Augusta for JMG Awards

## KAWANHEEAN DIRECTS SUMMER BLOCKBUSTER!

Bryan Singer, a Kawanhee camper for several summers in the early 1980s, was at the helm of this summer's biggest cinema event, *Superman Returns*. Bryan directed the film, which is in theatres now and playing to rave reviews from critics and moviegoers alike. He also co-directed the *X-Men* and directed *X2*. There's rampant speculation within the Kawanhee cognoscenti that early Kawanhee 8mm film efforts, including the classics *The Turnstile* and *Everybody Hates a Cop, Especially a Robber*, may have been Bryan's inspiration.

Congratulations, Bryan! And thanks to Will Fleming, another Kawanhee alum who called this to our attention just before press time!



## REFLECTIONS of a J.C. TREKKER

by Reid Greimann

*(Editor's Note: Last summer Kawanhee added a new dimension to its Junior Counselor program, a 10-day wilderness trip. Reid Greimann, who is back with us this year as a senior counselor, wrote about his experience, and the photographs that follow show Kawanhee Junior Counselors in some of Maine's finest places. This summer the program will be continued in a modified form, with our own staff rather than with Outward Bound.)*

Last camp season was a different experience for me, one full of growth and new perspective. Not only was I entering the season as a counselor for the first time, but also with the weight of both anticipation and apprehension at the news that all of the first year Junior Counselors were going to have the opportunity to experience an Outward Bound adventure. I was familiar with the idea of such programs from some of my friends who had gone on similar trips, and I had read about it in the packet of information that had been sent to me by Pete St. John over the summer, but the whole idea was still nervous-making. While the challenge seemed as though it would be both exciting and rewarding, the thought of ten days on a trail seemed more daunting than it did gratifying. On that first day back to camp, as I saw all of my fellow first year junior counselors for the first time in ten moons, there was one overarching question that high jacked all of our conversation: What in the world are we getting ourselves into?

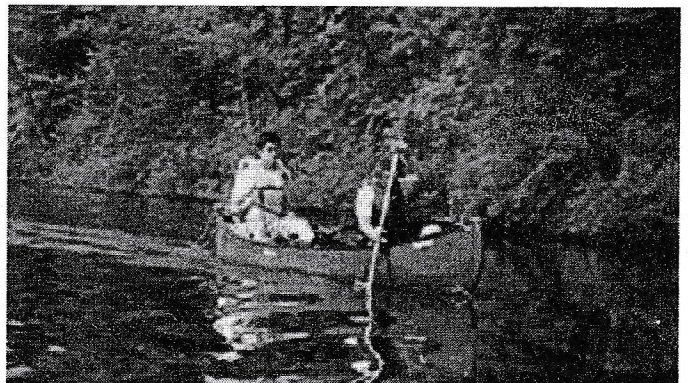
As can be imagined, the trip was faced with some initial resentment from most of us. Not only was it not optional, but it required sacrificing a sizable portion of a camp season that already seems to move way too fast. We all knew that whatever we were about to face was going to push us all out of our comfort zones and force us to challenge ourselves in all aspects, both physically and mentally. No one wanted to leave the extremely warm and safe camp grounds to go out into the cold and uncomfortable woods. It seemed that no sooner had we settled into our places in camp, finally getting to know both our kids and co-counselors, that we were being sent off all on our own with very little explanation or preparation for what we were about to face. While the trip was obviously something that the camp felt would strengthen us as a group as well as individuals, it was difficult to see as we were shipped out, how this trip would be very enjoyable. All of us could not help but be a little skeptical about whether this trip would be the best use of our time at camp.

When we finally got out onto the trail, the experience shifted once again. There was no more use complaining about the injustice of being sent on this trip while the second year junior counselors got to go to Quebec. The decision had already been decided for us. We were all together, dropped in the middle of nowhere on the Appalachian Trail, and all we had were each other and the packs on our backs. We looked ahead and knew that the road would be long and challenging but there was no other choice but to get it done, and together we set off into the unknown. While it may have seemed as though the end was forever away, there was nothing left to do but to keep putting one foot in front of the other.

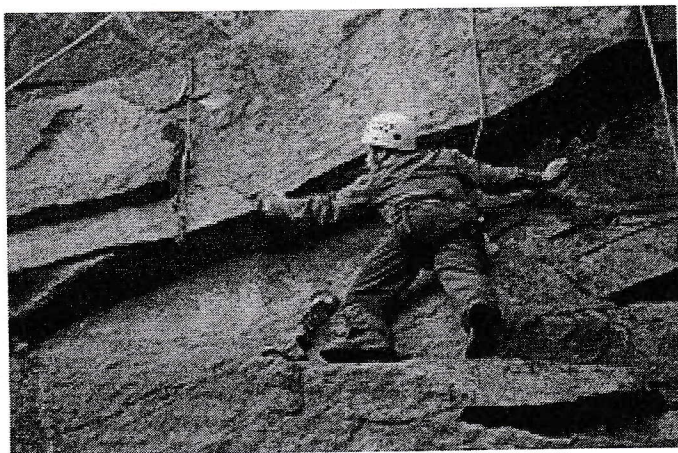
As advertised the trip was nothing if not challenging. It was a challenge physically, hiking upwards of eight miles a day on one of the most difficult stretches of

the AT, and then paddling the entire length of Upper and Lower Richardson of the Rangeley Lakes. It was an individual struggle as we were forced to push ourselves to keep going, through the heat, sweat, and mosquito bites, and then through the cold and the rain. It was a challenge as a group, as we all relied on each other to share the gear that we needed to carry, and to push each other to keep going through things like our two mile bushwhack or our canoe portage. We relied on each other for assurance and encouragement that we would all survive our overnight solo experiences. From the beginning to the end we were both alone as individuals to make sure that we pulled our own weight, and all together as one to make sure that each one of us made it through collectively. The challenge was placed in front of us and we achieved our goal.

The trip in itself turned out to be a once in a lifetime opportunity. I learned new things about backpacking and camping as well as about my fellow counselors. I saw amazing scenery and things that I would have never seen otherwise, and got to spend ten days with some of my closest friends. When it was over I was exhausted and ready to return to camp, but I was full of the satisfaction that I had really done something to be proud of. In remembering back on the trip and really thinking about what we accomplished in those ten days, I feel like much of the power of what I experienced was not in the trip itself, but in the reflection on all of the things that it took to make it happen. We all had to overcome our original resentment and come together to accomplish something that seemed impossible just 10 days earlier. We had to face all the challenges that the weather, the bugs, our bodies, and our guides provided for us and much of the power of the trip lay in how we emerged from it all so triumphantly. I am proud of myself for what I accomplished and even more so I am proud of all of the people with whom I experienced the trip, for we all took it like true Kawanhees and made the best of it all. I am only 18 years old but I know that I will not forget the ten days that I spent on my Outward Bound adventure, getting to know both myself and my friends in such an extraordinary circumstance. I would like to thank Camp Kawanhee for giving me yet another opportunity to learn about and understand both myself and others, as well as nature and the world around me.







## CONTRIBUTIONS - THANK YOU!

The George and Raymond Frank Foundation appreciates the strong support of Kawanhee's alumni and friends. The following donors listed below have made contributions since the last listing of gifts in the September 2005 issue of the Wigwam.

### George and Raymond Frank Foundation Donors

Anna Abbott  
 Peter and Pam Albertsen  
 David and Patricia Alexander  
 Bruce Andre  
 James Balakian  
 Lorraine and Randy Barba  
 The Libby Benson Trust  
 Nancy Casto Benson Revocable Trust  
 Barry and Mary Ann Birch  
 R. T. Bjorn/Kyes Insurance  
 George Brainard  
 Herb and Kathie Cook  
 Ted and Lynn Coons  
 Carlton Dargusch  
 Peter and Zora Dunn  
 Mr. and Mrs. Eric Durell  
 Louisa and Keith Erf  
 Iris and John Estabrook  
 Marcia F. Estabrook  
 Paul S. Ferber  
 Will and Kelly Fleming  
 Robert Fox  
 Mr. and Mrs. James Garland  
 Garth Greimann  
 Theodore Griley  
 Ben and Lydia Hadley  
 Mr. and Mrs. Stephan C. Hall  
 Frank C. Henry  
 Michael Hoffman  
 Russ and Lois Huntington  
 Mr. and Mrs. David L. K. Jeffrey  
 Mr. Albert T. Johnson, Jr.  
 Thomas Johnston  
 Robert Lamb

Donald R. Larrabee  
 Michael Matthews  
 John and Pamela McDonald  
 Howard and Jean Milkman  
 Richard and Joan Miller  
 Jeff and Molly Morgan  
 Geraldine Mullen  
 Dr. James C. Murphy  
 Arlyn and Mary Jean Neiswander  
 Kirk and Lori Neiswander  
 Nokia Community Involvement (matching contribution David Kindle)  
 Phillip and Rosita Olson  
 Carrel M. Pray  
 Joe and Alison Rini  
 Harley E. Rouda JR / Kaira S. Rouda  
 David and Karla Roth  
 Jason and Heather Roth  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Ryder, Sr.  
 Sandra Aiello Savini  
 George and Vivienne Seeley  
 Peter Seeley  
 Mark and Liz Standen  
 Frank Stewart  
 Dick and Nancy Stowell  
 Donald Swift  
 David Tilton  
 Edwin M. Trayner  
 Barbara and Daniel Vlasisavljevic  
 Mark Ward  
 James L. Warren  
 Jacqueline L. Welsh  
 Dennis Williams  
 Robin and Andy Williams  
 Dr. and Mrs. Noyes E. Yale, Jr.



Camp is, first and foremost, a fun time. It is a welcome release from school and the pressures that attend it (and, in some cases, from school friends and the pressures that attend them). It is fun in its own pure way, perhaps in a way that is only possible when boys are keeping their own company, guided by college-age mentors who live with them and give them much to aspire to, surrounded by abundant opportunities for play and adventure. Friends are made quickly at camp, as though kids are as keenly aware as grown-ups that summer is indeed short and they'd better get on with it. Once camp friends are made, they tend to last, often long after a camp career has given way to college, a livelihood and a family of one's own.

Camp friendships endure because they are honest to an unusual degree. When new campers come to Kawanhee, they tend to shed their bravado, posturing and inhibitions quickly. They learn from the veteran campers around them that it is acceptable to express their affection and enthusiasm for their lodge mates and for their camp. They come to embrace Kawanhee's traditions, rhythms and quirks without apology. Boys feel safe at camp, safe expressing who they are and who they are becoming. I am convinced that boys yearn for environments in which all of this is possible, indeed expected. Any of us is lucky to find such a place.

Kawanhee is not a specialty camp or a sports camp. It is, very intentionally, a liberal arts camp. Our program is premised upon the conviction that a summer at camp should be an experiment in trying out new things, pushing beyond the familiar, taking a dare to struggle and to succeed. There are myriad ways to struggle and succeed at camp, the

footrace, the tennis match, the clay piece turned on the lathe, the model sailboat chiseled and rigged by hand, the biscuits baked in a reflector oven, the Eskimo roll executed in a fury of white water, and on and on. It is an integral part of the culture of Kawanhee that all of these pursuits are affirmed and respected. Camp is a fertile place for finding new passions, and some of those discoveries are profoundly life-changing.

We also hold to the belief that free time is essential to the mission of camp. Children tend to be busy, and their schedules at home and at school are often tightly-packed. Although a typical day at camp conforms to a schedule and offers structured learning opportunities, it also affords a generous amount of time when campers are accountable to themselves rather than to adults. These are the spaces in which boys can figure out what makes them tick, what gratifies them, what matters to them. Learning to keep one's own company and the company of one's peers, deciding on the spur of the moment to shoot hoops or go fishing, having an uninterrupted hour or two to talk with friends, these are tremendously important ingredients of a day spent at Kawanhee.

In closing, those of us who are responsible for protecting and continuing Kawanhee's legacy understand the promise that legacy holds for boys growing up in 2007. We are determined to see it through, and we welcome your participation. If there is anything you can do to help, or if you have questions about the Frank Foundation or Camp Kawanhee, please be in touch.

## **CAMP KAWANHEE'S FACILITIES GET A FACE LIFT!**

**by Mark Sengelmann, Director of Buildings and Grounds**

Recently, the George and Raymond Frank Foundation Board of Directors, as steward of Camp Kawanhee, has formed a new Buildings and Grounds Committee. The Board has charged the group with a variety of tasks which includes: documenting the existing conditions of camp facilities; planning for code upgrades during the coming 5 years, updating and remodeling outdated buildings with Kawanhee's traditional architecture, restoring camp's traditional paint colors and patterns and exploring the possibility of developing a new multipurpose athletic field.

The Board has appointed Mark Sengelmann (CK 66-69, 71-75, 80) to serve as Kawanhee's Director of Buildings and Grounds. Over the years, he has given many hours of his expertise in a consulting capacity to Kawanhee, has designed Abbott Lodge, the new Lean-to behind Skookamee Beach dedicated to Tom Ruhle, and the remodel of Campcraft. Mark has been practicing architecture for over 25 years and is currently the Chair of the Building and Grounds Committee for Portland's

historic Tate House Museum and a trustee of the Stroudwater Neighborhood Association. His firm, ALPHAarchitects, is located in Portland. He has begun the work to create the anticipated Camp Kawanhee History Museum.

For the first time this fall, we had an alumni work weekend on October 13-15. The goal of this effort was to bring Kawanhee alums together to work toward improvements needed on the camp facility. Some fun mixed in with some work had made this a great time! Watch the website for dates and times for another work weekend planned for this spring!

**West Shore near  
Skookamee in the fall**





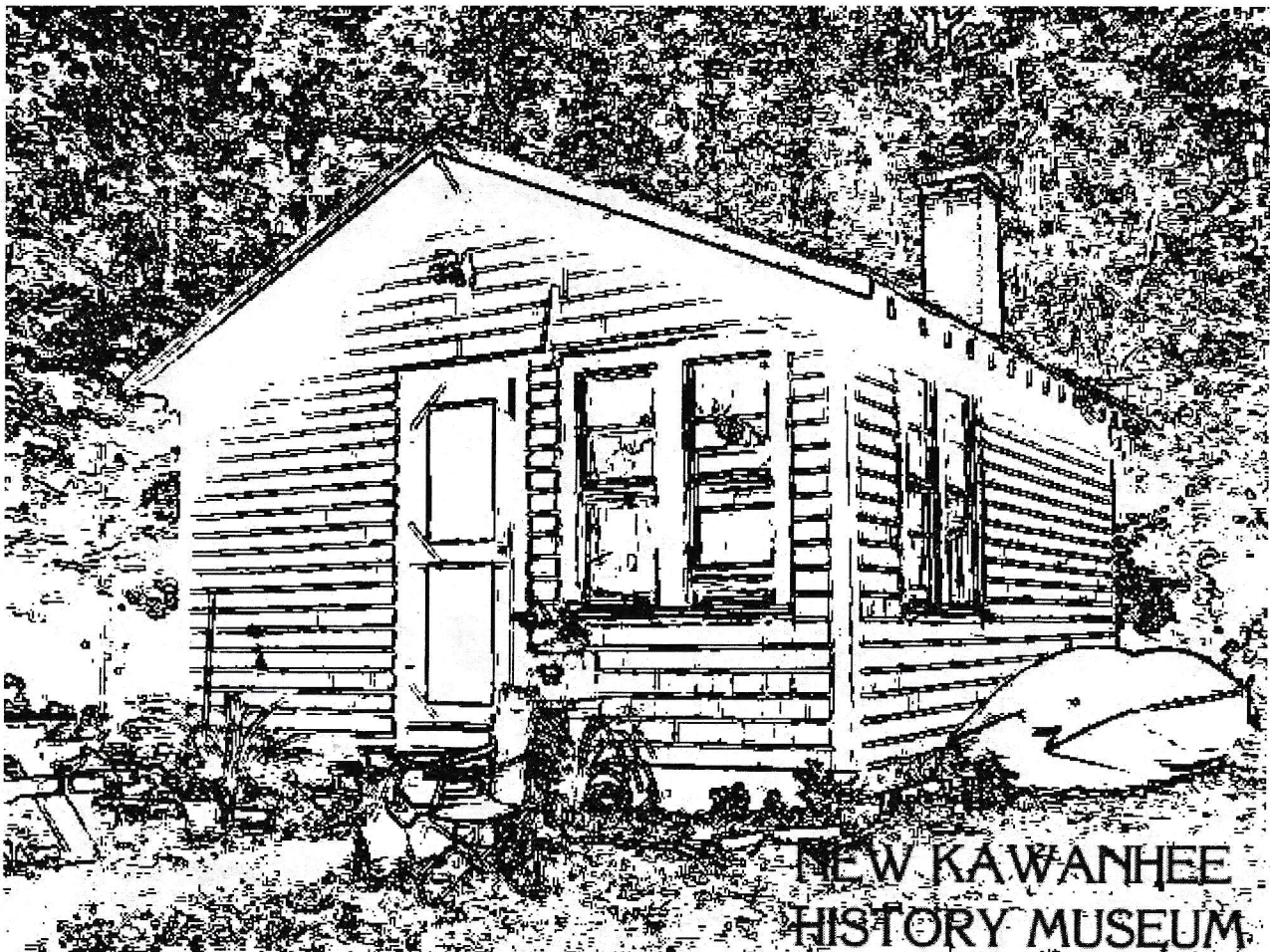
## CAMP KAWANHEE HISTORY MUSEUM

An effort is underway to create a Camp Kawanhee History Museum. We have a building and a site (between campcraft and visitor's parking) and hope to begin preparing the site and moving the building later this fall. The intent is to have a place to house memorabilia that has been donated and is found in the many nooks and crannies around camp (and maybe around your homes) so that alumni, parents and campers can view and enjoy the long and significant history that follows Camp Kawanhee and the many memories it holds for many, many folks.

Here's how you can help:

- 1) Cash donations to help with site preparation, retrofitting the building (the old kitchen boy's cabin) with shelves, appropriate lighting, windows, etc.
- 2) Donations of memorabilia, photos, shop projects, WIGWAMS, catalogues, stories and other recollections of Kawanhee experiences, etc.

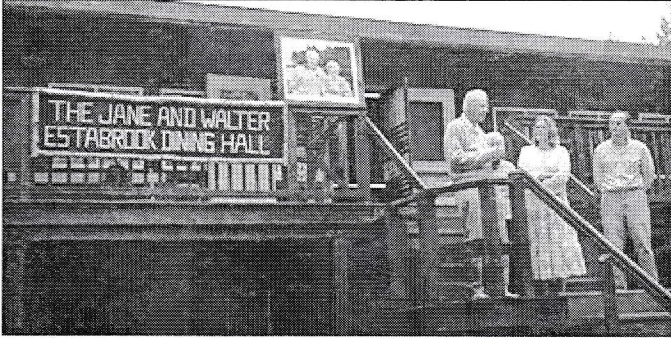
We think this is a very exciting project and the sooner we can get the funds together, the sooner we will have this completed and open for your future visits to Camp Kawanhee. If you have any feedback or questions, please contact Liz or Mark Standen @ 207 846 7741 or [mark@kawanhee.com](mailto:mark@kawanhee.com).





## CAMP KAWANHEE DINING HALL NAMED FOR JANE AND WALTER ESTABROOK

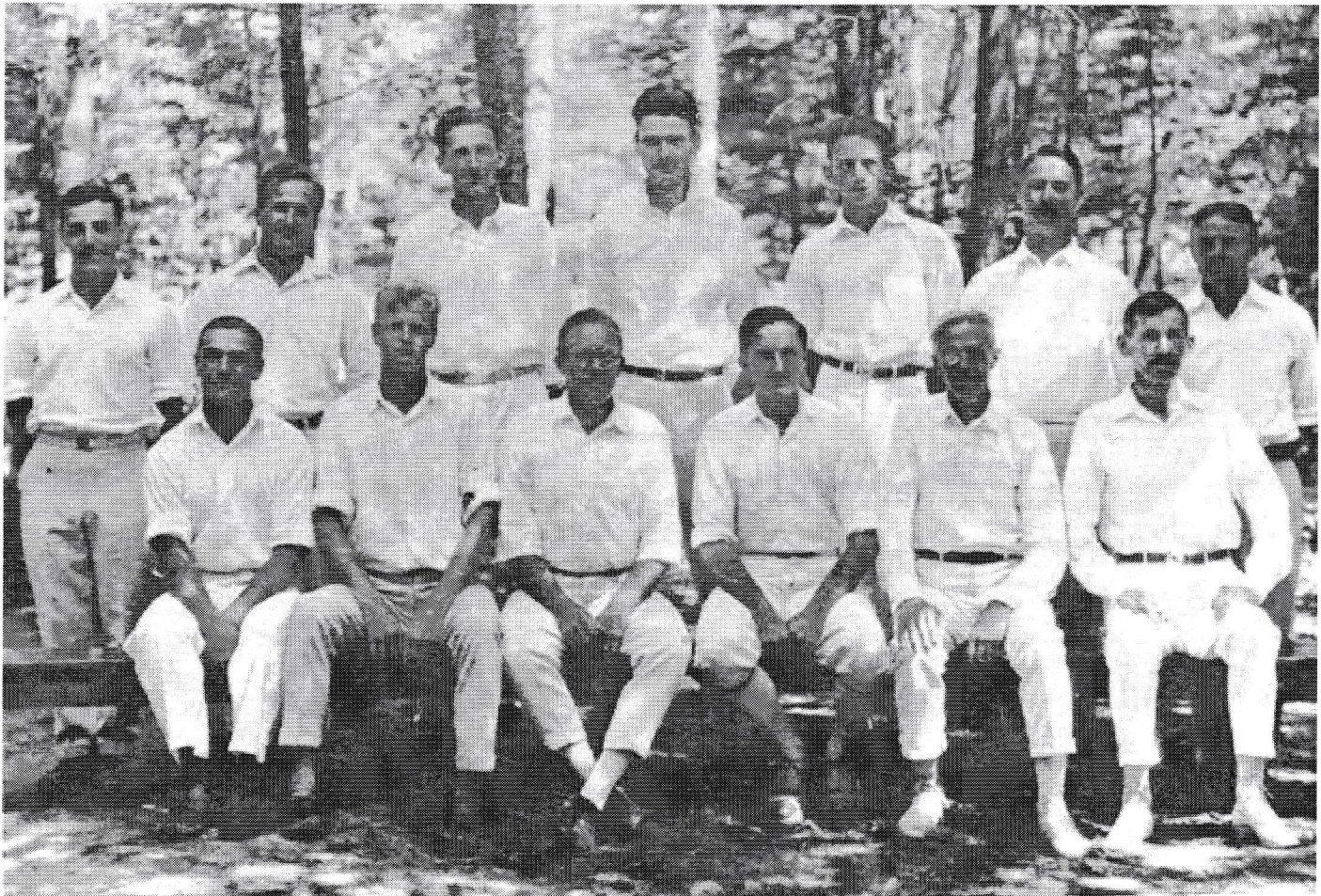
At Camp Kawanhee's final awards banquet, a sign, constructed by John and Sam Detrick was unveiled, signifying the naming of the Kawanhee Dining Hall for Jane and Walter Estabrook. Jane and Walter were Directors of Camp Kawanhee for 30 years, including the year when the Camp's historic dining hall burned down. They led the camp through that very difficult season (not a single camper went home) and managed to raise the money and have construction completed on the present dining hall, for the following camp season. The Camp Kawanhee community owes Jane and Walter tremendous gratitude for their leadership.



**Dining Hall dedicated  
in honor of Jane and  
Walter Estabrook**

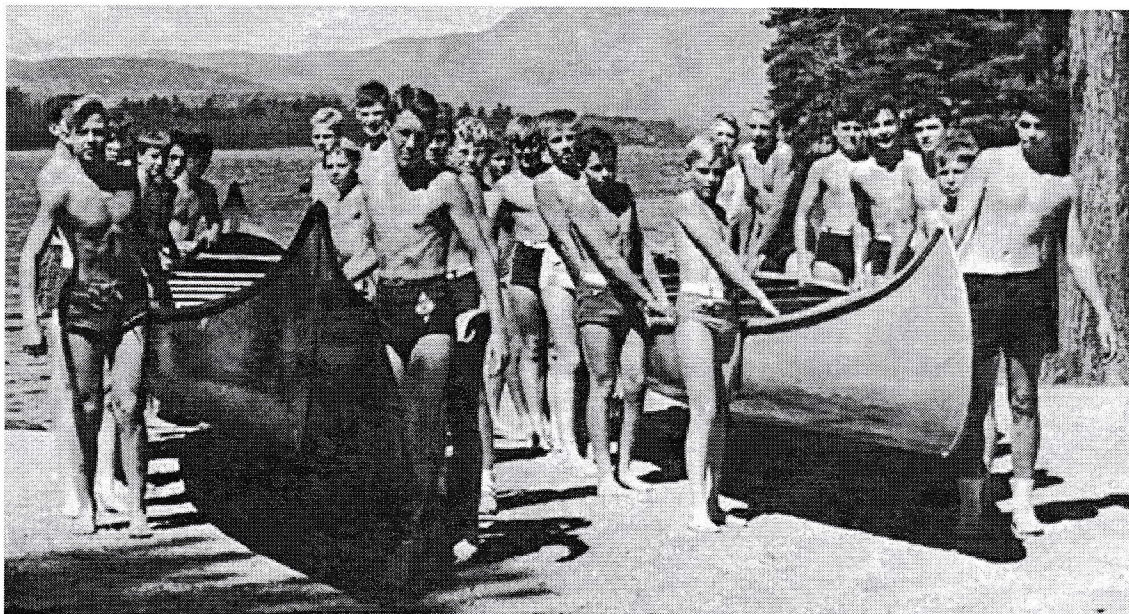


*We thought readers would enjoy the reproduction of the two photos which were taken during the early years of Camp Kawanhee.*



**Camp Kawanhee Staff Photo 1924**





**Recognize  
any of these  
guys?**

## **KAWANHEE RECRUITING GATHERINGS**

Over the years, Kawanhee's recruiting base has grown considerably, to include many locations across the U.S. In addition to campers from Venezuela, Spain, Italy, and Puerto Rico, the '07 season brought campers from Florida, Connecticut, New Jersey, North Carolina, New York, Ohio, Maine, Massachusetts, Washington State, New Mexico, South Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, New Hampshire, Colorado, Georgia and Pennsylvania. We feel this broadening of our population, brings more diversity into our community, enhancing everyone's experience at Camp Kawanhee.

This fall and winter, we will be travelling throughout the United States, to Puerto Rico and Madrid, Spain to speak with prospective families and their sons and to visit with current campers and alumni.

Through the generosity of current campers and their families, there will be gatherings in the following locations which alumni and prospective families are invited to attend:

New Canaan, Connecticut... at the home of Freddy Baker, Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>

Tampa, Florida..... at the home of Sean Murphy, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>

Albuquerque, New Mexico.... at the home of Rye and Colt Salerno, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>

Maryland, Washington D.C. area .... at the home of Mike and Jack Dixon, Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>

Columbus, Ohio.... at the home of Dylan, Shea and Trace Rouda, Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>

Seattle, Washington ..... Feb. 2008, (date and location to be determined)

Madrid, Spain.... Feb., 2008 (location to be determined)

Weston, Massachusetts.... at the home of Caleb Tulloss (date to be determined)

Portland, Maine... (date and location to be determined)

Please keep an eye out for postings on the website [www.kawanhee.com](http://www.kawanhee.com) for specifics of time and place ... or call our Winter office at 207 846 7741.



## ALUMNI NEWS

**Richard Force**, a Kawanheean from the 1930s, passed away earlier this year, leaving The George & Raymond Frank Foundation a bequest of \$10,000. Richard's son, Ronald, visited Kawanhee with his wife this summer. They had a tour of the camp, joined us for lunch, reviewed 1930s memorabilia from Kawanhee's archives and presented a check in satisfaction of Richard's bequest. We're quite sure that Richard was one of the master campers shown on a hand-made raft in a photo that made it into many of the older Kawanhee catalogues. In later years, Richard regularly attended Kawanhee reunions and made several other pilgrimages to Kawanhee. His generosity is greatly appreciated.

**Steve Yale**, current member of the Foundation's Board and former Kawanhee camper and counselor, celebrated his fiftieth birthday this August out in Truckee, California. Earlier this year, Steve and **Don "DL" Long**, also a current Board member and former camper and counselor, climbed Mt. Shasta, a 14,162 foot peak in northern California, to celebrate Steve's fiftieth year. A belated Happy Birthday, Steve!

**Will Fleming**, a Kawanhee camper and counselor from the 1970s and 1980s now living in Boca Raton, Florida, spent a week in Weld this summer with his family, wife Kelly and sons William and David. They had a great time and are working on getting back to Lake Webb next summer as well.

**Scott Norris**, a camper in the 1980s, was recently heard from. He's living in Columbus, is married and has three young children. They all thought seriously about a trip to Weld in late August, but were daunted by the car ride and opted for a family vacation closer to home. Hopefully they'll make it to Maine next summer.

**Keith Erf, DL Long, Albert Natelli, Andy Trayner, Chip Trayner and Rees Tulloss** all had sons at camp enjoying their first Kawanhee summers. **Dave Alexander, Tim Bolon, Richard Coons, Keith Erf, Geb Keny, John Rullan, Ferd and Kate Schoedinger, Mark Sengelmann, Bill Williams and LuAnn Detrick Weihe** all had sons back at Kawanhee as veteran campers. Our 2007 counselor staff included the sons and/or daughters of **B. A. Altmaier, Tim Dargusch, John Duncan, John Estabrook, Jim Keny, and Mark and Liz Standen**.

For more alumni news, please check our website ([www.kawanhee.com/guestbook](http://www.kawanhee.com/guestbook)), where Kawanheean of all generations have posted messages from such places as England, Michigan, Spain, Oregon, Ohio, Washington, Iowa, New Mexico, California, Florida, Maryland, New Jersey, Venezuela, Austria and Texas, among others!

## DONOR'S CORNER

### IRA Opportunity Sunsets on December 31st

Effective for a two-year period ending on December 31<sup>st</sup> of this year, distributions made from an IRA to a qualifying charity (the George and Raymond Frank Foundation is one of these!) are excluded from the income of the IRA owner. To take advantage of this rare opportunity afforded by the Pension Protection Act of 2006, the owner must be at least seventy years of age, and the amount excluded is limited to \$100,000 per year. Under the usual rules, which will again apply beginning on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008, a gift from an IRA to a charity made during the owner's lifetime is treated as a taxable distribution to the owner, who then has to claim an itemized deduction for the gift. Qualified IRA owners can get significantly greater leverage by making charitable gifts directly from their IRAs before the end of the year. Anyone considering a possible gift to the Foundation should contact Mark or Liz Standen at (207) 846-7741.

### A Plan for Some Vans

The Foundation is interested in acquiring two serviceable vans or minivans this winter, to be used by Kawanhee for airport pick-ups and drop-offs, transporting campers to the doctor when necessary, and other such errands. If any alumnus is interested in donating a used van in good condition, the Foundation would be most grateful. The ideal vehicle would be sound, safe and have fewer than 70,000 miles. Such donations are income tax deductible, subject to provisions of federal tax law. The Foundation will gladly provide the required written acknowledgment required for tax reporting purposes, and will arrange for delivery of the vehicle to Maine. Any potential donors should please contact Mark or Liz Standen at (207) 846-7741.



## PUBLIC INSPECTION OF FOUNDATION'S ANNUAL RETURNS

As required by a federal law applying to tax-exempt organizations, the George and Raymond Frank Foundation's annual information returns (Forms 990) have been, and continue to be, available for public inspection during regular business hours at its primary office. The Foundation's primary, year-round office is located at 121 Main Street, Yarmouth, Maine 04096, about 20 minutes north of Portland on the coast. Although the office is staffed full-time during regular business hours, we suggest that anyone planning to stop by call ahead to be assured of a successful visit.

Of course, any alum should also feel free to stop by just to say hello, catch up on the Foundation's activities or offer donations of money or time!

Dear Kawanhee Alumni:

As I'm sure many of you have heard, we had a terrific summer this year, with an abundance of joy and camp spirit! We had a very strong camper return rate this summer at 80%, including 9 campers who returned from two years ago. This is the highest return rate on record for the last 6 or so years. Some highlights of the season were; an all-camp trip to a Sea Dogs baseball game in Portland, and a camp-wide effort to be "un-plugged" for the summer. Our CIT's designed a "Kawanhee Un-plugged" t-shirt capturing the camp-wide sentiment to leave GameBoys, cell phones, computers and other gadgetry behind for the summer. A CD was recorded with songs written and sung by camp counselors and campers titled "Un-plugged". Camp Kawanhee is alive and well, thanks to the enthusiastic and dedicated support of campers, their parents, counselors, staff and alumni!

As we have transitioned into new management and address fiscal concerns, one of our goals has been to reduce the amount of money taken out of our operating budget to fund scholarships. Last year we were able to partially fund several campers through outside scholarship sources. We hope to do more of this. Camp Kennebec Alumni Foundation, a group formed when their beloved camp discontinued, chose our camp and one of our campers to be the recipient of one of their scholarships. They have agreed to pay tuition for this boy for each year that he returns to Kawanhee. Another fund in Maine, 'Summer Champs', helped pay for two boys' camp experiences this summer. If any of you have knowledge of any funding sources in your area for camp scholarships, we certainly would appreciate the information.

Over the years, Camp Kawanhee has been very generous, giving a very large number of full and partial scholarships (far exceeding those given by surrounding comparable camps), giving many boys an opportunity to have the camp experience that they otherwise may not have. In many cases, this has been an extraordinary commitment to each boy, because it has meant financial assistance not just for a year, but for the many years that a camper returns to camp.

In order to continue to provide this level of assistance to future Kawanhees, we ask for your help. Many of you have been the recipients of scholarship assistance from Kawanhee, or have family members that had a Kawanhee experience because of the generosity of the organization. It is possible, and in some cases probable, that you find yourselves in a different financial situation today. We ask that you consider and take this opportunity to give back to Kawanhee's scholarship fund so that other boys may enjoy the opportunity that you and/or your sons have enjoyed.

Our scholarship fund needs your support!! Remember, your gift is tax deductible. Please include your contribution in the enclosed envelope and check the blank beside "Please use my gift only for this purpose: \_\_\_\_\_". Write in "scholarship" in the blank.

With gratitude and appreciation for your support.

George and Raymond Frank Foundation Scholarship Committee,

Steve Yale, John Estabrook, Mark Standen



## KAWANHEE CONTRIBUTIONS - THANK YOU!

The George and Raymond Frank Foundation appreciates the strong support of Kawanhee's alumni and friends. The following donors listed below have made contributions since the last listing of gifts in the June 2006 issue of the Alumni Wigwam.

<i>Anna Abbott</i>	<i>Nicholas &amp; Kathy Gill</i>	<i>Phillip &amp; Rosita Olson</i>
<i>John &amp; Anne Abbott</i>	<i>Ellen Goldsberry</i>	<i>Billy Proctor</i>
<i>Pam &amp; Peter Albertsen</i>	<i>Philip &amp; Barbara Green, III</i>	<i>William and Lucretia Romey</i>
<i>Ann D. Baker</i>	<i>Garth &amp; Lindsay Greimann</i>	<i>David &amp; Karla Roth</i>
<i>Charles "Admiral" Barkwill</i>	<i>Theodore Griley</i>	<i>Steve Ruhle</i>
<i>Kenneth Beck</i>	<i>Marion &amp; Stephen Hall</i>	<i>Craig Rule</i>
<i>Barry &amp; Mary Ann Birch</i>	<i>Ed &amp; Mary Hamblin</i>	<i>James Sanders</i>
<i>Bonnie Birch</i>	<i>Frank Henry</i>	<i>Mark Schiewetz</i>
<i>Mary Birch</i>	<i>Larry &amp; Norma Hinds</i>	<i>Vivienne &amp; Ted Seeley</i>
<i>George &amp; Dagmar Brainard</i>	<i>Mrs. Charles H. Hiser</i>	<i>Mark Sengelmann</i>
<i>Barbara Cahill</i>	<i>Fred Hoster</i>	<i>Mark &amp; Julie Sengelmann</i>
<i>Kenneth &amp; Sally Foster Carson</i>	<i>Chris Huntington</i>	<i>Henry &amp; Kathryn Shepherd</i>
<i>Cindy &amp; Anthony Cottone</i>	<i>Russ &amp; Lois Huntington</i>	<i>Wayne K. &amp; Susan Shontz</i>
<i>Helen &amp; John Detrick</i>	<i>Kay Jenkins</i>	<i>Oscar Shamamian &amp; Llewellyn Sinkler</i>
<i>Sam &amp; Audrey Detrick</i>	<i>Carl &amp; Renate Jensen</i>	
<i>Victoria &amp; Robert Dickson</i>	<i>Russell Jessen</i>	<i>Spillman Co.</i>
<i>John &amp; Joanne Dixon</i>	<i>Albert &amp; Tracy Johnson, Jr.</i>	<i>Mark &amp; Elizabeth Standen</i>
<i>Margaret Dodge</i>	<i>Thomas &amp; Patricia Johnston</i>	<i>Patricia &amp; Michael Standen</i>
<i>Keith &amp; Louisa Erf</i>	<i>Chris Juergens</i>	<i>Theodore &amp; Marion Stotzer</i>
<i>Robert Erf</i>	<i>Robert Litwak</i>	<i>Dick &amp; Nancy Stowell</i>
<i>Jane &amp; Walter Estabrook</i>	<i>Robert MacArthur</i>	<i>Donald Swift</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Paul Ferber</i>	<i>Jameson &amp; Maria Marvin</i>	<i>Mark Ward</i>
<i>Mary &amp; Paul Fink</i>	<i>Michael &amp; Cecilia Mathews</i>	<i>James Warren</i>
<i>Richard Force</i>	<i>John Maurice</i>	<i>Lucia Weihe</i>
<i>John Forman</i>	<i>Virginia &amp; William McEwan</i>	<i>Andy &amp; Robin Williams</i>
<i>Samantha Fortunato</i>	<i>Richard &amp; Joan Miller</i>	<i>Bill &amp; Celeste Williams</i>
<i>Liz &amp; Bob Fox</i>	<i>Sean Minear</i>	<i>David &amp; Velma Williams</i>
<i>David Gallagher &amp; Amy Buckingham</i>	<i>Jeff &amp; Molly Morgan</i>	<i>Dennis &amp; Mary Sue Williams</i>
<i>James Garland</i>	<i>Dr. Jim Murphy</i>	<i>Sandy Winkles</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. John Gill</i>	<i>Dorothy Neidig</i>	
	<i>D. Kirk Neiswander</i>	

**If you would like to make a contribution, please make your check payable to and mail to:**

George and Raymond Frank Foundation, P.O. Box 789, Yarmouth Maine 04096

### The Alumni WIGWAM

Camp Kawanhee  
PO Box 789  
Yarmouth, Maine 04096



First Class Mail

Tom Pears  
30 Prince Avenue  
Winchester, MA 01890

0189031330 0001

