

# WIGWAM

Vol. 77 No.1

Camp Kawanhee, Weld Maine

March 1997

## The Spirit of the Totem Speaks

by Patty Donahey

With snarling fangs, soaring wings and spreading boughs, the mighty totems of Kawanhee watched from their lodge-wall perches. While they watched, they sent a symbolic message throughout camp as the summer season of 1996 drew to a close.

These totems embodied the spiritual connection between the campers who made them and the "happy hunting grounds" of Kawanhee. Each totem represented, in its own unique way, the bond between campers and the land.

"The whole project was about spirit building for all the lodges," said Ted Simanek, nature and boating counselor, and grand architect of the project. "It got them all working together, building companionship. Each lodge added something personal from its members."

Panther Lodge, for example, incorporated symbols for the countries that were homelands of the international campers in the cabin. Bear Lodge was another that showed international unity in its design.

"The outcome was nice," said Ted, "having the totems hanging around, bringing color to the center of the camp. It also gave the boys a chance to get involved in designing their own symbols and doing the hands-on work."

Ted gave freely of his own time and expertise, guiding each participating lodge from its initial sparkle of imagination through to the finished totems hanging proudly on the cabins.

"A high percentage of the lodges completed a totem," said Ted. "And, next summer we'll get the rest of the lodges done."

With the coming of summer of 1997, the totems will return to Camp Kawanhee, protecting their cabins and unifying the spirits within.

Meanwhile, Ted is hard at work at his home in Pennsylvania. "I've got some new ideas for summer," he said. With Ted's many talents, we're all confident he'll produce another spirited project for Kawanhee in '97. Pictures of some totems made by the '96 campers are on page 3.

## Message to Kawanhee Parents

We, the Directors and Staff of Camp Kawanhee, want to express our sincere gratitude for the Thank-You letters from so many of our campers' parents. We are indeed happy to receive reports from you that your sons have, as you had hoped:

- 1) Grown in SELF-CONFIDENCE through encouragement from counselors, and through increased skills in one or more activities.
- 2) Improved in SOCIAL SKILLS through living in a group with peers and counselors for seven weeks.
- 3) Learned NEW and CHALLENGING ACTIVITIES such as Sailing, Waterskiing, and Kayaking.
- 4) INTERRELATED with boys from other countries to learn about their customs and cultures.
- 5) Learned to SET GOALS and then work towards achieving those goals.
- 6) Developed more POSITIVE ATTITUDE.
- 7) Learned to APPRECIATE and RESPECT NATURE (Lake, Mountains, and Woods).
- 8) HAD FUN
- 9) Experienced close exposure to the SPIRIT OF KAWANHEE which emphasizes building high ideals and character.
- 10) CARRIED OVER to home and school what Kawanhee has taught.

Thank you also, Kawanhee Parents, for enrolling your sons at Camp Kawanhee. We pledge to do all within our power to provide them with another HAPPY, SAFE, and PRODUCTIVE summer.

§ Walter Estabrook, Director §



Greetings from Weld, where 435 of us year-round residents are enjoying what has been a moderate winter, with plenty of snowfall over the first half of February.

Cross country skiing has been excellent lately. Mt. Blue State Park maintains about 20 kilometers of ski trail, and my wife, Becky and I are able to access the trail system by walking a half mile down the Temple Road. We had a nice afternoon on the lake February 9, skiing on some of the snowmobile trails that crisscross the surface. With the temperature of only about 25°, clear, sunny skies, and little wind, it was beautifully serene on Webb Lake.

Kawanhee slumbers peacefully, with 2½ feet of snow covering the ground; drifts in some places are 6' high. The lake's ice is a good 12" thick, a long way from ice-out, when water will be open again.

While we don't mind the long winters too much, the arrival of spring will be a most welcome event. It is truly miraculous how the land comes back to life after such a long and frigid sleep! Whitecaps will once again shimmer and roll on Webb Lake by the end of April. With the last remnants of snow still on the ground during the first week of May, spring peepers and wood frogs will raise a chorus from the shady vernal pools. The brook behind my house will roar with snowmelt. The loons will return from the coast, and I'll hear them calling to each other late night from my house two miles from the lake. Pushed out of the nest by their mothers, yearling moose will be wandering about, posing a hazard to drivers on the roads.

I'll have my canoe in the lake as soon as the ice is gone (April 25 or so, usually), trolling flies around in hopes of catching a trout or salmon; these fish are right up at the surface at that time of the year.

I look forward to seeing you all in June - especially you fishermen. It's going to be a great season!



## **A Day-off Hike Last Summer**

by Patty Donahey

A tiny, weathered sign was tacked on a pine tree next to the rugged trail: "Scenic view" declared

the chiseled message. An arrow pointed vaguely to the left where a narrow side trail disappeared over a rocky ledge.

On my day off, one week earlier, I had hiked this same trail but missed the turn-off. Frustrated because the "scenic view" eluded me, I headed out again the next week, hoping to find it. Persistence paid off! Approaching the rocky ledge, I found myself looking down at a steep path that wound between rocks, over ropes of tree roots, and disappeared into the trees. I dug over into my pocket for the trail guide and unfolding it read: "Scenic view ¼ mile off main trail. Steep side trail leads to spectacular views from a series of rocky ledges."

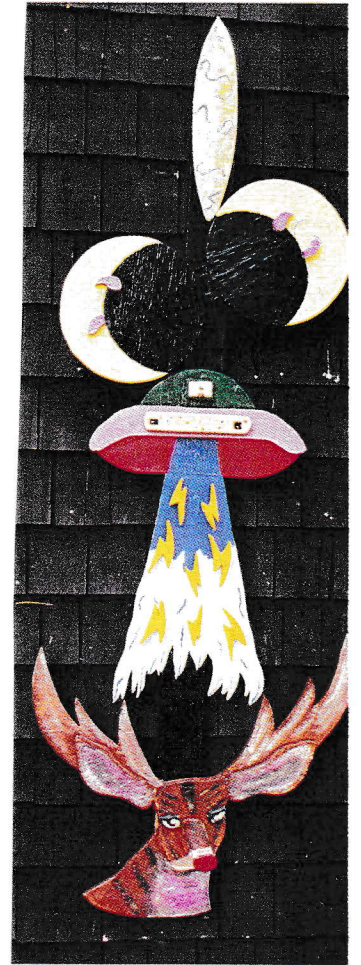
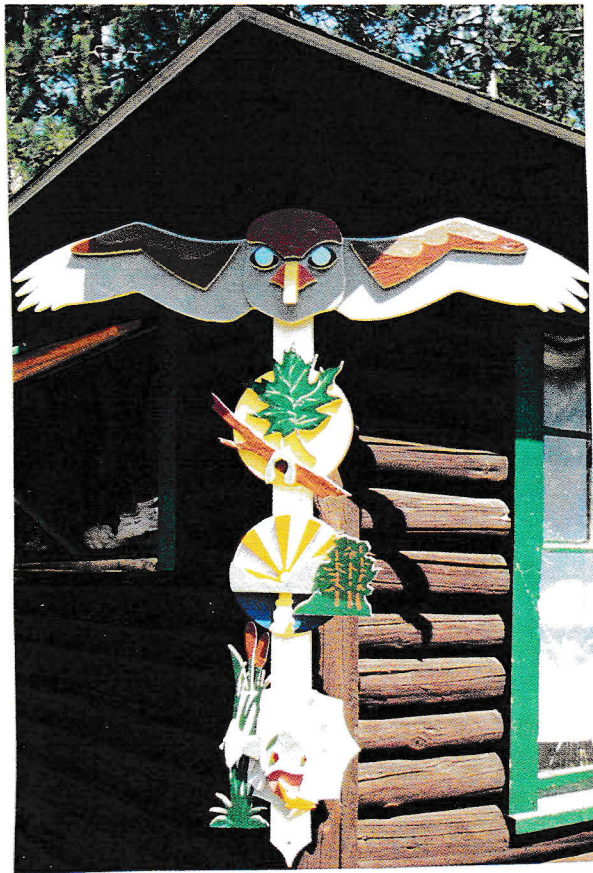
Glancing at my watch, I calculated the side trail would take an extra 45 minutes, including sightseeing time. I scrambled over the edge and headed down. Choosing the right spots for secure footing held my attention for the first few minutes; however, at the point where the trail took a turn and disappeared into the trees, the terrain leveled off slightly and allowed me to shift my focus to the surrounding forest. I listened as a rustle in the underbrush and a birdsong overheard broke the woodland silence. The wind whispered in my ear, and the mountains beckoned me on as I followed the winding trail. Friends often warn me not to hike alone, but where else can I find such peace? True, there is a risk, yet I feel the arms of God around me and I trust them. God is with me in the mountains, guiding my spirit.

Up ahead sunlight filtered through the thinning trees as the path grew rockier. Stepping into a clearing, I found myself on the first of a series of ledges on the mountainside. The ledges tilted down and curved around to my left while on my right a wilderness panorama swept off to the horizon. Along the ledge path, wild blueberry bushes had sprung up between the slabs of rocks, inviting me to help myself to their ripe berries — my first wild blueberry find of the season! Arriving at the last ledge, I rested, munched blueberries, and from my vantage point in Maine, gazed across the White Mountains into New Hampshire. On that ledge, I sensed a perfect peace that transcended the everyday world, and felt my spirit soar to freedom.





THE TOTEMS — THESE & ALL OTHERS WERE WINNERS!!





## As Kawanhee Turns

Our appreciation to Julie Cooke for the great picture of Herb Birch in our 1997 catalog. Julie taught archery at Kawanhee several years ago. Her husband, David is an alumnus of Kawanhee as are her sons, Trevor and Dain. Our thanks to the many campers who sent Christmas greetings — we enjoyed them all. A counselor reunion was held at the Estabrooks' house just before Christmas. Everyone loved looking at the Christmas cards sent by campers. Gary Saunders, formerly head of the Kawanhee kitchen, fed us all very well! Nancy van den Honert, Co-Director of Archery with Chuck Compher, Sr., is now a new Deacon at the Presbyterian Church in Pennsylvania. Chuck Compher, Jr. is on his way to the altar very soon with a very lovely Texas girl and Mark Nelson will be a part of the wedding party. Heard that Nick Aiello was the Captain and a great player on his college football team. There have been a couple of counselor groups making trips to Kawanhee for winter camping and walking to Bass Rock. They will keep Herb, Brian, and Jackie busy putting that distinctive winter stripe on their paddles -- Jorge Granado, Mark Nelson, Nick Aiello, Travis Hatley, Bernie Gehret, Kris Simanek, Bob Hart, and Robert Compher. They have pictures to prove their trip.

Please keep us informed of change of address. We like it when you send news, and let us know if you have the address of a friend who attended Kawanhee, but is not receiving any information from us.

### **\*\* Obituaries \*\***

G. Britten (Brit) Durell, 66, of Columbus, Ohio, died on Jan. 31. Brit attended Camp Kawanhee as did his three sons - Eric, David, and Whitney. He maintained his interest in Kawanhee throughout the years. He was associated with Union Fork and

Hoe Co. and belonged to several professional industry associations as well as contributing time and effort to many community or organizations particularly those benefiting youth.

Charles David Windle, 70, of Washington, D.C. He was a research psychologist with the National Institute of Mental Health and contributed much to various departments as well as publishing many articles for psychological journals. He attended Camp Kawanhee for several years.

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Our November '96 WIGWAM listed Kawanhee Foundation contributors who had made a donation as of that time, and since then, the following persons have mailed a contribution. Our thanks to the following contributors:

Jack & Cynthia Abbott	Margaret White Keating
Sue Altmaier	Jim & Ellis Kurtz
David & Alice Appel	Kyes Insurance
Fred Ball	Robert Lamb
Ken Beck	Roger & Florence Liddell
Jean Benedict (In memory of Ray Benedict)	Ed & Sarah Lupfer
Barry & Mary Birch	Mrs. Robert K. Marshall (in memory of Bruce Birch)
Herb Birch	David & Ann Metcalfe
Mary Bittenbender	Ross & Jane Ann Miller
Irv Bouton	Jeff & Molly Morgan
George & Dagmar Brainard	Geraldine Mullen
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Nick Gill	John & Helen Vorys
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David & Kathleen Jenkins	William & Celeste Williams
Benton F. Kauffman, III	

The Kawanhee

**WIGWAM**

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**First Class Mail**

# WIGWAM

Vol. 77 No. 2

Camp Kawanhee, Weld Maine

May 1997

## Enrollment as of May 15, 1997

Dominic Abbott  
Jeffrey Abbott  
Rees Alexander  
Will Alexander  
Spencer Aldrich  
Enrique Alvarez-Sala  
Carlos Amerigo  
Enrique Amerigo  
Brooks Anderson  
Thomas Barrows  
Chris Barry  
Darren Belskis  
Matt Berg  
Andy Bonasera  
Adam Bowman  
Patrick Boyd  
Coner Branch  
Matt Brown  
Andy Burbine  
George Byers  
Jon Casto  
James Chagaris  
James Choi  
C.J. Clarke  
Joey Clarke  
Robert Connelly  
Frank Cook  
Kurtis Coursen  
William Crall  
Dan Crane  
David Crane  
Jim Crane  
Ryan Davis  
Pablo de Haro  
Chris Duncan  
Matt Duncan  
Sean Duncan  
Nate Duncan  
Andrew Edelston  
Hadrian Engel  
Alvaro Fernandez  
Brad Fichter

Sean Ford  
George Fraley  
Jaime Galiana  
Javier Galiana  
Ramon Gaztambide  
David Girard  
Diego Godinez  
Carlos Gonzalez  
Bryan Grewe-Orme  
Trevor Griffin  
Chad Guthrie  
Constantin Hoerdemann  
Brian Jacobs  
Steven Jaramillo  
Brandon Jiaconia  
Jake Jones  
David Jovic  
Steven Jovic  
John Kelly  
Brian Kim  
Karl Kremling  
Michael Kunze  
Philipp Kunze  
Jaime de la Lastra  
John Lee  
Michael Lenard  
Ben Lichtman  
Patrick Linn  
Ramon Luca de Tena  
Scott Luken  
Edouard Nattee  
Jorge Marcial  
Javier Marcial  
Eduardo Marcial  
Fernando Martos  
Matthew McGee  
Zachery Mueller  
Adam Muther  
Ryan Nuanes  
Richard Oh  
Brian Osar  
Daniel Osar

Georg Pastuszyn  
Collin Patierno  
James (Mike) Pierson  
Leo Pilgerstorfer  
Georg Pingeon  
Max Pingeon  
Richard Pinkham  
Ben Porter  
Tristan Ramierz  
John Reagan  
Forbes Rigsby  
Robert Rigsby  
Michael Robinson  
Javier Rubio  
Alex Sanchez-Navarro  
Francisco Sanchez-Navarro  
Peter Senglemann  
Patricio Servitje  
Torrey Liddell

Sebastion Servitje  
Dan Sharpe  
Alex Smith  
Hojin Song  
Constantin Sorger  
Mark St. Peter  
James Strawbridge  
Adam Studebaker  
Tom Tillett  
Etienne Tremblay  
Rodrigo Valderrabano  
Marc van den Broeck  
Jim Wallingford  
Richard Webner  
Johannes Werhahn  
Michael Werhahn  
Matt Wilson  
Alexis Zarlin  
Philipp Keutter

### \*\*\*\*\*ATTENTION CAMPERS\*\*\*\*\*

If your name is not included on the list of boys who have enrolled for 1997, please remind your parents to mail in the application very soon. We are just about at full capacity in all ages, and we need to know if you still are planning to be with us for a summer of "FUN WITH A PURPOSE".

### The Turtle Race

by Elizabeth Compher Hall, former Kawanhee nurse

Word of the nurse having revived the "dead" snake spread like wildfire amongst the young boys at Camp Kawanhee. This brought a parade of ailing creatures to the Infirmary door. Each woodsy patient was treated appropriately.

A turtle race was scheduled on a future Saturday. All the younger boys had hunted, found and now had numerous turtles in training. When not on the workout track, the turtles