

WIGWAM

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Camp Kawanhee, Weld Maine

July 31, 1998

MT. KATAHDIN TRIP

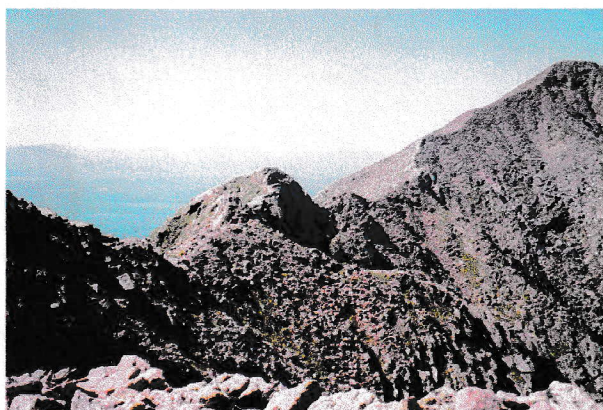
by Hadrian Engel and Jon Casto (Bear Lodge)

Mt. Katahdin, towering just short of a mile high, was tackled by a group of nine Kawanhee hikers. On Monday, July 20th, the group left camp bound for Mt. Katahdin. That night they set up a small campsite just outside Baxter State Park where Katahdin rests. After a supper and a swim in the river, the crew put down the tarp and went to bed. Everyone needed a good night's rest, but bugs would not allow it.

At 4:30 the next morning, Al Spencer woke the group to a breakfast of oatmeal and hot cocoa. Then they took down camp and set off for Katahdin. Once at the base of Katahdin, packed and ready to go, they hiked to Chimney Pond which was 3.2 miles away. At Chimney Pond, the crew ate a snack, rested and refilled their water bottles. The group was now faced with the Cathedral Trail, which is the steepest part of the hike. At 12:30 p.m. they reached the summit and ate lunch. Now the hikers were ready to tackle the most challenging part of the trip, which was the Knife Edge. The Knife Edge is a ridge with very steep drop offs on both sides. For most hikers, that portion of the trip was the most exciting part of the hike.

When the crew had successfully crossed the Knife Edge, they were ready to hike down the Dudley Trail back to Chimney Pond. They stopped for photos at the index rock, which projected out from the mountain ridge. After arriving at Chimney Pond and eager to finish the trip, they raced down the last 3.2 miles. Then they set up camp, where they would stay for the next two nights. For a treat, they toasted s'mores and had a good night's sleep in their newly set up tents.

The next day's activity was swimming at Aboll Slide, which was a natural thirty-foot water slide. Thursday morning the group packed up and returned to Kawanhee.



The Knife Edge at Mt. Katahdin

CARLOS AMERIGO
(from Wildcat Lodge)
won the 1998
"Mr. Kawanhee Night"
in the Rec Hall
on Friday, July 24th!!



Camp Kawanhee held a Mr. Kawanhee Night on Friday, July 24th, which proved to be quite entertaining. Each lodge chose one boy to represent the lodge and be in competition in evening wear, swim wear and to display a special talent. We had everything from suits to satin P.J.'s, trunks to speedos, and singing to bullfighting. In the end, our six judges totaled up their scores from each category for each candidate (1-10 with 10 being best). Carlos Amerigo won Mr. Kawanhee Night. Congratulations, Carlos! Thanks to everyone for making it a fun night!

AWARDS CEREMONY COMING UP

Parents, families, and friends are welcome to attend the Awards Ceremony on Saturday, August 8. The ceremony will start at 2:00 p.m. Supper will be served in the Dining Hall afterwards. Everyone is invited to eat a meal with the campers.

Messages to Parents of Columbus & New Jersey Campers

Flight Information for the Trip Home on August 9th

COLUMBUS BOYS:

American West Airlines flight #2725 leaves Boston at 6:07 p.m. and arrives in Columbus at 8:06 p.m.

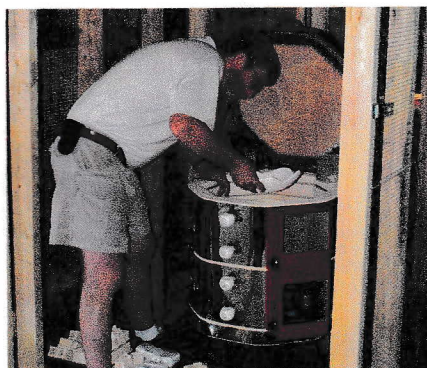
NEW JERSEY BOYS:

Continental Airlines flight #3311 leaves Portland at 11:45 a.m. and arrives in Newark at 1:15 p.m.

NATURE – MORE THAN JUST FIELD GUIDES!

by Ted Simanek

Humming motors of electric potter's wheels and rock tumblers . . . the thump of mallet against wood chisel . . . the coarse scraping sound of stone saws and grinders. All part of the growing project dimensions at the Nature Center where busy campers try their hand at a wide range of art and craft projects. "Nature" is our subject matter as young artists print Indian moon calendars, develop wildlife and landscape paintings, craft polished stones for jewelry in lapidary and throw vases and bowls on the potter's wheel. These are just some of the opportunities available for campers to explore. Stop by for a visit and you just might see a totem carving in progress.



**Ted Simanek
putting a
pottery project
into the kiln**

SHAKESPEARE PLAY COMING UP

by Corey Smolnik and Keri Racicot

Have no fear, the Camp Kawanhee Shakespeare Company is here! All those guys who have been participating in theatre have been working on putting together a play entitled, "The Complete Wrks of Wllm Shkspr (abridged)." It makes an innocent mockery of Shakespeare's writing and the people who act in his plays. There has been an overwhelming amount of enthusiasm from the guys and we think the final production is going to be fantastic. It's not too late to get a part in the show either. If you are interested, just listen for the announcements and come on out and join us. For those of you who would rather remain in the audience, look forward to seeing Spencer Aldrich and Hadrian Engel in kilts. Get ready to see the guys rap Shakespeare. Anticipate football and be prepared to laugh.

"FIFTY" CLUB in Rifle Range

Last week our only member of the Fifty Club, Jacob Jones, was joined by first year Kawanhee camper, Peter Yen from Beaver Lodge. Peter shot a 50 in a prone position while shooting for his Bar 1. Fifty points on a target is a perfect score, all within the area of the bull eye. Way to go, Peter!

(Jacob Jones accomplished this special feat in the summer of 1993 when he was in Falcon Lodge. He is now a C.I.T. in Badger Lodge.)

**James Chagaris
(Lynx Lodge)
showing his pride
as an umpire in
KLL baseball**



H.A.L. Hysteria!

by Nick Aiello

Hank Aaron League action is in full swing at Kawanhee. "The Big Stop Specials" control the standings with four wins and one loss. Darren Belskis swung a big bat for the Specials. With a "bye" in the playoffs, he will lead them in the HAL World Series.

The Dukes of Hazard were close behind the Specials with a 4-2 record. C.J. Clarke and Jamie Strawbridge will lead the Dukes against Tarbaj and the Egyptian Magicians in the playoff elimination game. Although the Magicians failed to score a victory during the regular season, Brad Fichter, the team captain, has visions of an upset.

Good luck to all the teams!

THE TWO-DAY CANOE TRIP

Article 1 - by Eduardo Saldana (Bear Lodge)

Monday, July 27th, was the overnight canoe trip at Mooselookmeguntic Lake. We got to Cupsuptic Lake, which was our starting point. The wind was against us and so was the current. We had to paddle about six miles to get our campsite at Griffin Island. During our paddling at Cupsuptic Lake, we saw a bald eagle, which Dan Webster pointed it out to us. When we got to the opening on Mooselookmeguntic Lake, the wind was very strong. There were about one or two foot swells, and chaos was about to start. But we paddled very hard and got to safety at shore. Then for the rest of the trip, we paddled along the shore. During this paddling, we encountered some loons. When we arrived at the island, we did not know which island it was because there were four more islands around it. We split into groups until Dan Webster found the right island. We put up our tents and ate dinner.

The next morning it started to rain but it stopped before we had breakfast. We were supposed to have blueberry pancakes but some of us forgot to bring the blueberries. When we were ready to leave the campsite, the wind and current were in our favor, so it was easy canoe paddling. When we got to our point of destination, we ate lunch and then had a grudge match between counselors and campers. Of course, the counselors won. When we left, we stopped at Small Falls before arriving at camp and there we had fun. This was a great trip and I hope the Tripping Department repeats it next year.

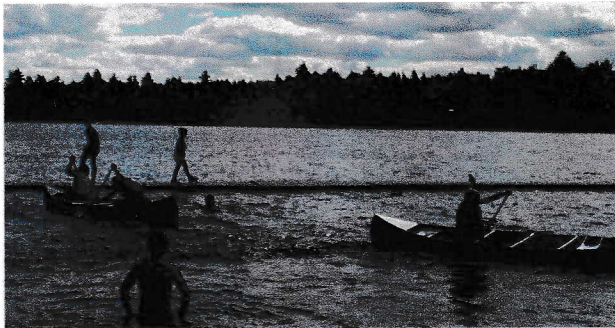
THE TWO-DAY CANOE TRIP (continued from p. 2)

Article 2 - by Jeff Ruhle (Hawk Lodge)

Twelve campers and three counselors canoed to Griffin Island on Mooselookmeguntic Lake and spent the night there. The paddling was long and hard. It was six miles, against the wind and water. There were several places where we stopped to take breaks. Once we rounded a certain point, there was a big rush of wind. Later on, we figured out how the big gust of wind was caused. There was a big stretch of flat lake where the wind could pick up speed.

Once we got to the island, we beached the canoes and started to set up the tents. After finishing that task, we made a fire. While the counselors cooked dinner, we put the stuff that we needed for the night into our tents. After a delicious meal, we hung out by the fire until we were ready to tuck in our sleeping bags for the night.

In the morning, we started a fire to cook our breakfast. Since it had rained that night, it was hard to find dry wood. After breakfast, the campers explored the island while the counselors got the canoes ready to leave. When all of the groups were back from exploring, we got on our life jackets and departed the campsite. It was an easy two-mile trip back because we were with the wind and water current. The two-day canoe trip was a great success, and we all enjoyed ourselves.



Canoe Tug-o-War in action during the Saturday Swim Meet
(Two canoes are attached with a rope. Starting between the two docks, campers try to paddle the canoes in opposite directions until they reach the dock of their side.)

ANNUAL GREY-MAROON SWIM MEET

The annual Grey-Maroon Swim Meet was held on Saturday, July 25th, and once again Kawanhee campers were involved in keen races as they competed in different events during the afternoon. The meet started with competitors from each age level doing a sprint between the docks, with the Greys winning three of four sprints. Then came a much anticipated exhibition sprint between trippers Big Al "Speedo" Spencer and Tim Johnston. Big Al squeaked out a victory in a race that everyone enjoyed watching. Following the sprints were events such as the senior Bass Rock canoe race, the Jr. C. kickboard relay, and the Jr. B Corkscrew relay. Jr. B's, A's, and Seniors also competed in a canoe tug-o-war and an over-under canoe swimming relay.

The competition was fierce, but by the time the afternoon was over, the Greys had proven victorious, with a score of 154 to 88. One hundred extra points were granted to the winner, so the final score was Greys 254, Maroons 88. Each team worked hard, and both teams and their captains are to be complimented on the sportsmanlike conduct of the meet.

WHAT KAWANHEE MEANS TO FALCON LODGE:

- Mason Tice* - my birthday; a place to live for the summer; a quiet spot.
Dan Alexander - the Estabrooks; how much fun I have; the bells in the morning.
Alastair MacPhail - activities; fun; and free time.
Ned Carson - I think about how fun it is; it really means a lot to me, so it really feels like home.
Spencer Branch - sleeping away from home; doing things until the sun goes down and even after that, sometimes; going swimming and sailing.
Gregor Hoffman - a place to make friends and go on trips and see beautiful sunsets

FATHER JOE LANG VISITS KAWANHEE by Pete Belskis

On July 19th, Kawanhee had the honor and privilege of welcoming Father Joe Lang, the local Catholic priest, from St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Dixfield, Maine to Kawanhee. Father Joe has been well known to many Kawanhee campers as the happy-go-lucky, down-to-earth pastor who always seems to give a meaningful message we can appreciate.

At the vesper service, Father Joe encouraged campers to take advantage of their surroundings here at camp and all that they have: good health, plenty to eat, people who care about them, and especially parents. In essence, Father Joe urged all of us to embrace life openly; to live life to its fullest, not to shun it; and focus on all the positives of our lives, as well as, the negatives that surround us. His speech was a very strong message that hit home to all of us and we are really appreciative to Father Joe for sharing his talk with us at the vesper service. We thanked him for sharing some important thoughts with us.

Father Joe Lang has been a Pastor at St. Joseph's in Dixfield for the past eight years. Many of our campers have visited his church for the Sunday service every Sunday morning during the Kawanhee season.



Omelette making during the July 24th brunch

***** AS KAWANHEE TURNS *****

Darren Belskis was the winning pitcher for the Ashland Hornets in the Eastern Maine Class D Championship game in Bangor, Maine. A delegation of over 200 fans followed the team from Ashland to Bangor and the magical win began in the 4th inning. It was an 8-4 victory by No. 1 Ashland over No. 3 Fort Fairfield. Very exciting – Darren is the Captain of the Maroons this year and Junior Counselor in Bear Lodge. All of Kawanhee cheered when Darren returned to camp. The proud parents are Pete Belskis, Head of Athletics at Kawanhee and Nan Belskis who is in charge of the Camp Store, Camper Accounts, and inspections.

Our own Herb Birch was greatly honored by the town of Tenaflly, New Jersey as the Volunteer of the Year. Not only is Herb one of the veteran volunteers of the Englewood Hospital and Medical Center (23 years), he chauffeurs for FISH; transports patients to doctor appointments for the American Red Cross, and delivers meals for the Meals on Wheels program. He is an active participant in the Bergen County Habitat for Humanity and recently organized a 10-mile walk-a-thon to raise money for Habitat for Humanity. He has been a member of the Presbyterian Church in Tenaflly for 60 years and now serves on the deacon board. Kawanhee folks know Herb as the head of the camp's Shop for many years. This season is Herb's 54th summer at Kawanhee. He is also the head of the Polar Bear Club, which challenges campers to join him at 7:00 a.m. for a dip! And he will celebrate his 92nd birthday this year! We all are immensely proud of him and join his family in praise.

We had many winter visitors who signed the Board as they walked through camp with thoughts of summers here: Mark Gibson, Kris Simanek, Christopher (Topher) White, Stewart Pickard, Chris Yardley with his group of Outward Bound students, Kurtis Coursen, Mark Nelson, Elizabeth Bowles, Paul Rotolo, Becky Coomer, RYANNE BROWN, Danielle Glover, the Altmaier and Proctor families, Jorge Granado, Mara Figuers, Debi Brown, Pam and John, Chuck and Peter Bittenbender, George Moore, Alex and Allayna Nering, Jerry Nering, Chad Hollenbaugh, Tim Davis, and Joanna Sewell.

Graduation invitations and college announcements

were received and these are happy occasions for the following: DeLeon Johnson from the Columbus Academy; Jim Estabrook with Magna Cum Laude in Microcomputing from Columbus Community College, Columbus, Ohio; Alex Greene going to a college in the south; Bill Burbine entering the University of New Hampshire; Corey Smolnik and Keri Racicot pursuing their theater careers in two different colleges; Torrey Liddell going to Bowdoin; Steve Oswald to Endicott in Massachusetts; Erin Seegers in Ohio University at Athens, OH; Adam Studebaker at Kentucky University; Philipp Kunze at University of Vienna; Steve Lenard graduated from University of Chicago and Matt Hawthorne from Clemson along with Darin Lutz from Indiana Vocational (Darin is third generation Kawanheen). Our best wishes to all these folks for these important steps in their lives.

Four weddings are coming up: Kevin Humphreys and Kathleen Mosier in Rocky River, Ohio; Trevor Cooke to Jennifer Eberle in Columbus, Ohio; Will Fleming and Kelly Woods in Cincinnati, Ohio; Dan Webster and Adrienne Thompson at Camp Kawanhee (great excitement at camp about this wedding as both bride and groom are on our present staff). Congratulations to all for their new lives together. We wish them long and happy marriages!

Welcome to recent camp visitors who were former campers and counselors: Robert Page who worked in Sailing and has a grandson, Tom Tillett in camp now; Jeff Morgan who has a son, Ben Morgan in camp; Mr. and Mrs. Eric Jensen and Anika from Florida; Lars Jensen from the Washington, D.C. area; Ed and Mary Hamblin; Peter Strahan; Richard McGee visiting his son, Matt McGee; Keith Erf and family; Ferd Schoedinger and family – his nephew, Chris Atwell is a Junior Counselor here now; Mark and Julie Sengelmann visiting son, Peter; Mark and Liz Standen visiting sons, Jed and Alex; Pedro Marti from Puerto Rico and now in Minneapolis visiting; Jim Murphy from Columbus, OH; and Jorge Granado from Madrid and is now in New York having moved from Boston. It is always exciting to see Kawanhee friends and we hope we didn't miss anybody -- always make yourself known because we like to have you see the camp in action and join us in the Dining Hall.

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