## THE KAWANHEE



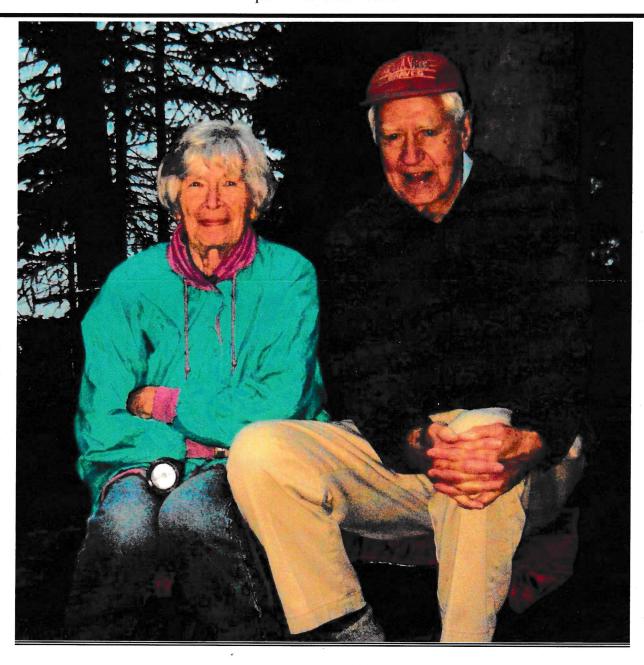
# WIGWAM



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This Special Issue of the Wigwam is in memory of

## Walter and Jane Estabrook

and is a tribute to their many years of service to Camp Kawanhee. Kawanhee lost two of its truest and most devoted friends last spring. Jane Estabrook died on March 31 and Walter Estabrook died on April 28. For over thirty years, they carried on the legacy of George and Raymond Frank, operating and nurturing Camp Kawanhee as a character-building force for boys. Kawanhee was a labor of love for them. Both believed deeply in the ideals of Kawanhee and they tried to implement those ideals as they lived their lives. They revered the traditions of Kawanhee and did all that they could to ensure that those traditions survive through the ages. Most of all though they loved the people of Kawanhee: the campers, the counselors, the staff, young and old. They were friends to all and mentors to many. With the help of their dear friend, Herb Birch, and many others, they led the Kawanhee community from 1969 until the early years of the new millennium. Their particular pride and joy was watching new and returning campers grow and develop into confident, capable, principled men.

Jane and Walter welcomed the diversity of personality and nationality of Kawanhee, and with wisdom and patience they helped to meld the disparate individuals who came to Kawanhee into a community of shared values. They loved the place, and all that it encompassed: the lake, the mountains, the pines; the singular smell of the Shop, the shouts on the soccer and athletic fields, the roar of the campfire, the poignant sound of Taps in the quiet evening air, and the serene and awesome beauty of the setting sun. They derived immense pleasure giving other people the opportunity to

revel in all that Kawanhee offered.

Both, of course, worked on each year's recruitment effort, but Walter in particular never met a mother, father, or grandparent of a boy between the ages of seven and seventeen for whom Kawanhee was not the perfect place to spend a summer. Tales are legion of him meeting someone in a checkout line, restaurant, gas station, dentist's office, and the like and hastening to place a Kawanhee catalogue into their hands. With remarkable regularity he was able to close the sale. Jane made it a point to involve herself in the day-to-day rhythms of the camp, through Polar Bear or helping with projects in the shop. She tried to learn the name of every boy in camp each year, and not infrequently knew something of each boy's family and his favorite activities. Both were capable of exercising a firm hand at times, but each preferred to lead by example and by persuasion.

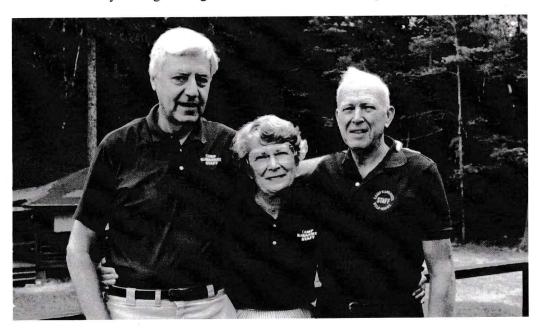
Walter was in Ohio at the time of the tragic conflagration of the Dining Hall in 1977, but Jane marshaled all of her resources and the resources of many others and they were able to cope. Kawanhee survived that calamity. When it came time to pass the Kawanhee torch to another generation, Walter and Jane arranged for the creation of the George and Raymond Frank Foundation. They donated their controlling share of Kawanhee Inc. to the new entity. By doing so, they gave material meaning to the phrase "May There Always be a Kawanhee.". To the end they remained proud stewards of the dream of George and Raymond Frank, perpetuating a unique and wonderful place where boys become men and people from all over the world can "learn to do by doing", "finish what you start", and have "fun with a purpose".

Jane and Walter worked as partners, ostensibly almost seamlessly. Each found the hard work of operating a boys' camp gratifying. The strengths of both were amplified, and their weaknesses minimized, by their Kawanhee experience.

As they loved Kawanhee's braves and sachems, so too those braves and sachems loved them. It was a two-way street. They received a like share or more in return. Their lives were enriched beyond measure by the friendships and relationships that they enjoyed in the environs of Weld and Lake Webb.

The outpouring of support from the Kawanhee family has been extraordinary, a testament to the impact they had on so many people's lives. They were happy with each other in life, and they were proud and happy to be of service at Kawanhee.

Now they are together again in the care of the Great Spirit.



Walter Estabrook, Jane Estabrook, Herb Birch standing near the Dining Hall in the mid 1980's

#### THE JULY 13th MEMORIAL SERVICE

The celebration ceremony to honor the legacy of Walter and Jane Estabrook was held at the Council Point on Monday, July 13th. Mark Nelson, the Camp Director from 2000 to 2005 under the mentorship of Walter and Jane Estabrook, took the honor of running the service. He, Gibby, Kris Simanek Tyler, Sean Minear and Debi Sullivan did a wonderful job preparing and organizing the program and reception for this special event. The Estabrook family, some former and current staff and campers, friends and some residents from the town of Weld attended the service. A number of current and former Kawanhee staff members shared their memories of Walter and Jane. The ceremony was a beautiful and moving tribute to two beloved and extraordinary people who touched so many lives through their thirty plus years at Kawanhee.

Gathering – Mark Nelson

Welcome to the Celebration – Mark Standen

Anthem, "Teach Your Children" – Friends of Kawanhee

Scripture Reading, "A Psalm for the Living" – Mike Altmaier

Jane Estabrook Eulogy – John Estabrook

Hymn, "I Will Love You" – Tim Johnston and Simon Doolittle

Scripture Reading, "23rd Pslam" – Ed Watson

Walter Estabrook Eulogy – Kate Schoedinger

Remembrances – some attendees, one at a time

Song, "Amazing Grace" – The Kawanhee Choir

Hymn, "Forever Young" – Friends of Kawanhee

Indian Prayer – Kris Simanek Tyler

Benediction – Judy Hoffhine

Taps – Brian Birch

"The very fact that Kawanhee exists today in such a wonderful way is due to Walter and Jane Estabrook's determination, courage and high ideals that so personify Camp Kawanhee. Just think, of the number of lives Jane and Walter touched in deep and meaningful ways: instilling in them the spirit of the Camp which lives on. All of us owe a debt of gratitude to them for keeping Kawanhee alive for all the boys who have passed through and those still to come. Walter and Jane were indeed the real Chief Kawanhee and their spirit will continue to live on. Thank you, Walter and Jane, thank you."

-- Bill Myers

"Words alone seem inadequate to express the profound grief that we all feel, and being completely candid, I am struggling at the moment with being able to positively re-frame my own thoughts at the passing of Walter and Jane. If one will allow me to assume, I am sure I speak for all of us when I say that beyond the bounds of each of our own individual families, perhaps no other persons have offered better guidance, mentorship, and fellowship than Walter and Jane. How truly blessed we all are for having had the privilege of their friendship and love. In comfort knowing that through their teachings and influence, we all will continue to honor Walter and Jane as we progress on life's journey, as our individual character has been strengthened and enhanced by this amazing couple. They are right where they want to be...eternally together. We are incredibly blessed to have been touched by Walter and Jane. Other than my family, no other individuals have had such tremendous impact on my life in shaping the foundation of my character than Walt and Jane."

-- Mark Nelson

"I'll never forget the service and sacrifice that Walter and Jane gave to camp, and the boys they served so proudly through camp's mission. I owe much of what I have accomplished from the lessons of humility, hard work, responsibility and friendship that I learned from my Kawanhee family. I still believe that the camp was the most positive formative experience of my young adult life and I attribute many of my personal successes to being a camper and counselor. The lives of so many boys (many now men) were forever touched and shaped, and so many of us will forever be indebted to Walter and Jane's service to a greater common good. And I could name dozens of other camp brothers that share my feelings. So cheers to Mr. and Mrs. Estabrook and the life that they led so positively to affect that of mine and my peers."

-- Adam Bowman

"As the ripple effect of this news spreads through the Kawanhee family and beyond, to all the lives touched by these two wonderful people ...may the strength of their lives, their love, their commitment to excellence and high standards, their compassion, and in the end even their all so human fragility and humbleness be a compass for us all as we face the challenges and savor the moments of our lives." -- Dan Webster

"They were wonderful forces in the lives of so many of us and their strong spirit and great love will always reverberate in the lives of Kawanheeans and friends that knew them and loved them."

-- George Pingeon

"I took comfort in knowing that Walter lived a fulfilling life and was now at peace and reunited with Jane. I knew it was inevitable, but I still can't believe they're both gone. They were such vibrant and caring people ... I think we all became better people the moment they said hello and introduced themselves. I know that I will always feel privileged to have had the opportunity to know Walter and Jane and grow up with them as role models. I think about Kawanhee often, and for me, they will always be a part of those thoughts. Whether its their anniversary kiss every year, Walter's hand shakes, or Jane's perfect polar bear attendance, the Estabrooks personified everything that's great about Kawanhee."

-- Rob Connelly

"Truly, Walter and Jane both influenced our lives more then anyone could imagine. We will always have fond memories of our association with Walter and Jane. They truly touched our lives for the better. A more loving, dedicated couple, one could not find. May they rest in peace."

-- Peter and Nan Belskis

"Walt and Jane were great friends to all of us and we will miss them. It's great that their life was celebrated on the 13th of July and I wish I could be there. My favorite memories are Walter picking blueberries with the campers on Blueberry Hill and Jane standing on the Polar Bear dock keeping an eye on the camp."

-- Bill Koplitz

"Walter and Jane are two of the most beautiful human beings that I have ever had the pleasure of being exposed to. I hope all that they taught us can echo through the years."

-- Carlos Morales

"It is amazing how much of an impact Walter and Jane had on my life, other than my grandfather, they are the only other people that have passed close to me that has had such an impact. Without Walter and Jane, I would not have had Kawanhee."

-- Bernie Gehret

"Walter and Jane have always been such great friends and role models. How blessed we have been to have known them."

-- Joe and Diana Demers

"Walter and Jane will be missed by many. Those of us who knew them were the lucky ones. May their lives be a model for us all." -- Mary Birch

"Walter and Jane touched so many of us, and will be dearly missed."

-- Simon Doolittle

"I found myself thinking of their sharp wit and sterling integrity with much grateful appreciation."

-- Pete St. John

"Walter and Jane are terrific people. They touch so many lives and their wisdom and all that they gave will continue to grow."

-- Debi Sullivan

"Walter and Jane were the people that I truly admired. They valued their family, did important things for others and made each of us feel like a valued member of the Kawanhee family. Our boys had so many happy summers due to the efforts of Jane and Walter."

-- Kate Branch

"Walter and Jane are a special and remarkable couple – they blessed our lives immeasurably ... we hope knowing how much they were loved will bring you some comfort and smiles."

-- Brian Birch and Linda Lou Fairbanks

"I reflected on all the wonderful memories of Walter and Jane – they are loved by so many."

-- Patty Geiger

"Having spent 13 summers at Kawanhee, the Estabrooks provided me with guidance, maturity, life lessons and friendship. They will be greatly missed."

-- Jamie Sanford

"Walter and Jane were wonderful folks – their lives were a blessing to so many."

-- Marty and Bill Albershardt

"They have marked the lives of so many and how lucky we were to have known them."

-- Pam Albertsen

"I think about Walter and Jane and their long and happy lives together. They did what they loved, had a wonderful family and appreciated all of you and enjoyed good health until recently. Who could ask for anything more than a long and wonderful life with people they love."

-- Marcia Estabrook

"I remember when my lodge went to your house one night. Mrs. Estabrook had made us cookies and went through the catalogs to point out the people she knew. She was a very sweet and kind woman."

-- Jack Dixon (camper 2005 - present)

"I remember when you two got your anniversary cake and everyone in the Dining Hall was clapping and it made me feel so happy because of all the happiness in the room."

-- Mike Dixon (camper 2007 – present)

"We feel honored to have had the opportunity to know Walter and Jane. Fond memories will remain with us forever."

-- Kris and Wallis Tyler

"What a privilege it has been to know two such devoted people all these years, devoted to each other and to the Kawanhee family. We will miss them, but keep them in our hearts forever."

-- Nancy and Bob Barnes

"We are so grateful for our years at Kawanhee and the opportunity to experience their wisdom and goodness. Such tremendous love and faith never goes away."

-- Amy and Al Spencer

"I have thought of Jane; how much I learned from her, how much I loved her, how close we were for 13 years at Kawanhee Inn and many more years after I stopped going, how easily and often we laughed, and how well we worked together. She truly was a sister to me. Jane will always be a part of me. I loved Walter, too. Certainly, a big part of our lives was spent in Maine at Camp Kawanhee and we all loved those years. Walter and Jane made a huge impact on each one of us. They were absolutely the most honest, kindly, sincere, genuine, and loving friends I have had the complete joy of knowing."

-- Lydia Hadley and the Detrick Family

"Obviously, Walter and Jane's blood flows through the place that many of us love — Camp Kawanhee ... From making sure that it existed after George Frank to the tireless energy they put into the camp, Camp Kawanhee owes its existence to Walter and Jane. The thousands of boys and families that were touched by Kawanhee, will be a gift that will last long for years to come. The great effect Walter and Jane had on me, Kawanhee, their families and the world will be greatly missed."

-- Mike Altmaier

### A PARENT'S IMPRESSIONS JUST AFTER THE FIRE OF 1977 by Henry Blau

The morning after the 1977 fire that destroyed the original Main Lodge and Eagle and Birch Lodges, I drove from Boston to Kawanhee concerned about the safety of our two boys, Peter then 12 and Henry 15, who were attending camp. On arrival I went straight to the scene of the fire which looked like a war zone with the three buildings reduced to still smoldering piles of ashes and nearby trees scorched and deformed by heat from the flames. I started to walk closer for a better look but was brought up short by a loud voice informing that the fire scene was still off limits to everyone.

The voice was Jane's who was alone and firmly in command in the camp office with Walter away in Columbus on Brown Steel Company business. In spite of the destruction that had taken place only a few hours

earlier, the camp was functioning almost normally. All activities were up and running, hot meals were being provided using the Inn kitchen and dining room which was now closed to the general public and displaced campers were living in relative comfort in little clusters in the recreation hall and other convenient spaces.

Jane's determination and organizational skills demonstrated in the first hours and days after the fire surely saved the summer of 1977 and because of this, quite possibly the future of the camp itself. If not her finest hours at Kawanhee these were pretty close.

The next morning, after saying goodbye to Peter and Henry, I drove back to Boston reassured and thoroughly impressed.

#### **KAWANHEE 2009 SEASON LODGE LIST**

S.C. indicates Senior Counselor; J.C. indicates Junior Counselor

**EAGLE:** Matt Gering, S.C., Ned Carson, S.C., Andrew Prior, J.C.

CAMPERS: Juan Albors, Daniel Deliz, Christopher DiPaolo, Ryan Duncan, Elliot Galvis,

Luca Cavalli, AJ Detrick, Justin Bussard, Billy Segarra, Christopher Sherman

**FALCON:** Ben Connolly, S.C., Cameron Cisco, S.C., Inigo Calderon, J.C

CAMPERS: Jeff Kiley, Cully Minnis, Quinn O'Neill, Juan Tamames, Fonzi Diaz,

Miquel Padilla Matos, Riley Bell, Stefan Bussard, Jonathan Nichols

PINE TREE: Santiago Leyba, S.C., Spencer Davis, S.C., Graham Marvin, S.C.

CAMPERS: Salva Alemany, Antonio Fernandez, Alfonso Rosselli, Zach Sherman, Elisha Tyler,

Drew Cronin, Will Sievwright, Kyle Russo, Ethan Riddell, Lucas Rodriguez,

Augusto Gonzales

**HAWK:** Brian Simpson, S.C., Ryan Albert, S.C., Will Gering, J.C.

CAMPERS: James Sashin, Thomas Brent, Matt McColgan, Jorge Alicea, Luis Escudero, Brian

Donegan, Everett Tillett, Juan Luis Silva, Nick King, Karle Erf, Adam Campbell,

Edouardo Castillo

**DEER:** Dan Alexander, S.C., Chase McReynolds, S.C., Victor Simancas, J.C.

CAMPERS: Chris Mykrantz, Jack Amico, Morgan Kennedy, JP Roach, Garrett Clark, Ben Peachy,

Liam Wrean, Juan Fumero Velazquez, Mike Dixon, Dean Sobel, Mike Baldwin,

Juan Cuadrado Granda, Alex Gaudet, Justin Scott, Robbie Kresch

**BEAVER:** CJ Clarke, S.C., Will Dargusch, S.C.

CAMPERS: Eli Yale, Fred Baker, Franco Benitez, Teagan Pado, Mac Sashin, Emilo Beteta,

Carlos Prado, Ted Kim, Sean Murphy, Pedro Escobar, Owen Tolland, Jorge Gonzales-Gordilla

**MOOSE:** Ben Morgan, S.C., JP Rullan, S.C.

CAMPERS: Brandon Helgason, Connor DiPaolo, Jaime Lasso de la Vega, Seth Packer,

Alfonso Rodriguez Lebron, Gus Anthon, Ferd Schoedinger, Drake Williams,

Javier Vincente Pascual, Eddie Trayner

**LYNX:** Sam Carson, S.C., Rich Hall, S.C., Luke Randall, J.C.

CAMPERS: Jose Ignacio Herrera, Ted Kasper, Jon Andersson, Dillon Eaton, Colin Grove,

Alfredo Fernandez, Juanki Fernandez, David Deliz, Roger Champagne, Daniel Iturregui,

Tomas Iturregui

**WILDCAT:** Gavin Cadwallader, S.C., Steve Harvell, S.C.

CAMPERS: JR Anderson, Enrique Corral Herrara, Sam Reynolds, Zach Doucette,

Julian Martinez Simancas, David Nagy, Tommy Cronin, Jake Zellner, Jim Champagne

**BEAR:** Tripp Strawbridge, S.C, Reid Greimann, S.C., Ben Zambito, J.C.

CAMPERS: Philip Coons, Peter Erf, Jake Fogel, Colin Holstein, Caleb Tulloss,

Juan Antonio Vicente Pascual, Jose Rivera

**LOON:** Andrew Altmaier, S.C., Sam McCoy, S.C., Ben Neiswander, J.C., John Fritz Rullan, J.C.

CAMPERS: Jake Dixon, Rye Salerno, Alex Moller, Bobby Savini, Miles Smith, Erik van Tilburg,

Jaime Loring Castillo, Aaron Pado

**TROUT:** Ben Smith, S.C., AJ Johnson, S.C., Will Ryan, J.C.

CAMPERS: Max Zambito, Forrest Weihe, Shea Rouda, Blaise Mariner, Matt Webber, Kyle Howard,

Anders Helgason, Mac McReynolds, Ben Minton, Kinchen Packer

**CROW:** Jed Standen, S.C., Evan Jones, S.C.

CAMPERS: Eric Berry, Luis Cuadrado Granda, Max Hunter, Miguel Vicente Hernandez,

Harry Wellborn, Jimmy Whitaker, Santiago Chassin de Kergommeaux,

Ignacio Lasso de la Vega

#### **ACTIVITIES FOR KAWANHEE CAMPERS**

Every parent (and camper) wants to know who is responsible for guiding and directing the various activities of the boys at camp. Below is the list of activities for campers and staff assignments for each activity for the 2009 season.

**STAFF** ACTIVITY:

Nature:

Paige Berry, Cameron Cisco Archery: Andy Bourassa, Santiago Lebya Arts: Sam Carson, Reid Griemann Baseball:

Brian Simpson, Ned Carson, Lori Cato Basketball: Dan Alexander, Chase McReynolds **Boating:** Jed Standen, JP Rullan, Steve Harvell, Campcraft: Dotty Jones Estabrook, Tracy Webster, John Bell

Kayaking: Ben Connelly, Ben Morgan

Mary Birch, Sandy Winkles Rifle Range:

Jared Stinson, AJ Johnson, Graham Marvin Ropes: Rees Tulloss, Matt Gering, Spencer Davis Sailing: Matt Reynolds, Will Kay, Brian Birch Shop:

Trip Strawbridge, Evan Jones Soccer:

Ed Watson, Kris Tyler, Will Dargusch Swimming: Ben Smith, Gavin Cadwallader Tennis:

Trips: Dan Webster, Ryan Albert, Rich Hall

Water Skiing: CJ Clarke, Sam McCoy

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE CAPTAINS by Michael Altmaier

Luke Randall was selected as Captain of the Maroons this year. Luke is a veteran of seven years at Kawanhee and is a senior at Mamaroneck High School in New York. This summer Luke is working in Sailing and is a Junior Counselor in Lynx Lodge. In high school, Luke was on the lacrosse and sailing teams and is an avid snowboarder. Luke has been studying Chinese for seven years in school and visited China this past school year. Luke would like to pursue a career in international business based on his study of China and Chinese.

Will Ryan was picked as Captain of the Greys this summer. Will is a veteran of six years at Kawanhee

and works in the baseball department and lives in Trout Lodge for the summer as a Junior Counselor. Will lives in Upper Arlington, Ohio and attends St. Charles Prep where he is a senior. Will is a member of the baseball team, writes for the school paper and belongs to the National Honor Society.

Being selected as a Captain is one of the greatest honors at Kawanhee and we truly have picked two great young men this year! Good luck to both Captains and teams!

#### KAWANHEE'S NATURE PROGRAM by John Bell

This has been an exciting year in the Nature Department, with new personnel and lots of new ideas and activities. Tracy Webster joined us this summer, and brings a wealth of knowledge about the natural world, a teacher's skill and organizational abilities, and a lot of great ideas for outings in the area. It has been a pleasure working with both Tracy and with Dotty Jones Estabrook, the latter for the second season now. These two women bring a great deal to the department, and between them have organized a number of full and half day trips out of camp for budding naturalists. Destinations this season have included a morning on the Webb River to find and collect aquatic insect larvae (trout food), blueberry picking, a trip to the Maine state game farm (where an actual moose is in residence), gold panning, visits to the Mount Blue State Park natural history center, and a number of others. A birding excursion is planned for this week, and eight flyfishing

enthusiasts will accompany me to legendary Upper Dam this week, with hopes of landing a salmon or brook trout.

Back at camp in the Nature building, we have refined our focus; our theme is "Maine Woods Ecology." We have terrariums, aquariums, and a reptile cage containing two garter snakes from the Kawanhee forest. We even have a large (and rare) land snail named Gary, who cruises (slowly and deliberately) among the toads and salamanders.

All amphibians, fish and reptiles are supplied by campers, and receive the best of care during their temporary stay. The Nature building, with newly painted floor and shelves, is also the home of the fishing department; flyfishing, especially, fits nicely into our sphere of concern, featuring as it does a significant component of requisite knowledge of aquatic insects, river ecology, and life cycles of fish and invertebrates. It's been a great season so far in Nature.

#### **SPECIAL NOTICES TO PARENTS:**

- Be sure to check the Kawanhee web site (<u>www.kawanhee.com</u>) for the 2009 photos from camp.
- The next Wigwam issue will include articles about some activities, the Awards Ceremony, the final score of the Greys and Maroons teams, photos of the boys and many more.
- End of Camp Festivities ---The end-of-camp Awards Ceremony will be on Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. The ceremony will begin at approximately 1:00 p.m. After the ceremony, parents and guests are also invited to stay at camp for supper.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE CAMP DIRECTOR by Dan Packer

Though I didn't have the chance to know them well, I have the opportunity to see the legacy of Walter and Jane Estabrook every day, all summer long. It sounds like the joyous laughter of boys jumping off the diving boards, or the ping of a bat during a KLL game. It smells smoky, like a fire burning at Campcraft, or a bit acrid, like the smell of fresh sawdust in the shop. It has a thousand faces, from the boys playing tetherball to basketball, from the proud face of a boy who has passed a difficult level to scared look of boy about to jump off the pamper pole.

It is cliché to say that Walter and Jane live on in the life of the camp, but it is also true. Above all, they dedicated themselves to ensuring that Kawanhee remains a camp, that it not be broken up or sold off for development. Like any institution, Kawanhee will change. New activities and new traditions will take their places along side old ones, as the ropes course has joined the Shop. Old traditions will be revived or revitalized, like the early morning quiet paddle to bass rock to watch the sunrise. New folks will bring their vision to bear, bending the Kawanhee twig in a slightly new direction.

But, as long as we gather every ten moons, invoke the chief and try to live by the ideals of the four directions, we honor the lives of Walter and Jane and the many others who have dedicated themselves to the making and maintenance of Kawanhee.

#### **KAWANHEE CONTRIBUTIONS**

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 ME 04096

The Kawanhee WIGWAM Camp Kawanhee P.O. Box 789 Yarmouth ME 04096

First Class Mail