

FOREWORD

by Richard A. Miller

Kawanhee's first century deserves a celebratory history, a story of its founding and development over a span of 100 years. For your enjoyment, Mike Altmaier has assembled and presented here many of the events since the founding in 1920. He has searched the written records, including materials in the Kawanhee History Museum. The annual catalogs each provide a reprise of the prior season in preparation for the next. He interviewed many alumni whose recollections of their experiences as campers and counselors supply details of summer life spent at Camp.

My years at Kawanhee (from 1939 as a Midget in Falcon Lodge to senior counselor in Birch in 1952) fall exactly midway in the first fifty years. I am fascinated to learn about the years before and following my tenure, as well as my fourteen-year career. I learned a lot more than I expected. Most of you reading this have not experienced those first fifty years; you will find much of interest in the Camp experience, how it has evolved and how it was different from your experience in the next fifty years.

Mike has assembled information gathered from his archival search and from his interviews with alumni and has woven it into a history of the leadership, programs, and philosophy of Kawanhee. You will learn the history of Camp from its founding by the Frank brothers to its transition to the Frank Foundation. There are stories from campers and counselors reminiscing about their favorite experiences from. As I read them, recollections from my own experiences emerged from my memory, many sleeping for over half a century. I recalled Sunday afternoons swimming at Coos Canyon, trips up Parker Ridge Trail, and dips in the lake on top, sailing around Center Reef, lodge skits, and songs sung at campfires. Now, I remember the Chief admonishing us to protect wildlife, batting in a softball game against GR pitching, earning Marksman at the Range, jumping out of and getting back in a canoe, and jumping off the high dive. Other fond memories that have surfaced include wrestling at a Rec Hall campfire, readings of *The Log*, the levels earned that week, the Grey Maroon rivalry, and Emma's freshly baked bread. Some of this has changed, some not. Your memories, too, will be awakened when you read this. And some new activities have been added: soccer, basketball, kayaking, water skiing, and many more.

In his historical collage, Mike also reminds us of the continuing Senior Counselor Corps, leaders who served as lodge counselors as well as teachers in activities. For my years they include Henry Marshall (The Chief), Pop Nowald (Athletics), Irv Bouton (Tennis), Joe Selden (Swimming), Ben Bennett (Shop), Herb Birch (Nature), Bob Duffy (Shop), Nick Nickerson (Boating), Coach Smith (Athletics), Hal Myers (Orchestra), Art Kiefer (Nature), Howell Windle (Range and whose solemn instruction was "Load and Commence Firing"), Ed Tullos and Bob Page (Sailing), and Clarence "Bates" Bateman (Trips).

They were more than skilled teachers; they were role models and friends who espouse the Kawanhee tradition--"Fun with A Purpose". I benefited tremendously from their leadership and greatly value my connections with Kawanhee. I know that when you read this history, you will remember your own experiences and connections with this 100-year-old institution with your fellow campers and with many people who made our experiences great.

"May there always be a Kawanhee!"

Dick "Millings" Miller
May 2020

PREFACE

I first came to Camp Kawanhee in 1964. In my early years, I listened to Raymond Frank and then Herb Birch give talks on our history before the *Coming of the Chief* each summer. I was a history buff, and eventually I became a Social Studies teacher. I probably had more of an interest in the history talk than most campers and counselors, but I really didn't know that much about our history. In the spring of 2000, Herb Birch passed away, and I was given the task of presenting the history talk before the *Coming of the Chief*. I have learned a lot about our history since then.

I've had great mentors along the way. One was Ed Hamblin, a former counselor who was Kawanhee's first real historian. All the oral histories on Kawanhee's website are the result of interviews that Ed Hamblin did. Dr. Richard (Dick) Miller, son of The Dean Ross Miller, had helped me with the history prior to when I started.

Since 2010 Tom Pears has been a great supporter and benefactor to our new History Museum. He has bought countless supplies and has worked tirelessly to update our resources to the modern digital age. Tom has also helped hire a museum curator the last five summers, so we've had someone in the Museum most of the time. The four curators have been Eliza Graumilch, Macy Davis, Monica Conary, and Emily Benson (curator for two summers, 2020 and 2021). Each of them has done different projects that have benefited the mission of the Museum, and the Camp Kawanhee History Museum is a better place today because of their hard work.

The telling of the story of Camp Kawanhee history made great progress in 2010 with the opening of the Kawanhee History Museum. The Museum would not have been possible without the dedication and donation of Steve and Diana Yale who came up with the Museum idea. Their generosity allowed us to move the building to its current location and complete extensive remodeling. Since that time many artifacts have been donated, and many people have helped make the Museum what it is today.

As I learned about our history the past twenty years, I realized we didn't have a written history of Camp. There were some pieces out there. One is a two-page history that might have been written by Ed Hamblin that you can still locate on the internet. People have recommended that I make an audio recording of my history talk or develop a written script.

This book is the result of my efforts over the last two and half years. I want to make it clear that no one asked me to do this, so don't blame anyone else! Originally, my goal was to do the entire 100-year history of Kawanhee. A good friend suggested I pull back on my goals and just try to do the first 50 years. I agreed and hoped to do the second volume in 2020-2021. That all changed with the cancellation of the 2020 season and the Centennial Reunion. It was decided that it made sense to go back to the original goal of doing the entire 100-year history in one volume. After the cancellation of the reunion for a second summer in 2021, it was decided to delay publication for another year.

There were some challenges in doing this project. The major obstacle was the fact that I wasn't born until Kawanhee's 29th year and didn't attend until its 44th year. I knew compiling the history of the early days would be difficult. I depended a lot on the yearly catalogs and *The Wigwams*. *The Wigwam* didn't start publishing until 1935, and thus I was somewhat handicapped in obtaining factual information before that date. Luckily there were some oral histories that helped me in addition to the catalogs. I accepted the fact that there would be some things—especially in our early history—that I just wouldn't know or be able to discover. There are obviously very few living alumni from Camp's earliest days. Dick Miller and Bill Myers were two of the oldest living alumni when I started the project in 2019. They both gave me great help and advice. Unfortunately, Bill Myers passed away in the spring of 2021. Steve Yale (the book's publisher) was able to contact Jones Harris who is just a bit older than Dick Miller and who is the oldest living alumni that we know of. Jones is the son of Ruth Gordon, an Academy Award winning actress (*Rosemary's Baby*). Jones was able to tell us some stories of how Peter Fonda came to Camp in 1949.

My goals were very small at the beginning. At first, I was just doing it for fun with no expectations of having it published. As I did each chapter in the fall of 2019, I put the text and pictures in a big loose-leaf notebook. My goals were to make about ten or so copies of the notebook and put the finished project in

our museum, in our Library, at the Kawanhee Inn, and at the Skoolhouse Variety where people could leaf through as they ate a meal.

By March of 2019 I was through the 1940s. I was greatly slowed by my seasonal job at LL Bean that included a three-hour commute. But a miracle happened in March of 2019. My friends Steve and Diana Yale invited me to their California home to work on a Kawanhee *Jeopardy* game we hoped to present at the reunion in August. I told them about my history project, and they seemed interested in reading some of my early chapters. They then decided to become involved, particularly in editing the project and helping me to get it published. So, there is no doubt when this project is published it would not have happened without Steve and Diana's unwavering support.

A lot of other people have helped along the way. Hopefully all are mentioned in the sources section. I decided not to mention them here since I was afraid I would leave some people out. I am also thankful for places that gave me a chance to work since many were closed because of the pandemic. I was able to piggyback on Wi-Fi systems by working outside. I spent a lot of time on the tables outside Skoolhouse Variety in Weld and outside the University of Maine Farmington library. As the weather cooled, the House of Pizza in Farmington let me sit in their dining room for hours. In recent months as society has reopened, many of those challenges have disappeared. I wrote the first half of the project on my phone as I didn't own a computer. Steve and Diana convinced me that I needed to get a computer to improve the project--a great decision. But I still feel nostalgic about the writing of the document on my phone. Thank God for whoever invented the stylus, because I'm not good at writing with gawky fingers and not very gifted with technology, so occasionally my phone decided to write in Japanese. There will be a Japanese version of this project in the future--just kidding. But those days are behind me.

I tried my best on the project, and I know it's not perfect. A few facts in our very early history remain mysteries. I'm sure there are some small errors. Because of challenges that daily life presents, I couldn't work on it every day, and so my work was sometimes sporadic. That may show in the final product.

This project is a love letter to a place that changed my life. I came to Kawanhee as a very shy and socially awkward fourteen-year-old. Kawanhee put me in situations that forced me to grow as a person. Later in life I became a teacher and tennis coach. My life is what it is because of Camp Kawanhee. I'm sure I'm not the only one.

I tried to make this project a positive look at our history. There are certainly more controversial moments. But Kawanhee has survived and thrived and continues to be a life changing force for boys. I tried to tell the story through the eyes of one boy, me. One of thousands whose life was enriched and forever changed. And for that we are grateful.

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PROLOGUE

Long before the Frank brothers stepped foot on the majestic shores of Lake Webb, geological forces were hard at work for millions of years creating the natural beauty that surrounds Kawanhee. The mountains in the Weld region were formed about 400 million years ago when a continental fragment collided with North America. This collision forced the bedrock to fold and thrust upward, creating the Northern Appalachian Mountains--not a quick process. It took 40 million years and was completed about 360 million years ago. Since then, the landscape has been slightly altered by years of weather, in particular the Laurentide Ice Sheet that covered the region for over 20,000 years. The ice sheet further sculpted the mountains and formed Lake Webb. Many large boulders still seen are lasting remnants of the glacier as it receded. Bass Rock is a perfect example. Some boulders have striations across the surface indicating which way the glacier moved, and some can still be seen at Upper Center Hill in Mount Blue State Park.

Camp Kawanhee is located on the southeastern shore of Lake Webb, named for Thomas Webb since settlers in the region saw his name carved on a tree near its banks. Lake Webb is about 4.57 miles long and 1.5 miles wide, a shallow lake with its greatest depth at 42 feet and is 675 feet above sea level. There once was an island on the lake near Center Reef; one can still see the island's eternal fragments just under the surface. Kawanhee has a large anchor that rests on a tree near the Sailing Department--discovered by a Kawanhee scuba diver in the 1960s--an enduring symbol showing that the shores of Webb were once heavily logged, an unknown vessel leaving behind the priceless artifact.

Lake Webb and Weld are located at 44 degrees and 41 minutes North Latitude, only a few miles south of the 45-degree North Latitude line that goes through Rangeley several miles north of Weld. Thus, Rangeley is exactly halfway between the Equator and the North Pole, and the Weld region is just south of this historic line. Weld is a little closer to the Equator than the North Pole--evident when we all bask in the warm January temperatures. I kid.

About 18,000 years ago a great glacial ice sheet covered much of the northern part of our continent, slowly melting about 12,000 years ago. Because of the glacier's weight, the land was depressed about 300 feet below its current level, and as it melted the land and sea levels began to rise. The sea level rose faster, so much of Maine was covered with sea water creating the inland sea. This sea was in place for thousands of years as far north as Weld and beyond. Sometimes people find marine fossils in the Weld area.

About 10,000 years ago, the area that is now Maine had its first group of inhabitants--nomadic hunters who used spears to hunt. Experts have named them Paleo-Indians. The climate was very cold then, and only sparse vegetation could survive. It was a time of prehistoric creatures such as Giant Beavers, Mastodons, and Mammoths. Eventually the climate warmed, and the great forests began to grow. Because of these changes, a more advanced, indigenous culture developed, named the Archaic Culture by historians. They had developed a spear thrower called an Atlatl enabling the Archaic hunter to stalk game from further distances, hopefully not scaring the animal away. They also harvested shellfish and other fish and lived in small villages. A dugout canoe was developed to help with travel and fishing. Eventually indigenous people learned to make pottery, and historians call this period the Ceramic Period. Other advancements were the bow and arrow, the birch bark canoe, and farming cultures to grow food.

About the year 1500 AD the indigenous people living in the area were part of the Eastern Woodland Culture--the culture most people think of as Native Americans. They hunted in the great forests and fished and farmed. They lived in permanent villages but also migrated during the year, spending some time on the coast and some inland. The indigenous people that lived in our area were called the Abenaki. Historians divide the Abenakis into Eastern and Western tribes. Kawanhee is in the area where the Eastern Abenaki lived, and within the Eastern Abenaki were groups of tribes such as the Kennebec, Pequawket, and the Arosaguntacook, the latter being the tribe that once lived in the region surrounding Camp. The Penobscot tribe still exists, and many live on a government reservation in Old Town, Maine near Bangor. Historians estimate that 30,000 to 40,000 Native Americans lived in the region about the time of European contact, and sadly that number would be reduced to almost extinction by European

diseases and colonial wars. Many of the Native Americans that lived during the colonial period relocated to Canada, but the population of Maine would increase with many living throughout the state, many on government reservations.

It doesn't take a lot of imagination to create a vivid picture of the Woodland Culture living on Lake Webb or the Androscoggin River in the early days of history. You can imagine a large circular village, members of the tribe hunting in dense woods, fishing the waters, and growing corn in fields. In recent years Kawanhee has tried to respectfully honor the indigenous people who were here before us. Many projects in Art, Nature, and other departments try to honor their culture. In 2021 a group of campers built an oval wigwam with bent saplings and birch bark. We will continue to respectfully honor the first cultures who lived on the shores of Lake Webb.

As populations of people have changed over the course of history, the town of Weld eventually came to be—the town where Kawanhee lives two miles to the south. Weld has a small winter population, but it expands greatly during the summer. A group of European explorers came in the 1770s and were looking for a route to build a road between the Kennebec River and settlement areas to the west. The Kennebec is a major river in Maine that emerges from Moosehead Lake (Maine's largest lake) and flows to the sea where it empties near the city of Bath. Many Kawanhee campers have taken canoe or rafting trips on the Kennebec. The road project was never completed, but it gave us the name for the lake since the explorers discovered Thomas Webb's carved name on a tree.

Settlers returned in the 1790s, mostly from New Hampshire. It was a rough life in the wilderness, but in 1797 town boundaries were established, and Nathaniel Kittredge became the first town inhabitant settling on the west side of the lake. As the settlement grew slowly, industries sprung up to support its citizens. In 1812 the settlement was organized as the Webb Pond Plantation, and in 1816 it became the town of Weld. Caleb Holt paid \$21 to the treasury and asked the town to be named after his friend Benjamin Weld. In 2016 many of us celebrated Weld's Bicentennial.

Since colonial times, Maine had been part of Massachusetts and was called the District of Maine. In 1820 Maine separated from Massachusetts and became the 23rd state, so for the first four years of Weld's history, it was part of Massachusetts. In the mid 1800s Weld grew in population with several mills in the town including ones that produced boots, spruce gum, boxes, and other products. There were even two hotels, one being the Pleasant Pond House.

The first summer camp in the area was Camp Gypsena, later renamed Camp Bia Yuka, opening in 1909 and lasting a little over twenty years. Kawanhee was established in 1920, and Camp Lawroweld opened in 1927—still operating today. Eventually the mills moved out of town, and Weld's population declined. In 1934 Mount Blue State Park opened. Today, Weld has a very active historical society led by longtime Kawanhee cook, Sean Minear. Every July they host a Heritage Days celebration, and the society meets monthly. It is a very beautiful town and has been Kawanhee's home for over 100 years.

CHAPTER ONE

1920: OUR FOUNDERS, GEORGE AND RAYMOND FRANK

George and Raymond Frank founded Camp Kawanhee in 1920. The two brothers were born and raised in southern Maine, but by 1920 Raymond had relocated to New York City, and George was in Columbus, Ohio. George and Raymond's parents were Charles and Abby Frank. Both Charles and Abby would serve Kawanhee in its beginning years as Camp Father and Mother. While at Kawanhee, Charles was known as Pop, and Abby was always known as Ma Frank. Away from Kawanhee, Charles was called CW (Charles Wayne). Perhaps the men in the family had something for initials, because Raymond and George were most often called RC (Raymond Conant) and GR (George Reginald).

George was the older of the two boys, born in 1888. Before Raymond was born in 1894, the family went through unspeakable tragedy. Two boys, Charles born in 1890 and John born in 1891, both died before their first birthday. Today, they are buried alongside their parents in Woodlawn Cemetery in Westbrook, Maine. CW had also lost a sister and brother at thirteen and fifteen respectively. Unfortunately, early and infant death was common in those days. Their family history demonstrates the challenges their family faced and worked through, ultimately producing two brothers who would go on to achieve great success in the world.

Both boys were raised in an area of Westbrook, Maine called Cumberland Mills. Westbrook is just a few miles from Maine's largest city, Portland. Raymond had rheumatic fever as a boy, and it affected him for the remainder of his life. Both boys graduated from the local high school, and Raymond went on to Springfield College in Springfield, Massachusetts. In a 1977 interview, George referred to it as Springfield Y College. Springfield College was a training ground for instructors and other employees of the YMCA and is still known as a school that has a great physical education program.

Raymond had a great singing voice, and according to his wife Frances, he had the gift of perfect pitch. Raymond put himself through college by singing. Soon after graduating, world events took Raymond's life in a different direction. The United States had entered World War I, and Raymond volunteered for the American Expeditionary Force with a National Guard unit based in New York. *Ancestry.com* states that Raymond was in Company B of the 321st Field Signal Battalion of the 27th Infantry Division and was listed as a private. He left for Europe on September 1, 1918, and the 27th Division fought in several major engagements near the end of the war. He returned to the United States in March 1919. He was in a different unit at the end of the war, being listed in Company C of the 102nd Field Service Battalion but still in the 27th Infantry Division and had been promoted to corporal.

Upon his discharge, Raymond began his long career in youth and church work. In the 1922 catalog (the oldest one we have), Raymond is listed as being the Director of the St. Bartholomew Boys' Club in New York City. It was about this time that Raymond began pursuing a master's degree at Columbia University. He graduated in 1924 with a Master of Arts degree in Music and Religious Education. Kawanhee had been in existence for four years, and it was during this time that Raymond took a part in the Chicago cast of *The Student Prince* as tenor lead to earn money for Camp.

It wasn't long after that Raymond began a lifetime relationship with the First Presbyterian Church of Englewood, New Jersey. He started out as the tenor soloist in the choir but soon was appointed as Director of the Boys' Work Program, and later became Director of Youth Activities. Finally, he was appointed as Superintendent of the Sunday School. Raymond had a second job for a few years as Business Manager for the Englewood School for Boys. When his workload increased at the church, he gave up his job at the school. Raymond also was a dedicated Scoutmaster in the Boy Scouts of America, and many of the early campers that Raymond recruited were boys in his scout troop.

In 1929 Raymond's life changed. Frances Lawton had been hired to be Director of the Girls' Work Program at the First Presbyterian Church, and they fell in love and were married in 1935. Their daughter Betty came along three years later. Betty lives in San Francisco and is still involved with Camp. She visited with her husband, Mike, at the 2015 reunion, and hopefully they will be with us at the next one.

In 1946, the Raymond Frank family decided to move to Weld and live year-round near Kawanhee. They bought a dream house on Center Hill and lived there for several years. When Betty left for private school, Raymond and Frannie moved back to Englewood where he became involved with First Presbyterian again. He continued to serve the church and Kawanhee until his death in November 1966. Frannie passed away in December 1977.

George also devoted his life to youth. Eventually he became a teacher in Columbus, Ohio. Early in life he developed great skills working with his hands and with architecture. At one point, he had a desire to be a sculptor. His home in Columbus had several pieces of his work as a young sculptor, and later he would design all the early buildings at Camp and at the Kawanhee Inn.

As an adolescent George had a great interest in the new movement of Manual Arts Education. One part of this movement originated in Scandinavian countries and was called the Sloyd Movement. Sloyd was a Swedish word that meant crafts, and Sloyd was where one “could naturally develop character as they learned with their hands in a comfortable, nurturing environment.” The Sloyd Movement spread to the United States, and there happened to be a Sloyd School in Westbrook. In his 1977 interview with Ed Hamblin, George said he was so excited for his first day of classes that he couldn’t sleep. Later, George attended the Gorham State Normal School in Gorham, Maine where he had two years of teacher training. Today, it is called the University of Southern Maine.

As George began the process of finding a teaching position, his next-door neighbor in Westbrook, a man named Harry Lowell, had just been appointed Director of Manual Arts in the Columbus, Ohio School District. Harry offered George a position as Manual Arts Teacher at Indianola Junior High School, which is how George Frank came to Columbus. Indianola is famous in educational history because it was the first junior high in the United States. So, Mr. Frank would often point out that he was the first junior high Manual Arts teacher in the United States. Eventually, George was named Director of Manual Arts for the entire Columbus Ohio School District. Some years later, he was appointed as Principal of McGuffey Junior High in Columbus and served for 20 years.

Soon after arriving in Columbus, George met a woman named Florence Wright--a great singer and painter who was offered a scholarship in New York City, but her parents forbade her from going. In his 1977 interview, George did not have many nice things to say about her parents in reference to that decision. George and Florence got married in 1912 and remained married until her death in 1966. Several years later, George married Mary Baker who headed up the Nature Department at Kawanhee for 17 years. After his retirement from education, George served Kawanhee even after he sold it in 1969. He continued to live in Columbus in the winter. He tragically died in the fire of 1977 and is buried at the Green Lawn Cemetery in Columbus. Mary died in 1982 and is buried alongside him. Florence is buried nearby.

It has been 100 years since George and Raymond Frank founded Camp Kawanhee. They are honored by the non-profit foundation named after them that now operates Camp. Their pictures are visible at various locations including the Dining Hall, Museum and other places. A particularly special photo is of each of them standing on different sides of the gap, between Falcon (Polecat at the time) and Pine Tree Lodges as they gaze out at the lake. What were they thinking? One could only surmise that they stood proudly in reverence, contemplating what they had accomplished.

THE DREAM BEGINS

In the early 1900s, George Frank vacationed each summer in Temple, Maine with his cousin. On a vacation in 1910, a deer had been tearing up the garden of his cousin, and the two young men successfully shot and killed the deer. They decided to climb Mount Blue the next day and have a feast of venison. It was from the top of Mount Blue that George first saw Lake Webb. George later said the view “almost defied description.” He could see two sailboats racing with the wind coming out of the Byron Gap. He told his cousin that if he ever got married, he would like to spend his honeymoon on the shores of Lake Webb. Two years later, George married Florence Wright. Before his honeymoon, George had written to Gorham Dummer whose ancestors were some of the earliest settlers of Weld. George inquired about renting a cabin, and Mr. Dummer rented him a cabin on his own property, Dummer's Beach. George and

Florence enjoyed their honeymoon on the shores of Lake Webb and loved it so much they returned each summer. In 1916 George invited Raymond to join him on vacation. Raymond also fell in love with the area. After Raymond returned from World War I, he continued to join George at Lake Webb to vacation.

George and Raymond were both involved in youth work and began to think about starting a boys' camp somewhere on Lake Webb. They had even taken three separate rowing trips around the lake looking for possible locations. On each trip, they rested on a floating dock that was situated in what is now our cove. They walked along the shore which had a nice, sandy beach, so the Frank brothers decided to investigate the area. In addition to the beautiful beach, they also discovered 400 feet of a heavily forested area and a potato field where our athletic field is today. This walk along Lake Webb was the turning point. The Frank brothers decided to inquire with local authorities about buying the property. Luck was on their side. The property they had investigated was available, owned by The Decker family, Mabel Decker, J. Raymond Decker, and Marion Decker. The Franks agreed to buy sixty acres.

Next, George and Raymond had to secure a loan from a bank to buy the property. They went to the Wilton Trust and Banking Company where they met with the President of the bank, Mr. Elwood Morrison. Mr. Morrison believed in their dream, and a \$5000 loan was approved. But that wasn't quite enough money, so Ma Frank gave her sons an additional \$3000. It's unclear if this was a gift or a loan. That boost gave them enough money to make an initial deposit on the property. Next a deed to the property had to be finalized at the Franklin County Courthouse in Farmington, Maine. We have a copy of the original deed to the property that became Camp Kawanhee. This deed was finalized on August 25, 1920--the exact date Kawanhee became a reality. The deed states that the Deckers agreed to sell Lots 23, 24 and 25, numbered in an earlier survey by engineers.

In his 1977 interview, George Frank gave Raymond credit for coming up with the name Kawanhee. According to George, Raymond had heard of a group of Indians who lived in the Rangeley area and migrated to the coast during each year. On their migration, they passed through the Lake Webb area. There is not much historical reference of the Kawanhee name in literature. However, the Woodland Indian Culture in Maine did migrate with the seasons, so a lot of this story has factual backing. As George shared this information in the 1977 interview, he chuckled as if he was admitting there wasn't much historical backing for the name. Then he quickly added, "But it's been a good name for us." And that is something we can all agree on. After the deed was made official, George and Raymond knew they had some big challenges in the next ten months. They had to build a camp, recruit the first campers, and find a staff. Little did they know back then that Camp Kawanhee would celebrate its Centennial.



Raymond "RC" and George "GR" Frank



Abby "Ma" Frank



Original Buildings 1921

CHAPTER TWO

THE 1920's: THE DREAM UNFOLDS

After the deed was official, it was time to build a summer camp. In a 1977 interview with Ed and John Hamblin, George Frank said they started building the Main Lodge in 1918. This is difficult to fathom as the deed was not official until August 1920, and it's unclear if at the time one could build on a property they didn't officially own. Also, Raymond was in the U.S. Army overseas during this time. At the time of the interview, George was 88, and perhaps he had gotten his years mixed up. The traditional story is that in 1920, Raymond, George, and their father CW, cleared pine trees off the small knoll that would be the site of the Main Lodge. During the winter, a group of twelve men from the area built the Main Lodge and Eagle and Falcon Lodges. A local man named Fezz Wildcat Schofield was the lead carpenter--a great name for the first builder at Kawanhee.

One of the centerpieces of Kawanhee is the Herbert L. Berry Recreation Hall. You may wonder who he was. He was not a camper or staff member, but it turns out he loaned money to George and Raymond during the building of the Main Lodge. As the buildings neared completion during the winter, a crisis developed. The local men who were helping Fezz Wildcat build the new buildings had not received any pay. George and Raymond had hoped to pay the men out of parent tuition, but enrollment was coming in much slower than anticipated. Fezz told George and Raymond the men couldn't wait any longer.

In his 1977 interview, George said he felt he couldn't go back to the bank for another loan. Their mother had already loaned them \$3000. One of the most important people in George's life was his manual arts teacher in Westbrook. His name was Herbert L. Berry, and by 1920 he was retired and living in New Gloucester, Maine. In his interview, George said he thought of Herbert L. Berry as a second father. Mr. Berry agreed to loan them \$3,000. Now the workers could be paid. They paid the loan back, but Mr. Berry only asked for the principal, no interest to be paid. The brothers never forgot the charity of Herbert L. Berry, and in 1924 they decided to name the Rec Hall in his honor. While the Rec Hall was not built that first winter, the charitable act of Mr. Berry helped George and Raymond finish the first buildings.

1921: THE FIRST SUMMER

As the first summer approached, the fireplace and chimney still needed to be finished on the Main Lodge, but when Raymond arrived in June with the first campers, he was surprised to see that both the fireplace and chimney were done! Raymond asked Fezz how he accomplished this, and Fezz replied "by chewin and spittin." Before the first campers arrived, the potato field had been turned into an athletic field; one tennis court had been built, and a baseball diamond and combination volleyball/basketball court had been created. On the waterfront, canoes, rowboats, and sailboats had been purchased.

There were sixteen campers the first year. In a letter to a prospective staff member that Raymond wrote in March 1921, he states that he hoped to recruit 30-35 campers. They recruited about half that. Four campers came from Columbus and twelve from the east, including a group of boys from the Portland, Maine area. They were housed in three lodge groups. For many years, it was believed there were only two lodge groups housed in the newly built Eagle and Falcon Lodges. However, in the 1922 catalog, which includes pictures of the 1921 season, there is a photo of a third lodge group--the youngest campers and housed on the second floor of the Main Lodge. Ma Frank supervised this lodge group called the Flying Deer. 1921 was the only summer in our history when the Main Lodge housed campers. A counselor named Max Savelle took charge of Eagle, and H.C. Marshall was the head counselor of Falcon.

When the first campers arrived in June of 1921, they came by train to Wilton and took a small, open bus to Kawanhee. Later, H.C. Marshall described the road to Camp as rough, and the underbrush was so close that the passengers could snatch leaves off trees as they passed by. Years later Mr. Marshall could still remember the name of the bus driver on the first ever camper bus trip to Kawanhee--Allie Mac.

George said in his interview that he normally suffered from hay fever but not when he was in Maine. He used this talking point to recruit campers that first summer. In the interview, he said that all sixteen campers the first summer of 1921 suffered from hay fever prior to but felt better at Camp. In future years this would be a major advertising tool for Kawanhee.

Who was the first camper in Kawanhee history? There is no record from George or Raymond Frank about the first camper recruited for the summer of 1921. However, the last issue of *The Wigwam* from 1945 answered this intriguing question. The article describes the activities of the last night of Camp in 1945, and the major activity of that night was the *Going of the Chief* ceremony. Before the ceremony, the entire Camp family met in the Rec Hall for a special presentation by U.S. Navy Lt. Fred Freeman. His talk was an inside look at an invasion on a Japanese held island in the Pacific Ocean where he fought during World War II. Fred Freeman was a former camper, and in the article, he was described as Kawanhee's first camper. While this passage seemed to answer the question of who the first camper was, it is a little more complex than that. I recognized the name of Fred Freeman in the staff picture in that first camper summer of 1921. He was listed as a junior counselor from Portland, Maine. This led to a few dilemmas. How could a person described as Kawanhee's first camper in 1921 also be in the staff picture of that same summer? Today, there would be a simple answer to this riddle. Junior counselors still pay tuition, and that legally makes them campers, although we call them counselors. But did such a policy exist in 1921? To make matters more complicated, I looked at the 1923 catalog which reported on the 1922 season. I knew Fred was also at Camp that summer since he was labeled as a JC in the Camp photo of 1922. And to make things even more confusing, Fred won some end of the year athletic awards in 1922 and was listed as a member of the senior division. 1922 was the first summer that campers were divided into divisions by weight, not by lodge as we do today.

I finally decided that I was probably looking at Kawanhee in 1921 and 1922 through a 2020 lens. Kawanhee was obviously brand new in the early 1920s, and the definitions of labels like senior and junior counselors were being developed. However, I do believe that Fred Freeman was probably the first person that Kawanhee recruited for the summer of 1921 that was not a paid staff member. I think being from Portland hints at a possible connection to the Frank family. And perhaps he was recruited early in the process of signing up campers. Fred also had a brother, Robert, who attended Camp as well. Regardless, since *The Wigwam* described Fred Freeman as Kawanhee's first camper, that is good enough for our history. I'm officially declaring Fred Freeman as the first camper in the history of Camp Kawanhee! When Fredrick returned in 1945 to speak and talk about the war, his own son (also named Fred) was a young camper. Another Kawanhee family making history.

We know some of the names of the other boys who were among the first sixteen campers. Of course, there was Fred Freeman. Also, there are two brothers, George and David Lattimer from Columbus. It was their father, Gardiner, who would donate an award for the Greatest Physical Improvement --still awarded each summer. Two other campers were from Columbus--James Kurtz and Charles Kurtz. Charles had lived across the street from me in Bexley, Ohio--never knowing he had been a Kawanhee camper the very first year of its existence. It was only realized they were campers when hearing the interview of James Kurtz listed on our website. Other camper names from 1921 are known because their parents wrote testimonials in the 1922 catalog. Among them were Field Conrad and Jimmie Sexton from Columbus, Robert Freeman (brother to Fred) and Clinton Christian from Portland, James Small from Farmington, and Arthur Friedrichs and Charles Vickery from New York City. And so, the dream became a reality.

In the museum, we have a copy of a letter Raymond Frank sent to a prospective staff member, George C. Hodges of Springfield, Massachusetts. I have transcribed this letter below as it is very interesting and gives some insight into the recruiting of staff and campers in 1921 and the formality of the era.

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, and we have no big reputation as yet and so desire to secure boys from as many places as possible. You can readily see the adjustability of this. All of our councillors are coming with the understanding that they sign up at least four boys for Camp, and each one is hired as a councillor 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 a week. For any boys you secure over the first four, we pay a liberal commission.

As for a campsite, ours cannot be equaled in New England, and we have fine equipment, a large athletic field, tennis courts, a 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 Frank 620 West 122nd Street, New York City
March 21, 1921*

In the 1922 catalog there is a picture of the first counselors with seven people pictured. Although they are not named in the photo, luckily, they all came back in 1922 and appear in the Camp photo in the 1923 catalog (showing the campers and counselors of 1922) and are all labeled by name. There were a few new counselors in 1922, but all the counselors from 1921 returned and thus can be identified.

The names of the first counselors are: George Frank, B.E. Wiggins (Supervisor for Physical Education, Columbus Public Schools), Max Savelle (Columbia University student), H.C. Marshall (Principal, Hubbard Junior High, Columbus), Roger Snyder (Junior Counselor), Fred Freeman (Junior Counselor), and Raymond Frank. Apparently, George Hodges decided not to come to Camp, though it is interesting that several counselors were from Springfield, Massachusetts where candidate Mr. Hodges was from. This hints at a connection through Raymond who graduated from Springfield College before the war.

There is no historical record of how the requirement of having each staff member recruit four campers worked out. The numbers certainly don't add up. The sixteen recruited campers were far short of the 30-35 that George and Raymond had hoped to recruit for the first summer. There is no record of requiring counselors to recruit a quota of campers at any other time in history. Other things mentioned in Raymond's letter to George C. Hodges were accurate. Counselors were not hired for a specific activity or task, Kawanhee paid travel costs for counselors, salary was \$100 for each month of the season, and each counselor received one day off each week.

The cost of Camp was a bargain at \$250.00 but also a fair price considering that in 1921 electricity had not arrived in rural Maine, so each lodge had one kerosene lantern to provide light. Ice was cut from Maine's lakes and ponds in the winter to provide enough ice to keep food fresh, not only for Camp but for all of Maine. There was clean water from Boiling Spring, located on a hill near the main road.

Every morning started with physical stretching activities that were referred to as setting up exercises. After the exercises, everyone stripped down and went for a dip in the lake. There were no docks in 1921, but there was a floating raft in the cove that campers used. The group skinny dipping's only lasted a few summers. Activities were offered in the morning and included Shop, Photography, Campcraft, Woodcraft, Fishing, Nature Study, Games, Boxing, Wrestling, Lifesaving, and Tutoring. Swimming instruction took place at 11 AM. Rest hour was part of the daily schedule. Afternoons were very different compared to today. Back then, there were no scheduled activities in the afternoons which were used for group events such as baseball games, swim meets, and track and field meets. A lot of free time was built into the afternoons. There were campfires every evening except Sundays which were spent quietly with a service in the morning at Council Point and Vespers on Webb Lake at Bass Rock at twilight. The 1922 Kawanhee catalog points out that those services were non-denominational but also states that "Camp Kawanhee was operated on the basis of Christian ideals." On Saturday or Sunday campers were taken to a beach just south of Kawanhee and bathed in the shallow waters near the beach. Unconfirmed records indicate that

the beach--Sunday Beach--got its name from this weekend, bathing practice. Kawanhee's first catalog of 1922 advertised some mountain and river trips for the upcoming season of 1922. In addition, fishing was important the first season, one of the activities offered in the morning, but boys were also encouraged to go fishing during free time.

The Main Lodge was the center of Camp where the first floor was the dining area. The first cook in Kawanhee history was a silver haired lady referred to as Aunt Nell who lived in Weld, and her property was the land that is now home to the Weld Historical Society complex. Nellie Savage's actual home is still standing and is now the Museum House that is located at the front of the Weld Historical Society complex. Our current chef, Sean Minear, is the longtime Weld Historical Society President--a very interesting connection between our first chef and our current chef.

The second floor of the Main Lodge included a large reading area, a game room (no Rec Hall yet), several bedrooms for visiting parents (The Kawanhee Inn was eight years in the future.), a photo darkroom, and the sleeping area for Flying Deer lodge. An Adult Camp was also offered after the regular season and was open through October. Children were welcome, and Kawanhee provided tutoring for campers missing school.

Chief Kawanhee was pictured in the 1922 catalog, and under his picture is this caption: "Chief Kawanhee as he appeared when visiting Camp (in 1921) to render his blessing at the opening and closing of the season." People ask when the *Coming and Going of the Chief* ceremonies started, and it appears they started the first summer. According to George Frank in his interview, Max Savelle, a student at Columbia University, was the first Chief Kawanhee. He also wrote the script for the first *Coming and Going of the Chief* ceremonies. Later, H.C. Marshall (also on staff in 1921) took over the role in future years. He would serve as Chief Kawanhee for 25 years, and fittingly he became known as Chief Marshall.

When the Chief ceremonies started in 1921 (and for many years after), the Chief paddled by canoe to the shore (where the Skiing Department is today), and from there he was beckoned. After, the Chief would get out of his canoe and walk up to Council Ring. My research did not reveal a reason why the Chief moved from water to land, but I'm guessing it was a bit safer on land, especially in the dark.

Another tradition that started the first year was the team competition; however, during the first summer of 1921, the colors were not maroon and grey but rather red and white. This is proven by a picture taken in the Rec Hall that shows the team banner for 1921. With only sixteen campers (eight on each team), it was decided that all staff members would be on a team--even George and Raymond. In 1921 George was a member of the red team, and Raymond was on the white team.

As the summer of 1921 ended, Camp Kawanhee completed its first season. There were ups and downs, just like there are today. Camp only had sixteen campers and a half dozen staff members, but there were some beautiful new buildings, and some of the great traditions including the color war and the *Coming and Going of the Chief* had started. There were wonderful trips, and staff began to make use of the beautiful mountains that surround Lake Webb. It was a slow start, but it was a start, and it would only get better. George and Raymond's dream of starting a boys' camp in the Maine woods became a reality. And how truly grateful we are for their vision.

1922: A NEW BUILDING, AN ATHLETIC HOUSE, LIMITED ENROLLMENT & UNIFORMS

Even before 1921 ended, Kawanhee had added a new building, what the 1922 catalog described as a "substantially built shingled Boathouse, Garage, and Manual Training Shop combined." This is the present-day Crow/Badger/Sailing Department Building. The new Shop was located on the second floor in what is now the location of Crow's Nest lodge. The Shop also had room to build large Catboats (as the 1922 catalog described them), and thus the building was partly known as the Boat House. The catalog also claimed the garage on the bottom floor had room for eight cars. That must have been a tight fit. Because of the fire of 1977, this building is now the oldest building on property.

The catalog also describes a building between the new Boat House and Eagle and Falcon lodges called the Athletic House that served as an early Infirmary. The present-day Infirmary would not be built until 1925. Each camper was given a physical examination at the beginning of the summer and every two

weeks after that and a card was sent home to parents or guardians with the results of each examination. As you can probably tell from the description of the Athletic House, it would become Deer Lodge. When George and Raymond Frank bought the property in 1920, a small fishing or hunting cabin was located on the shoreline. It seemed an obvious step to use this small cabin and add to it to make another building for Camp. The little cabin still exists. One lucky senior counselor gets to live in a building that is often considered to be the oldest on Lake Webb.

The 1922 catalog states that Kawanhee would limit itself to an enrollment of sixty campers--a rather ambitious goal since the prior goal was 30-35 campers, and only sixteen had been recruited. But George and Raymond kept their goals high. The catalog also claimed that there would be ten counselors to supervise campers. The 1923 catalog listed 44 campers attending in 1922, so the goal of sixty wasn't met. However, even an enrollment of 44 campers almost tripled the enrollment of the 1921 season. But the counselor staff exceeded the stated goal of ten counselors with 14 people labeled as counselors in the Camp photo. Adults in the back row who aren't counselors may have been support staff.

If you look at pictures of lodge groups in 1921, there are a few boys wearing a Kawanhee t-shirt, but other boys are wearing clothes they probably brought from home. Starting in the summer of 1922, Camp strongly suggested all campers have uniforms. The first-year campers were able to buy the uniforms from the A.G. Spalding Company in New York. It included ten items of clothing--one hat, a sleeveless jersey, a V-neck sweater, three pairs of khaki running pants, three pairs of socks, and two pairs of tennis shoes. The camp also sold Bass Moccasins for hiking.

The colors of the uniforms were maroon and grey, leading to the conclusion that the red and white colors lasted one summer. In his interview, George Frank was asked how the colors of maroon and grey were chosen, and he said that there was no special reason. They wanted a dark and light color but colors a bit more imaginative than red and white. Over the years there have been stories that the colors were chosen because of similar colors of Columbus Academy, Harvard University, or even Ohio State. Apparently, none of these stories are true, but the color traditions still hold strong today.

Since the early catalogs had advertised lodge groups of about eight campers each, more sleeping lodges had to be built. And build they did. Panther was built next to Falcon, which is the current Eagle lodge since the original Eagle and Falcon were destroyed in the 1977 fire. On the other side of the Main Lodge, three lodges were built--Birch, Beaver, and Moose. We also lost Birch in the fire.

One notable counselor who first appeared in 1922 is Mike Peppe, Kawanhee's first Aquatics Director. At the time of his employment, he was a junior high physical education teacher in Columbus. Soon he would find fame as a swimming coach. In 1931, several years after he left, he would become the first Varsity Swimming and Diving Coach at Ohio State University where he coached until his retirement in 1963. Along the way he would win twelve Big Ten Swimming Championships and eleven NCAA titles. Only one other coach has won more NCAA Swimming titles. In twelve different seasons, his teams were undefeated in dual meets. In 1948 and 1952 he was the United States Olympic Team Diving Coach. He helped coach his divers to five Olympic medals. And it all started at Kawanhee where he worked for several summers. If you look at catalogs when Mike was there, the catalog spelled his name as Pepe (the original spelling), but the family legally changed the spelling in 1920 for pronunciation purposes before he came to Camp. However, the catalog still spelled his name Pepe.

Parker Zaner Bloser is one of the hidden stories of our history that was discovered in my research. He was a friend of Mike Peppe and a great Ohio State athlete. He played Ohio State varsity football and basketball where he became friends with Mike. Eventually, Mike convinced Parker to come to Camp and be a counselor where he worked in Swimming. But Parker Bloser had another great legacy. He was the son of Elmer Ward Bloser who in the 1880s, with his partner Charles Paxton Zaner, formed a partnership that taught the skills of penmanship, a much-desired skill in those days. The partnership eventually started the private Zaner-Bloser School that taught penmanship and many academic subjects. Students who graduated well regarded as they entered the world as they had the usual academic skills but also penmanship skills so desirable in those days. As the school's brochure said, "Penmanship is not a skill, it is a profession." And thus, Parker Bloser became a Correlated Handwriting teacher at the school.

Like many Kawanhee parents, Parker Bloser sent his son, Parker Jr., to Camp. Parker Sr. often visited his son and brought his daughter to visit. Her name was Sonya, and while visiting she met Bud Sengelmann, a counselor from Englewood, New Jersey. They would eventually fall in love and marry. Dick Miller told an interesting story about her. He was giving out a special, homemade sailing award and realized that because of her family background she had beautiful handwriting. So, Sonya was recruited to inscribe the award. Bud and Sonya lived in Columbus, Ohio where they raised a family. Their two sons, Mark and Jeff, would become great Kawanhees. Bud's daughter, Karen, also became a Camp family member and worked at the Inn. And thus, their grandfather was the successful Parker Bloser, and all three have sent campers--quite the legacy! The Zaner- Bloser penmanship skills are still taught, and in 1971 *Highlights for Children* bought the company, but you can still buy Zaner-Bloser workbooks.

Another notable counselor was Raphael Rafe Marshall, the son of H.C. Marshall who had been at Camp in 1921. Rafe would serve Camp for over a decade and was a horseback riding instructor for years. Also, 1922 was the first-year campers were grouped into divisions. Today we do this by lodge, but in 1922 it was done by weight. The names of the divisions were the same as today with one notable exception. The heaviest boys were Seniors, then Junior As, then Junior Bs. The smallest boys were called Midgets--a term obviously no longer used. Another interesting fact that came up in George's interview was a unique way of handling disruptive campers during those first few years. They would form a work squad of disruptive campers that didn't go to regular activities but were available to do any work requested. According to Mr. Frank, the boys soon got tired of this duty and shaped up.

The activities were about the same as 1921, but the catalog touted the new Shop Building. It is interesting to know that besides all kinds of wooden projects, the campers also made radios out of kits. In the early catalogs, the activity was called Shop and Radio. Apparently, Radio didn't last long because with the surrounding mountains, it was almost impossible to get a signal back in the day.

In 1922 or 1923 there was a scarlet fever outbreak, and symptomatic campers were isolated. Jim Kurtz, a camper then, told Ed Hamblin in an interview that he was isolated for weeks but not sure which year. Was the Athletic House used for isolation? How many campers were affected? All a mystery.

The Gardner Lattimer Award for Greatest Physical Improvement was already being awarded and is still awarded each summer. In the 1923 catalog there is a testimonial written by Gardner Lattimer. Apparently, he donated the trophy to Camp as a thank you for the influence it had on his sons--two boys George and David from 1921 and 1922. Also in attendance was camper Warren Crane. His father was C.A. Crane who also donated an award in recognition of the help Camp had given his son. In 1923 we started awarding the C.A. Crane Award for the Most Helpful Camper, still given each summer. 1922 was the first year showing evidence of end of season awards and were already giving out a High Point Winner award just as we do today. Some awards have long since disappeared including Best All Around Camper.

They also started awarding the Camp Emblem, a special honor one received by achieving points in activities that were called Emblem points. These points were different from the Maroon-Grey points one could earn for his team. If a camper received the points needed, he was awarded the Camp Emblem--only two campers awarded this in 1922. However, in future years the number who earned the Emblem would greatly increase. Two other campers tied for the High Point Winner Award, Charles Fuller of New York City and Neil Perkins of Columbus, Ohio--a huge honor to be the first, at least the first to be published. The 1922 catalog does not mention a High Point Winner for 1921. For a decade or so Camp separated High Point Winners into the four weight divisions. In 1922, they also gave out awards for excellence in some of the Camp's activities--just as we do today--including Swimming and Diving, Boxing, Wrestling, Campcraft, and Nature Study. By the end of the summer, Kawanhee had two successful seasons in the books. And in the coming seasons, we would grow even more in numbers of campers and buildings while traditions were being built for years to come.

1923-1925: IF WE BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME

Camp Kawanhee continued to grow in the summers of 1923 through 1925, and it is interesting to note that it was limiting camper enrollment to fifty boys for the upcoming season since in the prior year was

limited to sixty. As documented, we fell short of that goal with only forty-four campers, so it appears they were a bit more conservative in their 1923 goal. However, they exceeded their goals with more than fifty campers appearing in the Camp photo--assuming all are in the photo. George Frank had said in his interview that he never envisioned a Camp bigger than sixty campers, so they were getting close.

Two new activities were introduced in 1923--Horseback Riding and Shooting (as it was titled in the catalog). Horseback Riding came with an extra charge of \$50 for thirty-two hours of instruction. For shorter periods the charge was \$1.75 an hour. To accommodate the new Shooting activity, the catalog said a new Range would be constructed with four targets.

All through the early catalogs Boating seems to be an activity taken seriously. Obviously, it was an activity where safety was a priority. Each cabin had its own boats and canoes that it was responsible for. There were boat inspections once a week to see that the boats were being taken care of, and there were numbered stakes on the beach where each boat had to be beached. Kawanhee used a flag system to govern the safety of boating at any time. A white flag indicated safe boating anywhere on the lake, a red and white flag meant safe boating in the cove and the narrows, a red flag meant boats could only go into the cove, and no flag meant no boating anywhere.

War canoes appeared very early in history where they are pictured in the catalogs of 1923 and 1924. They were used at the end of every Maroon-Grey Swim Meet when there was a race. A common catalog photo back in the day was the captains shaking hands in front of their respective War Canoe teams. It is fair to say that the War Canoes were used more often in the early decades of than they are today, because there was a Swim Meet every week in the early years. Now we have a different Maroon- Grey event every Saturday. Our original war canoes were destroyed in the mid 1950s when heavy snow collapsed the Rec Hall roof. War canoes did not appear for another thirty years, and in 1987 new war canoes were purchased from a boat dealer in Rangeley, Maine.

Although Archery was not listed as an activity, there is a picture showing a Robin Hood Club in 1923. There was also a secretive Archery Club that met in the woods, and since each boy had to make his own bow and arrows in Shop, it appears shooting a bow and arrow was being done somewhere on property.

In the 1923 catalog we see the first mention of the claim that Camp guaranteed relief from hay fever. The adult Camp postseason took place again in 1923 but was called the Adult and Hay Fever Camp. It seemed that the clear, fresh pine air at Camp was strongly promoted for health reasons since asthma was added as another ailment that did not affect campers and staff while. Also, the tuition went up to \$300, but one did get a \$25 discount if they had been at Camp in 1921 or 1922. They advertised a four-week session for \$175, but Camp was normally eight weeks long, not the seven-week season we have now. Another interesting fact was that you could come to Camp early--as early as June 1--and stay as late as October 1. The cost of pre and post Camp was \$25 a week. A big addition for the season was the U.S. government approved chemical toilets in a new building that was the early Fort, located in roughly the same area where it is today. I imagine these new toilets were greatly appreciated by campers and parents.

Richard Griley was High Point Winner in 1923 and would be the first of many members of the Griley family who would attend. In the 1920s the High Point Winners had their names inscribed on a trophy, and if a camper won the award in two consecutive summers, he was allowed to keep the trophy.

In the catalog it was announced that a new large building would be constructed--the Rec Hall---dedicated during the 1924 season and touted as containing a large game room, an assembly room, a library, a dark room, and two giant fireplaces. With its opening, the Nature activity moved to a corner of the Rec Hall, now our current library. In the 1960s and 1970s, this was the counselor room. As written, the Rec Hall was named after a man named Herbert L. Berry, a former teacher of George Frank who had given them a \$3000 loan to pay the original builders. In the catalog there is a beautiful poem written by Herbert L Berry, so despite never being a counselor, he displayed a great affection for Camp.

The Call of Kawanhee

by H.L. Berry 1924

Oh come, come away to the land of Kawanhee
Hike over the hills, tramp the trails of the mountains
Learn the lure of the forest, sleep under the stars
on a bed, hand-made, of soft fir boughs
Cook the trout that you caught in the cool of the morning
from foam-crested pools, where dark shadows lie;
Learn camp-life and nature, the bird calls, the flowers
Experience the joys of achievements worthwhile.
Boat building, kite making, the bow and arrow.
To be a good sportsman at both work and play
With character first in the great game of living
Kawanhee, the Boy-land dependable, true
In training for manhood, awaits to serve you.

Another sleeping lodge, Polecat, was also built and is Falcon lodge today. There were now eight sleeping lodges with Deer one of them; there was no mention of the Athletic House, and the Infirmary would be built the next season in 1925. Fishing remained popular, and campers could earn team points by catching different kinds of fish, an effort to reward boys who weren't as athletic as others. A one-pound Lake Trout was worth 20 points, a one-pound Salmon 15 points, and the lowest ranked fish was a one-pound White Perch worth a half point. We feel your pain, White Perch.

George Graham was High Point Winner in 1924 with over 800 points. Camp also highlighted the High Point Winner in each weight division. He was also selected as Best All-Around Camper, an award that no longer exists. Campbell Scarlett won the Greatest Physical Improvement and was one of the hay fever boys recruited in the first few years. There was also an award given for Largest Fish Caught to Teddy Lindbergh and presented by Pop Frank who often took boys fishing.

In 1925, camper enrollment was just over sixty, and there was a postseason adult Camp, and we continued to grow. A new building had been constructed--the Infirmary--with the catalog proudly writing that it had ten beds and could handle all kinds of first aid for campers. If a hospital visit was necessary, there were good ones in Rumford and Farmington, only an hour away by dirt road. If you look at some of the early photos of the Infirmary you will notice at one point it was called the Sergeant Memorial Building and sometimes called the Sergeant Memorial Hospital. I tried to find out the historical reference but was unable to solve the mystery.

No new lodges were built for the 1925 season, but activities continued to grow and develop. Archery had gone from the secretive Robin Hood Club to being a regular activity. For the first time, Archery gave awards, and an Archery Range had been carved out of the woods near the present day Campcraft Building. Boys made their own bows out of lemon wood, often better bows than the bows purchased by Camp. The 1926 catalog shows an even bigger rifle shooting Range with a roof and additional targets. The Range was conducted under the rules and regulations of the Winchester Junior Rifle Corps.

In the 1926 catalog there is the first mention of Scouting. Boys could join the Boy Scouts of America if they hadn't already joined at home. We had registered scoutmasters on staff, and Raymond Frank was very involved with the Boy Scouts in Englewood, New Jersey. In 1925 sixteen merit badges were awarded, and two brothers, Dwight (15) and John Hollenbeck (14) of Springfield, Ohio became the first Eagle Scouts--a huge accomplishment no doubt.

The 1925 season saw the first weekly paper written by and edited by the boys, called *The Kawanian*. The editor was Campbell Scarlett, another great staff member who would serve for thirty-eight years. Later, he would edit *The Wigwam* (which succeeded *The Kawanian*), write *The Log*, and direct the Nature department. Today, the main road into camp is called Campbell Scarlett Memory Lane, and the Campbell

Scarlett Award is given annually for excellence in Nature. Another one of our special awards debuted in 1925 with the A.R. Benua Family who donated the Benua Award given for Greatest Athletic Improvement, still given every summer.

Cam's father was Judge Henry Scarlett, a Municipal Court Judge in Columbus, Ohio. When Cam first came, he suffered from hay fever and became one of many who didn't have it at Camp. Judge Scarlett wrote an emotional letter to George and Raymond thanking them, and this letter was published in the catalog for years as one of the many testimonials they received from parents. Judge Scarlett became a great friend to Camp as Cam progressed through his lengthy, notorious career of 38 years. Judge Scarlett ended up vacationing most of his adult life on Lake Webb as he was deeply fond of Camp and the area. In 1969, Judge Scarlett became part of the new corporation that bought Kawanhee from George Frank.

Outposts located on beaches around Webb Lake have always been an important part of our history. The Outposts are located very close but far enough away so boys would have an opportunity to "camp out" for a night or two. The use of the outposts started very early. There is a photo from the 1920s that shows campers and a counselor standing in front of a cabin on Skookumee Beach, how it was spelled. There were outposts on Sunday Beach and deep in the woods. It appears the building of outpost cabins was done more frequently in the early days. An outpost on Sunday Beach burned down in the mid 1940s; perhaps that had something to do with a decrease in building these outposts in more recent times. But the beaches are still there, and boys still enjoy campouts on our outposts around the lake.

Another outstanding staff member who first came in 1925 was The Dean Ross Miller. Dean Miller would come back for the 1926 season, miss 1927, and then be back for every summer from 1928-1964. He served as Chaplain, Chief Sachem at the Chief Kawanhee ceremonies, Camp Storyteller, worked in Campcraft and was Head Counselor and Director of Activities in the 1940s. Many alumni have often referred to his inspiring talks over the years and speak about his infamous career. Another notable staff member who first came in 1925 was Reverend Sidney Sweet who would serve for many years and work in various departments. His addition to the Staff gave us two highly respected theologians at the same time. Reverend Sweet and The Dean Ross Miller will always be remembered for their spiritual contributions to Camp.

One of the most iconic, early photographs is the picture of a Vespers' service at Bass Rock. The photograph shows the Camp population in canoes surrounding Bass Rock, and the leaders of the service are standing on Bass Rock preparing to lead some singing and present a message with a religious theme. This symbolic photograph, in my humble opinion, is one the great photos in our history. Today this photo can be found at several locations on property and was featured in the early catalogs. Some of the early catalogs also had a drawing looking at Camp from the air, called a *Bird's Eye View of Kawanhee*, where Bass Rock was often labeled as Vesper Rock.

The Vespers service took place on Sunday evenings for over twenty years, with the luxury of at least two great religious leaders--Rev. Sweet and Dean Ross Miller. Dean Miller was the constant with 38 years of service. Rev. Sweet was there in the early days, and after he moved on, Dr. Carl Elmore became a fixture from the early 1940s until 1956. From articles in *The Wigwam*, the religious leaders shared duties on Sunday with one leading the morning chapel service and another doing the Vespers service.

As the reader can imagine, Kawanhee got too large to do Vespers at Bass Rock. Thus, the services there ended in the post war years as documented in *The Wigwam* of 1949 that described the Sunday evening Vespers taking place in the Rec Hall. However, in 2019 we recreated a group meeting at Bass Rock on the last Sunday morning of the season with drone footage documenting the historic event. And thus, traditions continue, and the spirit of Kawanhee from early days lives on.

1926-1930: CAMP ON THE RISE, OH KATAHDIN, T & F, PADDLES, & DOUGLAS VINCENT

During the years 1926-1930, Kawanhee continued to grow. The 1927 catalog (Every catalog covers the prior summer.) was the first catalog that did not include a Camp group picture. This was the time

period when they started taking large wide-angle shots of each group. Some of these photos from the 1920s-1940s can still be viewed around Camp.

Kawanhee's camper population rose a little higher each summer with a corresponding increase in counselors, so the idea of not taking more than sixty boys every summer was becoming outdated. In 1926 the tuition for Camp Kawanhee stayed at \$300 and stayed steady for a few years. One could still come early or stay late for a fee of \$25 a week. They again advertised Camp as free from hay fever and asthma. Also, in the 1927 catalog for the first time there is a photo of campers who passed Senior/Junior Lifesaving, still an important part of the program.

The catalog also mentions that there were now ten lodges. Unfortunately, the catalog did not say which cabins were added. In the early catalogs there would be a *What's New* section, and they would write about the new buildings and activities appearing the next season. There is no such section in the 1927 catalog and no lodge group pictures, so it is impossible to tell what lodges were added. The only lodges along the waterfront that had not been built were Hawk, Pine Tree, Lynx, and Wildcat. Hawk would not be built until the 1950s. A guess would be they built one on each side of the Dining Hall--Pine Tree and Lynx.

There were two trips added, one a three-day trout fishing trip to a remote pond. The Tim Pond Camps (a privately owned business that rented out cabins on the lake) said that we were the first camp to fish the pond in forty years. No doubt our campers had fishing expertise thanks to Pop Frank.

For the first time history our campers climbed Mount Katahdin, Maine's highest peak. It was an extensive seven-day trip with stops at Moosehead Lake and Chesuncook Lake. Then a day or two later, there was a fifteen-mile hike into Maine's virgin forest, the following day a seven-mile hike to the foot of Mount Katahdin, and then the climb up the mountain. The catalog made it clear that this hike was not for everyone, and it would take great physical stamina and good sportsmanship. For obvious reasons, you needed a good attitude, and it was no place for a crabber, a complainer. No Donnie downers allowed.

A new activity was Track and Field, and awards at the end of the summer were given in dashes, high jump, and broad jump. It was interesting to read that all the Track and Field classifications were decided by weight- not age or lodge. Richard Ernst of New York City was High Point Winner that summer, but all through the catalogs of the 1920s the Maroon--Grey competition and the captains were not mentioned.

In 1927 there were more changes. The 1928 catalog has a wide-angle photo of our shoreline, and it shows almost all the buildings along the shoreline that would exist for the next twenty-five years. Only Hawk Lodge would be built in the early 1950s. Eventually, the Boathouse/Shop would become camper cabins. Not counting the Boathouse building, there were eleven camper cabins along the shoreline. There had been 10 the year before. Again, there was no mention of what cabin was added. Based on the guess that Pine Tree and Lynx were built the year before, that left only Wildcat to be built.

In the 1928 catalog there is a photo of the first paddle. A current camper would easily recognize the paddle of 1927, especially the maroon and grey stripes that adorn the blade. Those maroon and grey double stripes represented passing the lake swim and canoe test, just as they do today. If a boy swam the cove, he received the C on his paddle, also identical to today. If a boy swam the cove but not the lake or pass his canoe test, he was allowed to use a canoe in the cove and narrows. If a boy could not swim the cove but could swim 150 yards, he was given a blank paddle and could canoe in the cove.

In 1927 a few new trips were added, one being the Saltwater Trip that lasted four days. It included a shore dinner, a cruise, and a visit to Old Orchard Beach. The other new trip was the Swift River Trip where we had a cabin on the other side of Tumbledown Mountain. This trip included fishing, gold panning, and other adventures. A camper could sign up for a one-day trip or stay four days. Other trips continued, but note the Mount Katahdin climb, was now a six-day trip.

A new unique award appeared--a Nature award called the Samuel Fessenden Clark Wildflower Collection Award. It was unique because it came with a cash reward where winners won as much as \$15.00--a nice sum in those days. The award was funded through the will of Samuel Fessenden Clark, a noted naturalist and professor at Williams College. The award was available to all camps in Maine, and they gave the award for several years at Camp.

Among some of the old trophies in a case in the Dining Hall is a plaque that would catch anyone's attention. It is the Douglas Vincent Award, and at the top of the plaque there is this quote: "In Memory of

Douglas Vincent, 1914-1927, Love is Stronger Than Death.” Obviously, this was a person who probably had a connection with Camp in some way, most probably as a camper. I’m sure few have heard of this award. There is a collage of historic pictures on the south wall of the Dining Hall, and one of the pictures was a very early picture of the Shop, and at the time of the picture the Shop was called the Douglas Vincent Handicraft Building. Whoever this person was, his death had a great effect on Kawanhee.

As expected, Douglas Vincent was a camper in 1926 and perhaps a year before or after. He was listed as going on the Androscoggin River trip, and he won an award in his weight class (65-75 pounds) in Track and Field for the fastest 50-yard dash. Very sadly, he died at school, the Horace Mann School in the Bronx, and his cause of death was listed as acute cardiac dilation, a heart disease that often starts in the left ventricle--the main pumping chamber of the heart. Over time the left ventricle stretches and thins (dilates), and the left ventricle pumps less blood than a healthy heart. Sometimes sudden death can result, as appears to be the case with Douglas, but several sources also said that some people with the disease have no symptoms, perhaps the case with Douglas since he was exercising when he died. Both his official death certificate and the Episcopal Diocese of New York list his death as November 4, 1927. His funeral was on November 7, 1927, at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City, one of the largest churches in the United States. Obviously, his death had an impact since he is the only camper to have an activity building named after him. Douglas Vincent has a unique Kawanhee legacy, which is why it was important to complete his story. Less than a year after his death, the new Shop building opened and was named in honor of Douglas Vincent. The large white letters on the front of the Shop that honored him disappeared a long time ago. We will probably never know why. Perhaps unofficially it is still named after him, but the letters and his name disappeared long ago.

The Douglas Vincent Award also has an interesting history. They started giving it in 1928, and it was awarded to the most kind and courteous camper but for only six years from 1928-1933. After 1933, the Douglas Vincent Award disappeared as well. Most of our special awards have been awarded since the first years and continue to be awarded each summer, but for some reason this award lasted only six years. Hopefully, someday we will solve the mystery as to why his name is no longer honored, but until then it is important people know about him and his legacy.

During the last years of our first decade, there continued to be some major changes. As mentioned, the new Shop building opened in 1928, and the ground floor of the new building became the garage for some of the cars owned by counselors. The previous garage had been on the ground floor of the Boathouse/Shop Building--now the building houses Crow/Badger and the Sailing Department.

There is no document or written word on when the Crow’s Nest landed as a lodge. Nor are there any copies left of *The Kawanian* newsletter that existed in the late 1920s, and the catalogs in those years did not put in pictures of lodge groups. Some of the very early catalogs did have lodge pictures, but then they stopped doing it for a while. A guess is that after the new Shop opened in 1928, we now had a nice empty space in the upstairs of the Boathouse building, and they wanted to put it to good use as a lodge, the Crow’s Nest. At the same time, the garage had moved and that paved the way for the Sailing Department to be located there. Badger Lodge would not be created out of the bottom floor until the mid 1950s.

In the late 1920s Cam Scarlett came up with an idea. He thought it would add to Camp spirit by writing and reading a weekly humorous vignette of the Camp experience, read at the weekly Saturday night campfire. Cam called his creation *The Log*, and it became a very popular addition to Camp life. Each issue of *The Wigwam* also included highlights, called *Punk from The Log*. The last *Log* of the season was the compiled highlights that summer, called *The Alphabet*, where Cam would read humorous highlights in alphabetical order. He wrote and read *The Log* until the early 1950s. Another counselor wrote *The Log* for one summer, and then it disappeared until the 1970s when it was gratefully revived by Bill Yardley.

The Kawanhee Inn became a reality in 1928. In the first years of Camp, parents stayed in rooms located on the second floor of the Main Lodge. As Camp grew and more parents visited, other lodging locations were needed. There were a few motels in the area including the local Weld Inn, a few miles from Camp. There was a building only a quarter mile from Camp that also housed guests called Pine Lodge--its location across from the Inn. Early maps show the Pine Lodge as a large structure, and it was a

popular place for parents to stay. Often, the Pine Lodge is called the first Kawanhee Inn, and it was used for many years for lodging even well after the Inn was built. It was considered part of the Inn.

In August 1928 Kawanhee became a corporation called Frank Brothers Inc. Shortly after, George and Raymond decided to establish the Inn by creating another corporation called Kawanhee Inn, established to sell stock to help build and maintain the Inn. The Decker family, the same family that had sold the land to create Camp in 1920, also owned the land adjacent to Camp, and this was purchased in October 1928 to create the Kawanhee Inn. Most of the Inn beach is now privately owned.

The deed to create the Inn became official on October 2, 1928, and they built quickly. The Inn opened in 1929, and according to the official Inn website, Cabin One was the first building to be constructed, but the main lodge was also built quickly. The 1930 Camp catalog describes the main lodge as located on a "high bluff overlooking the lake and mountains," and from this description this must be the current main lodge of the Inn. Mrs. George (Florence) Frank became the first manager. She had been the Dietician at Camp and would continue in both roles--quite the busy summers for her!

A look at the catalogs at the end of the first decade reveal two interesting, notable items. In 1929, Camp Kineowatha, a girls' camp in nearby Wilton, was described for the first time as a camp that would be a good place to send female siblings of our campers. A photo in 1929 clearly shows that an addition had been built on the north end of the Rec Hall which would house the office of the Frank brothers.

A notable staff member who first came in 1929 was Dr. Frederick Heimberger, a college professor who later became Vice President at Ohio State University. He was the Range instructor but eventually would serve in many different roles. Even after his years as an active staff member were over, he continued to spend summers in Weld, and he became a member of the Kawanhee Advisory Council. Many alumni will remember the small vessel, the *Betty H*, a Snipe class sailboat that Dr. Heimberger built and named after his wife. Another noteworthy camper who attended in 1929 was Malcolm Forbes. He was in Falcon Lodge, and as an adult he became the wealthy magazine publisher of *Forbes* magazine.

In 1929 Stephen Searles was the High Point Winner and a senior camper. The Junior A High Point Winner was Edward "Duke" Lutz who would also be High Point Winner in 1930, so technically he was the first camper to be a High Point Winner in two successive summers, although he was the Junior A winner in 1929. The High Point Winner that year for the smallest (remember divisions were decided by weight in those days) division, Midgets, was William Bloodgood, a very high achieving camper through 1933, but sadly he lost his life on a bombing mission over France in World War II. More on him later.

After tuition had stayed steady for several years at \$300, it was raised to \$325 for 1929. Half season rates increased to \$200, but pre and post camp rates remained at \$25 a week. Also, the first mention of the letters to parents' policy that is still in place was in the 1929 catalog. Letters were to be written every Wednesday and Sunday, and as we all understood, "no letter, no supper." Also, the catalogs of the late 1920s still claimed it was free of hay fever and asthma, and uniforms were still required. In fact, the catalog stated the only civilian clothes to be brought were those the boys wore on their trip to Camp.

The 1930 staff included noteworthy members Mac Henney in Sailing and two other counselors, William Bittenbender and Robert Cory. The Bittenbender family continued to send campers and counselors through the 1960s, and Robert Cory was the first in a long line of Corys that ended with Hoyt Cory who was captain in 1963. Also in 1930, the Shepard family donated a special award to be given out each summer for the Greatest Improvement in Swimming, and this award is still given each summer.

As Kawanhee's first decade ended, Camp had grown in every way possible. In the 1930s there would be challenges as the Great Depression would grip the World, but Kawanhee would only grow and prosper, and thus more traditions were built, and many others continued and evolved over time.



Flying Deer Lodge was in the main lodge, the only time campers lived there and the only time there was a female lodge counselor, Ma Frank.



The original camp sign, the camp road is to the right and the dirt road is Route 142 before it was paved.



HC Marshall portraying Chief Kawanhee, a symbol of our reverence for Native Americans and their respect of the land that Kawanhee is on.



Ready on the right, ready on the left, ready on the line... Load and fire!



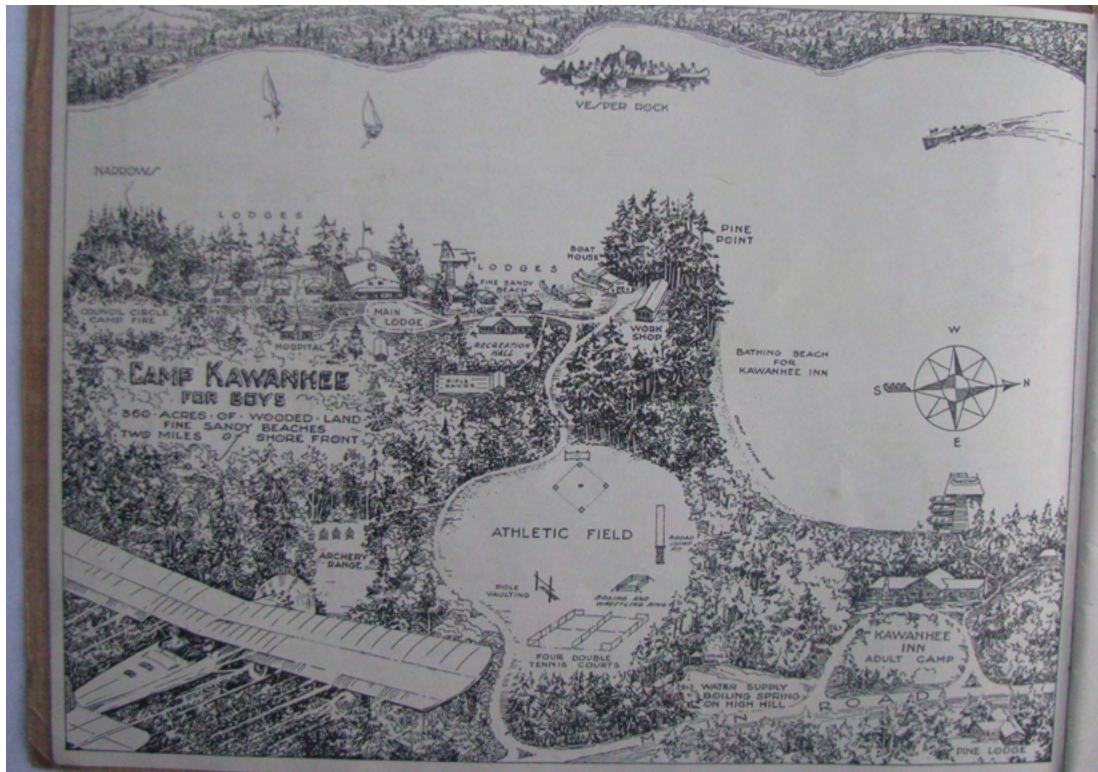
First Staff 1921: First Row L to R: GR Frank, B.E. Wiggins, Max Savelle
Second Row: H.C. Marshall, Roger Snyder, Fred Freeman, Raymond Frank



The 1921 camp photo with George, Raymond and Ma Frank



The original shop was set-up in what is now Crow's Nest lodge



The original camp map probably from the mid 1930's



Charles CW "Pop" Frank, father of George and Raymond

CHAPTER THREE

1931-1941: KAWANHEE CONTINUES DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION

Kawanhee started its second decade as the United States dealt with the Great Depression. In 1931 and 1932 the cost of Camp remained at \$325.00--where it had been for a few years. For the 1932 season, there were discounts available for boys who had attended for one or two seasons--a \$25 reduction. Boys who were attending for their third or fourth seasons got a \$50 discount, and those who had attended for five or six seasons received a \$75 discount. In the late 1930s through 1940s, Camp offered a different, discounted tuition for Ohio boys (from the South and West) than from boys from the East paid--perhaps to offset travel costs which continued through the war years. In 1931 the Master Camper program started for the oldest boys, and they were required to work two hours a day in an activity of their choosing.

In the 1932 catalog there is a picture of the Sachems from the 1931 summer--the first photo of Sachems. Although the 1931 photo is the first of its kind, the concept of having lodge representatives to discuss Camp policies started in 1921 when they were called Owls--maybe for the wisdom the representatives were expected to display. They were called Owls until 1928 when the term changed to Sachems, and the name was changed to Messengers in 2021, a more current interpretation. For many years the duties of the Sachems were very different than today. Sachems were quite powerful. Two Sachems were elected from each lodge during the second week to give each lodge group time to get to know each other and elect good candidates. Sachems served the entire summer.

Unlike today, the Sachems in early history had little to do with the *Coming and Going of the Chief* ceremonies. In those early years the writing of the message read at the *Coming and Going of the Chiefs* was the responsibility of the Maroon--Grey captains and three selected team members from each team. The team members who were picked were called Honor Sachems. My research did not reveal if these Honor Sachems were part of the original group selected in the second week, or perhaps they were selected as Honor Sachems just for the Chief ceremonies. The system we had where a Sachem represents each lodge and who writes and reads the message at the *Coming and Going of the Chief* ceremonies was not used until the 1960s. Also, the catalog in 1932 states that an important duty of the Sachems was "To work with Counselors and Directors in developing and maintaining a fine Camp spirit and in making Camp a safe and happy place for boys to live." Sachem meetings were held each week, and new suggestions were discussed that might make Kawanhee a better place. If the idea had merit and was approved by most Sachems, the suggestion was instituted.

By 1937 the Sachem system came under some mild criticism. Some thought ideas approved by the Sachems and then instituted as rule changes were not democratic since Sachems were only a small minority of campers each summer. In 1937 the system changed, and new ideas for rule changes decided by the Sachems would then have to be presented to the entire Camp family at the Saturday campfire. The whole Camp would have to approve the new rule change before being instituted. For example, one new rule was that everyone should be quiet in the Dining Hall until Grace had been said, and another rule was that campers should wait in line to get their mail instead of crowding around the Post Office.

In the Camp catalog of 1932, there is a picture of the Kawanhee Orchestra in 1931, probably the summer it debuted. There were three rehearsals a week, and they performed weekly at a Camp show. The catalog also states that Camp offered instrument--piano, violin, cornet, and voice--lessons at a reasonable rate. In the 1930s, Hal Myers was the drum major when the Orchestra marched. Later he would become the drum major at Princeton University. Hal was also a masterful drummer and would often perform one-man, entertaining shows at Kawanhee which included drumming on stage, going into the audience and drumming on campers' heads, and then returning to the stage and not missing a beat.

1932-1936: COOKS IN THE KITCHEN, THE KAWANHEE K, BATES ARRIVES & THE CMC

In 1932 Camp Kawanhee got some new cooks. Aunt Nell, the first official Camp Kawanhee Cook, had disappeared from the catalogs by 1930. Perhaps they just didn't put her picture in the catalog, or more likely she had passed away or retired. In 1932 a husband-and-wife couple from Madison, Maine, Laurence and Emma Briggs, were hired and would serve for a long time. Laurence would be Kawanhee's Cook until his death in the 1950s, and Emma was still there through 1966. A picture of Emma standing in front of a bunch of pies appeared in the catalog every year.

In 1933 a new Saltwater Trip started, a one day sailing and fishing trip off the coast and was offered four or five times a summer. They continued to climb Katahdin and Washington, but in 1933 Katahdin was a three-day trip; it had started out as a seven-day trip in the 1920s. Other trips such as the Tim Pond Trout Fishing Trip and the Swift River Trip continued. Also, in the 1930s a trip to the Farmington Zoo was offered for the youngest boys, and it included mammals native to Africa.

In the 1933 paddle picture, some boys had the large K painted on their paddle. Today, this represents the Bass Rock Swim, but in 1933 it represented being awarded the Camp Emblem. As stated earlier, one could earn the Camp Emblem by achieving goals and earning points in activities. It wasn't impossible to achieve. In 1933, nearly forty boys were awarded the Camp Emblem, and in that catalog, it shows a photo of boys building a small cabin in the woods, and the caption reads, "Boys Earning Emblem Points."

1933 was the summer when another great counselor made his first appearance--Clarence "Bates" Bateman. In 1933 he was Director of Trips, and that is where he served for the next fifty years. Bates would go on to initiate many great trips, including Monhegan Island. Outside of Camp Bates was an Industrial Arts teacher at West High School in Columbus, Ohio. In honor of Bates and his legacy, the Clarence Bateman Award is given annually to the Tripper of the Year.

1933 was also the year of a sad event. Raymond and George's father, Charles (CW), known as Pop, died on November 19, 1933. CW had worked at Camp from the first days of its creation, even helping clear the pine trees off the small knoll where the Main Lodge would be constructed. Starting in 1921 with the arrival of the first campers, Charles became Camp Father, and he mainly served as the maintenance man. Every catalog in those days would mention how much he enjoyed fishing with the campers.

For the summer of 1933, they decided to build a cabin for Ma Frank to live in. For years, Ma Frank had a tent in the middle of Camp where she counseled boys and performed other Camp Mother responsibilities. She had a special interest in nature, and boys would often bring her specimens (alive and dead) to look at. However, Ma Frank did not sleep in her tent but lived in the Infirmary until 1933. That all ended when a new cabin was built for her, known as Ma Frank's Cabin until her death in 1946. Today it is known as the Camp Mother's Cabin or CMC.

In 1934 another new building was constructed called the Scout Cabin. Today it is the Campcraft Building. Back then, there was a limited Campcraft activity, but there was a strong Scouting program operated through the Boy Scouts of America. Our Scout troop which was called Kah-Ne-Do-Go-Nah, a Native American phrase that meant, "Among the Pines."

The building of the Scout Cabin has a unique place in history. We've had smaller structures built during the season such as the Tree House, but the Scout Cabin is the only structure built during the season that houses an activity. Kawanhee hired a lead carpenter, but the Scouts did most of the work, and the building has held up well. The 1935 catalog reported that nine campers earned their Eagle Scout in the 1930s. Today, the Boy Scout program at Camp is almost non-existent except for the few campers who have worked for individual merit badges. Kah-Ne-Do-Go-Nah is painted on a big sign that adorns the front of the Campcraft Building.

In 1934 Camp hired a Weld resident, Peleg White, as Caretaker. During much of our history we have hired a local resident as Caretaker during the ten months when there are few people living on the property. The Caretaker would check on the property, shovel snow off roofs, and perform other duties. Peleg White was one of the most noteworthy Caretakers in our history as he was often mentioned in the yearly catalog. He served as Caretaker for nearly twenty years before he died in 1953.

A memorable story about Peleg was recounted to the author by Dick Miller. In the 1940s, the original Kawanhee speedboat, *The Pete*, was in bad shape; it was hardly a speedboat. Many remembered it as a bulky 24-foot vessel that was once used in logging operations on Lake Webb. Thus, many people disagreed with the catalog description of *The Pete* as the fastest boat on the Lake! By the 1940s another so-called speedboat named *The Kawan* was also in bad condition. So, one winter in the 1940s, Peleg took “care” of the two vessels. Recall that Peleg lived in Weld year-round, and after the ice formed, he dragged both vessels onto the lake. The following spring both boats sank to the bottom; maybe they are still on the bottom. He certainly took “care” of them!

In 1935 the tuition for Camp was reduced to \$300 after being raised to \$325 a couple of years earlier. Although the catalog does not mention it, it could be surmised that the tuition reduction might have been in response to the economic hard times the nation was enduring. Also in 1935, *The Wigwam* was published for the first time, replacing *The Kawanian*. Campbell Scarlett continued as Editor, and for the summer of 1935 *The Wigwam* was produced on property and distributed to campers and staff. In 1936 the leaders of Camp gave *The Wigwam* their blessing and gave editors money for printing but starting in 1936 *The Wigwam* was sent to a professional printer.

Another major change happened in 1935. After several years, the Camp Emblem Award was dropped, and in its place was the Achievement Level/Plaque System which continues today. There have been small changes to the system, but the basics of the system still exist. Back then there were three levels in each age division for each activity. If a camper earned a first level in three different activities, he was awarded a leather plaque, designed in the shape of an arrowhead, but the plaques are no longer leather. The catalog describes the change as, “In place of the Camp Emblem, with its varied requirements, which has been awarded for the past several years, a series of definite Achievement Levels was established during the season of 1935. A marked improvement in interest and general accomplishment was noted.”

In the second year of the new Achievement Level System, Camp had the first five boys in history complete a plaque. Junior Klages and Eddie Walker of Bexley, Ohio completed their plaque in one summer. Three other boys finished their plaques in two seasons.

1935: A NITE OUT FOR COUNSELORS & THE DEATH OF AN AMERICAN ICON

David Miller was a camper and counselor from the late 1920s through the 1930s and was awarded the Douglas Vincent Award--the kindest and most courteous camper--in both 1928 and 1929. He must have been a great camper. By the 1930s he was a senior counselor and then returned in 1987 when Mark and Liz Standen organized our first reunion and sat down with Ed Hamblin and told a remarkable story.

One of the favorite destinations for counselors in the 1930s was to go to the Lakewood Theater in Madison. The Lakewood Theater still exists and shows movies, and plays are sometimes performed. But in the 1930s (and before and after that decade) the Lakewood Theater was a major location for summer theater featuring some up-and-coming young stars of New York and Hollywood.

The summer of 1935 would turn out to be a memorable and tragic season at Lakewood. David Miller and other counselors would go to Lakewood several times a week that summer. One of the most desirable things about going there was the informality the actors had with the audience. The actors socialized with some audience members after a performance, and eventually some of them became friends.

One actor who appeared in several plays in the 1935 Lakewood season was nineteen-year-old Keenan Wynn, son of the famous actor and comedian Ed Wynn. Keenan Wynn would eventually be a major actor in movies, yet in 1935 he was just starting out his acting career and became friends with David Miller.

In August of the next play to be performed was a play called *Ceiling Zero*. The male lead in the play was a young actor named Humphrey Bogart. The female lead was Mary Amelia Rogers. She was a young actress, but she was also well known because of her famous father, one of the most famous people living in the United States, Will Rogers. Will Rogers was an actor, cowboy, humorist, newspaper columnist, and social commentator. He had appeared in seventy-one movies by 1935 and was the second highest earning motion picture actor in the country. Only Shirley Temple made more money.

But Will Rogers was much more than a movie actor. Millions read his regular newspaper column, and he also was an adventurer. In the summer of 1935 Will Rogers had big plans when he and a pilot named Wiley Post planned a trip to Alaska to explore the region to scout possible air routes to Russia. Will Rogers was in the final preparations for his trip, while back in Maine his daughter was in final rehearsals for her play at Lakewood. Will kept in close contact with Mary and sent her several telegrams. Mary had given her father a picture of herself in costume from one of her acting roles. Will's wife, Betty, (Mary's mom) had tried to talk Will out of his Alaska trip. She told friends that she had a bad feeling about the trip. But Will decided to take the trip, and Betty decided to go to Maine and watch Mary in the play. On the morning of August 15th, Will Rogers and Wiley Post reached Fairbanks, Alaska. That morning Will Rogers sent a telegram to his daughter at the Lakewood Theater: "Great trip. Wish you were all along. How's your acting? You and Mama wire me all the news to Nome--furthest point of land on the whole American continent. Lots of love, don't worry. Dad."

August 15th would be the last day of Will Rogers' life. That day, Will and Wiley Post departed Fairbanks for Point Barrow at the very top of Alaska. As they neared Point Barrow, weather conditions forced them to land in a lagoon about 20 miles south of Point Barrow. After a short rest stop to get directions to Point Barrow, the plane took off again but only gained a little altitude before falling out of the sky and landing upside down in the lagoon. Both Wiley and Will were killed instantly.

The play *Ceiling Zero* debuted at Lakewood on that fateful day of August 15, 1935. David Miller and some other counselors went to opening night. After the play, David Miller was able to congratulate Keenan Wynn and speak briefly to Mary Rogers. He returned to Lakewood the next night and was greeted at the door by a dour looking Keenan who said he had horrible news. Will Rogers and Wiley Post had died in a plane crash in Alaska. David Miller couldn't believe it. Mary and Betty Rogers were obviously distraught and were making plans to be with the remainder of their family. It was rumored that Humphrey Bogart, soon to be one of the most famous actors in America, broke the tragic news to Mary and her mother. In future days, the play continued with another actress replacing Mary. It was a cruel irony that the play *Ceiling Zero* was about a plane crash and that Betty had an intuition about the trip.

The death of Will Rogers gripped the nation. Fifty thousand people waited in line to view his casket at his funeral. David Miller said in his 1987 interview with Ed Hamblin that it was an evening he would sadly never forget. In future days it was revealed by local authorities in Alaska that as they were removing Will's body, a piece of paper dropped out of his pocket and into the lagoon. The soggy paper was picked up. It was the photograph of Mary Rogers that she had given to her father before his trip.

1930s: CAMP LIFE IMPRESSIONS

In 1936 an essay appeared in an edition of *The Wigwam*, written by an esteemed educator and parent, Dr. Reese Edgar Tulloss. Dr. Tulloss was President of Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio. The inspiring essay was entitled *An Educator Tells of a Dad's Impressions of Kawanhee*, and soon it was printed in the catalog, always appearing on the last page where it lived well into the 1970s.

The mid 1930s saw the addition of several noteworthy counselors including Harold (Hal) Myers who started out as a camper and counselor in 1931. By the mid 1930s, Hal had started his educational career at Princeton University, and eventually Hal would become a minister and raise two daughters who would marry counselors. The Myers family owned a cabin on Lake Webb, and while Hal's full-time job took him away from Maine, he was still involved, and his great talks at Camp will always be remembered. His younger brother Bill was also at Kawanhee at the same time, and he would become a captain and have a great career before World War II pulled him away. Bill lived an active life into his late 90's but unfortunately passed away in 2021. It is believed he was the oldest surviving camper and counselor as of 2020 and helped a great deal in the research for this book.

Another new, noteworthy staff member who first appeared in 1934 was Howell Windle who would run the Range for many years. Howell was the son in law of H.C. "Chief" Marshall, Kawanhee's Head Counselor. Another great name that appeared in the mid 1930s was Johnny Marble, an outstanding citizen of Camp. He was the last winner of the Douglas Vincent Award (Most Courteous and Kind Camper) in

1933. He would serve in World War II and become a lawyer in nearby Dixfield, Maine. Johnny Marble was the uncle of the current co-executive Director of the George and Raymond Frank Foundation, Liz Green Standen and her sister Julie Green Sengelmann.

In 1936 Charles Goodwin and his wife first appeared and co-directed Nature. He was head of the science department at the Columbus Academy during the school year. Their son, Glenn Goodwin, also attended the same years as his parents and started out in younger lodges and eventually became a junior counselor. Their story has a sad ending when Glenn was killed at the Battle of the Bulge in World War II, a story to be told later. In the mid 1930s there was the arrival of the Bittenbender family, and there were a lot of Bittenbenders who attended from the 1930s-1960s. Richard Bittenbender was a junior counselor in my first year in 1964. Also in the same era was David Bittenbender, remembered as a great sailor.

Another famous Kawanhee citizen that got his start in 1938 was Bill Yardley who would have two Kawanhee careers--first as counselor in the 1930s and early 1940s, and then after a long absence he returned in the 1970s with his wife Beanie and son Chris. When Bill returned, he made a huge difference in Kawanhee life. He is best remembered for reviving *The Log* which had originally been done by Campbell Scarlett in the 1930s-1950s. But when Cam gave it up in the 1950s, it eventually died out, but Bill brought it back with his unique writing style and great sense of humor. Bill's wife, Beanie, was a camp nurse for a long time, and his son Chris would eventually have a great career that included Director of Waterskiing and Director of Activities.

Arriving in 1934 was the man who would have an historic effect on Kawanhee, Walter Estabrook from Bexley, Ohio. He started his career as a first year JC, and soon Walter moved up to be a SC and Director of Archery. He was attending Wesleyan University at the time and would continue until 1939.

Some other noteworthy staff members in the 1930s were William Altman, Robert Studebaker, and Harold Fawcett (two of those names perhaps not as familiar), but the Studebaker name is familiar to some recent Kawanhees. William Altman had been listed as far back as the late 1920s and was an employee of Ohio State University as a Professor of Physical Education. He started out as a counselor in various athletic departments, but by 1935 he was Athletic Director and served for over a decade. Robert Studebaker was from Dayton, Ohio and was related to H.C. "Chief" Marshall, Head Counselor. Many Studebakers have attended through the years--even in very recent times. Dr. Harold Fawcett would eventually become a well-known professor at Ohio State University.

At the awards ceremony in 1936 it was announced that Tom Defoe had been selected as winner of the C.A. Crane Award as the Most Helpful Camper, noteworthy because he also won the award in 1935 and was one of the few campers in our history to be awarded it twice, especially in two consecutive years.

As an example of the great food at Camp, *The Wigwam* reported that campers had gained a total of 136 pounds by mid-season in 1936. In those days, regular weight checks of campers were done at the Infirmary. Also, in the mid 1930s there is consistent mention about some new day trips including gold panning on the famous Swift River, one of the first places that gold was discovered in Maine. There were countless trips to Coos Canyon and even a trip to a fish hatchery in Gray, Maine, described as the largest fish hatchery in the world. The catalogs especially touted gold panning wherein the 1936 catalog claimed that a lumberjack had discovered a sizable gold nugget in the Swift River the year before. The catalog also claimed that every camper would come home with some gold dust, and in a later catalog, it was asked, "Who will be the first camper to find a \$100 nugget?"

In the 1930s Sailing was a popular activity, and by then we had a Cape Cod Knockabout boat that had been named the *Seagull*. Other sailing vessels such as Cat Boats were part of the fleet. The catalogs of those years always stressed safety, and the entire month of July was used for group instruction in Sailing each morning. Boys who demonstrated some sailing skills were allowed to go out on the lake in the afternoon. During several summers in the 1930s, sailing was not a regularly scheduled activity because you never knew what kind of wind Mother Nature would bring. An announcement was made at each meal if Sailing was open, and if it was, skippers would be ready!

In 1936 Kawanhee lost an activity; it would be the last summer for Horseback Riding, a costly activity even with charging an extra fee. One could presume insurance costs were high, and the horses were costly. However, the final straw (pun intended) was when a camper was injured in a serious but not fatal

accident. The camper, Ross Livingston Miller, known as Bud, was the son of The Dean Ross Miller and brother of Dr. Richard (Dick) Miller. Dick Miller remembers his brother either fell off a horse and broke his arm, or a horse stepped on it and broke it. Either way, Horseback Riding disappeared and would not appear again. I guess they just decided to stop horsing around with horses.

Unfortunately, Bud Miller's bad luck continued in 1938 when he received a skull fracture from a baseball bat. Bud recovered from these injuries and continued his great career until World War II when he enrolled at the United States Naval Academy. Today Bud's daughter, Lucia, spends a lot of her summers in Weld and is a great friend of Camp.

The stables were in a building about a half mile from Camp on the road to Weld. After Horseback Riding disappeared, the building began to fall into decay, and in the 1960s the building collapsed due to heavy snow; eventually it was torn down. Today the site of the stables is marked by Pine Hill Lane (a road that goes to some cabins), also marked as Fire Lane 5. Just to the north of the road there is a visible indentation that was once the location of the foundation housing the Horseback Stables. Interesting that we can still see some of the stones from the foundation.

In the 1937 catalog was the first mention of the Maroon-Grey competition. In 1936 the final score was 9793 for the Maroons, 8360 for the Greys. This score is not displayed on the wall of Maroon-Grey scores in the Dining Hall since the display started in 1938. Until the 1937 catalog, the High Point Winners were listed in the catalog, but there was no mention of the Maroon-Grey competition and the final score until the 1937 catalog. *The Wigwam* of 1936 named Tom Defoe as Captain of the Greys and Read Murphy as Captain of the Maroons, not listed in the Dining Hall either. Edward Klages of Bexley, Ohio was High Point Winner in 1936 with 700 points.

In 1937 the captains were Carleton Amison (Greys) and Hillis Schieber (Maroons). It appears that in those days the captains were younger than today since both young men were only in their second year and had resided in Lynx and Wildcat lodges the prior year. In 1937 they were both still campers with Carleton in Wildcat and Hillis in Crow's Nest--definitely younger than captains from our modern era. As was the case in 1936, both names in 1937 are not displayed in the Estabrook Dining Hall. And in 1937 the High Point Winner was Frank Henry.

In 1938 Kawanhee grew, and it was able to acquire the area we call Pine Point, not part of the original purchase of land in 1920. Originally, a small hotel existed on the property until it was destroyed by fire, and then it was bought by Mr. and Mrs. C.C. West. Camp had a very good relationship with the West family who for years used the area as their summer estate, gradually adding to the property by building a two-story house, a log cottage, and a boat house and garage. A water tower supplied running water.

In 1935 Raymond Frank married Frannie Lawton, and the West family let them use the log cabin as a wedding present where they spent their honeymoon. Apparently, the cabin was called the Dove's Nest after their honeymoon, and it was called that for many years. A few years later in 1938 Kawanhee was able to purchase the entire property from the West family, and Raymond and Frannie stayed in the log cabin for quite a few summers after that. Today, this would be the cabin at Pine Point or the Estabrook cabin, and the two-story house is now Mark and Liz Standen's cabin. The boat house and garage would become known as the Green Barn and was eventually used as a camper lodge before it burned down in 1956. The infamous water tower is still there and occasionally has been used to house counselors.

In the 1920s the uniforms were complete, even including tennis shoes, but for some reason the catalogs of the 1930s seemed to deemphasize uniforms using the term "we recommend" the uniform--two sleeveless shirts, two shirts--calling them Gray Drill Flappers. 1938 was the last summer for official uniforms, and in 1939 there was a slight change in the catalog stating, "Because of the rugged outdoor type of country and activity, no absolute uniform is required by Camp Kawanhee." The catalog also stated that most boys liked the shirts and shorts that could be ordered from R.R. Macy in New York (Spaulding before), and an order form was included in each camper's application. Catalogs still mentioned uniforms up until 1943. The uniform had been required for sixteen years, during which Kawanhee seemed quite serious about them since the only civilian clothes were the ones on their backs the day they arrived. One wonders why uniforms were phased out as many girls' camps still require them. Perhaps parents complained about the cost during the Great Depression, or perhaps uniforms were associated with bad

war memories. Today, I'm sure the boys are happy without uniforms, and thus they can be unique individuals, something the Kawanhee spirit embodies.

As written before, the 1938 season was the first Maroon-Grey score that appeared on the Dining Hall wall. The scores also include the captains for each summer, and so the 1938 are the first to be listed. One of the captains was Bill Myers, and the other was John Aigler. Theodore Huntington was High Point Winner. Another notable winner was Allen Estabrook who was awarded the Lattimer Cup. Allen was the brother of Walter Estabrook, and he would direct Archery for several years. In 1939 the captains were Warren Sullivan (Maroons) and Phil Drake (Greys) with the Maroons winning that summer. Go Maroons!

A free time, off grounds activity that was advertised in the late 1930s and 1940s was golfing. The catalog touted the Wilson Lake Country Club in Wilton as the place where campers and counselors could play. The catalogs of those years would usually have a page of pictures of the course and photos of campers and counselors playing. The 1941 catalog states that we had received a discount to play all day for a dollar; the normal fee was \$1.50 a day, and the transportation cost for the round trip to Wilton was just twenty-five cents. I am at a loss for words here thinking about what a round costs today.

In the 1930s Dramatics was very popular with a weekly Camp show, usually Wednesday or Thursday night, and plays were often presented. There was also a Stunt Night where each lodge put on their own stunts. There were Dramatics' awards presented at the award ceremony with stagecraft as one category and acting the other. The importance of Dramatics in the 1930s probably reflected the society in the United States at the time with limited entertainment opportunities during the Depression. Motion pictures existed, but we can presume there was no motion picture theater close.

BASEBALL: A HIT BACK IN THE DAY

Baseball was always a popular activity, and at one time, the catalogs of the 1930s said Camp had three baseball diamonds. An early catalog stated that all boys played baseball, and even if there were no league games, one cabin would challenge another cabin, and the game was on. The baseball league at Camp was unique back then with no age divisions, and campers and counselors of all ages played on the same team. The leagues were patterned after the major leagues, with an American League and a National League, using MLB team names. For example, in 1939 the champions of the leagues were the Chicago Cubs and the Detroit Tigers. As you might suspect, the champions of each league played in a Kawanhee World Series. It was a one game championship, so it really wasn't a series, but it was a big deal. On the night of the game, the Orchestra (led by drum major Hal Myers) would lead a parade of players out to the field, and the game would be played before a capacity crowd. In the World Series in 1942, the winning pitcher was none other than Raymond Frank at nearly fifty years of age. He also went two for three with an RBI. Eventually, the leagues would split into age divisions, but for a while it was a unique system.

Dick Miller told me an interesting story about one World Series (just one game). Dick was in the game and made a crucial throwing error that led to some runs for the other team who ended up winning because of his error. He said he still thinks about it. Here is a man with a BA from Oberlin College, a Masters and Doctorate from Yale, a great career teaching at Wesleyan University (including a long stint as Department Chairman of Economics), and he is still bothered by a throwing error in the Kawanhee World Series in the 1940s. I think there is a message in there somewhere!

THE ELUSIVE DUKE OF ZANZIBAR

There are no written records that exist that tell much about the Duke of Zanzibar, and since the Duke was involved in embarrassing and sometimes damaging pranks, it is understandable why he was never mentioned in official publications. However, there are some oral histories that describe the Duke being active in the very early days of Camp, and the Duke definitely existed by the 1930s. Before the Duke, there was another similar figure in Kawanhee lore, the King of Abyssinia, and the King and Duke might have existed at the same time. The historical context of these legendary figures was derived from some of the kingdoms of Africa; Abyssinia was part of Ethiopia and Zanzibar a part of Tanzania. Several oral

histories talk about an event that was described as the *Execution of the King of Abyssinia* where the King was floated out in the cove, and he disappeared under the water. The person who portrayed the King--often a counselor named Joe Shepherd--swam safely underwater to a dock. It seems that after the *Execution*, the Duke of Zanzibar became firmly entrenched as the legendary Kawanhee prankster for the rest of history. There are too many Dukes to describe, but one can conclude that the Duke of Zanzibar was more organized in the early days with oral histories depicting an actual, chosen person to portray the Duke for a season.

Bill Myers shared that some of the pranks happened while he was a camper in the 1930s. One victim was George Frank himself--or his car--which was always parked in front of the Rec Hall. Bill attached what was called a scare bomb to the spark plugs, and when the car started there was a lot of screeching, smoke, and loud noises--must've been scary for George! Bill also relayed a story of the time the Duke kidnapped a camper, and he was finally located under the stage in the Rec Hall. Another Duke incident was during a Camp show when some counselors went into the rafters of the Rec Hall and dropped pool balls on the audience. Ouch. Another time, all the senior counselors borrowed the metal coffee pots from the kitchen, filled them with stones, and tied the pots around their necks. Ouch again. During the entire meal, a counselor would stand up and yell "tally ho," and then each counselor would shake his pot. That's a lot of racket in the Dining Hall.

Another story told by Dick Miller was about a counselor who drove up to Camp in what was called a Crosley automobile--a very small, mini-car. One night the car was placed on a floating raft in the middle of the lake but was returned safely to Camp. Good thing it didn't sink. In the 1950s some of the other Duke pranks included putting a human mannequin up the flagpole--thank goodness it was a mannequin--and taking a table and four chairs from the CMC and setting them up on the high diving board. I wonder if anyone ate up there that day.

On the advice of my attorney, I will not admit any involvement in the following Duke incidents. While there are many to tell, here are some of the most memorable that I "might" have been involved in. One involved moving a car to the Range and moving a car to Council Point. Unfortunately, the owner of the car hit a tree when driving it down the hill, and I've always felt bad about that; we damaged a good tree! Another was digging up the old, wooden basketball posts from the basketball court and setting them up on the porch of the old Dining Hall. We got in over our heads on that one; the posts went much deeper than we thought, having a cement ring around the bottom. We knew we couldn't carry them to the Dining hall, so we "borrowed" the Bouncing Buggy to transport them. We had planned to bury them back again at the court, but we broke one. The next summer Kirk Neiswander built new baskets and posts. Thanks to us, Kawanhee got much nicer baskets for a few years before the new concrete court was built in the 1980s. I remember putting Mr. and Mrs. E's bikes on the diving board. I also remember I was at a campfire in the 1980s or 1990s, and suddenly a caped figure ran through the Council Ring. It was Butch O'Neill dressed as the Duke. I am no longer involved in some of the pranks of the Duke. I am now a mature adult or hope to be one soon! Ultimately, the legend of the Duke of Zanzibar continues in modern times. We can presume that the Duke of Zanzibar will be around for as long as Kawanhee exists. Look for his trademark "Z" at the scene of the crime.

THE DOCTOR WILL SEE YOU NOW

Medical services were a little different in the 1930s and through the 1940s. One feature was the constant weighing of campers, and boys who were underweight received special attention with milk and orange juice served to them during the afternoon, and a glass of chocolate, malted milk before Taps. But for the most part, the boys were healthy. And by 1940, Kawanhee advertised a "co-operative medical expense fund" where two dollars was taken out of every camper's incidental account to pay for special medical expenses for boys who needed to access the funds.

Today we have our great nurses, and boys who need a physician are sent to the Franklin Memorial Hospital in Farmington or to one of the medical offices near the hospital. It was different in the early days. As usual, we had one or two nurses, but a local doctor was also employed by Camp to give each

boy an extensive physical at the beginning of each summer and to be on call anytime a doctor was needed. The doctor most mentioned in the catalog and *Wigwam* was Dr. Garfield Defoe of Dixfield, and another doctor mentioned was Dr. Lawrence. Often, the Infirmary staff photo would feature our doctor flanked by the nurses. Another classic picture that appears is of the backside of stark-naked boys getting their physicals in the Rec Hall. Indeed, it's a different world now.

1940-1941: TRIPS, KITES, JEWELRY, & THE POWER OF SACHEMS BACK IN THE DAY

At the end of the second decade, Archery had moved out of their home deep in the woods Campcraft to a spot in a corner of the Athletic Field. Fishing had always been an important activity, so they announced hiring of a full time Fishing Counselor. In 1940 a group of tennis players played teams from Wilton and Rumford, winning both, and these matches would continue for several years. Go Kawanhee!

By 1941 Kawanhee had added several canoe trips to the Trip program including five separate fishing trips--three trout trips, a pickerel trip, and a deep-sea fishing trip. Eight separate mountain trips were offered. An interesting person is pictured in the 1940 catalog, Perlie Durgin, a registered Maine Guide who led all canoe trips. We don't know too much about him, but he seems to have been a much-respected person at Camp, and at one time he was Chief Game Warden on the Canadian Border Patrol.

In 1941 photos showed campers building kayaks and other great projects in Shop, which claimed it could handle sixty-five campers at a time. The traditional model sailboat had been built in the Shop for several years, still being built today. Kite making was popular in Shop in the 1930s and early 1940s, and boys still made their own archery bows. A lot of metal and leather work was going on in Shop as well. In Nature, mineral trips were offered with the Lapidary Shop opening in 1941 where campers made jewelry.

The 1940 Captains were Frank Henry for Maroons and Haydock Miller for Greys with Greys winning. The 1940 High Point Winner was Herb Erf Jr. who would become a Captain in 1945. In 1941 the captains were Ted Huntington (Maroons) and Charles Dozer (Greys) with Maroons winning in a very tight race. The High Point Winner was Robert Sayre with 715 points. He must have been a great sailor since he was only a Junior B yet passed nine sailing levels and finished all his senior levels as well.

Kawanhee has long ended each summer with a banquet (a big meal) and then the awards ceremony. Sandwiched somewhere in the last days of Camp was the *Going of the Chief* ceremony. Today, the ceremony is scheduled a few days before the end to give some leeway in case of bad weather. But, for many years the *Going of the Chief* was scheduled the very last night of Camp--after the banquet and awards, and sometimes the Chief ceremony was the night before the banquet. As you might imagine, weather sometimes interfered with this tight schedule. In 1956 and 1963 the *Going of the Chief* ceremony never took place because of bad weather, and thus the message of the Sachems was published in the final *Wigwam* after the campers went home.

The end of the summer banquet and awards ceremony in the 1930s through 1944 were different from today. The banquet took place at the Inn and not in the Dining Hall. Dick Miller remembers tables being loaded at the Dining Hall and then transported to the Inn. The chef for the banquet was of course Mrs. George (Florence) Frank who operated the Inn, so even the cooks from Camp got to enjoy the meal. In those days many parents came for the last few days, and then they would take the train home with their sons. (In the 1930s a 500- or 1000-mile trip by automobile wasn't very safe.) At the banquet fathers sat with sons, and mothers served the meal. If a boy didn't have a parent at the banquet, a staff member would sit next to that boy, and their wives would help serve. The awards ceremony was part of the banquet, but there weren't as many awards as today. Another feature of the banquet was the reading of the last *Log* by Cam Scarlett, as you may recall *The Alphabet*.

As the 1930s progressed the banquet and awards ceremony were split into two separate gatherings. In at least one summer in the 1930s, the banquet and awards ceremony were on two separate days. The last issue of the 1945 *Wigwam* indicated that the banquet took place in the Dining Hall at Camp for the first time, and parents were no longer part of it. The awards ceremony took place in The Rec Hall, and parents were most welcome. This banquet/awards ceremony set up would continue until the 1970s when the awards ceremony was moved outside, weather permitting.

In 1941 the Sachems made a big decision. As described earlier, the Sachem system in the early days was different from the modern era. Two Sachems from each cabin met once a week back then, and they had real power. They could change a policy if they thought it would be good for Camp. For a few years there were no checks and balances on their power, and one can only wonder what decisions they made. But by the late 1920s it was deemed prudent that any new ideas from Sachems would have to be approved by the entire Camp at the Saturday campfire--very democratic--and they often had good ideas and made changes to some policies. In 1941 Sachems made a huge decision proposing the name of an entire age division be changed. Since 1922 the youngest and lightest campers were known as Midgets--a name many people didn't like--and in 1941 the Sachems proposed the name be changed to Junior C. It was passed by an overwhelming majority at campfire- including all the Midgets--a good decision we can all agree on. For a time, they were also known as Junior Cubs--a nickname since Cubs started with the letter C.

It was mentioned there was no electricity in 1921. Each cabin had a couple of kerosene lanterns. Although electricity was common in towns and cities by the 1940s, it took a long time for it to be available in every corner of Camp, but by 1940 they made progress. There was electricity in the bigger buildings such as the Dining Hall and Rec Hall and in Ma Frank's cabin. But if you were a camper in the first twenty years, you had to face the challenge of having no electricity. At least you had kerosene lanterns! Until each cabin had electricity (later in the 1940s) there was an inspection job that had disappeared--to clean the glass of each lantern. With the advent of World War II, each cabin eventually got electricity. Today's campers can appreciate one less task to do during inspection. Thank goodness for modern day conveniences.

By 1940 the tuition was still \$300 as the economic woes of the United States continued. We still offered pre and post Camp sessions with the cost being \$25.00 a week. They still claimed to be free of hay fever and asthma. Kawanhee had survived the Great Depression, and enrollment steadily increased as we had a growing reputation as a great summer Camp. The 1940s would bring a World War and other challenges, but the Kawanhee spirit continued, new traditions developed, and the strength of Camp persevered.



Kawanee campers wore uniforms until the late 1930's



Sunday evening Vespers were held at Bass Rock until the late 1940's, when the camp grew too large.



The Scout Building (now Campcraft) was built during the 1934 season as a Boy Scout project. Kah-Ne-Do-Go-Nah is a Native American saying that means "Among the Pines"





The Kawanhee orchestra was a favorite activity early in our history.



Ma Frank counseled boys from her tent before the Camp Mother's Cabin was built in 1933.



The Rec Hall has always been the center of activity in camp and looks much the same as it did in the 1930's



Walter Estabrook (top center) was an archery counselor in the 1930's

CHAPTER FOUR

1942-1945: THE WAR YEARS

In December 1941, the United States was drawn into World War II which would influence Camp but would not impact enrollment. During World War II, Kawanhee had its highest enrollment in history up to that time. It made sense that enrollment was high since Camp offered a nice relief from the war for children. Many former counselors were serving in the military, but they were able to have a full staff. The yearly catalogs didn't mention the war too much but rather focused on an essay that was printed on the inside front cover. In the 1942 catalog the essay was titled, *The Contribution of Summer Camping to National Defense*, and the 1943 catalog essay was *Training for Peace*. The *Wigwam* had articles on former campers and counselors who were serving in the military. In 1942 an article described how several U.S. Navy recruits had gotten their start in the Sailing Department. The cook, Lawrence Briggs, was in the Coast Guard in Bath, Maine, Johnny Marble was in Officer Candidate School, Richard Bittenbender was in the Marines, and Bill Myers was serving overseas as were countless other alumni.

In 1942 a new staff member arrived, Dr. Carl Elmore, a member of the clergy. For many years he was the minister of the First Presbyterian Church in Englewood, New Jersey, the church where Raymond and Frannie Frank worked. Before becoming a staff member, Dr. Elmore had visited on several occasions and even gave a talk at the outdoor Chapel. During the war years Dr. Elmore planted a victory garden outside the Infirmary, and two other victory gardens were at the Green/Red Barn on Pine Point Road and at Pine Lodge across from the Inn. While at Kawanhee Dr. Elmore and his wife lived in the house at Pine Point that is now owned by Mark and Liz Standen. Dr. Elmore's wife, Amelia Josephine Burr Elmore, was a well-known poet and direct descendent of Aaron Burr.

Another notable staff member who first arrived in 1942 was Art Keifer, who in a few years would be head of Nature and portray the Chief for a few years. Art was also part of a popular singing group that performed at church and other places. It was simply called The Quartet, and they sang songs with beautiful voices. Besides Art, other members were Raymond Frank, George Frank, and Hal Myers. Another noteworthy staffer in the 1940s was Noel Piersche who ran Shop and in 1945 observed his 20th year. John Marlboro was Maroon Captain, and Bill Hurt the Grey Captain with Maroons winning.

Another staffer who started in 1944 was Roy "Nick" Nickerson who had graduated from Springfield College with Raymond Frank. He had been a professional boxer in Florida for a while but left the sport. According to his daughter and current Weld resident, Jane Standen, he was undefeated as a boxer. Nick ended up in Leonia, New Jersey and was recruited to the staff and would have a stellar career of twenty years serving as Director of Boating and Canoeing for years. Later he became Director of Athletics, and eventually he switched to Range. Roy eventually would become the grandfather of two great campers and counselors, Mark and Mike Standen.

Another new counselor who came in 1945 was Mitch Greenawalt. Mitch stayed for a few years, and like so many staff members before and after him, he would leave to start his career and start a family, yet Mitch came back! After a long time away, he came back with his wife and children and had a second career in the 1960s and 1970s running Boating and playing his trumpet.

Herb Birch from Tenaflly, NJ started his long and distinguished career in 1945. He was hired to work in Campcraft and Scouting and would not switch over to Shop until the 1950s. Herb would go on to become an Assistant Director and was responsible for recruiting boys from the New York and New Jersey area. His career ended in 1999 at his death. At that time, he had the longest tenure--55 summers--of any staff member, except for George Frank. His memory continues with the Polar Bear Club he started where campers and staff swim early every morning and sing to greet another, beautiful day at Kawanhee.

In 1942 a camper named Bob Ward scored 1229 points, the most in history. John Marlboro and Bill Hurt led teams that year with Maroons winning. 1943 was another season with record enrollment--only to be broken in 1944. Because of increased enrollment, 1943 was the year with the most points in history, 40,000 points scored, breaking the previous record by over 9,000 points! Irving Bouton was Captain of Maroons, and Terry Webster led the Greys and the winning team. Tom Williams was High Point Winner.

One factor that affected Camp during the war was rationing. Due to the war effort, certain, very valuable items that were important to the war effort were rationed so armed forces would still get what they needed. Some rationed items that affected Camp were gasoline and various food items. The high point total in 1943 was due in large part to gas rationing which eliminated almost all trips that summer. *The Wigwam* had a reduced publishing schedule during the war because gas rationing would not allow the weekly twenty-five-mile trip to the publisher. Sugar rationing was also tough on campers as *The Wigwam* pointed out that campers had lost weight. Throughout the war years campers would take part in different activities that helped including picking farm crops which turned into a Maroon-Grey competition.

When campers arrived in June of 1943, they saw a sight that is probably unique in our history; there were no docks for swimming or boating, just a temporary situation. The extremely wet spring had caused the water level of Lake Webb to be too high to put in docks. In those days docks were different as they were supported by wooden horses filled with rocks. The horses were of various sizes and heights--getting taller as the depth of the water increased--and in 1943 the horses couldn't reach the lake bottom. The situation was solved when some good, hot weather lowered the water level, and the docks were put in.

In the winter of 1943-1944 Maine got 127 inches of snow--the most in history, and we suffered some weather-related damage. Trees fell on Birch, Beaver, and Pine Tree, and damage was repaired. A new record camper enrollment signed up for the 1944 season with 113 campers. New memorable staff members continued to arrive including Henry Blau, Ed Hamblin, and Pop Nowald, all great Kawanheecans starting careers during the war years.

As the 1944 season got underway there was another issue on the minds of campers and staff, and that was the health of Ma Frank. She was not at Camp to begin the season--the first time in her career. She got a bad case of the flu in December when she lived with Raymond and his family in the winter. She was almost completely recovered when she had a serious setback when blood clots formed in her right leg and cut off her blood circulation. A few weeks later, she fell from a chair and broke some bones in her left leg and had almost recovered when the season started. She still needed a few more weeks to recover, and fortunately she was finally able to return on July 12.

On July 8, 1944, there was a serious fire in Carthage, Maine, a few miles from Kawanhee. A call came to Camp for help, and many counselors pitched in to help extinguish it. The fire was finally controlled, but it was a tough fire to fight because acres of cut pulpwood were burning. After the fire was put out, the town of Carthage sent a letter of thanks to Camp. Although some wood was lost, a lot was saved thankfully, since the wood was used to make blood plasma boxes to be sent overseas for the war effort.

During this timeframe Kawanhee had its first destructive fire. Dean Ross Miller's son, Dr. Richard Miller, remembers it well but can't quite pin down the year, sometime in the early to mid 1940s. The fire occurred on Sunday Beach where campers and counselors had built an outpost. Dick remembers Frannie Frank (Raymond's wife) running down from their Pine Point cabin (now the Estabrook cabin) to the Rec Hall where campers and counselors were having a campfire. She was yelling and telling everyone about the fire, and so everyone went and formed a bucket brigade using lake water to douse the fire. The outpost was seriously damaged, probably destroyed. The next day George Frank theorized that the fire started accidentally by counselors "fooling around with hayseed" according to GR. Seems suspect. The accusation was never proven, but an anonymous counselor confessed, and the mystery continues.

Camp decided to change the baseball leagues. Instead of all ages playing together, there would be two different divisions--a junior division of Junior Cs and Junior Bs and a senior division consisting of Junior As and Seniors. Junior counselors were still allowed to play, but senior counselors could no longer compete. Jack Smith captained the Maroons in 1944, and Graham Watts was the Grey leader and won a close competition, both teams scoring over 17,000 points--not breaking the 1943 points record of 40k.

As the 1945 season started, the news on the war was good. Germany had surrendered in the spring, and now all efforts were centered on defeating Japan. *The Wigwam* continued to update readers on former campers and counselors who were overseas. The longtime cook, Lawrence Briggs, was still in the U.S. Coast Guard in Bath, Maine. Bill Myers had been assigned to a minesweeper (a naval vessel), and he had recently returned to the US in 1945. Charles Windle was a paratrooper stationed in Berlin. Lt. John Marble had spent time in Okinawa in 1945, fighting in the last large land battle of the war. Captain

Richard Bittenbender was in the USMC and had spent time in the Solomon Islands in the Pacific. And Reed Murphy, a veteran of ten summers, was in the Pacific.

A very interesting item in the July 21, 1945, issue of *The Wigwam* was an article about some changes to the scoring system. It had been decided by the Directors that in the future no camper could earn more than three hundred points in one summer by passing levels, the reason being that too many levels were being passed just to get points. (Where have we heard this before?) Campers had not fully accomplished the skill or knowledge for which the levels were originally designed. A camper could still earn as many levels as possible but could only earn a total of 300 points. The High Point Winner had been recognized since the first years, and as part of the new point system, the High Point Winner would no longer be singled out. Instead, an honor roll would be created, and a group of campers would be recognized who made outstanding contributions. A camper could also earn more than 300 points, but they had to be points separated from achievement levels--points in athletic meets and tournaments. At the awards ceremony it was announced that Gerry Clark's Maroon team beat Herb Erf's Grey team by a thousand points. On a side note, Dick Miller tells the story of a return trip from canoeing at Rangeley Lakes in 1945. Coming down the Phillips Road, the Bouncing buggy ran out of gas, and they pushed the vehicle back to Camp.

Before the 1945 season ended, great news was received. Japan had surrendered, and World War II was over. On August 15, 1945, a special memorial service (for victory and peace) was held at the outdoor Chapel. Three people gave inspiring talks--Dr. Rees Edgar Tulloss, Dr. Elmore, and Dean Ross Miller. The two captains, Herb Erf and Gerry Clark, led the Camp in special prayers. Dick Donaldson, an Eagle Scout, recited the *Pledge of Allegiance*. It must have been an emotional service as World War II had affected everyone, and now it was over. And there was also some deep sadness that night. A former camper and counselor was probably not coming home from the war. As the boys ended the summer it would be a different homecoming. When campers arrived in 1945, the war was still going on, but in late August there was finally peace in the world for the first time in nearly six years. Thank goodness.

THE STORY OF TWO KAWANHEEANS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR COUNTRY

William Bloodgood was born in New York in 1919. His first year at Camp was 1929, attending through 1933. He started in Falcon, and one of his lodge mates was Malcolm Forbes, the future magazine publisher and multi-millionaire entrepreneur. William seemed to be an outstanding athlete as he was mentioned as a consistent award winner.

There were probably a lot of World War II alumni like William Bloodgood. They came as young boys, attended Camp for a few years, and then moved on to other things as they became adolescents. When the United States became involved in World War II, these former campers were of military age and served their country. Many counselors were at Camp right up to the start of the war, and *The Wigwam* followed them as they served their country. Some came back after the war, but some alumni like William Bloodgood, who hadn't been at Camp for years, are lost in our history. Many served their country and returned home, never to be part of Kawanhee again, yet others unfortunately didn't ever return.

The only one I know about is William Bloodgood since he was mentioned in the oral history of Reed Murphy--a veteran camper and counselor--in his interview with Ed Hamlin in the 1980s. Reed was also in Falcon Lodge with William and Malcolm Forbes and might have been a lodge mate of William's as they both continued until 1933. William enlisted in the military on July 2, 1941, before the United States was in the war. He became a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps, rose to the rank of lieutenant, and was a pilot of a B-17 bomber in the 401st Bomber Squadron of the 91st Bomber Group. He was stationed in Europe and took part in several successful bombing missions in German controlled France.

On December 30, 1942, William's plane and many other B-17s were involved in a bombing mission targeting the German U-Boat station on the coast of France at Lorient. Shortly after dropping their bomb load, the American bombers faced extreme German counterattacks, including a wave of German fighter planes. William's plane took several direct hits, and the plane caught fire over the ocean and burst into flames. Eyewitnesses said they saw two parachutes descending from William's plane, but no survivors were ever found. All ten crew members were quickly declared as killed in action. Today William

Bloodgood is honored on the Plates of the Missing at the Brittany American Cemetery in St. James, France, and after his death he was awarded the Purple Heart and the Air Medal. It was discovered later that William Bloodgood had an older brother who also attended Camp, Elwyn L. Bloodgood--from 1929 to 1934--about the same years as William. Elwyn also joined the U.S. Air Corp and served in the same unit as William. Elwyn survived the war and came back to visit in 1993--over fifty years after his brother's death. He was interviewed by *The Wigwam* and said that he often reminisced about his Kawanhee days and cherished the credo, "Always Finish What You Start."

Glenn Goodwin attended through 1942, eight months after the war started. His parents were also staff members, part of the Camp family. Glenn was born in Newton, Massachusetts in 1924; his parents were Charles and Mildred Goodwin, and his younger sister was Joyce. In 1931 the family decided to move to Columbus, Ohio since Mr. Goodwin heard jobs were easier to come by there during the Depression. It was good advice. It wasn't long before Charles got a teaching job at the Columbus Academy. Eventually he became department chairman of the science department, and in 1936 he took a job at Camp to lead Nature. His wife and Glenn also came, and Mildred helped run Nature for years. They also helped administer the Junior C Program, and in 1936 Glenn began the steady, common climb through lodges.

As Glenn spent summer after summer at Camp, he also was enrolled at the Columbus Academy and was a superior student. In his senior year of 1942, he was awarded the prestigious Cum Laude Award with one other student. The Columbus Academy yearbook made it clear that it was the highest honor a senior could attain, and thus he was awarded a full scholarship to Harvard where he majored in Chemistry and attended for three semesters. While there, he was on the Rifle Team, the Freshmen Rowing Team, and was in the Outing Club. Meanwhile, in 1942 Glenn was spending his seventh year at Camp when he had finally reached second year junior counselor status. Today he would have been a senior counselor since he had graduated from high school and was eighteen years old. That year Glenn worked in Trips, helped in Nature, helped run the Junior C Program, and wrote several articles in *The Wigwam*.

Glenn didn't attend Camp in 1943, but in the fall, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and joined a special program geared toward combating a chemical weapon program, believed to be started by Adolf Hitler. Glenn received training at Fort Benning in Georgia. Later the Army believed Hitler was not going to develop a substantial chemical weapon program, so Glenn was switched to the infantry and received more training at Fort Livingston in Louisiana. In September 1944 Glenn was sent to Europe as a replacement soldier in the 28th Infantry Division in the 110th Infantry Regiment and was a Private First Class. In the fall of 1944, he fought in the Battle of the Hurtgen Forest, a tough battle, and when it was over he and his unit were sent to Luxembourg to rest. Glenn was in Company L--part of a thin soldier line that stretched for miles in the Ardennes Forest in Belgium and Luxembourg. What remained of the tired German Army remained close, and many observers thought the war would soon be over, even by Christmas. The Allies weren't going to make that goal, but they were on the verge of entering Germany, and the American front in the Ardennes was preparing for winter and observing the holidays--a difficult time, I'm sure.

The Allied Armies had missed evidence of a massive German Army forming in the Ardennes where Hitler was planning a huge offensive. Unknowingly, Glenn and his unit were on the front lines of this attack, which history would know as the Battle of the Bulge. In the early morning hours of December 16, 1944, the German offensive started with a huge artillery attack followed by tanks and infantry. Glenn's unit was overwhelmed but fought bravely. Company L was not able to regroup until December 20th, and only fourteen of the 184 Company L soldiers could be accounted for. Sadly, Glenn was not one of the survivors. In those days the army made quick decisions on the status of soldiers in battle, and on December 20, 1944, Glenn Goodwin was declared missing in action. The very next day he was declared killed in action. His body has never been found. A few weeks later the U.S. Army tried to identify some of the dead of the Battle of the Bulge using dental records, but Glenn's body was not one of them.

His parents never gave up. They were hoping that he was a prisoner of war and somehow still alive. They did not attend Camp in 1945 because they hoped to get good news about Glenn, although he had been declared killed in action six months earlier. Mrs. Goodwin wrote many letters to some of Glenn's surviving friends in his company. Finally, Mrs. Goodwin received a letter from a fellow soldier telling the family that Glenn died instantly from a head wound and without pain. That seemed to give her and the

family some closure, although some members of the family wondered if that was the true story or if it was an effort by a friend of Glenn's to give some closure to a grieving mother and family. Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin never returned. Occasionally, they still find the remains of German and American soldiers in the Ardennes Forest, but Glenn's remains have never been located.

Glenn is honored at several places. His parents are buried in Cornish, New Hampshire where Mrs. Goodwin was born. Glenn's name is on the burial stone, but there are no remains there. The Columbus Academy gives a Science Award in his honor, and perhaps an alumnus has won the award, not knowing of Glenn's connection. At the Memorial Church at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts Glenn is honored alongside scores of other Harvard classmates who died in the war. One entire wall of the church is used to recognize these students, and sadly many of these honored students didn't get a chance to graduate. Glenn's name is listed under his class of 1946. And finally at the American Cemetery of the Ardennes in Belgium, Glenn's name is listed on the Plates of the Missing.

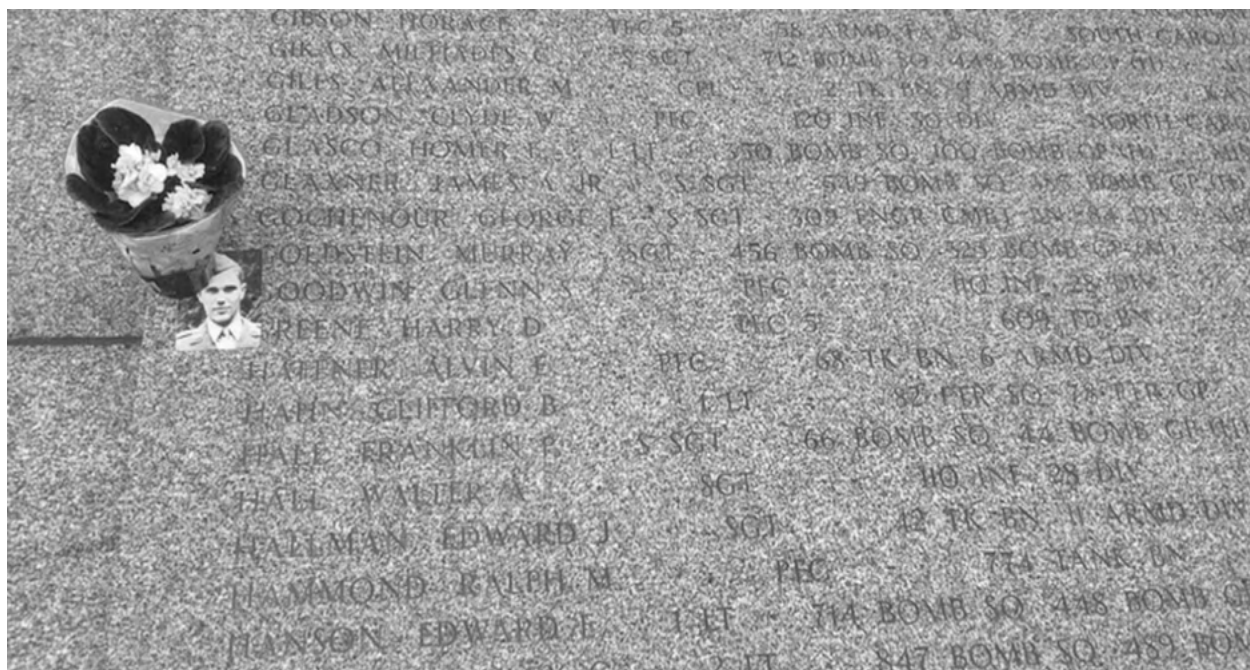
There is a wonderful program in Europe where local citizens can adopt a deceased or missing American soldier. A man named Kristoff De Geyler has adopted Glenn, and as part of the adoption program, Kristoff visits the Plates of the Missing at the American Cemetery of the Ardennes in Belgium. Sometimes he will leave a remembrance next to Glen's name. The story of Glen was unknown to me before starting this project. I thought it would be a nice gesture to honor Glen's seven years at Camp by placing something next to his name at the Plates of the Missing in Belgium--something I hoped would happen in the future as people read my book. Then a miracle happened. This fall I began a new job working at the University of Maine Farmington dining services. As you might imagine, UMF is a small school with a few thousand students, and early in the fall I met a remarkable student named Ilana Lybarger, an American who lives with her family in Brussels, Belgium--an hour from the American Cemetery of the Ardennes. Now what are the odds of that! One thing led to another, and during her holiday break Ilana was able to place a Kawanhee symbol next to Glen's name at the Plates of the Missing. I gave her a large K maroon and grey chenille letter that we had in the Museum. Thanks to Ilana a symbol now lies next to Glen's name symbolizing the seven years he spent at Kawanhee.



Horseback riding became an activity in 1923, but disappeared by the late 1930's



Paddles have always been a coveted award, but the meaning of the stripes has changed over the years



Glenn Goodwin is remembered on the “Plates of the Missing” at the American Cemetery of the Ardennes in Belgium



Charles Goodwin and his wife ran Nature for almost a decade, their son Glenn was a camper and counselor during that time.



Glenn Goodwin left Harvard to enlist in WWII. He was killed at the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium in December 1944.

CHAPTER FIVE

1946-1949: THE POST WAR YEARS

1946 was the first summer since 1941 that Kawanhee operated without the U.S. involved in World War II. It must have been a more relaxing summer. Several staff members in were returning veterans, one Charles Windle, son of Howell Windle--longtime Director of the Range--and grandson of the iconic H.C. Marshall. Charles had been a paratrooper and had helped in the liberation of Berlin. Gordon Williams was Captain of the Maroons in the first post-war summer, and Ben Hadley captained the Greys who won. Ben would be the first of three Hadley brothers who would be Grey Captains.

Also, *The Wigwam* of July 1946 commented on the good health of Ma Frank, and it was reported that she appeared on the first day on her porch in her rocking chair, waving to everyone as they went by. Picture that! She had lived in a retirement home in Dixfield for the winter, never too far from Camp.

Raymond Frank and his family also had some big news that summer as they had decided to live in Weld for the entire year. They had purchased a home on Center Hill, sometimes called Masterman's Hill back then. Raymond had resigned his positions at the First Presbyterian Church in Englewood and hoped to develop winter activities in Weld. He would also make trips to Englewood to recruit campers.

Raymond and his family couldn't move into their home until the fall since there was work to be completed, including plumbing and heating. Kawanhee's cooks, Laurence and Emma Briggs, stayed at Camp to help with the work. While waiting to move into their new home, Raymond, Frannie, and Betty stayed in the cabin at Pine Point, now the home of Mark and Liz Standen. Their time at Pine Point was complicated by the death of Ma Frank in September 1946. Finally, they moved into their new home on October 30th. In the spring Frannie reported that their family had a good winter in Weld, commenting that the winter wasn't bad; the temperature never got below -20. I guess Jersey folks are pretty tough.

Popular ocean trips that first appeared in the 1940s were the Windjammer sailing cruises along the coast. The campers usually left from Camden, Maine stopping at several beautiful coastal spots. There was good news in Sailing with a new Cape Cod Knockabout joining the fleet; she would be the sister boat of the *Sea Gull*. A contest was held to name the new vessel, and the winning entry was from Beaver lodge naming her the *Sea Hawk*.

An interesting sidelight that happened in the 1940s was Diving was considered a separate activity from Swimming but taught under the Swimming umbrella--both under the leadership of the Aquatics Director. There were separate Diving awards given at campfires and at the awards banquet. This separation continued into the 1960s, and Diving is still taught but separate awards are no longer given.

KALICUS

A secret club at Kawanhee? Apparently, it was true in the 1940s. KALICUS was an acronym that stood for *Kawanhee, Attitude, Leaders, Ideals, Charity, Unselfishness, and Service*. To be a member you had to be nominated and elected by the senior counselors. Generally, the members were older campers with all the nominations and elections of members held in secret. A great majority of the campers knew nothing about KALICUS. It was never mentioned at campfire, in the Dining Hall, in *The Wigwam*, or in the yearly catalog. There were weekly meetings with some senior counselors, and the meetings usually took place at a cabin off property. Once elected you stayed a member for as long as you were at Camp.

There is at least one living member of KALICUS--Dr. Richard (Dick) Miller. However, seventy-five years later (He was elected in 1945.) he can't remember much about the club, and because it was secret, there were no public service projects. The meetings were mainly social gatherings with no real agenda. It was an honor to be selected, and members were proud to tell their parents about their inclusion in the club when they got home. George and Raymond felt this would encourage parents to send their sons who had been selected to KALICUS back to Camp the following summer.

It was hard to pin down exactly how long it existed because of its secret nature, but Dick felt it started in the early 1940s and disappeared in the post war years of the late 1940s. Why did it end? There is no definitive answer, but Dick does remember a longtime counselor, Coach Smith, had a son who attended Camp for several years. The son was not elected to KALICUS, and there were rumors that Coach Smith complained. KALICUS disappeared after that. I hope I don't find out that KALICUS still exists and that I'm the only person never to be selected.

1946: HONORING MA FRANK

Although the 1946 season ended on a positive note, there was tragic news a little over one month after Camp ended. Ma Frank's health took a turn for the worse, and she passed away on September 30, 1946. There was a funeral for Ma Frank and later a memorial service. She was buried in Westbrook, Maine alongside Pop Frank and their two children that had both died before their first birthdays.

Kawanhee also decided to further honor Ma Frank by building a new Nature building in her honor. Since the early days, the Nature Department (or Nature Museum) was in a corner in the southern end of the Herbert L. Berry Rec Hall. Today this is where the library is located. Since Ma Frank had a special interest in Nature, a new building would be a perfect tribute, and plans would soon be drawn up. A campaign was started to fund the building through donations of campers, staff, alumni, and friends.

1947: CHANGES AT THE TOP

1947 was another good but quiet season, but there was a major change at the top of the administration. H.C. Chief Marshall had been there since the first camper arrived in 1921, and he had taken on the role of Head Counselor and Director of Activities early on and played the role of the Chief. Because of his yearly appearances as the Chief, Mr. Marshall was always known as Chief. In 1947 he had asked for a summer away and visited family around the country. Kawanhee turned to Dean Ross Miller to take his place. The Dean had always been an inspirational religious leader and served many other roles, so he was a natural choice. Art Keifer, Director of Nature, took over the role of Chief Kawanhee.

There was a unique department head in 1947. Robin Lageman who had been at Camp for several years, was appointed as Sailing Master. Robin was only a junior counselor, probably the only junior counselor to be a department head in history. Also, in 1947 for the first time there was a person other than Ma Frank that filled the important role of Camp Mother; the natural choice was Mrs. Raymond (Frannie) Frank. Two great friends were Captains in 1947--Bill Romey for the Maroons and Dick Stillinger for the Greys--with Maroons winning in a close competition by 300 points. Robert Hadley was the High Point Winner with 615 points.

1948: AN ICEHOUSE, THE GREEN BARN, A BASKETBALL COURT, & AN ACCIDENT

As the summer of 1948 approached, Camp made quite a few physical improvements over the winter. A new Icehouse was built on Pine Point Road, a short distance from Sailing. A new hot water heater, fireplace, and chimney had been added to the Infirmary, and a new storeroom had been built in the Dining Hall cellar. Eventually the new storeroom would house a new large refrigerator. The new Nature Building, a memorial to the late Ma Frank, was almost completed but was delayed because of difficulty in getting materials. The walls were up, the roof was on, the windows in place; yet the doors weren't in and the fireplace just a pile of stones. Hopefully it would be completed soon.

The Dean continued as DOA since Chief Marshall took another summer off. It must have been a special summer for The Dean since his son, Richard (Dick) Miller, was named the Captain of the Maroons, while Charlie Blackwell served as the Grey Captain. A notable new staff member and department head in 1948 was Ben Bennett, a teacher from Columbus, Ohio who would direct Shop. Although he missed a year here and there, he would still be helping direct Shop thru 1964. Remember that Herb Birch, who many of us connect with the Shop, had been at Camp since 1945 but was working in

Campcraft and directing the Boy Scout program. Another new department head in 1948 was Ed Tulloss who would direct Sailing. Ed had been at Camp since 1934 and finally had moved up to a department head. Like many counselors, Ed had served in the Navy during World War II and was a teacher of Radar. He would eventually become the father of our own current Sailing Master, Rees Tulloss.

There was a major camper housing change in 1948 with the Green Barn (a building along Pine Point Road) put into use as a master camper lodge to alleviate the overcrowding in Crow. Badger Lodge did not exist until the 1950s. The Green Barn (known as the Red Barn before it was repainted) pre-dated our founding. As stated, the property along Pine Point Road was not part of the original property, but the land had been acquired in the 1930s.

There was also news on the activity front. The tennis court complex had always been four courts, and leaders decided to turn one into a new basketball court; this was still the physical layout of the tennis/basketball area in the 1960s. The new court was very popular, and a new league was started.

In late July the Ma Frank Memorial Nature Building was finally completed, and it took several weeks for the Nature department to move from the Rec Hall to the new building. Many campers, alumni, and friends had contributed to its construction, under the supervision of chief carpenter Mr. Erlon Berry.

Luckily, for the first twenty-eight years campers had been transported safely over crude Maine roads on the way to isolated locations in the wilderness as they prepared to climb mountains or float down rivers. In August of 1948, our luck ran out. On August 11 the Mount Katahdin trip left with the Camp truck (a pre-World War II Ford) and two accompanying cars. The trip leaders were Bates (Clarence Bateman), Art Keifer, Dean Miller, and a counselor named Donald Wambaugh. As usual, the trip included stops such as the Old Town Canoe Factory and the Old Town Indian Reservation.

As the caravan neared Katahdin, one of the cars had gone ahead to secure reservations. Bates was resting on the passenger side of the truck as he was soon to take over the more challenging drive closer to the mountain. Mr. Wambaugh was driving and had a lot of experience driving heavy trucks including army trucks. As the truck neared the Passadumkeag Stream, it suddenly swerved and went off the road. The truck took out several guard rails and a telephone pole and ended up partially submerged in a few feet of water where it was tipped enough on its side that the undercarriage was visible to people passing by. One or two boys had been thrown from the truck, and people quickly got all the boys out of the truck.

Mr. Wambaugh and Bates had some injuries, but they stayed in the water helping rescue campers. A nurse soon reached the scene, and vehicles passing by helped take many of campers to the office of Dr. William White in the nearby town of Howland. Several boys were injured more seriously, and they were transported to the Eastern Maine General Hospital in Bangor. After visiting Dr. White, these boys were taken to a smaller hospital in Lincoln for x-rays and a more complete analysis of any injuries.

Before long the Maine State Police arrived to take charge of the accident scene. Soon, a caravan of cars arrived from Kawanhee and the Inn (including George Frank) to transport all boys back to Camp. Five boys remained hospitalized, two in the Lincoln Hospital and three in the Eastern Maine General Hospital. The most seriously injured was camper Robert Hadley who had a broken jaw and other head wounds. For one night he was placed on the danger list but was taken off the list the following day. He was still hospitalized when *The Wigwam* describing the accident was published ten days later. A camper named Clive Day had leg lacerations and remained hospitalized for several days. The other three campers were released the next day and returned to camp.

It was interesting to read *The Wigwam* article on the accident; some of the reporting was to deny rumors that had been circulating afterwards. It was denied that the driver had fallen asleep at the wheel, and George Frank made a statement that no person was to blame for the accident. *The Wigwam* also disputed rumors that some boys were knocked unconscious (none were) or that the drop-off from the road to the stream was thirty-five feet; it was only ten to twelve feet. *The Wigwam* said the momentum of the truck may have carried it thirty-five feet. Obviously, the accident was one of the most serious incidents in history up to that point. There was one more issue of *The Wigwam* after the accident, and there was no mention of it. We don't know what happened to the Ford truck (There was a new truck in 1949.) or how long Robert Hadley was hospitalized. Must've been some angels on our side that fateful day.

After the accident, it was calmer the last few weeks. On August 24 Camp met for the awards program, and it was a normal awards ceremony until the very end. Of course, the final part of the ceremony was the announcement of the Maroon-Grey score--very tense since the lead changed four times during the summer. The Greys had led by only 846 ½ points before the awards. When the final score was announced, it shocked the audience. It was a tie--16, 632 to 16, 632! Hopefully both captains, Dick Miller and Charlie Blackwell, were thrown in the lake! As you might guess, it is the only tie in history, although there was once a difference of just fifteen points (one first level) in 1965 and a few other close races. Bill Fleming was announced as the High Point Winner with 784 points. There were still some restrictions on points, so Bill could only earn 600 points in achievement levels but got other points for tournaments. One of the other earlier changes in the point system was to do away with the High Point Winner award, but apparently that had been rescinded since *The Wigwam* described Bill as the High Point Winner--not shocking as he had been ranked second in points in 1947. In the end, 1948 had been quite an eventful year--for good and bad reasons--and campers must have taken a deep breath as they headed home.

1949: AHOY MONHEGAN, LEGACY NAMES, & PETER FONDA IN THE HOUSE

Another large group of campers attended in 1949 with Dean Ross Miller serving as Head Counselor and DOA for the third straight summer. Robert Hadley, who had fully recovered from injuries from the accident, would serve as captain of the Greys with Merrill Sproul, captain of the Maroons. During the awards of 1949 there was a bit of a snafu. Junior A camper, Terry Vermalye, was announced as the High Point Winner with 516 points. Unfortunately, a mistake had been made, and Steve Miller was the High Point Winner with 535 points. This mistake was corrected but not until after the ceremony. I imagine it's quite a difficult task counting all those points, dear Brother.

It was an historic year in Tripping since it was the very first Monhegan Island trip. Some of the activities of that first trip will sound familiar to scores of alumni--deep sea fishing (perhaps many seasick type memories), a visit to shipwrecks on shore, and a visit to the Hermit on Manana Island. *The Wigwam* described that the campers were transported to the coast in a "spacious new Camp truck" with Raymond Frank as the driver; important changes in transportation had been made since the accident of 1948. The popular Windjammer sailing cruise also continued. Also, senior campers got to go Popham Beach

A few weeks after Monhegan, we received a bunch of letters from island residents complimenting Camp on its behavior and manners. One letter said, "Your camp group made a fine impression during their stay here and will always be welcome on the island." That spirit of welcoming us to Monhegan has continued for over seventy years. As of 2019, we are still the only Camp allowed to camp on the island. Fortunately, the Katahdin trip took place again in 1949 despite the failed trip the year before.

One familiar name that appeared in 1949 is Henry (Bud) Sengelmann who would serve for many years and eventually become a highly regarded physician in Columbus, Ohio. The trees outside our current Dining Hall were planted by Dr. Sengelmann, and today a plaque honors his gift of trees. He also supported Camp in other ways by recruiting campers through his medical practice. His brother Bob also attended, and in the late 1970s they combined resources to buy some property across the lake that people feared might be developed, an area called Little Echo and Big Echo. Today Dr. Sengelmann's memorial stone rests there and faces Camp. Two of Dr. Sengelmann's sons, Mark and Jeff, would become great counselors. Mark married Julie Green, Liz Standen's sister, at our outdoor Chapel at Council Point--another lasting Kawanhee marriage. They raised a family that included another generation of campers and counselors. Jeff also sent a son to Camp. Dr. Sengelmann's daughter, Karen, worked at the Inn.

Henry P. "Butch" O'Neill's name also shows up quite a bit in *The Wigwams* of 1949. Today he is still involved as a board member of the Frank Foundation, and his children Brenden and Shane and grandchildren Quinn and Griffin also attended. Butch is a great lover of the Duke, and at one Saturday campfire a few years ago he ran through Council Point dressed as the Duke, complete with a cape.

In 1949 a new program was introduced in Shop. Campers had the opportunity to build and maintain small electric motors, and the program was very popular. For a few summers in the post war era there was

a different Sailing master every season, but in 1949 Sailing got some stability. A first-year senior counselor, Dick Miller, took over and would remain Master for the next four years.

A very notorious camper who attended in 1949 was Peter Fonda, son of one of the greatest American actors, Henry Fonda. Over the years there have been stories about Peter and his stay at Camp; most of the stories aren't true. One story is that his sister, Jane Fonda, came to help drop him off and attended a Weld town dance. Another is that his famous father flew into Camp on a seaplane and gave his misbehaving son a spanking at the end of the swimming docks and then flew out. Both of those stories are not true.

But what is true is that Peter was recruited by a former camper named Jones Harris who had attended in 1940 and 1941. Jones also came from a parent in the movie and theatre business, famed actress Ruth Gordon who earned the Academy Award for *Rosemary's Baby* and who starred in the cult classic *Harold and Maude*, among other movies. Jones still has warm memories of Kawanhee and in 1949 helped steer the Fonda family toward Camp. Sure enough Peter was signed up for the 1949 season. Today, Jones Harris lives in New York City at the age of 92--the oldest living camper as of this writing. Only Bill Myers, who recently died at 98 was older. Jones hopes to attend the Centennial.

At the beginning of the season things did not go well for Peter. He displayed challenging behaviors. He was originally placed in Panther Lodge but was switched to Pine Tree where Roy Nickerson was senior counselor. The former professional boxer was stern with Peter in a loving kind of way. According to Roy's daughter, Jane Standen, Peter attached himself to Nick (Roy's nickname) the remainder of the summer. Peter is mentioned as being honored with a Nature award. An earlier issue of *The Wigwam* had a short description of a homemade floating dock that Peter and another camper had made.

Peter Fonda went on to have his own career as an actor and is probably best remembered for his cult film *Easy Rider* in 1969. He also has a claim to fame that no other camper can allege as he inspired a lyric in a Beatles song. Being the son of Henry Fonda allowed Peter to socialize in different circles, Hollywood types, I'm sure. A few years after being at Kawanhee, Peter Fonda accidentally shot himself in the abdomen, almost died, but slowly recovered. He later shared this story with John Lennon who then wrote a song with George Harrison for the *Revolver* album entitled *She Said She Said*. John Lennon couldn't get the story out of his mind, so it must have made some impact on him. When the two infamous Beatles wrote the song, they decided to change the lyrics from the viewpoint of a male to a female: "She said, I know what it's like to be dead," repeated several times in the song. Full disclosure: the writing of this song involved some illicit drug use--not shocking--but still intriguing that a camper once inspired a Beatles song. Peter only came for one summer, but nonetheless, it's cool that the Easy Rider rode through Camp long ago. He recently died in 2019.

The second of the three Hadley brothers, Robert (who had been injured in the accident) became the Grey captain in 1949 with Merrill Sproul as the Maroon captain. Just like his brother Ben, Robert Hadley was a winning captain. And the tradition of brothers and captains continues to this day.



Dr. Carl Elmore was Raymond's minister at the First Presbyterian church in Englewood, N.J. His wife, Amelia Josephine Burr Elmore was a well-known poet and a direct descendent of Aaron Burr.



Lawrence Briggs was our chef from 1930-1950, his wife Emma was the pastry chef for 30 years.



The original 1930 era Ford Camp Truck. This truck was involved in a serious accident in 1948 as a camp group neared Mt. Katahdin. All campers and counselors returned safely.



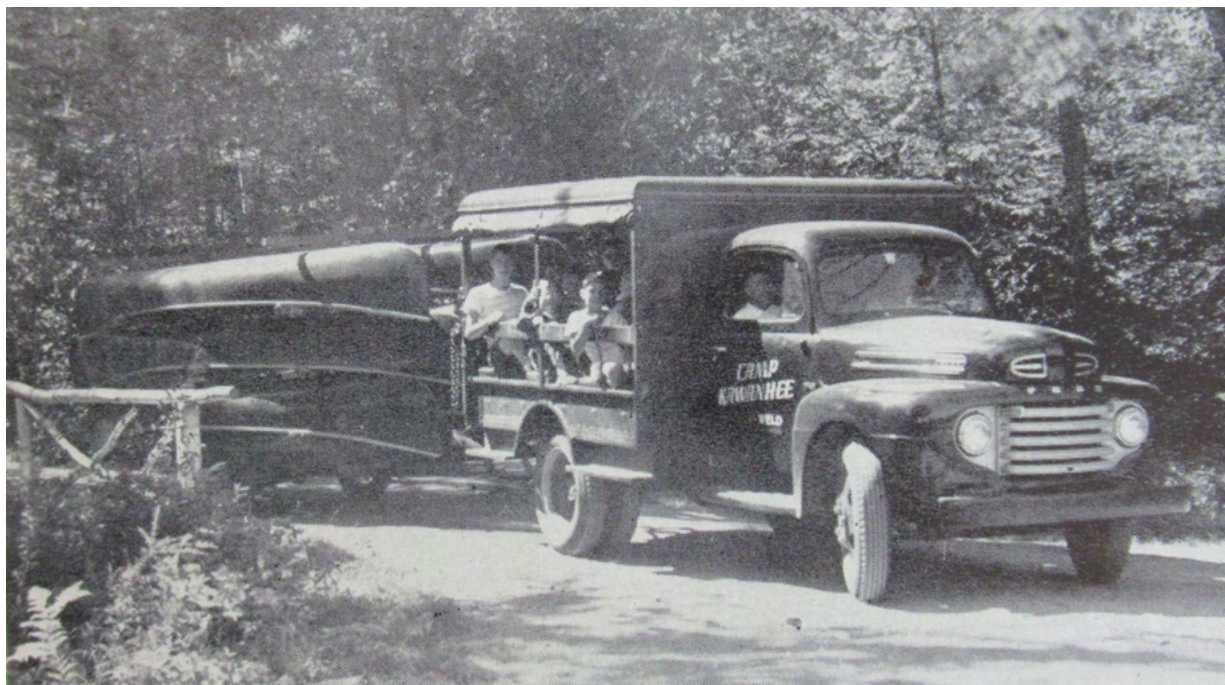
Roy "Nick" Nickerson was Director of Boating, Athletics and the Range, he is the grandfather of Mark and Mike Standen.



Herb Birch, from Tenaflly NJ, first came to camp in 1945 to work in scouting and campcraft. He would eventually serve as Assistant Director, Head Sachem and Director of Eastern recruiting.



The actor Peter Fonda, son of Henry Fonda, attended camp for one summer in 1948. He is pictured here in the center.



A new Ford truck debuted in 1949 and would serve the camp well for 20 years.



Dick "Millings" Miller, son of the Dean Ross Miller, was the Maroon Captain in 1948, it would be a memorable summer with the only Maroon-Grey tie in history.

CHAPTER SIX

The 1950s: MOSTLY HAPPY DAYS CONTINUE AT CAMP

In 1950 we celebrated our 30th year anniversary. The Dean returned to be Head Counselor and Director of Activities, and a new counselor Ed Chace, an educator from New Jersey, was assigned to work in Campcraft, Trips, and Scouting. John Pop Nowald, who had been at Camp from 1943-1947, returned after three summers spent at home in Columbus, Ohio. In future years, Pop would eventually become the DOA. At the end of the 1950 season, there was concern about George Frank's health as he had become ill in the last week and was placed in the Rumford Hospital. He missed most of the activities that traditionally took place the last week, and he remained in the hospital for a week and improved with rest.

It appears from reading issues of *The Wigwam* that in 1950 Camp was still struggling with the achievement level system since the administration felt the boys were earning levels just to get points. Campers could still earn additional points by winning tournaments or attaining some other goal, and one could even get points by writing an article for *The Wigwam*. In 1950, something new was put in place with the current achievement system that had only three levels. Each activity had to develop a challenging, fourth level in each division. If you passed the new fourth level, you didn't get points, but you received a large, maroon colored *K* letter made of chenille fabric, designed to be put on sweaters or jackets. Maybe we should bring those back!

As the campers gathered for the season there was some very sad news. A camper that had attended for four years and who was signed up for his fifth, Don Johnson, was tragically killed in a traffic accident in Englewood, New Jersey just a few days before he was to leave for Camp. On the night of the *Coming of the Chief*, the campers gathered in the Rec Hall for a memorial service led by The Dean Ross Miller.

As written above, another veteran staff assembled to greet campers, but there are other staff members who deserve mention. Carl Spangler was in his eighth year, was Director of Baseball, and was also in charge of the achievement level system. Carl's assistant in Athletics was Charles Barkwill--the Grey Captain in 1948-- and in his sixth summer. He was called The Admiral. David Logan was an assistant in Nature and in his sixth season, and Dick Webber was back for his second year to lead Aquatics.

Roy Nickerson, nicknamed Nick, who had directed Boating and Canoeing since he arrived in 1944, switched to directing the Athletic program in 1950. It had always been wonderful to welcome back counselors whose life went in a different direction for a while but later were able to return. But in 1950 Richard Spence took it to a new level. His first season had been in 1928, but then he took twelve years off and then returned for one summer in 1940. He then took another nine years off and returned in 1949. And in 1950 for the first time in over 20 years, Richard Spence spent two consecutive summers at Kawanhee! That summer, Richard helped in Shop. Another returnee was Lawrence Bugbee who had been here from 1936 until 1942, but he returned after an absence of eight years when he helped in Trips. No matter how long one is away for, Kawanhee will always be near and dear, like family.

Bob Appelton (Greys) and Jock Duncan (Maroons) were captains. Jock was the patriarch of the Duncan family at Kawanhee, and in future years several generations would attend, and many were captains--another instance of the brotherly captain tradition. The Greys edged the Maroons by less than 200 points, and a first-year camper, Bob Gaston, was the High Point Winner with 651½ points.

1951: A NEW FORT, A GLEE CLUB, & PET FAWNS

After campers left in 1950, our cook, Laurence Briggs, displayed he also had woodworking skills. He dismantled the Fort and began building a new one in the late fall and late spring of 1951 and finished in time for the 1951 season. The biggest single improvement of the new Fort was the new showers--hooray!

For several years in the late 1940s we had a group of singers called the Glee Club, started by counselor Joe Seldon. Sadly, Joe was killed in an automobile/train crash a few years later. They performed at Church and Camp shows, but by 1951 the Club had not existed for a few years. It just needed a good

leader to revive it, so in 1951 they found the person--Bud Sengelmann--who led the Club for several summers, and by the mid 1950s the Glee Club consisted of almost 50 campers! Picture that!

There was some sad news in 1951. In the off season a staff member named Morse Burris died at his home in Englewood, New Jersey. Morse had been at Camp for thirteen summers and operated the Camp Store and Post Office. Campers and staff remembered his kindness and very unselfish, humble demeanor.

In 1951 we became involved in a unique program. Pet fawns became part of the Camp population. The fawns originated from the Beck family farm, located about twenty miles from Camp near Farmington. The fawns were orphans, and originally the Beck family raised the fawns until they could go back to the wild where they were released in Baxter State Park and protected since hunting wasn't allowed there. The first fawn arrived at Camp that summer, and campers voted on naming the fawn. The two final choices were Wanhee and Bambi, but Wanhee was chosen--good choice. For several summers the fawns continued to be part of Camp life with campers taking turns bottle feeding them and caring for them. By the mid to late 1950s the fawns had all but disappeared. One of the last fawns was named Wanahee II. I wonder why that name stuck around.

1951 was also noteworthy because the Maroon-Grey final score total was the second greatest in history. The only year that beat 1951 was 1943 when there were few trips because of World War II gas rationing. One of the reasons it was so high was that Camp began awarding points for completed achievement plaques--300 points for completing a plaque in one year, 200 for two years, and 100 for three years. A Junior B camper, Tony Hirsch, was the High Point Winner mainly because he completed his plaque in one year. The two captains, Herb Hedges and Byron Ford, were also given credit for creating a lot of spirit for the team competition. Gotta love that Camp spirit.

At the awards ceremony there were the usual ribbons and awards and a few new, special awards. The Sailing Department gave a special award in honor of a former Sailing Master, Robert J. Page. The first person to win was Ernie Johanson who would return for several seasons and continue as a valued counselor of Sailing. The Fishing department gave a new award for the Best Fisherman, yet *The Wigwam* ironically noted that fishing on Lake Webb was the worst in the history of Kawanee.

1952: SAD NEWS IN THE KITCHEN, BOXING KNOCKED OUT, & MR. BIRCH IN SHOP

The season got off to a very rough start before campers arrived. Laurence and Emma Briggs had operated the Kitchen since 1932. They were somewhat local, living in Madison, Maine in the winter. Laurence had been called away during the war to serve in the Coast Guard in Bath, Maine. Other than that, they had served faithfully for twenty years. They arrived on June 2 and got busy getting the Kitchen ready. After dinner on June 5 Laurence said he didn't feel well and retired for the evening. Sometime after midnight, he had a severe heart attack and sadly died. The funeral services were held in Madison on June 8 with Dr. Carl Elmore, one of our spiritual leaders, conducting the service. Emma gratefully decided to carry on as Chef, and Susan Weld of Dixfield was hired to help after Laurence's passing.

There was also good news on the staffing front with H.C. Chief Marshall returning after being away for five years. As reported earlier, H.C. was one of the original staff members in 1921 and had been Head Counselor and DOA for the first twenty-five years. In 1947, he had stepped away from, but now he was retired and living in Dayton, Ohio and felt Kawanee would again be part of his life. The Dean, who had been Head Counselor in Chief Marshall's absence, was now Personal Director. Although Chief Marshall returned as Head Counselor, Art Keifer (head of Nature) would continue as the Chief.

There were also two more notable staffing decisions. After twenty-nine summers, Campbell Scarlett stepped aside as editor of *The Wigwam*. Recall that he was also editor of the former Camp newsletter, *The Kawanian*. Ken Beck became the new editor, but Campbell stayed involved as an advisor.

In 1952 Herb Birch moved from Campcraft and Scouting (after seven years) to Director of Shop. This was a natural position for Herb since he was an Industrial Arts teacher at Tenafly Junior HS in New Jersey. He would go on to a long and distinguished career as Assistant Director and Chief Recruiter for the NY/NJ area. He also started the daily Polar Bear swim tradition that continues in his honor with a Polar Bear statue erected in his memory.

A tradition was revived in the summer of 1952--the junior counselor vs. senior counselor softball games. The games continue as part of Camp life. We also continued to compete against local teams in sports and activities, and in 1952 we competed against the Farmington Boys Club. The Kawanhee team wondered what kind of boys they were when the team was escorted into Camp by the Maine State Police! Turns out the police were the fathers of some of the Farmington boys. The two competitions were in Range and Baseball, and we won both. Oh yeah!

After being part of our program since 1921, Boxing got knocked out as an activity in 1952. Brian Birch, son of Herb Birch, would go on to have a great career and was one of the last ribbon winners in Boxing, winning the runner up ribbon for Junior As. There are tales of an injury in Boxing that year, and that is why it was dropped, but nothing that can be proven factually. Last, Chuck Robinson led the Maroons and Dick Harris the Greys.

1953: EXPANDING ENROLLMENT, EXPANDING FACILITIES

1953 was a noteworthy summer for a couple of reasons. First, Camp had the highest enrollment in history with 135 campers, and with additional staff the total population came to nearly 175--twenty-five percent higher than any other year. The season of 1953 was a good one. It wasn't surprising that with a larger enrollment the High Point Winner, Ben McCoy, had the highest total in history--1250 points. Six other campers had also broken the 1000-point barrier. Although *The Wigwam* or catalog didn't mention it, earlier restrictions on points had been eliminated.

As this busy summer approached, the Directors realized the need to expand to handle an increased population. First came a new lodge, and with space between Pine Tree and Deer, they built Hawk--the first new lodge since the 1920s. The Green Barn was turned into a lodge a few years earlier, but the building had already existed. It was decided to make some physical improvements to it with a new floor, new windows, and screening and lights. Most importantly a new washroom was added with toilet facilities. With a two-car garage and toilets, the Green Barn became the green envy of younger campers aspiring to become master campers one day and live with such privilege. It was decided that the Green Barn should have a name more in line with other lodges, so it was renamed Bear Lodge. Also, the south end of the Dining Hall was expanded to create space for four more tables, making dining more pleasant.

There were also staff changes that summer. Art Keifer decided not to return as Director of Nature and Chief Kawanhee. A college professor from New Jersey, Forrest Dexter, took over in Nature and would end up serving Camp for many years. To take over the role of Chief, Camp turned to Ed Chace, Campcraft Director, and he would portray the Chief for many years. He will always be remembered for his deep, grave voice which was perfectly suited for the role. *The Wigwam* also highlighted that Brian Birch would serve as Camp Bugler, and he would go on to a very long career (missing several years while in the U.S. Navy) including helping run the Shop and fulfilling many other duties.

Another new staffer in 1953 was Del Tracy, Scorekeeper, who also worked in Baseball. Eventually he would become Director of Athletics, then Director of Activities and serve for years. Mary Baker, a teacher at West HS in Columbus, Ohio was another new staff member that summer. One can assume she was recruited by Bates who also taught there. Little did Mary know in 1953 that many years later she would become George Frank's second wife.

Baseball leagues were changed again with the Junior Cs having their own league called the Junior League, the Junior Bs would be the Intermediate League, and older boys would have a six team Senior League. In the early to mid 1950s, we started to play a baseball game against a team from Weld; we usually won. In future years we played against a team from Dixfield; we often lost. These games continued the tradition of playing sports against teams from towns near Camp. Another renaming took place with the Junior Cs (the youngest campers) being called Junior Cubs, later the Junior B Cubs, but years in the future, they would go back to being Junior Cs.

A significant part of Kawanhee in the mid 1950s was the Glee Club, and as the catalog picture shows, it was very large and led by staff member Herb Yenser. The Club delighted audiences at Church services

and other ceremonies. John Waterfall led the Maroons, and Dave Earle was the Grey Captain leading them to the win scoring over 30,000 points--the highest score in history up to that point.

1954: TRIPS BUILDS MOUNT BLUEBERRY TRAIL & TOO MUCH CANDY & SNACKS!??

1954 saw another record enrollment with 141 boys. H.C. Marshall was back again as DOA with a new staff member, Leo Staley, hired as his Assistant. He came very qualified as the Director of Intramural Sports at OSU. A lot of veteran counselors were back including Bates (Trips), Herb Birch (Shop), Howell Windle (Range), Forrest Dexter (Nature), Roy Nickerson (Boating/Range), Ed Chace (Campcraft), and The Dean (Storytelling, Campcraft, Camp Devotions).

After a few summers away, Campbell Scarlett was also back for his thirty-first summer as Editor of *The Wigwam*, but after two decades of writing *The Log*, he decided he needed a break--understandable from the author's point of view! A young staff member, George Kraft, took over *The Log*, but it appears from my research that it was a one-year duty since in future catalogs he was listed as a staff member and not author of *The Log*. I believe *The Log* disappeared after the summer of 1954, and there was no *Log* when I first came in 1964. Bill Yardley revived it in 1973, and it was still in place when I returned in 1974 after serving in the US Army. In retrospect George Kraft was in a tough spot when he replaced Campbell Scarlett who had written *The Log* for well over twenty years--a hard act to follow I must say as the current author of *The Log*. Smiley face inserted here.

There were some other veteran counselors who were also part of the staff including Irv Bouton (thirteen-year veteran & Head of Tennis), Ray Brown (seven summers in Athletics), Herb Brown (ten summers in Shop and Dramatics), and Herb Hedges (eleven years in Archery). 1954 also saw the return of three counselors who had been gone for a few years including Henry Blau, Ed Hamblin, and Ben Bennett. Jim Murphy was Captain of the Maroons that year and has often visited in recent years, attending several reunions. He recently passed away. The Captain of the Greys, Bill Hadley (the third Hadley brother to be Captain of the Greys--Ben 1946 and Robert 1949) couldn't bring home the victory. John Teichert was High Point Winner with 1025 points.

A mid-season edition of *The Wigwam* highlighted a growing problem with too many campers getting packages from home filled with candy and snacks. Of course, this was the only time in history that this issue reared its head at Kawanhee--sarcasm alert. The directors (through *The Wigwam*) asked parents to please not send so many packages filled with sugary snacks but made it clear they would not stand in the way of birthday packages. In the article the directors proposed a question, and if a parent could answer yes, they could send the package. "Will the contents of the package serve any real need at Camp?" Good question. There is no record of how this affected the sending of packages that season, but the same article was printed in the first issue for the next few summers.

Every summer campers climbed most of the local mountains. We are so lucky to be so close to a great mountain climbing region. One local mountain that was not climbed much in the early days was Blueberry, having no officially marked trail. In 1953 the Trip department decided to change that with counselors and staff hiking the mountain and blazing a trail, the expedition led by Dean Miller and several counselors. It was a tough trip, and the trail didn't quite get finished, but in 1954 another expedition finished the trail. Since 1954 there has been a marked trail up Blueberry Mountain thanks to Camp.

1955: SNOWFALL COLLAPSES THE REC HALL, JMG STARTS, A NEW COUNCIL POINT

During the winter of 1955-1956, western Maine had its normally challenging winter. At one point the snowpack turned icy creating more weight--a constant danger in Maine winters often causing wooden roofs to collapse. Unfortunately, during this winter the Rec Hall roof collapsed with the main part suffering minor damage, but the dormers and windows were destroyed. With the collapse, the war canoes were destroyed--a significant event since we would not have war canoes again until thirty years later. The Rec Hall was repaired in time to open. During the 2018-2019 Rec Hall renovation, the dormers and windows were replaced to restore the building to its original 1924 construction.

As the season started, a new lodge was added to help with enrollment. Luckily, a new building didn't have to be constructed. A small lodge was carved out of the south side of the Sailing building and would house a group of master campers and two counselors. Of course, we all know this lodge as Badger--not its name in 1955. We don't know how they came up with the name, but back then it was called Bucks Lodge.

Another new physical change for 1955 was the enlargement of Council Point, though not planned; it was the result of Hurricane Carol that ripped through New England in autumn of 1954. We lost many trees including several tall pines around Council Point. In spring, the trees and stumps were removed, and we were left with a bigger Council Point.

H.C. Marshall decided to take another year away in 1955, and Pop Nowold was the new DOA. Pop had worked in a variety of positions in his career and in 1955 moved to the top of the staffing tree. A lot of the veteran staff members were also back--Bates, Herb Birch, Ben Bennett, Forest Dexter, Howell Windle, Ed Chace, Jock Duncan, The Dean, Roy Nickerson, Campbell Scarlett, Del Tracy, Dr. Carl Elmore, and a score of other veterans who had less experience. Even after the unfortunate death of her husband Laurence (Head Cook), Emma Briggs continued to be the Cook with the able assistance of Sue Weld. One of the captains in 1955 was Fred Hoster who still visits and stays involved.

1955 was an historic year as it was the first year for the Junior Maine Guide (JMG) program. The catalog of 1956 was careful to point out, as we still do today, that a camper usually takes two or three summers to pass JMG. In 1955 Kawanhee sent six campers to a testing camp, and it was great news when it was announced that junior counselor, Art Downey, passed in his first summer and became the first successful JMG candidate in history. In those days all successful JMG candidates were invited to the Maine Statehouse and received their certificate from the Governor, and so Art received his certificate from Governor Edmund Muskie. Truly a great honor!

History was made yet again at the conclusion of the season when Ben McCoy was High Point Winner again--previously winning the honor in 1953--and becoming the second camper in history to be High Point Winner in two different years. Duke Lutz had accomplished the feat in successive years in 1929 and 1930. However, Ben was High Point Winner in 1953 and 1955 during the entire Camp summer. In 1930 Duke Lutz was High Point Winner during the entire summer but in 1929 was only High Point Winner for the Junior As--still incredible, nonetheless. A second-generation camper, Fred Hoster, mentioned earlier, was Captain of the Maroons that year.

1956: BADGER LODGE ARRIVES, AND A FIRE IN THE END

The summer of 1956 got off to a good start but would not end well. Pop Nowold returned as DOA, and H.C. Marshall was back after one year away. He was eighty-three years old but still a valuable member of the staff. Instead of being DOA as he had been, he served as a counselor in Boating. Most of the veteran staff returned, almost identical to 1955. Roy Nickerson took a more active role in Range because the longtime Director of Range, Howell Windle, had to miss the first month. The Dean and Mrs. Miller missed some time at the beginning because their son Dick Miller, a Captain in 1948, got married on July 7 and spent his honeymoon with his wife, Joan, at Raymond and Frannie's house on Center Hill.

Apparently, the name for the new lodge, Bucks, lasted only one summer, and it's still unclear how that name was chosen. In 1956 the name was changed to Badger Lodge, still in place today. Also, 1956 was an active and good summer for campers as many levels were passed and many great trips took place.

Although we had Track and Field meets every two weeks, Track had somewhat of a different evolution as an activity. In the 1920s, Track and Field gave end of the summer awards, published in the catalog. You may remember that Doug Vincent, the young camper who died in New York in 1927 and who had the new Shop Building named after him, was the winner of the 50-yard dash in his weight class in the mid 1920s. But after a few years, Track disappeared in the listing of ribbon award winners, but the meets still went on; it just wasn't considered a regular morning activity. However, in 1956 Track began to be listed again as an activity that gave awards, so one can assume it was a scheduled activity in the late 1950s. In 1964 when the author began his career, Track and Field was a regularly scheduled activity and was located where the edge of the soccer field is today, close to the road that goes up to Abbott Lodge.

There was a broad jump runway, a jumping board and pit, a high jump pit, a pole vault area (Though we are not sure if we had pole vault every summer.), and we used an open space near these events to throw a shot put and run dashes. We might have also thrown discus, but it's unclear. The activity schedule was done by hand in those days (Imagine how difficult that was.), and a camper always had Tennis and Track and Field in successive activity periods since they were located next to each other.

We sent campers to the JMG testing camp for the second year. Six campers went, and three passed! Brothers Mike and Bob Mathews passed in their second year. We had another candidate, John Pethick, pass in his first year, failing only one test. Even in 1955 and 1956, Kawanhee showed great respect for the accomplishment of passing JMG by making it worth 200 Maroon-Grey points. However, awarding of points was done differently. If you passed your first year, you received all 200 points. But non-successful candidates got a portion of the 200 points based on the number of tests they had passed. When you passed JMG, second- and third-year successful candidates received the balance of the 200 points.

As stated, the summer of 1956 ended on a dour note. First, Raymond Frank was hospitalized on August 8 being admitted to the Rumford Hospital with inflammation of the diaphragm and pleurisy, but he was slowly recovering. At the Glee Club concert at the end of the season (Raymond was the usual accompanist for the Glee Club.), a tape recording was made and given to Raymond in the hospital; he was released on August 21 and continued his recovery.

At the awards ceremony on the last full day of Camp in 1956, everyone was in a typically good mood, and there was great excitement when it was announced that 1956 had produced the largest number of campers in history who qualified for the high point list. In those days you had to score at least 400 points to make the list, and in 1956, sixty-four campers made the list. John Fung, a second year Junior B camper, was High Point Winner with 855 points, and another camper receiving special recognition was John Teichert who was the first since 1951 to qualify as an Expert Rifleman. And in the final minutes of the awards ceremony, it was revealed that the Maroons had edged the Greys, with Mike Mathews Captain of the Maroons and Lee Smith Captain of the Greys. A steady rain fell in the evening after awards, and it was decided that the *Going of the Chief* ceremony would be cancelled. Instead, Camp gathered in the Rec Hall, slides of the season were shown, and Dean Miller told the story *Les Misérables*. The message of the 1956 Sachems to the campers of 1957 would not be read since the *Going of the Chief* ceremony had not been officially held. It would be read at the *Coming of the Chief* ceremony in 1957.

After leaving the Rec Hall, campers headed to their lodges to spend the last night. All bags had been packed for the trip home. However, it would end up being a tragic night. At 4AM a fire started in Bear Lodge (old Green Barn) on Pine Point Road. It originated in the pump room shed on the north side of the building. Del Tracy, a senior counselor, quickly woke all lodge members, and most of the belongings were rescued because they had been packed in trunks. Even the cars in the garage had been moved.

The bell was rung constantly as an alarm for the town of Weld. By this time, the fire had spread to the main part of the building. The pump shed exploded, throwing sparks into the woods. The Weld Volunteer Fire Department arrived soon, and everything was under control by 5AM. Bear Lodge campers spent the last few hours of their season in the Infirmary or in Pine Lodge across from the Inn. The building was a total loss. A cause was never discovered, but the fire department felt it was some electrical or mechanical failure in the pump shed. The Green Barn had been a great building for most of our history. It had predated the founding of Camp and became part of our property when the land and buildings on Pine Point Road had been purchased in 1938. It must have been sad to lose the building that night, but fortunately nobody was hurt--another guardian angel on our side. There had been one other fire in our history; an outpost shack burned on Sunday Beach in the 1940s. Unfortunately, it would not be our last fire.

1957: BEAR LODGE, GAME ON WITH LITTLE LEAGUE & WATER-SKIING DEBUTS

1957 started with the addition of another new lodge, the third new one in the 1950s, built to replace the Bear Lodge/ Green Barn that had burned down. In the last issue of *The Wigwam* in 1956, there was an article on the fire and a promise that a new lodge would be built on the site of the fire, but this was not

done. It was decided to build a new lodge closer to the other lodges, and since this lodge would house older boys, it was built on the senior side. Also, there was no more room on the junior side.

It was built on a hill south of the Wildcat Lodge and some distance from the Webb shoreline. The floor of the new lodge was laid in the fall of 1956, and the remainder was constructed in the spring and completed June 20, 1957. *The Wigwam* touted the new lodge at 37 feet by 21 feet, the largest. Because the lodge was on a hill, and thanks to clearing of trees, it had a nice lake view and was the first lodge to be built away from the shoreline. In honor of the Green Barn, renamed Bear Lodge, the new lodge was christened Bear Lodge, and it was decided that the site of the Green Barn would be a small parking lot.

There was unhappy news as the staff and campers gathered for the season. Dr. Carl Elmore who had been an inspiring spiritual leader since 1942 was ill and decided to spend the summer in Florida. He would never recover, and the Camp family was saddened to hear of his death in October.

In 1957 a great career came to an end. Chief Marshall decided not to return, notable since he was a member of the very first staff in 1921. He would eventually become head counselor and DOA for twenty-five years and portrayed the Chief for those years, thus earning his nickname. He had taken some years off but came back after a five-year absence and resumed as head counselor role for a few summers. After one more summer away, he returned in 1956 as a Boating counselor. He was well into his 80s by then, and one can assume he felt it was time to enjoy a full retirement. His Kawanhee roots run deep. His son Rafe had served for over a decade as a Riding instructor, and his daughter married Howell Windle, Director of Range from 1934-1956. Howell had also stepped away in 1957, and despite not being involved directly that summer, most of the family was still in Weld vacationing at their cabin.

The staff of 1957 was another veteran staff--Pop Nowald as DOA, The Dean as Camp Chaplin, Bates in Trips, Herb Birch and Ben Bennett in Shop, Ernie Johnson and Mike Smith in Sailing, Del Tracy in Athletics, Forest Dexter in Nature, David Fergus (a 10-year veteran) ran the Camp Store, Ed Chase in Campcraft and as the Chief, Ed Hamblin in Boating, Campbell Scarlett as Editor of *The Wigwam*, Roy Nickerson in Range, and Gardiner Defoe and Jack Welden in Aquatics. Another staff member who was here through the 1950s was Jay Sanders in Sailing.

A few other notable names were Robert Duffey and Big John Detrick. Bob Duffey had been at Kawanhee from 1938-1946 and had been one of the most flexible of all staff members. He had worked in Shop, Archery, and Tennis and had been away for ten years, returning in 1957 where he would oversee Archery. Mr. Duffey was a teacher/coach at Bexley High School in Ohio. His son Jim also spent much of his youth at Camp. John Detrick had spent two summers before returning in 1957 when he worked in Shop. He was just starting out a career that would lead him to the Columbus Academy, and Big John would become a much larger part of our future.

The baseball leagues evolved even more with the introduction of Little League, and it proved to be very popular and is still part of the program. Another change that is still with us was the Monhegan Trip being split into two overlapping trips. There had been only one trip per summer. The JMG program grew more popular, and in our third year, Camp sent twelve candidates to the testing camp. One thing that was missing at the start of 1957 was the Glee Club. Herb Yenser who had led the Club in past years could not come until August, and when he arrived, he quickly organized the Glee Club again.

Another major change in the program was the introduction of Water Skiing. In the early days we often had speed boats, and there were a lot of pictures of boys aquaplaning behind a boat. In 1923 Camp had a speed boat named *The Pete*, and according to catalogs it was the fastest boat on the lake (very debatable, said some campers and counselors of the era). Over the years we have had several speed boats. One new speed boat in the post war 1940s was taken out for a maiden voyage by none other than George Frank who quickly ran aground on DeDe Reef. Yikes. He complained bitterly to Sailing that the reef had not been properly marked but Sailing strongly disagreed. The boat was towed to shore and never repaired.

Water Skiing was done sporadically over the years but was never an official activity. Some counselors over the years had shown waterskiing talent, but by the 1950s Kawanhee didn't even have a boat to take boys skiing. People could only water ski behind a visiting boat, but that all changed in 1957 when we finally bought a ski boat--a fifteen-foot Larson speedboat with a 35-horsepower Johnson outboard motor. Thus in 1958 waterskiing would be scheduled around the levels that the National Water-Skiing

Association promoted--beginner, intermediate, advanced, and expert. All boys would get to enjoy the lake on skis and try to pass levels. In the early 1960s Water Skiing was not a regularly scheduled activity but was popular during free time. Later, Water Skiing took its rightful place as a regular activity.

The 1957 season ended on a high note. The Glee Club gave a well-received public concert in Weld, and the proceeds of the concert were donated to the Weld Volunteer Fire Department. The Greys made a big comeback to win with Clay Davenport (Maroons) and Steve Davies (Greys) as Captains. Dave Bittenbender was the High Point Winner--noteworthy since Ben McCoy was second and came close to being a High Point Winner for the third time! Three campers passed JMG--Bruce Green and Bruce Harmon in their first try and Bill Chipman in two seasons.

On the final night of Camp, the final campfire of the season was held, and Chief Kawanhee bid good-bye to the campers and staff. The Sachems had prepared the message that would be read again at the *Coming of the Chief* at the beginning of the 1958 season. The Sachem system that wrote the messages in the 1950s was different than in recent years; it was more of a Maroon-Grey idea with the captains part of the Sachem group and only six other Sachems--three Maroons and three Greys. The system we had in recent years with one Sachem representing each lodge was well into the future.

At the appropriate time in the ceremony the message was read to all campers, staff, and guests on August 24, 1957--the last night of Camp. Then, as was the custom, the message was buried near the central fire, and it would be dug up in ten moons, or months, and read at the *Coming of the Chief* in 1958. No one knew at the time, but that message that was buried that night would remain buried for seventeen years before it was found again.

1958: THE MESSAGE MYSTERY SOLVED!

The 1958 season started off with another large group of campers. As the night of the *Coming of the Chief* neared, the Chief Sachem, The Dean, went out to the Council Ring to make sure the message of 1957 was where they had buried it just ten months previously, but he couldn't find it. Luckily, there was a backup plan. Smart thinking. A copy of the message had been kept in the office, and it was put into a container and reburied in time for the ceremony. It went off without a hitch; one can assume after the ceremony was concluded, there was no need to find the lost message. It remained lost for the next sixteen years. In 1974 as they were digging up the message of 1973, the message of 1957 was found! The Dean had passed away by then, so Ed Chace (Chief Kawanhee) wrote a letter to The Dean's widow explaining the situation and included a copy of the message--mystery solved! The Lost Message of 1957 follows:

To the campers of 1958,

We the Honor Sachems of 1957 would like to extend to you a sincere greeting to a new Camp season. May you have as much fun as we had last year. Last year through our activities we got great enjoyment out of a summer at Kawanhee. However, fun is not everything we got out of Camp. Through new activities and experiences, we grew physically, mentally and spiritually. If you will take responsibility and find a worthwhile interest in Camp, you are sure to have a great summer in Camp this year. And you'll have more fun if you are good at sports.

Signed: The Honor Sachems of 1957, August 24, 1957

The Captains of the Maroons and Greys

Clay Davenport III and Steve Davies

The Honor Sachems of the Maroons and Greys

Steve Wolf and Sturges Dorrance

Reggie Burr and Bill Boothby

Terry Lawrence and Robert Keck

Near the end of the season, an early counselor who had gone on to be quite famous, Mike Peppe, also returned for a visit. He went on to be a successful Head Swimming and Diving Coach at Ohio State University and the Olympic Diving Coach in 1948 and 1952. He had two nephews at Camp and came back and entertained campers with Olympic films and a film of a dual meet between OSU and Michigan.

Kawanhee had another candidate successfully pass JMG during his second year in the program, Ben McCoy, who was already a highly acclaimed camper--two-time High Point Winner. He was awarded his certificate from the Governor of Maine on August 18, 1958, in Augusta. JMG candidates who passed back then were informed of their success well before the final awards ceremony, perhaps because they were awarded their certificates directly from the Governor a few days or a week before Camp ended. Sounds much less stressful than the much-anticipated announcement currently given today, as many JMGs would know. Ben McCoy was also Captain of the Greys in 1958, leading his team to the win with George McElroy Captain of the Maroons.

1959: RECORD ENROLLMENT, AND WELCOME PUERTO RICO!

In 1959 Kawanhee hit a new record enrollment with 133 campers and 195 total with staff. The previous record had been set in 1955 when there were 188 people on property. It must have been somewhat humorous to George and Raymond as the campers rolled in during the 1950s, as they had always said in the founding years that they never saw Camp enrolling more than sixty boys a summer!

A lot of veteran staff members were back in 1959, and one person not mentioned much is Gardner Defoe, Head of Swimming and Diving. He started in 1943 in Eagle and kept coming every summer. Two veteran counselors, Ernie Johanson (Sailing) and Ed Hamblin (Boating and Canoeing) returned after missing the 1958 summer. Bates, The Dean, and Campbell Scarlett continued to serve as they had since the 1920s. Pop Nowald was back as DOA. Emma Briggs was still coming, and 1959 would be her 26th year where she mainly served as Baker. Mrs. Sue Weld had helped in the kitchen since the death of Laurence Briggs, but she had moved on. Abby Denning of Farmington would be the new Chief Cook, and Mrs. Ruth Buck of Weld would assist Emma.

THE FIRST CAMPERS FROM PUERTO RICO ARRIVE

Camper history was made in 1959 with record enrollment and two campers from Puerto Rico--two brothers--Diego and Carlos Del Valle. Carlos and Diego's father, also Carlos, and mother, Ana, were looking for a camp in the Northeast to help their sons improve their English and give them a fun experience. The father was a civil engineer and owned a travel agency; he also had a good friend who worked for Pan American Airlines in NYC who gave them Raymond Frank's phone number. That one phone call set in motion the amazing, continuing legacy of Puerto Ricans attending and working at Camp. They soon made plans to visit for a few days before the season, and Mr. and Mrs. Del Valle loved Kawanhee so much that they decided to enroll their two sons.

Carlos attended Camp for four summers, and Diego attended for five. In future summers Mr. and Mrs. Del Valle became the chief recruiters for Puerto Rican boys to enroll, and we are forever grateful for that. The next summer of 1960 there were four boys from Puerto Rico--Carlos and Diego and two new campers, Hilger Hertall and Fernando Viego. And the rest is, as they say, history.

Since 1959 hundreds of boys from Puerto Rico have attended. Today boys from Puerto Rico make up the largest single contingent of offshore campers. Carlos is still involved, and his grandson, Carlos, has attended in recent years. In the winter of 2020 Carlos and his family co-hosted a social gathering in Puerto Rico honoring Kawanhee's Centennial. The last few summers Carlos has been able to visit as he drops off his grandson. It must give him great pride to be there on opening day to see all the boys from Puerto Rico arriving. And it all started with his family!

There were other noteworthy campers, some still involved and many attending every reunion. There was John Abbott in Falcon. John Estabrook (current President of the Frank Foundation Board) and Bill Doyle were in Polecat together, and they are still friends and vacation together every fall at Lake Webb.

There was Bruce Birch in Pine, Sonny Dargusch in Hawk, Hoyt Cory in Beaver, Bob Barnes (former Board member) in Moose, Tom Pears (a great supporter and benefactor of the History Museum) in Wildcat, Dave Bittenbender, Frank Stewart, John Willis and David Roth all in Lynx, and John Fulda in Badger. Some of these noteworthy campers probably started before 1959, but there just seemed to be so many familiar names that year.

Another Camp event of 1959 was the purchase of two additional MIT Tech Dinghies for Sailing, so we now had four. Sailing also had two Cape Cods and a Snipe. Bob Elliot and Ernie Johansen led Sailing in 1959. Another small but notable event was the placement of a siren in the kitchen, to be used for many years to beckon waiters to the Dining Hall before lunch and supper. For some years, the midday meal was a larger meal and referred to as dinner, with the evening meal a bit lighter and called supper. The siren was not used to beckon waiters before breakfast since the first bell was the signal used. The waiter system was different back then with waiters eating early, freeing them up to serve their table, and during this time there was also a head waiter. It's hard to believe in today's world, but the head waiter served the head (staff) table. Those were the days! The head waiter was also in charge of all the other waiters and would make sure your table was clean before you could be dismissed.

From all accounts the last summer of our fourth decade was a good summer with no major incidents--just good fun. John Fulda was a successful JMG candidate, although it's possible he took Raymond and George off his Christmas card list because they spelled his last name Fulder in the 1960 catalog.

The 1950s had some ups and downs. On a positive note, there were record enrollments, a great and still developing program, wonderful and challenging trips, and several new lodges and building additions. But there were also some challenging times--the death of a popular cook and a terrible fire that destroyed a lodge. By 1960 Kawanhee had existed for forty years and was firmly established as a great summer Camp. The 1960s would bring new challenges--the death of a founder and a change in ownership.



In 1959 Diego and Carlos Del Valle became the first campers from Puerto Rico, many more would follow.



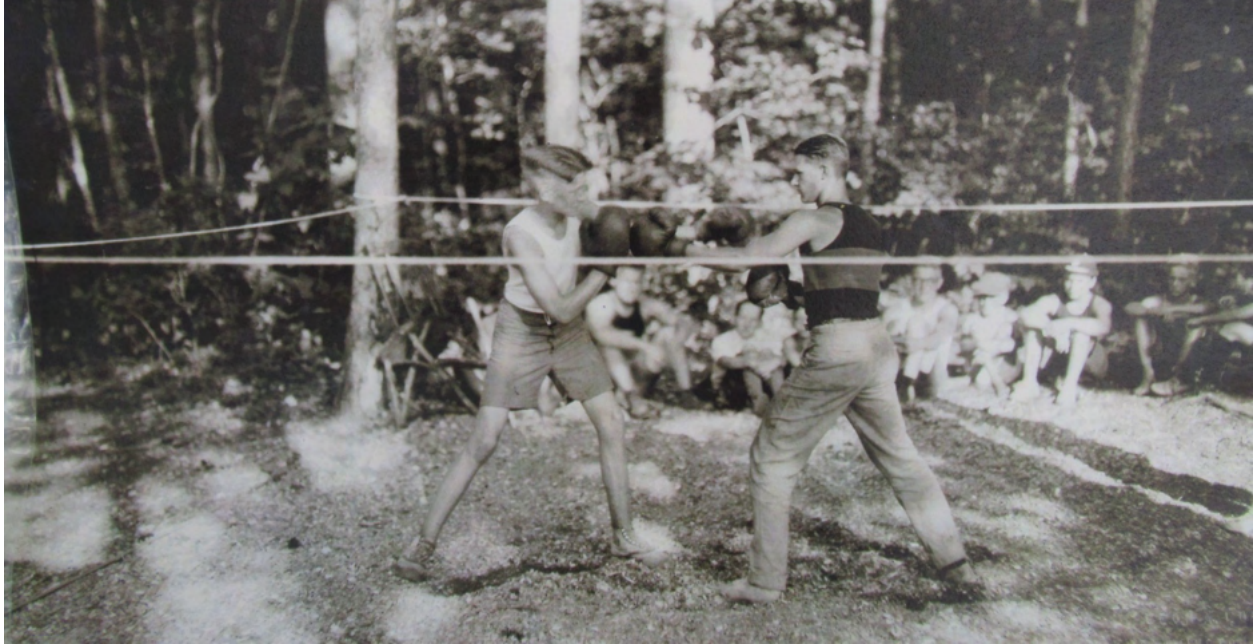
Campbell Scarlett attended camp for 38 years. He ran Nature, edited "The Wigwam" and originated and wrote "The Log". The main road into camp is named after him.



The Glee Club was a popular activity throughout the 1950's



The old Green Barn can be seen here in the background on Pine Point Road. It was lost to a fire in 1956 and the next summer the new Bear Lodge debuted on the senior side of camp.



Boxing was dropped as an activity in 1952...but wrestling would debut soon after.



For a few years in the 1950's we were in a program to help nurse orphaned deer from a farm near Farmington. The deer were eventually released onto a game preserve.

CHAPTER SEVEN

1960s: LOSS OF A FOUNDER, NEW OWNERSHIP, OUR 50TH YEAR

The 40th year of Camp started on June 30, 1960. We benefitted from another veteran staff; Bates, The Dean, and Campbell Scarlett had all been here since the 1920s, and they were back for another summer. There were other veterans adding to their experience including Gardiner Devoe in Swimming, Herb Birch, Ed Chace, Forrest Dexter, Bob Duffey, Roy Nickerson, Del Tracy and John Pop Nowald. There were also some staff members with some experience including Bob Elliot and Alan Beck in Sailing, Wade Rockafellow in Tennis, Peter Schofield as Head of Fishing, and Dan Spivey in Nature. Other senior counselors were Steve Dexter, Clay Davenport, Jack Weldon, Fred Hoster, Dave Angerer, and Ben McCoy. Some senior counselors were back after a short time away including Big John Detrick who had missed two summers and was back in Shop before going to Ohio Wesleyan to do graduate work in teaching. Ed Hamblin came back after getting married. The junior counselors also included some noteworthy names including Bob Angerer in Archery, John Fulda as JMG Coach, and Dave Hoch in Sailing. Dave was also Captain of the Greys, and Charles Clark, another JC, was Captain of the Maroons.

The lodge list in 1960 saw some great careers launched. Bill Dargusch (a current Frank Foundation Board member) was in Eagle, and two great friends from Bexley, Ohio, Chuck Hoffhine and Fred Ball, started in 1960. Chuck would eventually become a longtime Boating Director, and Fred Ball worked in Nature and is always remembered for bringing a unique friend to Camp every summer--Fang, a pet turtle. I wonder why he was named Fang. Chuck Compher had started a few summers earlier and was in Bear. He would become a captain in a few years and return in the 1980s to have a second career with a wife and three sons. He came because his mom, Liz, was hired as Camp Nurse, a position held for several summers. Last but not least was Mark Standen, the grandson of Roy Nickerson who had been at Kawanhee for years working in Athletics and the Waterfront but now was firmly established as Director of the Range. Mark would go on to have a great and lasting career where he continues as Co-Executive Director alongside his wife, Elizabeth Green Standen. The legacy he and all his family have is tremendous, and the Camp family is forever grateful for their contributions.

Another enrollment record was broken in 1960 with 134 campers enrolled, beaten by only one from 1959. Because of the number of campers and the spirit they brought, it was another good season with the Maroon-Grey final score the greatest in history with a combined total of 64,746 points. It topped the 1959 total by over 13,000 and beat the previous record year, 1953, by over 7,000.

A young camper in his first season, Phil Green, was High Point Winner, amassing 1,250 points--tying the record Ben McCoy had established in 1953. Phil had an amazing summer completing twenty-seven levels, three in each of the nine activities, and because of maxing out in each activity he got bonus points for completing a plaque in one season. The limits Camp had put on campers earning points in the 1940s had been nixed, and Phil's score proved it. He is also noteworthy in history because he is the brother of Elizabeth Green Standen, married to Mark Standen and current Co-Executive Director.

Another notable special achievement in 1960 was honored to Roger Liddell, awarded his Racing Skipper level in Sailing--the first in history. 1960 was a summer to remember in the Maroon-Grey competition with Charlie Clarke (Maroons) and Dave Hoch (Greys) leading their teams with Maroons winning by a healthy margin. Like many campers and counselors, Charlie's sons would later attend.

1961: A BANNER YEAR WITH MORE, GREAT KAWANHEE CAREERS COMMENCING

1961 was another banner year with another enrollment record set--138 campers and a total population of 198. As usual, another veteran staff greeted the campers with all the regulars back, but a few veterans had moved on or taken a year off. Gardiner Defoe was replaced in Swimming by David Fergus who had been at Kawanhee for over a decade. Ben Bennett, the longtime Shop counselor, was furthering his education in 1960 and 1961 but was able to come the last two weeks. Bob Duffey was taking a year off to paint his house after a recent surgery, and John Detrick was spending the summer in Columbus taking

advantage of a scholarship given by the National Science Foundation. The Archery Department had a change, but they kept it in the family with Bob Angerer replacing his brother Dave as Head of Archery. Bob had a great archery resume as the youngest Robin Hood winner in history back in 1958.

The 1961 camper list saw some Kawanhee greats start their careers. Richard Estabrook, Tim Dargusch, and Clark Myers (son of Bill Myers, a longtime veteran) were all in Eagle. Other campers included John Redick, John Staker, Bruce Leiper, Steve Ruhle, Mike Meserole and others. John Willis, who would go on to be a very memorable counselor, was the only camper to pass JMG in 1961, his second year in the program. Chuck Compher won the Robin Hood Award, foreshadowing his later career as Director of Archery in the 1980s and 1990s. The Maroon-Grey competition was good, but the total score didn't quite break a record; Dan Beggs and Bill Boothby were Captains. Andy Doyle, a young camper in Falcon, was High Point Winner with 950 points. Two other campers were singled out in *The Wigwam* about the final score. One, Richard Estabrook, had completed the most levels in Camp, 23 levels for a total of 750 points. Unfortunately, he failed to complete one third level in Shop, and that would have given him 200 bonus points and the prestigious honor of High Point Winner. But no regrets.

The other camper that was mentioned was Phil Green, the High Point Winner from the year before and who had tied the record for points in one season with 1250 points in 1960. Phil did not arrive until late July and spent only four weeks at Camp, yet he still earned 625 points, exactly half of his total from 1960--quite an accomplishment for a four weeker!

1962: A LEGEND DIES, THE MISSING FORD CUP & CONFUSION IN THE FINAL SCORE

In 1962 another great career came to an end when Campbell Scarlett, who had been at Kawanhee since 1923, became ill and could not return. Cam had been editor of *The Wigwam* for almost every year of its existence and the previous newsletter, *The Kawanian*. He also started *The Log* in the 1930s and worked in Nature. Although it was reported that Cam was ill and hopefully would return in the future, he never did. He died in 1965 and was only fifty-five. Cam would end up with thirty-eight years of service. Today the main road into Camp is named after him--Campbell Scarlett Memory Lane. Every summer the Nature Department gives a major award named after Cam.

The 1962 staff was another veteran staff with Bob Duffey returning to head up Tennis after taking a year off. Mike Peppe, nephew of the great OSU swimming coach and first Waterfront Director, was in his fifth year and worked in Swimming as his uncle had. Also in Aquatics was Bill Taylor, a minister in a Columbus church, who would work for many summers; many alumni will remember his clown diving routine he did during some of our swim meets.

Other familiar names on the staff in 1962 were Dan Sebastian in Tennis, Jim Murphy in Baseball, and Dave Logan, Co-Editor of *The Wigwam*. The junior counselor ranks in 1962 had some names that would live on for years to come including Kenny Love in Water Skiing, Frank Stewart in his sixth year in Athletics, David Roth in Nature in his eighth year, and Tom Pears in Sailing for his seventh year. Tom's father had also attended.

Some female staff members were also veterans. Frannie (Mrs. Raymond) Frank continued to be Camp Mother for her sixteenth summer. Florence (Mrs. George) Frank continued to run the Inn and served as Camp Dietician but spent most of her time at the Inn. Liz Compher was back for her fifth year as Nurse, Mary Baker, a nine-year veteran, worked in Nature. Mrs. Ross Miller (The Dean's wife) served as Tutor as she had done for several summers. Emma Briggs continued to head up the Kitchen for her 30th year.

There was some sad news in 1962 with Uncle Charley Long passing away in Canton, Ohio. For many years Charley oversaw Fishing and Maintenance. He was well respected for his knowledge of the environment and often helped Bates on trips, but the most noteworthy thing about Charley was his beautiful wood carvings, appreciated by campers and counselors who took them home as Kawanhee treasures. Charley wasn't always mentioned in the catalogs or *The Wigwam*, so it was hard to peg how many years he served at Camp, but it appears he was there for many years.

On the activity front, Campcraft decided to develop a few new programs patterned after the successful Junior Maine Guide program that we had been part of for several years. These new programs were for the

older boys- Junior As and Seniors. Junior As who passed three levels would receive the Junior Maine Woodsman Award, and seniors who completed three would be awarded the Maine Woodsman Award. Both awards came with a nice shoulder patch for a jacket, both given by the State of Maine. John Willis and Kenny Love were selected as captains, and it seemed to be a normal, spirited summer with the same trips scheduled and the same great activities.

Every summer Kawanhee would have alumni come back and visit. Camp has always had a very open visitor policy, and in 1962, alumni visitors included Dick Miller, son of The Dean, and his family. He was just starting out his career as Professor of Economics at Wesleyan University after earning his PhD from Yale. Reverend Hal Myers was a frequent alumni visitor since he owned a cabin on Lake Webb and would often give guest talks at our outdoor Chapel.

There were some noteworthy end of season awards. Bryon Ford, a former captain, donated a new special award, the Citizenship Award, in memory of Dr. Carl Elmore, Camp Chaplain from 1941 to 1956 who had died in 1957. There were three separate awards--one for Junior B, one for Junior A, and one for Seniors. One may wonder why they didn't give an award to the youngest group of campers--the Junior B Cubs--in those days. Senior counselors selected the award winners based on high ideals, sportsmanship, leadership, perseverance, cooperation, and unselfishness. Byron Ford had donated the Ford Cup to inscribe the names of the Citizenship Award honorees every summer, and the recipients that first summer were Ted Coons (Junior B), Robert Dorn (Junior A) and Chuck Compher (Senior). For some reason the Citizenship Award only existed until 1966--seems strange since the Ford Cup had been donated. Perhaps the Ford Cup is still on the property somewhere? In the 1967 catalog where special awards were listed, the Citizenship Award was gone. That was also the first year they awarded the Campbell Scarlett, something entirely different from Citizenship Awards. In other award news Frank Stewart was the lone, successful JMG candidate completing the program in two years. David Bittenbender was awarded the highest Sailing award, the Racing Skipper Award, only the second boy in history to get it.

For the past few decades Camp has displayed the final Maroon-Grey scores and the captains for each summer on large white poster boards displayed on the south side of the Dining Hall, starting with the year 1938 and continuing until the most recent summer. Each summer campers will come up to me and ask questions about the displayed scores, one usually being, "What did they give a half point for?" Answer--catching pounds of certain types of fish in Lake Webb and perhaps a few other achievements I'm not aware of. The other question is, "What happened in 1962?" A mistake in recording the final score is what happened. That final score is displayed as 8,736 for the Maroons and 8,514 for the Greys--almost 20,000 points lower than summers before and after, and campers notice that. Turns out the score displayed was the score after the sixth week. Remember we were an eight-week Camp in those days, and thus there were still two weeks left when most of the points were scored each summer.

Somehow this sixth week score is the one that got recorded in the catalog, and I guess no one noticed. A few years later this incorrect score was recorded on the poster board. And it has been there ever since. It wasn't that hard to solve the mystery since the last issue of *The Wigwam* had the correct, final score--Maroons 21,760 and Greys 20,285. Not only has the final score been incorrect all these years, but it indicated that the Greys were the winning team. In the final two weeks, the Maroons overtook the Greys and won. Must be hard for the maroon captain to see that error in the Dining Hall! Of course, we need to correct the score, if possible, maybe by the time you read this.

1963: A HIGH POINT WINNER TIE!

1963 was another summer with high enrollment and a veteran staff. Chuck Compher and Hoyt Cory served as Captains. The catalog also describes a slight change in the afternoon activities. Slowly over the years the afternoon schedule was becoming more structured--somewhat like the mornings. By 1963 it wasn't quite like it is today, but almost. The catalog still advertised afternoon golfing outings and baseball league games but also structured activities. It's interesting to ponder why the Directors felt more structured was needed, you wonder why.

Scouting was hanging on as part of the program with staff--Scout leaders at home--working with campers on individual Merit Badges. John Abbott earned two merit badges that summer, and Bruce Birch nine. Campcraft was the major focus out at Campcraft; at one point, Scouting had been the focus.

Winners of the new Citizenship Award were Peter Albertson, Mike Meserole and Terry Studebaker. John Redick, future Director of Archery, was awarded the Robin Hood Award. The Greys won, and Peter Albertson and Robert Kahn tied as High Point Winner with 1,080 points each. Imagine a tie!

1964: A FIRST SUMMER CONFESSION (MINE!)

One can imagine how alumni and current campers all have vivid memories of their first summer. Well, this is my story. I was one of the Bexley, Ohio kids, a suburb on the east side of Columbus. Many campers were from Bexley, along with other areas of Columbus. Two of my best friends growing up were Chuck Hoffhine and Fred Ball who both went to Kawanhee and came back with wonderful stories.

My Dad had gone to a tripping camp in Canada called Wigwasati, run by a science teacher at Bexley HS, Coach Smith. The athletic field at Bexley is named after him. My Dad put some polite pressure on me to attend Wigwasati, but I knew that a tripping camp was not best suited for me and told him I didn't want to go. I felt I had disappointed my Dad, something no son wants to do. The next winter my dad mentioned that a friend, Walter Estabrook, was having a meeting with George Frank to tell people about Kawanhee. Still feeling guilty about disappointing my Dad, I agreed to attend in 1964. Kawanhee seemed more like my cup of tea with all the varied activities. My brother, BA, had some interest, but my family agreed I would try it out first. BA could attend in the future. I'm not sure how much I really wanted to attend, but Chuck and Fred would be there. I also didn't want to disappoint my dad again.

So, in late June of 1964 I arrived at Union Station in Columbus to take the overnight train to Boston where we met the NJ campers, then we were bussed to Camp. Like every camper I will always remember my first day at Kawanhee. As the busses pulled into the center of Camp, all the counselors were there with lodge lists. I can still remember the counselor who told me I was in Crow's Nest, one of the few female staff members, Frannie Pazlusk. My Mom had said I should wear a coat and tie on the trip to Camp--something I wasn't too happy about. And though I was fourteen, I looked about eleven. As I walked to Crow's Nest, I struggled with all my bags and had to stop several times to rearrange them. As I walked past the Crow's Nest/ Badger building, a bunch of kids from Badger were outside sizing me up. That day was a rough one. I clearly remember being very homesick the first night and hoping my eight weeks would pass quickly. Little did I know that memorable, difficult day would forever change my life.

1964 was a good year to start a career as it was another full Camp and veteran staff. The weather was good, and the cool Maine summer was a relief from the hot, humid summers of Ohio. Sonny Dargusch and Bill Lawrence were the Maroon and Grey Captains, and Sonny was my Captain. I adjusted slowly to Camp, was painfully shy, and never had been away from home for an extended time. Truth be told it was a challenging first couple of weeks, but what helped me was my newfound desire to play tennis, enjoying it my first time on the court. I can still remember the tennis counselors from that summer--Al Duncan and Jeff Currier. I liked tennis so much I began to go to Tennis when I was scheduled for something else--not a model camper! I wasn't good enough to be a threat in any tournament, but I was awarded the Most Improved ribbon for the Senior division. Take credit when credit is due!

The Maroons won that summer, but I didn't do a lot to help my team. The final score that summer was the second greatest in history; only in 1960 had the teams scored more points. Dave Alexander was the High Point Winner with 1025 points. John Staker was awarded his Robin Hood Award in Archery, and he would go on to be a longtime Archery Counselor where he teamed with John Redick. The new Citizenship Awards were awarded to Tom Heer, Jim Proctor, and Nelson Lancione. Future George and Raymond Frank Foundation Co-Executive Director, Mark Standen, was named Wrestler of the Year.

My parents came at the end of the summer to take me home. I was sad to go. My brother, BA, said he was going to go next summer. I realized Camp had made a difference in my life. I felt more confident and announced on the car ride home that I would try out for tennis at Bexley HS that fall. Oh, Kawanhee!

1965: THE DEATH OF THE DEAN, & NO REGRETS WITH POINTS, RIGHT?

At the start of the 1965 season, Camp was dealing with a great loss. The Dean had died in March and had been part of Kawanhee since 1925 and filled many roles--Chaplain and Spiritual Leader, Campcraft Director, Storyteller, and even DOA. Despite the many years in history where we had several Camp Chaplains, the death of The Dean left us with no Chaplain, so Camp hired a minister from New Jersey, Reverend Stanley McCleave, to be the new Chaplain.

Jane Tracy, wife of Del Tracy (Director of Athletics) took over *The Wigwam* as Editor. Since the illness and eventual death of longtime editor, Campbell Scarlett, there had been several Editors; David Roth was Editor in 1964, and Jane succeeded him serving for quite a few years. Emma Briggs came back for her thirty-third summer as Chief Pastry Chef.

Ever since 1952 when Emma's husband Laurence died, Kawanhee had gone through a variety of cooks. Some of the cooks were there for only one summer and were not mentioned in the catalog or *The Wigwam*. But in 1965 Camp hired a new Cook, Leonard Taylor, assisted by his wife, for several years. Anybody who was at Camp during that time probably has fond memories of Chef Taylor. He was a large man with a large personality, and he ruled his Kitchen. More than one Kawanheean was chased out with Chef Taylor brandishing a meat cleaver! Picture that!

Besides some veteran counselors returning, some new staff members started or had started a few years earlier. Fred Myers was Director of Aquatics, Phil Bills in Boating, Butch Cook in Athletics, Gene Cayton in Campcraft and Scouting, Franni Posluszny in Nature, Herb Lorentzen in Trips, Bill Neidig in Sailing, and Fred Heer in Swimming. There were some new JCs; John Estabrook, Bill Doyle, Laird Smith, Al Brenholts, Chris Greening, and George Lamb would have careers of several years. John Estabrook's career continues as current Board President as of this writing.

At the end of 1965 a sizable group of campers had won special awards. Scott Tracy and John Bacon earned their Eagle Scouts. Tom Steenland won the Expert Rifleman Award and would later serve in Range for several years. Ben Neary, Jim Proctor, and Nelson Lancione won their Robin Hood Award. Winners of the Citizenship Award were Tom Heer, Andy Williams, and Tom Steenland. In 1965 they started giving the Campbell Scarlett Award for Excellence in Nature in memory of Cam who had recently died and served for thirty-eight years; Tim McKee was awarded that trophy in its first year. Hank Hiser was High Point Winner in 1965 with 1125 points.

Everyone was excited for awards and the final Maroon-Grey score in since it had been extremely close all summer. The two captains, Nelson Lancione for Maroons and Mike Meserole for Greys, had been veterans for several years. Mike, who we called Mez, was really a unique person in Camp history. He was a second-generation camper as many campers were, was a gifted writer, and loved sports. At a very young age he became the Sports Editor of *The Wigwam*. After he left, he would work as a sportswriter in Massachusetts and Connecticut and later would edit a national sports almanac. He gave the author an autographed copy--truly appreciated.

Back to that August day, all were assembled in the Rec Hall for the ceremony. The outside ceremony custom didn't happen until a few years later. As longtime scorekeeper Del Tracy got up to give the score, he made us wait with a lot of stories and delay tactics. Finally, the final score was revealed. No one in the Rec Hall that day could believe their eyes and ears. The Greys finished with 32,657, the Maroons with 32,642 points. Over 65,000 total points were scored, and the difference was a mere 15 points--one first level in one activity! A lot of Maroon campers, including the author, wondered what they could have done differently to affect the outcome, and it will always be a memorable year because of that close score, but no regrets, right? It would end up being the closest competition except for 1948 when it ended in a tie. It was also memorable because my brother was in Camp with me, making it extra special for me.

1966: MORE LOSSES, A FIRE GETS PUT OUT, & THE END OF CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

The summer would start with the Kawanhee family dealing with some more great losses. Florence Wright Frank, wife of George Frank, died in March. They had been married since 1912, and for most of

her career, Florence was Manager and Dietician at the Inn and served as Camp Dietician, though she was rarely at Camp. She and George lived in Cabin 2 at the Inn. She would be greatly missed--a huge loss.

Another great loss occurred in December 1965 when one of our original counselors, Chief Marshall, died in his nineties. He was Head Counselor and DOA for the first twenty-five years, portrayed the Chief, and was still working at Camp into his eighties. He was truly one of the greatest staff members in history.

In 1966 there was another veteran staff filling many roles they had in the past. One new addition was Mitch Greenawalt who first came in 1945, and now he returned with his family after a fifteen-year absence to work in Boating and serve as Camp Bugler. He eventually headed up the Music program; he was a Band Director in Copley, Ohio. A new counselor was Kingsley Boyd, a great swimmer from Ohio Wesleyan University, who would lead Aquatics. George Lamb, Tennis and Chris Greening, Wrestling were two additional counselors that joined that year.

On a bright July morning in 1966 we almost lost the iconic Fort. An hour or so before breakfast that day, the bell started ringing constantly--the signal for a fire or an emergency. In this case it was a fire, the location in a small building attached to the Fort. Inside the side building was the hot water heater, and back then the water heater was wood fired. The stoves in the Kitchen operated the same way. A small wood fire had to be started to ignite the water heater as it would slowly heat the Fort water. This was done early in the morning, well before campers and counselors headed to the Fort. On this July morning, the flames escaped from the base of the water heater and began to burn areas outside of the heater. Luckily, the fire was spotted in its early stages, and the bell was rung. No one reacted quicker than Chuck Hoffhine, SC in Beaver Lodge. He raced to the Fort, grabbed a few Indian pumps nearby and put out the fire. There was minimal damage. That morning the Fort was saved by the heroic actions of Chuck. And those guardian angels. Later it was revealed that the maintenance man who started the fire had used a little gasoline to give the fire a boost. It did that alright!

Roy Miller and Rich Davis served as Captains in 1966. Bob (Beatle) Heintz was awarded the Junior Maine Guide, earning his nickname by being the first camper to arrive with a Beatle haircut. Other notable awards were Tom Ruhle and Randy Schwartz earning the Expert Rifleman Award and Scott Tracy and Ron Pavesi earning their Robin Hood Awards. Tim McKee was awarded the Campbell Scarlett Award for the second year in a row--the only person to have won the award since its inception. 1966 was the last year Kawanhee awarded the Citizenship Awards honoring Mike Hall, Jon White, and David Emery. Like all the other Citizenship Award winners since 1962, their names were engraved on the Ford Plaque--still a mystery where that plaque resides. No one knows why they stopped giving these awards after five summers; it seemed to be a noble idea honoring many good Kawanhee ideals. Afterall, Camp wasn't all about being good at sports or being a mountain man.

The 1966 season ended with the usual flourishes with the banquet, awards ceremony, and *Going of the Chief* giving all campers and staff great memories. Little did we know that as we boarded the buses on the last morning that Raymond Frank would not be with us ever again.

Raymond died in November of 1966 of a heart ailment at his home in New Jersey. As George Frank reported in his 1977 interview, he had suffered from Rheumatic Fever as a young boy which affected him the rest of his life. Of course, the sad news greatly affected the Camp family. By the mid 1960s, we had lost several great staff members who had been at Camp since the 1920s including Raymond Frank, Campbell Scarlett, The Dean Ross Miller, and Florence Frank, all dying within a couple of years of each other. Their spirits will remain forever at Kawanhee.

Even before Raymond died, a special pamphlet called *Maine Echoes* was being prepared to honor the life of The Dean. It included a biography of him written by his widow with many pages of the unique Kawanhee prayers he had written. A tribute to Raymond is also included, and many copies of it can still be found around Camp. Ever since 1920 Raymond and George had helped direct Kawanhee over the tough early years, and they saw it bloom into one of the most successful camps in Maine. It must have been satisfying for Raymond to know that the dream of creating a great boys' camp had succeeded and was now on terra firma. But Raymond Frank would still be greatly missed, yet his legacy continues today and lives on within all of us. We are forever grateful to him.

1967: A NEW ROAD & THE SALE OF SOME PROPERTY

In 1967, the infamous Summer of Love, Kawanhee built a new main road into Camp because the old road came down a rather steep grade, was narrow, and had a sharp turn at the end of the grade--time for a new road with a much flatter grade. Chuck Hoffhine led the building crew with Bates directing the project. The new road would be eventually named in honor of Cam and called Campbell Scarlett Memory Lane with the original sign now in the Museum. Although a lot of the old road has lost a fight with growing vegetation, you can still see its remains between Abbott Lodge and the Director's cabin.

When the campers arrived, we were sad to see another long-standing staff member leave. Emma Briggs had been at Camp since 1932 as Chief Pastry Cook and Assistant Cook, even working after her husband Laurence died. A picture always in the catalogs was one of Emma in her pastry area standing over a bunch of pies. Emma decided in 1967 that it was time to enjoy retirement. Also retiring in 1967 was Forest Dexter, longtime head of Nature, but in future years Mr. Dexter was a common fixture at Camp as he owned a cabin at the Inn Beach and bought a house in nearby Wilton. In the 1970s Forest Dexter came out of retirement to return to the Nature Department.

1967 was a summer with a large enrollment as everyone had helped with recruiting since Raymond Frank's death. Frannie continued as Camp Mother, but a new staff member, Mrs. Susan Bohnke, would assist her. Susan's husband, David Bohnke (Assistant Swim Coach at OSU) was the new Swimming Director. Another new staff member in Athletics was Dick Morton from Farmington, Maine, whose father had attended. Jack Pray, a nephew of Hal and Bill Myers, joined the Tennis staff, and Dan Greening joined as a Wrestling Counselor. There was also a change at the top of the staffing tree. Pop Nowald, who had been DOA for years, was ill and could not return. To replace him, they turned to Del Tracy, Director of Athletics and Scorekeeper--a natural fit for DOA. His job was made a little easier with a veteran staff.

As usual a lot of campers had earned special honors as the summer ended. Tom Ruhle was awarded his Junior Maine Guide, his second year in the program. Mike Standen and Robert Brinkerhoff were awarded their Expert Riflemen in Range, and Hank Hiser and Bob Zechiel earned their Robin Hood Award. The Campbell Scarlett Award was split into the four age classifications and was awarded to Andy Kientz, John Clausen, Robert Altmaier ("BA, BA, BA!") and Tim McKee, his third year in a row. Citizenship Awards were not given in 1967 and would never appear again. The Greys won the team competition with Brad Coley High Point Winner with 1,025 points. Keith Erf was second in the high point race with 990 points, also completing the rare accomplishment of achieving his Junior B plaque in one summer.

After the death of Raymond Frank, Frannie inherited his half of Camp property, and initially Frannie and George owned everything jointly. They soon decided to split the property into specific areas to be owned separately. Frannie became owner of Pine Point and Sunday Beach, but she had a desire to sell them. A buyer was found in a former camper and counselor, Johnny Marble, who had attended for many years before World War II. He was the last winner of the Douglas Vincent Award in 1933 as the kindest and most courteous camper. After the war, Johnny became a successful lawyer in Dixfield, only ten miles from Kawanhee. The sale was completed in September, a few weeks after the conclusion of the season. The result of the sale made George Frank the owner of the remaining property and buildings of Kawanhee. Although the original purchase included what is now the Estabrook Cabin, in 1967 Johnny gifted this cabin back to Kawanhee as a place where future owners might live.

1968: MORE FUTURE CAMP GREATS & A ROCK BAND DEBUTS

As campers and staff arrived for the season there was some exciting news. George Frank had gotten remarried, and his new wife was Mary Baker who had directed Nature for years. Everyone was excited and happy for them. Mary continued to direct Nature but was also named Assistant Camp Director. There were also more sad losses to deal with that year. Both Howell Windle and Roy Nickerson had passed away before the season, longtime Directors of Range. Howell was the son-in-law of the late H.C. Chief Marshall and had not been at Camp for years, though Nick had been for twenty-five years. He had gone to Springfield College with Raymond and was an undefeated professional boxer in Florida before settling in

Leonia, New Jersey as a longtime teacher. He had worked for years in Athletics and Boating and Canoeing before taking over the Range for Howell. A sad reality in the 1960s was the consistent theme of the losses of many great counselors who had been at Camp from the 1920s to the 1940s. They would all be greatly missed but leave their wonderful legacies behind.

It was another good summer with a strong enrollment and veteran staff. Bruce Birch and Tom Steenland replaced Nick as Co-Directors of Range. Because of the absence of longtime Shop Co-Director, Ben Bennett (He would arrive in August.), Bob Duffey again showed his great flexibility by switching from Tennis to Shop. Bob's son, Jim Duffey, replaced his father in Tennis and worked in Basketball, playing both at Bexley HS. Two great swimmers from Denison University in Ohio, Hugh Wider and Rick McBurney, took over as Aquatic Directors and would be at Camp for one summer. Another new, notable staff member was William Brutscher, a retired scientist from Republic Steel in Cleveland, who served in several ways for years but is best remembered as Camp Inspector. He is remembered by having the High Point Winner Trophy named in his honor. Bill's wife Ginny also came and worked at the Inn.

The list of 1968 junior counselors displayed a lot of future greats. Doug (the Walrus) Means, Richard Estabrook, Tim McKee, Tom Ruhle, Dan Saunders, Dave Alexander, Mark Standen, and Andy Williams were working their way up the ladder on their way to being great counselors. And there was a new camper from NJ, Steve Yale, who started his career in Panther and would end up being a future DOA, founding President of the Frank Foundation, and current Frank Foundation Board member.

For several summers we had a musical rock band, the Kawanhee Five, that performed at different venues like Kineowatha dances and the Inn. Members were Rick Whitmyre, Bill Johnson, John Clausen, Gerald Wheeler, and Pete Nielsen. Occasionally there were guest vocalists such as Frank Stewart.

Tim McKee (Greys) and Tom Ruhle (Maroons) were Captains in 1968 with Maroons winning 25,716 to 23,167. Other special awards were Richard Estabrook earning his Expert Rifleman, Robert Beach getting his Robinhood, and Billy Proctor was the lone camper passing JMG. Five campers were awarded their Skipper in Sailing including Hank Hiser, Tom Thomas, Dave Alexander, Jackson Doege, and Rich Estabrook. Jet Tremble, Jim Estabrook, and Andy Kauffman were awarded the Campbell Scarlett Award. Alan Hamwi was the High Point Winner with 1226 points.

After the 1968 season ended there were some secret meetings happening, but no one was quite sure what they were about. I guess that's why they were secret! They involved George Frank and a group of alumni and friends of Camp. Many people surmised that the discussions had to do with the future of Kawanhee. Those people would be right.

1969: THE MOONWALK & THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD

1969 was yet another year with a large enrollment and veteran staff, and it would turn out to be an exciting summer with a man walking on the Moon and a new corporation forming to operate Camp. There were only a few staff changes in 1969 with Steve Ruhle returning as Senior Counselor in Sailing and Trips after being a camper for several years. Rich Estabrook and Rick Whitmyer were selected as Maroon and Grey Captains. Rich was particularly driven to be the winning captain since he had been on the losing team eight years in a row. But in 1969 he got to pick his team as captain.

In mid-July the entire Camp was excited. On July 20th Neil Armstrong was scheduled to be the first man to walk on the Moon, and we had been kept informed of the Apollo 11 mission up to that point. Everything had gone smoothly. The two astronauts had landed safely on the surface of the Moon, and now we all awaited the actual Moonwalk to be televised live. Campers were not normally allowed to watch television during the summer, but the whole world was going to be watching. And so would Kawanhee. A TV was set up in the Rec Hall, and Camp assembled there to watch history being made. Also, in Birch Lodge Mike Meserole had laid down a bunch of mattresses to simulate the surface of the Moon. The actual walk didn't take place until after midnight, but everyone stayed up to see the momentous event. Anybody at Camp that summer will always remember that night.

In the middle of the season there was an important announcement made about the future of Kawanhee. A new ownership group and new corporation would now operate Camp--the first change in ownership

since 1920. Leading up to 1968 and 1969, there had been concern about our future. Raymond Frank had died, and George Frank had no children to carry on the legacy. George turned 80 in 1968, and alumni and friends hoped Kawanhee would continue as a great boys' Camp well into the future.

THE FORMATION OF KAWANHEE, INC.

by Richard Estabrook

Walter Estabrook had been interested in Kawanhee ever since he had attended in the late 1930s. In 1957 he and Jane moved to Columbus, and in 1959 his son John attended his first season. By the latter half of the 1960s, he had three sons attending, and in order to defray tuition costs, Walter began accompanying George Frank for recruiting in Columbus. From that contact, discussions began about the purchase of Kawanhee. George's goal was to find a buyer who would perpetuate Camp and its traditions.

Walter broached the subject with campers and counselors of his generation, and from those discussions it was determined that a core group of people was willing to form a corporation to purchase Camp. Walter and George met to determine a selling price, then met with the core group and decided Walter would be responsible for the day-to-day operation of Camp. There would be a transition period of several years where George Frank would gradually cede operation of Camp to Walter and the newly formed corporation. On August 16, 1969, Kawanhee Inc. was incorporated, and on August 21 the corporation issued its initial shares of stock to Walter and Jane Estabrook, Elizabeth Frank Smith, Lewis A. Smith, George and Mary Frank, Rees Edgar Tulloss, Harold G. Myers, William C Myers, John C. Marble Jr., Clarence and Florence Bateman, Henry Scarlett, and Donald Wambaugh.

Jane Estabrook recalled touring Camp shortly after the transfer took place. The men were all excited, full of anticipation, talking and exchanging stories of their Camp experiences. Jane saw the sagging roofs on some of the buildings and worried about expenses. Kawanhee Inc. had acquired not only the Camp but also the Inn. At some point someone in the group asked, "Who is going to run the Inn?" Walter replied, "Jane is going to run the Inn." That is how Jane, with no prior experience in the hospitality industry, learned that the Inn was now her responsibility.

MOVING INTO A NEW ERA FOR CAMP

Starting in 1967 the senior counselors wrote and performed their own skit, poking fun at Camp with counselors portraying different staff personalities. The skit was always a big hit, and the 1969 skit was memorable with a huge cast, twelve different acts, and a musical with three songs. The writers were Mike Meserole, Mark Standen, Rick Whitmyre, and Wally Whitmyre. Counselors rehearsed for a week, and the skit was well received as it was a funny look at Kawanhee. The author was cast as the Nurse-typecasting!

Another performing group was the Kawanhee Folk Singers who usually performed at the Inn on Fridays and Sundays. Members were Dave Alexander, Dave Allan, Bruce Birch, Les LeVeque, Tim McKee, Bob Litwak, Jack Pray, Rick Whitmyre, Andy Williams, and Dan Flores. They were paid a performance fee, but 100% of the fee went to the Masterman Memorial Fund in Weld. Newt Masterman was the owner of the store in Weld, and on Memorial Day his twenty-two-year-old son, Bob, was killed in a car accident. The fund was a college scholarship for a deserving student from Weld. Kawanhee has always felt a strong kinship with Weld, giving back.

There was exciting news in Water Skiing in 1969 with the purchase of a new fourteen-foot ski boat. At the weekly Campfire it was announced the new ski boat would be named after George Frank, called the GR. 1969 continued to be a good summer with Rich Estabrook ending his eight-year losing streak by leading the Greys to victory! Hank Hiser earned his JMG, and Chris Charyk and Ralph Tice were awarded the Campbell Scarlett Award. It had been a memorable summer for several reasons, and 1970 would be as well since it would be our 50th year!

1970: OUR 50th YEAR!

As the summer approached, it promised to be since the dream of the Frank brothers was turning 50! The new corporation was in place, but the transition would be gradual. George Frank was still making a lot of decisions, and the transition was much quicker at the Inn where Jane Estabrook was named new Director. 150 campers and 30 counselors had signed up for our 50th year with another veteran staff.

After an absence of several years, John Detrick returned to help in Shop with his sons, John Jr. and Sam attending and who would continue with great careers. John's wife, Lydia, also started a long career as Dietician at the Inn. The Detrick family also had a young son, Andrew, and a daughter, Lu Ann. Big John's Kawanhee greatness would develop in future years as he would become DOA, Assistant Director, and eventually Frank Foundation Board Member.

There were some other noteworthy, new staff members. Larry Pray, after an absence of several summers, was back to co-direct Tennis. Another new Tennis counselor was Kent Rigsby who would go on to be a very successful restaurant owner and chef in Columbus. Another new staffer was Jeff Monroe, eventually becoming Head Trainer for the Michigan State University football team. The staff also included several longtime campers and counselors who were now senior counselors including Doug Means, Steve Fink, Tim McKee, Dave Alexander, and Mark Standen.

There was also a group of notable junior counselors and Senior Cadets who would continue as senior counselors including Todd Tremble, Jack Doege, Hank Hiser, Robert (BA) Altmaier, Scott Leiper, Billy Proctor, Mike Standen, Lloyd MacDonald, and Wally Whitmyre. A Senior Cadet was the 1960s and 1970s version of a second year JC. A Senior Cadet did get a small salary, and you were usually a SC the summer after you were a Senior Cadet.

Over at the Inn Jane hired her own staff, and besides Lydia Detrick, another new, memorable staff member was Judy Myers who would run the Inn office. She was the daughter of Reverend Hal Myers and had been coming to the area since she was a baby. Judy had been dating the great counselor, Chuck Hoffhine, and they would get married in the early spring of 1971. They still come to Lake Webb with an army of children and grandchildren. As it turns out, Judy's sister, Marty, would also marry a counselor, Bill Albershardt. Kawanhee marriages have continued going strong over the years, just like Camp.

1970 summer would be another good summer, as one would expect and hope for. Todd Tremble and Hank Hiser were named Grey and Maroon Captains, respectively. The Greys made a comeback at the end to win by fewer than a thousand points. Other special awards in 1970 were Steve Wolf and Paul Hargan earning their Expert Rifleman, and Bill Wambaugh earning the Eagle Scout: he had earned seven of his Merit Badges at Camp. Bill was the son of Donald Wambaugh, a former counselor who had been one of the heroes of the truck accident near Katahdin in 1948. Rich Darmanin received his Skipper Award in Sailing, and Will Ireland, Andy Strachan, Sherman Hanna, and Ralph Tice were awarded the Campbell Scarlett Award. Jim MacDonald won the Greatest Athletic Improvement Award.

And sadly as 1970 approached with many great losses, they would be replaced by younger men and staff who would carry on traditions and create new legacies and memories. There always was a new generation of campers coming up through the ranks, and in 1970 several young men were poised to be the next group of counselors-Lorenzo Baker, Keith Erf, Ferd Schoedinger, Ralph Tice, John McDonald, Nicky Gill, Sherman Hanna, Chris Charyk, John Duncan, and Tim Williams, to name just a few.

As the season came to an end, Camp leadership had a lot to be proud of. Kawanhee started with sixteen campers in 1921, and in its 50th year had 150 campers. Recall when the Frank brothers started Camp, they never saw a population of over sixty. Kawanhee had survived the Great Depression and World War II, among many other challenges. We were fifty years old, a tremendous success, and were on the map as being an outstanding Camp. Like any organization that is a half century old, there had been changes, but most parts of Camp life remained the same just as they had been in 1921. Though the world was indeed a very different place, much of Kawanhee had stayed the same.

We seemed to have a great future in 1970. The next fifty years would bring its own challenges and successes, but through and through Kawanhee has survived the test of time and continues to be a

character-building force for boys and young men. Kawanhee continues to evolve, the family continues to grow, and traditions grow even stronger. And we are all grateful for that, indeed.



Clarence "Bates" Bateman longtime Directors of Tripping, talking with Ray Phillips, the legendary Hermit of Monhegan. Ray would eventually come to visit camp and stay overnight.



John "Pop" Nowald served as Director of Activities for many years in the 1960's



Forrest Dexter was a college professor from New Jersey and ran the nature dept. in the 1960's and 1970's.



Chuck Hoffhine, a much-loved counselor from Columbus is credited with saving the fort from an early morning fire.



The Dean Ross Miller served as Chaplain, and in many other roles during his 40-year tenure.

CHAPTER EIGHT

THE 1970s: KAWANHEE BEGINS ITS SECOND HALF CENTURY

Kawanhee's 51st summer in 1971 began with Kawanhee Inc. firmly in control with Walter Estabrook charged with the actual operation of Camp during the summer and the recruitment of counselors and campers in the winter. George Frank was Assistant Director, giving Mr. Estabrook advice. As the season started, Captains Tim Williams (Greys) and Billy Proctor (Maroons) were chosen. 1971 stands out for me because I had just graduated from college and was due to be drafted into the US Army shortly after Camp ended. I thought that after my two-year military commitment I would get a regular job, and 1971 would be my last year at Camp. Little did I know Camp's lasting impact on my life.

Kawanhee ended in 1971 with the Maroons edging the Greys with the High Point Winner Dave Durrell with 1240 points. His brother Eric also excelled and was second with 1070 points. Eric tied with a young Junior Cub (Junior Cs back then) by the name of Tim Bolon, the only camper that summer to complete a plaque in one summer. As an adult Tim would become a board member of the Frank Foundation and send two sons to camp. Mark Sengelmann, John Morr, and Ralph Tice were awarded their Robin Hood award in Archery. Jim Estabrook, Mike Van Ost and Jim Woligroski achieved their Expert Rifleman award. We had two successful Junior Maine Guides in 1971--Ralph Tice and Lorenzo Baker. Other special awards given in 1971 were the Lattimer Award for Greatest Physical Improvement, awarded to Tom Bolon. The Benua Award for Greatest Athletic Improvement went to Henry Hauser. The Shepard Award for Greatest Improvement in Swimming was awarded to Brian Birch Jr. And the Campbell Scarlett Award for excellence in Nature was awarded to three boys--Willie Rigsby, David Durrell, and Frank Finetto.

Unfortunately, George Frank became ill at the end of the season and was in the hospital. A new award called the Kawanhee Honor Award, a solid gold tie clip, was introduced in 1971 to honor Kawanhees who had served for many years. The first recipient was George Frank, and when the award was announced the entire Camp gave GR a standing ovation which he heard through the phone at the hospital.

Tom Ruhle and his older brother Steve were two great counselors. Their father Norman had attended in the formative years, and Tom had been a former Captain and successful JMG candidate. In 1971 he helped direct the JMG program and helped Ralph and Lorenzo attain their JMG certificates. A few days after Camp ended, we heard the horrible news that Tom had been killed in an auto accident on his way home from Kawanhee. Those that knew Tom will remember his great spirit and great leadership skills. He would be greatly missed.

1972: A KITCHEN REMODEL, A MOVIE, NEW COLOR COMPETITIONS, & CARNIVALS

Before the campers arrived in 1972 big changes were taking place. The Kitchen needed a remodel and expansion, nothing extremely extensive, but it was decided the project would be completed pre-Camp. John Detrick led the work crew, six hard working counselors, who started on June 14th finishing by June 27th. As stated earlier, Camp started later in those years--often as late as June 30th, so the project was completed before campers arrived.

There was also a significant change in personnel as Big John would be the new DOA and Assistant Director. A new counselor was Peter Belskis from Rumford, Maine, only a few miles from Camp. He was a superior athlete and would return year after year and would become the longtime Athletic Director and oversee Baseball. Pete would end up serving for over thirty years and would marry his longtime girlfriend, Nan, who would also serve for over 30 years as Lodge Inspector, run the Camp Store and oversee staff and camper accounts. Another notable counselor during this era was Jeff Monroe who worked in several different areas. He was learning to be an athletic trainer at Ohio State and would

eventually become the Head Athletic Trainer for the Michigan State football team. It was always cool to see Jeff on TV when Michigan State played a game. He is now retired and had signed up for the 2020 reunion before it was postponed. He probably would have been busy healing a lot of the over the hill Kawanhee athletes who would try to play softball!

Ralph Tice (Greys) and Tim Keny (Maroons) were selected as Captains, and as usual it was a spirited competition. Also, a new wrestling mat debuted. On the ball field, thanks to Pete Belskis, counselors played a softball game against the Rumford Bucks with Kawanhee winning an exciting game 18-10. Mike Meserole described the “standing room only” crowd as the biggest at the ballfield in history.

One of the highlights of the 1972 season was a movie counselors produced called *Everyone Loves a Cop Except a Robber*--an original screenplay and truth be told, it was filmed in one afternoon. It premiered to a Rec Hall full of campers and was well received. In 1973 some of the same counselors produced a second movie, more involved and a longer screenplay with more actors. It was called *The Turnstile* and was loosely based on the popular *Godfather* movies of the 1970s. Again, the movie was very well received. There are still copies of the two movies out there somewhere.

Saturday afternoons have always been reserved for the weekly Maroon-Grey competitions, and in the early days the weekday afternoons were not reserved for structured activity periods like today but rather for baseball games, basketball games, fishing trips, track and field meets, and other group activities. On Saturdays, there was the Maroon- Grey swim meet with track and swim meets switching sometimes. By the 1960s this schedule had changed with a swim meet every Saturday. But in the early 1970s, it occurred to the Camp directors that having a swim meet every Saturday was boring, so it was decided there would be a different activity including Capture the Flag, All Athletic Day (Baseball, Basketball, etc.), Counselor Hunt, Track and Field, A Woodsmen Meet, and, yes, one Swim Meet. These fun-filled Saturday competitions continue to this day with some changes over the years--Counselor Hunt and Track and Field are rarely done today--but most of the others are still around. In the 1990s a crazier version of Capture the Flag called Flag Rush was added and remains a very popular activity today.

One of the most unique new opportunities offered to campers on Saturdays in the 1970s was the Carnival, not a competition, with counselors and staff coming up with games. It didn't last too long--only a summer or two--before all activities on Saturday afternoon were Maroon-Grey competitions.

However, in recent years the Carnival made a comeback--a perfect activity to fit into the last Friday afternoon of Camp when campers had free time. Activities end at noon on Friday, and this gives activity heads a few hours to tabulate Maroon-Grey points before having to finalize points and awards for the ceremony the next afternoon. I believe this new Carnival started in the 1990s, and for many years it was like the original Carnival concept of the 1970s with cabins and counselors developing homemade games. Half the campers and counselors would help run the games, while the other half circulated and played games. An hour later, campers and counselors switched roles. Campers were given paper money--called *wampum*--and used it to play games and hopefully win more Carnival *wampum*. Later the campers could exchange *wampum* for a prize at the Camp Store. A few years ago, the administration felt the Carnival had lost some of its excitement, so it was decided that permanent games made from wood should be constructed and used year after year. And thus, the Carnival was revived! Wallis Tyler made a collection of great games, a dunk tank is rented, the kitchen makes doughboys and popcorn and sometimes cotton candy--indeed a fun way to spend the last Friday afternoon of the Camp season.

At the end of the 1972 season, the Maroons defeated the Greys by 3,000 points. Tim Keny had to leave Camp early for pre-season sports practice in Columbus, and his twin brother, Jim, replaced him as Maroon Captain the last two weeks. Since the Maroons won, Jim Keny must have done a good job. John Vail was the High Point Winner with 1000 points. Craig Miller was awarded his Skipper award, and Rocky Smith became only the eighth boy in history to be awarded the Racing Skipper in Sailing. At the Range George Matchneer and George Pierce were awarded their Expert Rifleman Awards. Three boys passed their Junior Maine Guide in 1972--John Duncan, Alan Sweet and Jeff Colon-Bennett. The Lattimer Award for Greatest Physical Improvement went to Whitaker Wright, the Benua Cup for Greatest Athletic Improvement to Will Ireland, the Greatest Improvement in Swimming to Eduardo Montero, and the Campbell Scarlett Award for Excellence in Nature was awarded to two boys--Tom McCarthy and

Harry Wright. Leonard Taylor, Kawanhee Head Chef, was awarded the solid gold tie clip as the Kawanhee Honor Award recipient in 1972. Overall, 1972 had been another good and memorable summer.

1973: A NEW WRESTLING BUILDING, TRACK & FIELD DEPARTS, SOCCER MOVES IN

Like 1972, 1973 started with a major construction project pre-Camp as it had been decided a new Wrestling Building should be built. Before 1973 Wrestling was conducted in the main part of the Rec Hall resulting in a lot of juggling for use of that space, especially during free time when boys often wanted to play ping pong or four square. This juggling was made more difficult because a bulky and heavy wrestling mat, purchased in 1972, was involved and needed to be moved. So, in June John Detrick got another dedicated work crew to construct the new building which would be connected to the Rec Hall running perpendicular to it. The crew--Fritz Monroe, Bill Proctor, Kevin Morrin, Jim Estabrook and Dave Peyton--worked seven days a week and ten hours a day. Mark and Mike Standen joined the project when they arrived in Maine, just in time to help raise a wall. The hard work paid off just in time for the start of the season. The Wrestling Building was torn down in the fall of 2018 as part of the Rec Hall Reconstruction Project.

A veteran staff returned, and two alumni returned after being away. Mitch Greenawalt returned for what amounted to his third Camp career. Mitch had been at Kawanhee as a young man in the 1940s, returned in 1966 and 1967 with a young family, and in 1973 returned to be Director of Boating. Mitch was a Band Director at a school near Akron, Ohio, and in 1973 he would try to revive the Band and Orchestra. Mitch's wife, Ginny, would eventually edit *The Wigwam*.

But another new staff member had been away even longer than Mitch. Dr. Bill Yardley had been a camper and counselor in the 1930s and 1940s and would serve as Camp Inspector and Camp Store Manager in 1973. Bill will always be remembered in history for reviving *The Log*, (a humorous look at Camp life read at weekly campfires) which had been started in the 1920s by Campbell Scarlett. When Bill arrived in 1973, he was dismayed that *The Log* no longer existed, so he decided to revive it. He was the perfect man for the job with his keen wit and great writing style. Today, *The Log* is still an important part of Camp life, and all the credit should go to Bill Yardley for bringing this great tradition back to life. Bill's wife, Beanie, also joined him and was Camp Mother.

In 1973 we said goodbye to an activity that had been part of Camp since the early days. Track and Field was eliminated as an activity. For many years after 1973, there was usually a Maroon-Grey Track and Field Meet on one Saturday when we pulled out the high jump, broad jump, the dashes, shot put, discus, and relays. However recently, the Track and Field Meet has also disappeared, both lost in history.

But in 1973 we also gained an activity. Over the previous years, soccer had been increasingly popular. Boys from the East played it more than Ohio campers. And since we had no soccer field, games were played in the outfield when no baseball games or practices were scheduled. However, it was decided that Kawanhee must have a soccer field if the activity was to develop; the only problem was there wasn't a lot of space, but there was one possibility. The area next to the Shop was small and can best be described as a swampy area of trees, so the trees were cut down and the swamp filled in as much as possible. A soccer field was born. It was a small field--nowhere close to a normal sized field--but it would serve as Kawanhee's soccer field from 1973 until 2010. Some players liked the small field because there was constant action, but purists knew it was much smaller than the standard size used at home.

The 1973 season was another great one. John Duncan (son of Jock Duncan mentioned earlier) and Jeff Colon-Bennett were chosen as Captains. It was cool that Jeff was selected as Captain since he was the first boy from Puerto Rico selected as a Captain, and extra cool since his Grey team ended up winning. Steve Minus was High Point Winner with 1400 points, and David Durrell, High Point Winner in 1971, excelled again with 1339 points to finish second. John Aldrich, Frank Fineto, and Mike Harrison were awarded their Skipper Award, and Rich Darmanin became the ninth boy in history to be given the Racing Skipper Award. John Gill was awarded the Robin Hood Award, and we had five boys who earned their Junior Maine Guide--Ken Chapman, Lee McCleave, John Ireland, Jeff Morgan and Frank Finetto. The Lattimer Award for Greatest Physical Improvement was given to Simon Dunkle, and two boys shared the

Benua Award for Greatest Athletic Improvement in 1973--Courtney Day and Peter Seeley. Courtney lived on Monhegan and had come to Camp as a result of meeting boys on our annual trips to the island. Peter Shaw was awarded the Shepard Award for Greatest Improvement in Swimming, and Alan Witzmann was awarded the Campbell Scarlett Award for Excellence in Nature.

The Awards Ceremony was held outside for the first time in the gap between Polecat (now Falcon) Lodge and Pine Tree Lodge, and the audience would have a great view of the lake and mountains. Unfortunately, in 1973 it rained midway during the ceremony, and everyone scurried to the Rec Hall. The Awards Ceremony is still outside--weather permitting, but if it rains, we now hold it in the Dining Hall. Mother Nature is going to do what she's gonna do.

1974: BASS ROCK WALKS, A MARRIAGE, A LOST MESSAGE & CHRISTMAS IN JULY

Six months before the 1974 season started, five friends took an historic walk. On a beautiful and calm January morning, BA Altmaier, Bob Zechiel, Candy Crane (Mrs. Zechiel in less than 6 months), and Kirk and Patty Neiswander decided to walk from the shore of Camp Kawanhee to Bass Rock. People have been enjoying winter activities on Lake Webb for years. But a walk from the shores of Camp to Bass Rock was uniquely a Kawanhee activity, and our close relationship with the Rock made it even more special. Until the late 1940s, our Sunday evening Vespers Service was held there, and each summer campers and counselors swim to and from the Rock and use it as a starting line for triathlons and war canoe races. But on that January day, the five Kawanhees were just getting some exercise in the middle of a long Maine winter. But it would lead to much more than that.

At the end of the 1974 summer, BA took his paddle up to the Shop to have another year's stripes painted on it. In the Shop was Chris Stallman, a counselor who had heard the story of the winter walk to Bass Rock. Chris asked BA if he would like his winter walk to be recognized on his paddle. It made sense since a Bass Rock Swim was represented by a large maroon K, and so a large white K should signify the winter walk. BA agreed of course, and thus the tradition of the white K was born. Nowadays, the white K is not as large, so BA charges people a dollar to look at the coveted, rare, larger white K on his paddle. For ten seconds only, he allows people to gaze with envy at the infamous white K on his paddle that lives under the dining hall. One wonders how much BA has made over the years, and I am wondering if I should have even disclosed its location!

Since 1974 the winter walk to Bass Rock has become a great tradition and in the past few years, it has become an organized event advertised on our official website and Facebook page, taking place on the Sunday of President's Day weekend. On Saturday night all walkers meet for dinner at a restaurant in Wilton, and after the walk we meet at the Skoolhouse Variety for some chili. Perhaps you could join the walk some day and take part in this wonderful tradition.

The 1974 staff was largely a veteran staff with a few new people. Bill Brutscher and his wife Ginny had returned after a year away, and he slid back into his roles as Camp Inspector, Camp Store Director, and Camper Account Supervisor. Ginny worked at the Inn with longtime directors Jane Estabrook and Lydia Detrick. Also returning after a few summers away was Forrest Dexter, Director of Nature, who had recently retired as a college professor from New Jersey and now lived in Maine. Pete and Nancy van den Honert would be new staff members, and Pete would be Director of Aquatics and help with the music program as he was a vocal music teacher in the real world. Nancy would work at the Inn and the Camp Kitchen and eventually would become a co-Director of Archery for many years. Pete and Nancy would serve for over thirty years.

A notable lodge, Polecat, was led by SC Mike Standen and first year JC Steve Yale. Polecat campers included future board members Jon Morgan and Will Fleming, and also Brian Birch Jr., Herb's grandson. This high-spirited lodge is infamous for being the first lodge to sleep the night in the Tumbledown graveyard. Little sleep was had.

In the spring of 1974 Bob Zechiel and Candy Crane got married. She met Bob when both were students at Ohio Wesleyan University, and they started dating and Candy worked at the Inn as their relationship developed so they would not be apart during the summer. Soon they became engaged and

planned a spring wedding in 1974. After their wedding, Candy would move over to Camp where they would be Camp parents for many summers, and she also worked in Nature. Bill Yardley had not returned, and Zeke filled in as the writer and reader of *The Log* in 1974.

In 1974 two notable campers were Mark and Ian Brzezinski. Mark was in Eagle and Ian in Panther. Their father was a respected foreign policy expert, Dr. Zbigniew Brzeziński, who would become National Security Advisor for President Carter in 1977--a tumultuous time in history. The Brzezinski family came to visit in 1974, and he and his wife played tennis on our courts. I fondly remember that peaceful time for them at Camp in stark contrast to the nightly, turbulent news he would bring to us on national TV. Their daughter, Mika, is currently a co-host of the program *Morning Joe*. Mark and Ian attended for one summer, and as adults they followed their father into government service. Ian was Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Europe and NATO for President George W. Bush. Mark became a Foreign Policy Advisor in the 2008 Presidential campaign of Barack Obama and was appointed U.S. Ambassador to Sweden and served until 2015.

As the reader hopefully recalls, in the mid 1960s a camper, William Eacho attended for two summers. William Eacho would go on to a great business career and was appointed U.S. Ambassador to Austria in 2009 by President Obama where he served until 2013. And thus from 2011-2013 there were two U.S. Ambassadors to two European nations who were both former campers. Is that cool or what? In 2014 another camper became King of Spain. Ah yes, the early 21st century when Kawanhee ruled Europe!

Do you recall the story of the Lost Message? If not, listen up. In 1974 while counselors were digging out at Council Point trying to find the Sachem message from 1973, they uncovered buried treasure--the Lost Message from 1957 that had been buried near the Central Fire for seventeen years! After finding the buried treasure, Ed Chace (the Chief in 1958) wrote a letter to the Dean's widow, Bea, describing the story of the Lost Message and included a copy of it. Dean had been the Chief Sachem in 1958 but had passed away in 1964. Bea enjoyed reading Ed's letter and learning about the mysterious Lost Message. A story about the discovery was printed in the 1974 *Wigwam* to the delight of all readers. Most people had no idea there was a message from 1957 still buried and undiscovered at the Council Ring. You can imagine that when discovered, it surprised a lot of counselors and campers that the message had been buried under the snow for hundreds of moons. Most of us believed that after *The Going of the Chief Ceremony*, the message was simply dug up and kept in the office for safe keeping. It was comforting to know that, at least, in this case, the Sachem's message was buried and left buried.

Also, in 1974 there was the first *Christmas in July* observance. The Chapel and Dining Hall were decorated in holiday greens, and each lodge was given a present--usually a bunch of candy bars. *Christmas in July* would be observed for many summers in the future but would eventually fade away for several reasons, because the camper population became more diverse with many not Christian and thus not celebrating Christmas.

Another noteworthy event in 1974 was the donation of a huge clock by former camper and counselor, Butch O'Neill. It was hung in the Rec Hall. Also, Mitch Greenawalt continued to revive the Camp Orchestra, a significant part of Camp life in the 1930s and 1940s. The orchestra had died out over the years, and Mitch, a music teacher, brought it back. Though it was small, Mitch proudly said that new instruments would be added in 1975.

That summer, my dear brother BA took over as Camp Scorekeeper where he still holds that position as of 2021. I believe it deserves special mention as he is my brother--literary license. John Aldrich (Maroons) and Chris Charyk (Greys) were Captains, and it would be a spirited competition with both teams scoring over 40,000 points each. Good thing BA is good at math. The Maroons won by 500 points. Will Ireland was High Point Winner with 1538 total points, and Steve Minus, a former High Point Winner, was runner up with 1340 points. Ronald Marra was third with 1310 points. Steve and Ronald excelled by completing their Junior B Plaques in one summer. Mark Schiewetz and Jeff Morgan were awarded their Robin Hood Awards in Archery, George Arky was awarded the Expert Rifleman Award, and three campers were awarded their Junior Maine Guide Certificate--Will Ireland, George Arky and Dana Gregory. Will Fleming, the son of the 1948 High Point Winner Bill Fleming, was selected as winner of the Benua Award for the Greatest Athletic Improvement, Paul Erchiner received the Lattimer

Award for the Greatest Physical Improvement, and Daryl DeNito was awarded the Shepard Cup for the Greatest Improvement in Swimming.

No history of Camp would be complete without a discussion of the counselor softball games. Historically these games took place on Saturday evenings before our weekly Campfire. There is no mention in early historical sources when the tradition of these games began; however, they must have started early in our history because *The Wigwam* mentions the games being revived in the 1930s. Games were between the junior counselors and senior counselors, and for many years they were just that. I remember watching the games in the mid 1960s, and they were strictly a SC-JC game with senior counselors usually winning. The games, as I remember them, were usually polite affairs with good sportsmanship. However, you may have a different recollection!

In the late 1960s the games changed a bit. In the summer of 1969, a group of junior counselors put together a particularly good team, winning the season series over the senior counselors. Typically, the next summer would have been another SC-JC competition with another group of junior counselors, but that winning team from the summer before decided they wanted to stay together but still call themselves the junior counselor team even though they were all senior counselors that summer. For several years both teams stayed the same making for lively and close competitions year after year. This also led to lots of spirited talk between the teams during the summer and over the winter. For a few summers we convinced the administration to let us play both Saturday and Sunday evenings. Occasionally new counselors were hired, and if they desired to play in the counselor game, the two unofficial Captains of the JC and SC teams would split up the new players. Normal questions to ask when Kawanhee hired a new counselor might be inquiries about where he was from, where he went to school or what department he wanted to work in, but back then, the question might have been, "Can he play third base?"

For a few years these competitive games continued with great game memories during this period. The games themselves became spectacles. Everyone had a special uniform or outfit they wore. Due to the competition, the sportsmanship wasn't all the best, and the campers who were recruited to umpire deserved a medal. One summer, Mike Meserole, Baseball Director, put up a temporary fence in right field so we could hit real home runs. In center and left field, the tennis fences formed a natural home run barrier. One summer the senior counselors got off to a big lead, and to rub it in, they played in pajamas at the next game. Another summer Mike Meserole got the great idea to make baseball cards for most of the players; one can imagine the value those have now. After leaving Camp, Mike became a sportswriter for the local paper in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. I visited him there, and proudly on his wall in his office were the baseball cards. I'm sure he still has them. Eventually the JC-SC games returned to the original concept of spirited games between the young and the older, perhaps to return to some former level of decency. The tradition continues, and at every reunion a softball game is scheduled for Saturday afternoon.

When BA Altmaier took over as Basketball Director in the late 1960s, he organized several basketball leagues with the oldest called the Basketball League. Originally any member of the Kawanhee family older than fourteen could play, including counselors. Eventually older campers had a separate league, and thus the KBL turned into a counselor league. Like softball games, KBL games became extremely competitive; one of the worst jobs you could have in that era was to be assigned to referee a game.

One of the most memorable things about the KBL league was the court we played on, a clay court like the tennis courts. Originally it was one of the four tennis courts, and one summer it was decided that one of the tennis courts should be turned into a basketball court. The baskets were wooden poles with wooden backboards made of different planks of wood attached together. Over time some of the planks warped and separated from the other planks. This caused some basketballs bouncing off the backboards to not give a true or expected bounce. The lines of the court were the plastic white lines used on the tennis courts. The court was dusty, and after each game a player was covered with the red slate that covered the clay.

Eventually the KBL became extinct as the counselors began to realize that Kawanhee was set up for campers (What a novel concept!), and it wasn't a promising idea to have a basketball league just for counselors. But just like the softball games, the veterans of the KBL have warm memories of the league. BA was obviously captain of a team every summer, and he always called his team the Bounders--alliterative of course. He proudly wears his old jersey on occasion. Dave Alexander, a great alumnus, was

a member of BA's Bounders for several years. He would go on to send three of his own sons and become a prominent lawyer in Ohio. When BA and Dave see each other, you would think they would call each other BA or Dave. Nope! They usually refer to each other with one word—Bounder.

SCARY STORIES TO TELL IN THE KAWANHEE DARKNESS

It is time to talk scary. I'm sure every sleepover camp has a tradition of scary stories around the campfire or in the cabin at night. And Kawanhee has its own unique stories, made up of course, right? Two of the favorites involve two Maineiacs named Max the Ax and Laughing Johnny. If you are a recent camper, you may not have heard of Laughing Johnny, but in the 1960s and 1970s he was a popular topic. The basic plot of these stories involves some former camper who was wronged and now lives in the woods, and occasionally, he decides to summon a few campers. I'm sure there are a million variations of these stories and even some other characters that have been invented. These stories have scared campers for years--not ideal but nonetheless tradition. A Skookumee Beach campout usually includes a story about Max the Ax and a guest (a friend of the counselors) who at the perfect time will be in the woods hitting a log with an ax. Frightening but hopefully hilarious simply reading about it now.

Full disclosure. I am sorry for ruining the lives of many former campers. When I was the Deer Lodge counselor I would tell a story, say good night to my campers, then retire to my separate room at the back of Deer. Or that's what they thought. I would then crawl back into the main part of the lodge, get under a bed, and scare them again. Nothing like a hand on the face to foster a few nightmares. Of course, now I'm sorry for this, but there are no former campers frothing at the mouth in some institution. One of my former campers is now a Frank Foundation Board Member, and he seems normal to me. His child was High Point Winner a few summers ago, and he also appears to be normal. His wife and daughter also appear to be normal; so that makes me feel good.

In recent years Camp has made a sincere effort to deemphasize the stories or to try and cut them out altogether. A few years ago, Mark Standen spent the off season writing an original Max the Ax story that was more appropriate for young minds. The next summer, Mark, a great writer and superb storyteller, told his story around the campfire at Council Point to many of the older boys. It was an enormous success. I was Nightman and patrolling the Camp on one of the storytelling nights. I tried to listen from a distance, but I got too scared to continue, haunted by my unscrupulous former nights scaring innocent children in Deer. But aren't we all guilty of perpetuating the tradition?

WHEN HARRY MET LAUGHING JOHNNY

One day at the tennis courts in the late 1960s, my friend Jack Pray and I were talking about the latest scary stories, and the name Laughing Johnny came up. It was then that a very mature and intelligent young camper by the name of Harry Wright announced to everyone that he didn't believe in Laughing Johnny. Of course, he was right, or was he? One thing led to another, and Jack and I challenged Harry to spend the night on the Archery Range, where according to legend, Laughing Johnny lived. Harry willingly and confidently accepted the challenge, and the night of the challenge soon arrived. Of course, before that evening, Jack and I had recruited a counselor to become Laughing Johnny. Our candidate was perfect-- a theater major in college with a big booming voice. Unfortunately, he was only at Kawanhee for one summer, and I have forgotten his name over the last fifty years. In those days the Archery Range was located along the baseball field with bales of hay behind the targets to absorb inaccurate arrows.

As the evening started, Harry showed up with his sleeping bag. Jack and I were there also to provide support, or so we said. Of course, it was a whole different ball game in the darkness as Harry noted. Soon a big booming voice with an insidious laugh came out from behind the bales of hay. It was Laughing Johnny. Harry was calm until Laughing Johnny called him by his name. "How does he know my name?" Harry questioned. Eventually Harry was instructed to stand in the middle of the Range and proclaim that Laughing Johnny was real. He was then allowed to return to his lodge--running extremely fast. The next morning Harry seemed in good spirits at breakfast. The final joke was played on us when our actor came

up to us at breakfast and proclaimed, "Sorry I couldn't make it last night!" What? They say the unreal is more powerful than the real because nothing is as perfect as how you can imagine it.

Harry continued with his career and grew up to be a great Swimming counselor. He eventually married a lady named Edna who served as a Camp Nurse. When Harry was a counselor, I went up to him during training week and asked if he remembered that one dark and scary night. "Of course," he replied. "And boy would I like to give the person who set that up a big fist in the mouth." "Good luck with that," I smirked. And that is how Harry met Laughing Johnny and how I avoided a punch in the face--one that still may be coming to me now that I blew my cover.

1975: A KAWANHEE THANKSGIVING, 7 WEEKS, BIG TRIPS, & A LAUNDRY--YEAH!

Starting in 1974, a group of Kawanhees started to meet in Weld for what became known as the Kawanhee Thanksgiving--a natural development for counselors and campers who came back year after year and developed close friendships. Some counselors such as BA had moved to Maine and lived in the Weld area year-round, and other counselors were going to school in New England. Instead of taking the long-haul home to Ohio or New Jersey for the short holiday, it was a good alternative to spend the weekend with good friends. The first Kawanhee Thanksgiving was a small affair with a handful of people, but over the next six or seven years it grew to fifty or sixty people. For most years the dinner was held at Mark and Mike Standen's cabin at the head of the lake, the current, year-round home of their mom Jane Standen. In the 1970s it was just a summer residence with no heat and a privy (outhouse).

The celebrations took place over most of the weekend with a social evening on Wednesday as people arrived followed by a lively and crowded feast, a Tumbledown hike, and dinner at the Chicken Coop in Mexico, Maine. The peak of the Thanksgiving celebrations was in the late 1970s with the last in 1982. BA had gotten married the previous fall and had rented Betty Frank's (Raymond Frank's daughter) home on Center Hill in Weld where he welcomed a small group. The Thanksgiving is long gone but not forgotten with memories and pictures living on. Years before Sean Minear became an employee, he climbed Tumbledown with us on one of the weekends. Sean's family lived next to the Standen cabin, and he would participate in some activities as he grew up. On top of Tumbledown, everyone took pictures, and his still adorns his bulletin board in the Kitchen.

There was one infamous event that happened on the Thanksgiving weekend of 1979 while at the Chicken Coop after the climb up Tumbledown. The upstairs lounge was packed and had a jukebox and a small dance floor. One of the female attendees (Donna, a friend of Liz Standen's from Boston) asked BA to dance, and he felt he couldn't maneuver around the crowded tables. So, he got up onto a table, hit his head on a beam, fell into a chair and rolled onto the dance floor. People rushed over, but he returned to his seat. A short while later he had difficulty breathing, and the smart ones in the group encouraged him to visit the ER. He went home and was in some distress the remainder of the night, feeling a lot of pain in his chest area. The next morning it was recommended by John Duncan (in medical school at the time) that he go to the hospital where it was discovered that he had a broken rib and a lung that was 60% collapsed. But his head was fine! The lung and rib repair were simple, but BA had to spend a week in the hospital getting rid of the liquids trapped near his injury. Of course, BA received a lot of visitors and sympathy. Recent video footage released by the hospital has revealed that BA spent most of his week chasing after nurses. There was a short revival of Thanksgiving in the early 2000s. A group of 15-20 met in Weld and played touch football, then had a turkey dinner. One of the dinners was upstairs in the Weld Town Hall.

In 1975 there was another veteran staff including Don (DL) Long who moved up to be a baseball counselor. DL was one of the most gifted baseball players ever. Eventually DL would become a member of the George and Raymond Frank Foundation and is still an active and involved alum. His two children have recently been campers and counselors. Another infamous staff member was Andy Williams, a camper and counselor for several years who in 1975 became the first full time Director of Soccer. His wife, Robin, assisted him, and while I haven't seen them in decades, they still contribute to our foundation. Bill Yardley was back to resume the tradition of reading and writing *The Log*, and Big John was back again as DOA. And after several summers of great food under the direction of Chef Leonard

Taylor, he retired. Ruthie Boardman from Missouri became the new chef, Ginny Brutscher came over from the Inn to help her, and Nancy van den Honert became Head Baker. That left the Inn under the capable leadership of Jane Estabrook and Lydia Detrick.

There was a substantial change in our calendar in 1975. We had started as an eight-week camp in 1921, continuing for over fifty years. In the early 1970s Camp experimented with a length of seven and half weeks, and finally in 1975, it was decided that we would become a seven-week camp as it continues today. School schedules were beginning to change, making a late August ending problematic with more boys opting to spend part of the summer on family vacations and attend specialty camps. Parents also seemed more hesitant to send children away for eight weeks. Instead of starting in late June (often June 30th) and ending on August 25, Kawanhee would now start earlier in June and end earlier in August. All these changes hopefully would help recruit campers.

As the season started, two of the junior counselors were selected as Captains--Steve Yale for the Greys and Oscar Shamamian for Maroons--both young men hailing from New Jersey, Tenafly and Englewood, respectively. There was also a major change in the program in 1975--an experimental program in Tripping that would continue for a few summers. A few campers would spend most of their summer out of Camp doing long trips, would come back to get a little rest, resupply, then hit the trail again. The program was led by Kevin Morrin, back for his third year, and his Assistant was Jim Estabrook. They would start with ten days of canoeing the Allagash, hike Mount Katahdin, hike some of the Appalachian Trail, then hike extensively in the White Mountains of New Hampshire and the Green Mountains of Vermont. Obviously, a very challenging summer. There was one unique thing about the backpacking trip. Participants included two young ladies--Susan Hoffman, who later married a counselor, Josh Cook (another K marriage!) and Daryl Jordan, daughter of Camp secretary Amy Jordan.

Another major change was the debut of a Laundry, thank goodness! Before 1975, laundry was sent to a professional laundry in Auburn, Maine. An entire cabin's laundry was sent together, washed, dried, and sent back. Boys would spend part of Monday sorting and identifying socks, underwear, etc.--thus the importance of names written on clothing in permanent markers. Dark socks not labelled were usually a nightmare. Of course, the addition of the on-site laundry was greeted by applause all over Camp. On the day it opened, George Frank cut the ribbon. Lucky for campers nowadays as they no longer must sort, so thanks to the laundry staff, campers get their clothes folded and sorted.

At awards, Mark Schiewetz was awarded Expert Rifleman, Rick Stockhausen the Robin Hood Award, and Sam Detrick (son of Big John) Greatest Physical Improvement. Years later, Sam would become a pilot in the Air Force. Other special awards were the Benua Award to Paul Davis, the Shepard Cup to Dick Kirkian, and two boys shared the Campbell Scarlett Award--John Tulloss and Chummy Sullivan.

The Maroon--Grey competition was awesome with over 74,000 total points scored. The Greys led throughout the summer extending their lead to over 5000 points going into the final week. At the awards, Henry Shamamian, Oscar's younger brother, would be the lone JMG, and be named the High Point Winner, and would propel the Maroons to win the team competition by 250 points! In 1975 The Honor Award turned into the Chief Kawanhee Order of the Arrow Award-- a staff award--and was given to Herb Birch for the second year. During the off season the first attempt to form an Alumni Association would take place since we realized there had not been an organized method of keeping track of alumni. It would be a slow start, but at least it was a start.

1976: THE BICENTENNIAL, THE COUNSELOR ROOM & SPANISH CAMPERS ARRIVE

Everyone knew that 1976 would be an exciting year with the United States celebrating its Bicentennial. There was a big parade scheduled in Weld and an original play written and to be performed by Kawanhee in the Weld Town Hall the evening of the parade, honoring many of the highlights of our nation's history. As Camp approached, all members of the Kawanhee family were asked to bring clothing that could pass for colonial attire. Some people had fully authentic outfits while others brought a three-cornered hat (easy to come by in 1976), a blue sport coat and the white pants required for church.

On July 4, 1976, we lined up at Camp, and with each lodge simulating a regiment of the Continental Army, we marched in the parade through Weld. Some Kawanhee *soldiers* even had unloaded weapons. The Kawanhee Orchestra rode in the back of a flatbed truck and performed patriotic songs, and in the evening the original play was performed to a capacity crowd. The highlight of the play was BA Altmaier portraying Peter Minuit, the Dutch buyer of Manhattan Island. from the Native Americans. As many of you remember from history class, the Native Americans took trinkets worth \$24 for the site of the future New York City. In our version of this transaction, as they are agreeing on a deal, a Native American from the future informs the Chief that he is selling a site that one day will be New York and made up of tall buildings, great smokestacks, and lots of people and cars. Immediately, the Chief lowered his price and tried to give it away for free!

The play also included lots of songs with the finale being a re-creation of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in the Continental Congress in 1776. I recall how excited I was to be selected to be in the play. As a kid and a history buff, I always had dreams of playing Jefferson, Adams, or Franklin. How disappointed I was that my role was the Custodian, though I did a good job even though I had no lines. My camper friends told me if there were acting awards, I would have *swept* the awards.

The 1976 staff included mostly veterans with new staff members Henry Schuck and his wife Bonnie Birch Schuck who directed Nature together and served as Camp Father and Mother. Also, on staff was the most talented tennis player to attend Kawanhee, Scott Hadley from Columbus, the son of a former Grey Captain, Ben Hadley. Scott had excelled at tennis in high school and was a superb athlete as we would all soon find out on the athletic fields. Some veteran staff members took on new positions with Ferd Schoedinger as Photographer and Timmy Williams as Dramatics Director, an activity long gone that Timmy would try to revive. The backpacking trip, called the Northeast Carry, continued for a second summer and was led again by Kevin Morrin. Lorenzo Baker also led some trips. Ruth Boardman returned as Head Chef for a second summer. Frank Finetto (Maroons) and Mark Schiewetz (Greys) were selected as captains. And as 1976 progressed there were several historic changes including the counselor Room on the south end of the Rec Hall (originally Nature) was converted to a Kawanhee Library. Over the winter, we asked for donations for books and games, and this space continues to be the site of the current Library.

This former Counselor Room had a storied past, existing from 1949-1975. Anybody who was a counselor back in the day I'm sure has warm memories of it. There was a TV in the corner on the lake side of the room, and it was elevated so people could watch it from anywhere in the room. As I remember, we could get two stations, NBC and ABC--pre-cable of course. The Counselor Room was especially busy from the end of the second activity period until lunch since the mailboxes were located there, and in the ancient days before email, mail was very important. After the mail arrived at 11AM, counselors would wander through with many staying to watch the morning game shows including Hollywood Squares at 11:30 and Jeopardy at noon, which became especially popular. The lunch bell rang at 12:15, so we could not quite see all of Jeopardy. Though one summer that became a problem. In those days, contestants could only win five days in a row before being retired. And that was rare. However, that one memorable summer there was an active-duty U.S. Army soldier named Sgt. Rock (I kid you not) who had trounced the competition four days in a row, and on the fifth day, the Counselor Room was packed. I don't know who was watching the kids at the time, but we had to watch Sgt. Rock. We always had three chairs in front of the TV with those lucky few playing along, but on that day, it was standing room only. Sgt. Rock won, and the entire staff went to lunch, very late! It did not go over well with the authorities, and we were told not to do that again--well, until the following Monday.

In the evening counselors would come into the Counselor Room to socialize and watch TV, and often the kitchen would send down peanut butter, jelly and bread and extra desserts. Every counselor in that era has great memories of the room, including me. I was drafted in 1971 into the US Army, anticipating being sent to Vietnam. One day counselors were collecting brush, unbeknownst to me. After *Taps*, I was told to come to the Counselor Room. Twenty or so of my best friends surprised me with the room decorated as a jungle, and we watched the movie *The Green Berets*. At the time, it was very emotional for me as I felt I was not coming back. I've always remembered that night with a great deal of fondness and reflection. I was a young man at the time, yet looking back now, I feel we were never disrespecting those who served

but rather my Kawanhee family was sharing a special evening with me that could've been my last one with them. I was one of the fortunate ones to not be sent overseas and was stationed at Fort Leavenworth as a Prison Guard. Yes, those who know me cannot see me as a Prison Guard.

Tim Williams and the Dramatics department came through that summer as he and his Assistants produced two plays in the Rec Hall. One was *The Shiny Red Ball*, starring John White and Rees Tulloss. The other play *If Men Played Cards as Women Do*, starred Tom Watkins, Leigh Olivia, Will Warren, and John Frey. Both received great reviews and reminded many of the days in the 1930s and 1940s when plays were performed often. Another memorable performance in the Rec Hall was *Mr. America Night*, patterned after a beauty pageant. Each lodge nominated a candidate who displayed himself in evening wear, swimming wear, and a talent competition. It was the brainchild of Bill Yardley and originally was part of the Bicentennial, but it was so popular that it continued year after year and eventually called Mr. Kawanhee Night. The first winner of Mr. America Night in 1976 was Pole Cat lodger Celio Gonzalez, from Spain, coached by counselors Steve Yale and DL Long.

THE FIRST CAMPERS FROM SPAIN ARRIVE AT KAWANHEE

1976 was also an historic year in enrollment with campers from Spain landing for the first time at Camp. How they ended up here is somewhat of a mystery. The story is that when Camp Kineowatha--the girls' camp ten miles from Kawanhee--closed, the family that owned Kineowatha also owned a boys' camp in New York with campers from Spain. That camp also closed, and the owners recommended Kawanhee as a special place that the Spanish boys might enjoy. It is a nice story, and because I heard it from Mr. Estabrook, I accept it as fact.

As the 1976 season ended it had been a busy year. At the awards ceremony, Richard Morr received his Robin Hood, and John Duncan did an excellent job as JMG coach with six campers passing including Eric Jensen, John White, Marty Huguley, Chris Ward, Peter Seeley, and John Bell. Doug Sheppard was selected as both the winner of the Greatest Swimming Improvement and the Greatest Physical Improvement--very unusual for one camper to win two special awards. The Greatest Athletic Award went to Yasser Alwan, also awarded the Campbell Scarlet Award. And like the previous year, there were lots of total points scored, over 76,000 points with the Maroons winning with over two thousand points. John White--a Frank Foundation Board Member in 2021--was High Point Winner with 1651 points.

1977: THE YEAR OF THE FIRE

Another veteran staff was in place for 1977. John Detrick stepped aside as DOA, though he was still an important staff member, officially an Assistant Director. John Morr, a longtime Archery counselor, replaced John as DOA. Ruth Boardman again filled the critical position of Head Chef, and Beanie Yardley was Nurse. Before the season officially started, a new backstop was built at Baseball; the original built by George Frank needed serious repair.

The 1977 season got underway with all the normal activities and trips. Dave Yale (Greys) from Tenaflly, NJ and Jeff Sengelmann (Maroons) from Columbus, OH were selected as Captains. It was a sweltering summer and another typical, great summer. But on July 20th that all changed. All of us who attended that summer would have emotional memories of Beanie leading a sad meeting with the whole Camp family on the hill behind the Inn a few hours after the tragic fire.

The Fire

by Steve Yale

“Oh, what a beautiful Morning, Oh what a beautiful Day.
I have a wonderful feeling, everything’s going my way.”

Camp awoke on July 20, 1977, to these immortal words sung by Herb Birch; none of us could have imagined that day would forever change our lives. For most of the day things went as normal; activities ran smoothly, it was a muggy day so free swims were enjoyed, and several trips went out. The only thing out of the ordinary was that it was the cook’s day off, so counselors and staff would be preparing the noon and evening meals.

I was working in the Dining Hall after supper, along with about a dozen other people, clearing dishes and putting away food. We had music playing, and it was a very jovial and festive atmosphere. Down in the center of Camp a few boys played tetherball, but it was mostly empty as Eagle and Falcon were on a campout at the Swift River with Bates and John Duncan. Many were on the athletic field and the waterfront enjoying the beautiful but warm summer evening.

Dave Yale was in the center of Camp by the tetherball courts when he was startled by GR’s car accelerating from the office through the center of Camp. Luckily, no boys were around, but Dave watched as the car sped towards the Dining Hall. As we worked to clean up after supper, we were shocked to hear an incredibly loud and scary sound; it sounded like every pot, pan and dish in the Kitchen had just fallen off the shelves! I raced to see what had happened in the Kitchen, and everyone was quickly leaving out the back entrance. We went around the building and found GR’s blue Oldsmobile lodged completely underneath the building. About eight people immediately went under the Dining Hall to try and save GR’s life. As we focused on trying to extricate him from his car, we were unaware of the danger that had been unleashed from the crash. All around us propane was leaking from ruptured tanks, and there were pilot lights still lit under the stoves and hot water heater. John Detrick and Bill Yardley were two of the first people to arrive on the scene; they both realized the immediate danger we were all in.

Big John knew he could not get to the pilot lights in time and yelled, “Everybody GET OUT NOW!!” Nobody hesitated. Ferd Schoedinger, Bill Yardley, Bruce Birch and Chris Stallman ran away from the building, downhill toward the Rec Hall. Big John, Ralph Tice, and I ran up toward the Fort. What happened next can only be described as a living hell. The leaking propane was ignited by a spark, and instantaneously a huge fireball exploded from the Dining Hall towards the Rec Hall, burning everything in its path! The five counselors running toward the Rec Hall were forcefully pushed as they were burned, all in a matter of seconds. They realized the only thing they could do was to jump in the lake to try and cool their second- and third-degree burns. Those of us assembled by the Fort could only stare in disbelief as the Dining Hall became completely engulfed in flames in just a matter of minutes.

What happened in the ensuing hours is hard to explain. Those of us able used hand pumps to try and save the lodges and make sure they were not occupied. Eagle and Falcon were almost immediately engulfed in flames. Ralph Tice and I went into Birch Lodge and tried to rescue some of his possessions before it became too hot and unsafe to remain. Minutes after we left, Birch exploded into flames. Weld, Wilton, Rumford and other fire departments responded as quickly as they could, but the buildings that were already on fire could not be saved. Luckily, they were able to save the other lodges and most of the nearby forest.

While many of us were completely focused on trying to save GR and fighting the fire, we were unaware of everything else that was going on. Jon Trayner had been in the Dining Hall when the car hit. Instead of running out, he had the foresight and compassion to go upstairs and rescue Florence Bateman, Bates’ elderly wife, who needed assistance to get out of the building. All staff that were not actively fighting the fire immediately assembled all campers on the athletic field. The campers and some staff walked to the Weld Town Hall where they waited for the fire to be controlled. Later, the entire camp

family met on the hillside behind the Kawanhee Inn and were informed by Beanie Yardley (our nurse) and the Reverend Hal Myers that four buildings had been lost and GR Frank had passed away in the fire. We were assured that GR's widow, Mary Baker Frank, had been informed of GR's death and was resting. While I am sure it was a scary time for the boys, the counselors assured them everything would be OK.

The rest of that night is a blur to me, although others have vivid memories of what went on. As word spread about what had happened, the staff began making calls to parents to let them know ALL campers and staff were safe. I can only imagine the relief parents felt when they got those reassuring phone calls. By dusk, the fire was contained. But the sky remained ablaze as the buildings continued to burn well into the night.

“Day is done, gone the sun
From the lake, from the hills, from the sky.
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.”

As the next day dawned, many crucial decisions had to be made. In times of great challenge, many brave people needed to step up. Walter had been home in Columbus, but as he rushed back to Maine Jane was in charge. Assisted by John and Lydia Detrick, Herb Birch, John Morr, Bob Zechiel and many others, decisions were made swiftly and decisively. I remember Jane saying very firmly to a group of us, “If we close, we may never open again.” With this resolve and the support of counselors, staff, parents and many others, the decision was made to keep Kawanhee open!! The Inn became our second home, the Salvation Army sent in mobile kitchens, and campers that lost all their belongings went to Farmington to get replacements. The displaced campers lived in the Rec Hall and other locations for the remainder of the summer. The word resilience is not strong enough to describe the feeling around Camp. We would not only stay open, but not a single camper would leave!

I know everyone who was there has their own memories of that fateful day. I have tried to recount my memories, but I cannot speak to the effects that day had on all of us. I know all who were there will never forget the tragedy, but we will also always remember the spirit that rose from the ashes. Kawanhee brings out the best in people, and that day surely proved that and taught us lessons we will never forget. **May There Always Be a Kawanhee!**

*Dedicated to the memory of Big John Detrick, husband, father, teacher, mentor and a genuine superhero to those of us who knew him. 1939-2020.

As the emotional season of 1977 ended, it was time for the awards ceremony, held outside as usual. Some of the special awards included Mariner Taft winning the Lattimer Award, Tom Johnson winning the Benua Award and the Shepard Cup, Peter Goodbody winning the Campbell Scarlett Award, Peter Epstein, David Yale, and Vance Van Inwegan were awarded their Expert Rifleman, and Jeff Sengelmann was awarded the Robin Hood Award. Dave Evans and Tom Newbold were the two successful JMG candidates. Tom Johnson was the High Point Winner finishing with 1235 points, the closest competition for High Point winner with Peter Goodbody finishing five points behind with 1230! The Maroons won with a final score of 32,785 points while the Greys finished with 29,929 points.

1978: POST FIRE IMPROVEMENTS, A FIRE DEPT, THE BURMA ROAD & OLD TIMERS

In December of 1977 as the new Dining Hall was under construction, word was received that Frannie Frank, Raymond's widow, had passed away. Frannie married Raymond in 1935 and quickly adapted to life as the wife of one of our directors. Frannie replaced Ma Frank as Camp Mother after Ma died in 1946 and continued in that position for many summers. After Raymond's death in 1966, Frannie continued to be an active supporter of Camp.

It is obvious that the off season was not normal. With memories still fresh from the terrible fire of July 20th, construction on a new Dining Hall started immediately. First, the remains of the old Dining Hall had to be removed. For the last three weeks of the season, the charred remains were surrounded by safety tape--a daily reminder of the awful tragedy. But the summer continued as positively as it could be with the Camp family coming together. Yet the images of that fateful day still haunt many.

Plans had been drawn up and a construction company was hired to build the new Dining Hall beginning in the early fall. Kawanhee had received two small insurance payments from the destruction of the original Dining Hall. Some alumni met in late summer, went through catalogs from 1950-1977, 1700 names were added to a mailing list, and a fundraising campaign was launched. The fundraising drive had some bumps in the road as about 300 of the addresses were too old and not accurate. But 1400 addresses were good, and soon money began to be donated.

All fall, the construction company made progress, and by Christmas the foundation was complete, and a floor had been placed in position. The new Dining Hall would be much bigger than the old one, a good thing since the old one had reached its capacity--quite the tight squeeze. Like most people who admired the old building--its log construction and great fireplace--I miss the old building, but I do not know what we would have done with increasing enrollments. I guess we would have figured something out.

The new Dining Hall had residential rooms placed on the ground floor where the old Dining Hall had rooms upstairs. The author has a special memory on Christmas Eve of 1977. I was staying with my brother in Wilton and decided to attend the Christmas Eve service at the Weld Church. After the service I drove into Camp--a clear and cold evening. I will always remember standing on the new floor, no roof yet, and looking up at all the stars. What a sight.

Construction continued through the winter, and the fundraising campaign had brought in \$32,000. In March a winter *Wigwam* was published and sent out to all campers, staff and alumni and included a picture of the partially completed Dining Hall. Although it was only three months until the 1978 season started, it was on schedule to be completed. *The Wigwam* also said that the burned down Eagle and Falcon lodges were to be reconstructed with one large building and a hallway between. Rebuilding Birch lodge was a possibility according to *The Wigwam* but might have to be delayed, and the fireplace in the new Dining Hall would have to be a cheaper alternative than the old stone fireplace.

But things changed between March and June of 1978. None of these things were done--deemed too expensive for 1978. Only Birch lodge has been rebuilt, and that was not until the 1980s. To keep the names of Eagle and Falcon alive- the original two lodge names in history--Panther and Polecat were renamed Eagle and Falcon. As you will see, these two lodges would not always be called Eagle and Falcon, but they are today.

Another change because of the fire was the building of a second road, used as a service road. Big John and a dedicated crew built it with his son Sam giving the road its name. It was rough and reminded Sam of the jungles of Southeast Asia: it was aptly named the Burma Road as we all know today.

Camp started that year on June 25, and the new Dining Hall was ready, although very spartan in appearance. The building had not been stained yet, and the trees were being planted. Dr. Bud Sengelmann donated the trees to be planted around the Dining Hall, and today a plaque honors his contribution.

The 1978 staff was made up of Kawanhee veterans with John Morr returning as DOA in 1978. A memorable new employee was Cary Esser--a great friend of Julie Green (Sengelemann) and Liz Green (Standen) from North Carolina. Cary had spent the beautiful fall picking apples near Camp and was able to get employed at the last second. She was given the use of a cool truck with the job of picking up trash and taking it to the Weld dump (now a transfer station in politically correct times). She always came back with interesting items she found there--including complete clothing outfits. She was one of the most unique people to work at Camp and is now a ceramics teacher at the Kansas City Institute of Art.

As might be expected after the tragedy of the summer before, camper enrollment had decreased some, and there were three fewer lodges in 1978 because of the destroyed lodges in the fire, but all campers fit comfortably into the remaining lodges. At the end of the first week, John Detrick Jr (Maroons) and John White (Greys) were selected as Captains. The 1978 season was a normal, good season with all the usual trips and activities. There was a noteworthy event on the Monhegan trip when Jim Kneppshield caught one

of the biggest fish ever on the trip-- a halibut weighing 281 pounds! An average halibut weighs between 40 and 100 pounds. It was caught with a rod and reel and a 50-pound line--a record! And Jim, of course, got a little help bringing in this huge fish.

THE KAWANHEE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Another change in 1978 because of the fire was the formation of the Kawanhee Fire Department. Although fire trucks from surrounding communities arrived quickly on that fateful night, it was an innovative idea to have some capability of fire suppression before local emergency services could arrive. Staff volunteers took control of the new Kawanhee Fire Department that utilized a small fire engine to get water on a fire quickly by using the lake as a water source, and this is a vital resource still around today. Every summer we have fire drills, and campers are instructed in an emergency signal--the constant ringing of the bell. The Kawanhee Fire Department would provide heroic duty in another fire in 2019.

OLD TIMERS WEEKEND

The first official reunion would happen in 1987 and starting in 1990 we have had organized reunions every five years--except for 2020, of course. But in the summer of 1978 a large group of alumni planned what they called *Old Timers Weekend*--an emotional reaction to the fire of 1977 where we lost four buildings of our beloved summer Camp. Many of these alumni had been reconnected because of the fundraising since the fire, so they decided to return to the Camp of their youth. Unlike organized reunions which take place after the Camp season, *Old Timers Weekend* was scheduled during the middle of the season enabling alumni to meet current staff members. They had an exciting time playing softball, enjoying meals in the new dining hall, and attending our Saturday evening campfire. Afterwards, they retreated to the Inn where they enjoyed old Kawanhee movies shown by Ed Hamblin. Some of the alumni attending were Ed Hamblin, Dick Miller, Henry Blau, Bud Sengelmann, Hal Myers, Bill Myers, Bill Fleming, Herb Hedges and others.

At the end of the season, Peter Shamamian and Chris Reilly were awarded their JMG, and Tom Occhipinti won the Campbell Scarlett Award. The Latimer Award was given to Bruce Makosky, the Benua Award to Mariner Taft, and the Shepard Cup to Frank McPeak. In Archery, Harold Abrams, Juan Pablo Olazabal, Chip Trainer and Rees Tulloss were all awarded the Robin Hood Award. Pat Jeffrey was the High Point Winner with 1350 points with Steve Godwin a close second with 1325 points. The Greys won with a total of 37,085 points, the Greys finishing with 30,014 points.

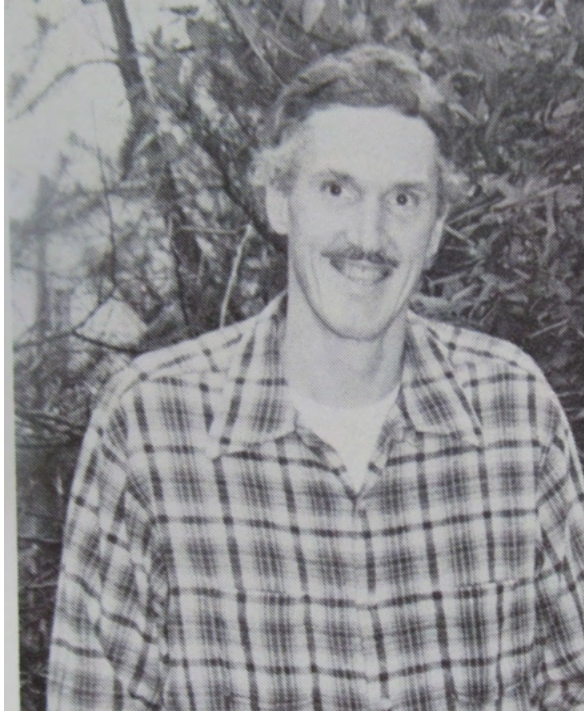
1979: STAFF CHANGES, A CLOSE COLOR COMPETITION, & BATES' LAST STAND

The 1979 season saw Camp continuing to recover from the fire of 1977. As usual, veteran staff greeted campers including David Yale, Billy Proctor, with Steve Yale and Mark Standen working in Trips. Carolyn Proctor, Billy's wife, was on staff and one of the first women to lead an activity. A new staff member was Sue Buck, one of the first people to live in Weld and work at Camp. She was the wife of Lee Buck, the Town Constable, and so Staff was hoping any potential traffic violations would be forgiven! A notable change was Jane Estabrook, who after directing the Inn since 1970, became Supervisor of the Kitchen with Gary Saunders as the new Head Cook. Lydia Detrick became the new Director of the Inn. Beanie Yardley moved into a new position as the full time Nurse, and Pete and Nancy van den Honert became the Camp Father and Mother. The biggest change was Fritz Monroe as the new DOA. The previous DOA, John Detrick, was still at Kawanhee but was devoting all his time to his duties as Assistant Director. Carolyn Kindle was editor of *The Wigwam*. Because Bill Yardley and Zeke were gone, so we needed someone to write and read *The Log*. Because no one else applied, the job was given to me. To be honest, until doing the research for this project I had no idea I had been writing *The Log* that long.

Chris Reilly (Greys) and Chip Trayner (Maroons) were selected as Captains, and it would turn out to be one of the closest competitions in history--only twenty-six points with the Maroons winning. Mike

Duncan was the High Point Winner with 1230 points, beating Pablo Alvarez only by fifteen points. Other special awards were Robin Hood Awards presented to Paul Summers, Mike Duncan and Trip Randall. We had four successful JMG candidates--a good year for JMG--with John Detrick Jr., Sam Detrick, Will Fleming and Mike Duncan earning the challenging honor. David Kindle was awarded the Greatest Athletic Improvement, and Phil Kimball the Greatest Physical Improvement. The Greatest Swimming Improvement went to Kurt Wider, and the Campbell Scarlett Award in Nature went to Robbie Ryder.

1979 was the forty-seventh summer for Clarence (Bates) Bateman. It would be his last summer, sadly. During the winter edition of *The Wigwam*, Bates wrote an article about the spirit of Kawanhee, his feelings about Camp, and his love for life in Maine. The article made it seem Bates would be back in 1980, but his health would not allow it.



Big John Detrick was an Assistant Director and worked in many activities. He was a teacher, mentor, role model and friend to all who knew him.



In 1970 Walter and Jane Estabrook took over as Directors of Kawanhee and would lead it for the next 30 years. They were the guiding light for both campers and counselors. In 1999 they donated their stock to preserve the Camp as a Non-profit organization in perpetuity.



After the fire in 1977, the new dining hall was designed and constructed and ready for campers by the summer of 1978



In 1973 Track and Field was dropped as a regular activity and replaced by the rapidly growing sport of soccer.





The cast of the 1973 classic "The Turnstile" included (L to R) Frank Hoster, Mike Standen, Tim Williams, Lorenzo Baker and seated, future Frank Foundation Executive Director Mark Standen.



The last picture of Polecat Lodge in 1977 before it was renamed Eagle.
(Top L to R) Scott Hadley SC, Mark Nachman, Jeff Marchand, Ed "Zub" Fleming, Tim Duncan, Marty Huguley JC, Eric DiPaolo, Andy Zechiel.

CHAPTER NINE

THE EIGHTIES

1980: A WEDDING, LOSSES, & KAWANHEEANS THE FIRST TO SEE THE SUNRISE

Although not an official part of Camp season, there was a notable event that happened on New Year's Day in 1980- the first day of the new decade. Three veterans--Steve Yale, DL Long, and Lorenzo Baker--were part of a small group of climbers who got special permission to climb Mount Katahdin- Maine's highest peak--on the evening of December 31, 1979, arriving at the top in the pre-dawn hours of the new year. Steve, DL, and Lorenzo were joined by members of the Outing Club at the University of Maine, Orono where Steve was a student and a club member. Because of the rising sun in the east combined with the height of Mt. Katahdin, the peak is the first place to see the sun in the US at various times of the year. The Outing Club members waited for the sunrise on that cold, starry morning on January 1, 1980--huddled by the infamous rockpile on top--and were the first Americans to see the sunrise and welcome in the new decade. It was an historic moment, a first for Katahdin and Kawanhee.

The winter between brought some unwelcome news. Bates would not be back, but his forty-seven years is one of the longest tenures in history. Today the Tripper of the Year Award is named in his honor.

In the March 1980 issue of *The Wigwam*, it was announced that two veterans had passed away. Beanie Yardley, one of the great Nurses since 1973, and Bill Brutscher, Lodge Inspector and Purchasing Agent, both passed away. Both would be honored by campers and alumni, and enough donations were received to buy a great stand-up scale for weight and height for the Infirmary. This gift was nicknamed *Beanie's Scale* and is still used in the Infirmary. To honor Bill Brutscher, it was decided to purchase a beautiful trophy to honor the High Point Winner each summer. In our early history there had been a plaque (in the History Museum) that listed the High Point Winners each summer, but for many years there had not been a plaque or trophy. So, the Brutscher Memorial Cup would now honor the High Point Winners.

1980 also brought good news. John Duncan had recently gotten married to Lisa Daley who would also work at Camp in 1980. And as often happened in history, two people would meet through work at Camp, fall in love, and get married. In 1980 the Kawanhee marriage was Dave Alexander and Patty Neiswander. Keith Erf and Louisa van den Honert were also another wedding in this time era. The good news continued when it was announced that Mary Roziewski, who had been here since 1977 and worked in the Kitchen, had become engaged to Bruce Birch, the longtime Range Director. And other recent counselors were doing remarkable things away from Camp including Mark Schiewetz who was hiking the Appalachian Trail and hoping to meet some Camp friends on the summit of Mount Katahdin. Mike Meserole, longtime Sports Editor of *The Wigwam*, was now a real sportswriter in Massachusetts and would soon edit a sports almanac that sold nationally.

Before the 1980 season, our application to become an official State of Maine Tree Farm was accepted. To be considered a tree farm, trees had to be harvested off a property for two successive years. In 1978-1979, thirty acres of unhealthy and damaged trees had been harvested, and the following year an additional twenty acres had been forested. A tree farm is what it says it is; new trees are planted by humans or naturally by the Earth, and damaged or sick trees are harvested to foster healthy growth of good trees. Camp remains a tree farm today.

During the season, the Polar Bear Club officially started under the leadership of Herb Birch. He was still living in the cabin on Pine Point Lane--referred to as Skunk Ridge--which included a small dock. He had been taking morning dips for years with the other Skunk Ridge residents, but by 1980 Herb was the only resident. His morning dips were becoming a lonely experience. So, in 1980, the plunge was opened to the entire Camp. In the early days of the Club, the dips still took place at the small, Skunk Ridge dock, but eventually it moved to the swimming area where they remain today. Jane Estabrook and Nancy van den Honert were unofficial helpers, organizing and keep track of plunge participants, and over the years

many counselors have stepped up to lead one of the most iconic and popular activities. Thanks to Billy and Jim Proctor, a polar bear statue was carved with a plaque in recognition of Herb's 50th year in 1994. It gracefully sits at the entrance to the swimming area greeting plunge participants.

As in past few summers, the staff was a combination of veterans and some new people. Fritz Monroe returned as DOA but had to leave Camp early, so Bob Zechiel replaced him. Will Fleming (Maroons) and Sam Detrick (Greys) were appointed captains, and overall, 1980 was another good season.

As the season ended, it was discovered that the CA Crane Award for Most Helpful Camper had not been awarded since 1940! Nothing is recorded in history as to why it stopped. Perhaps no one was helpful between 1940 and 1980--just kidding. There are a few bumps like that in the history of awards. The Douglas Vincent Award for the most kind and courteous camper was only given from 1927-1933. The Citizenship Awards that originated from former captain Byron Ford in honor of former Chaplain, Dr. Carl Elmore, were only given for a few years in the 1960s. It is mystifying because all these awards had a good purpose and recognized fine qualities in campers. But in 1980 the CA Crane Award came back, has never left, and was awarded after a forty-year hiatus to Tim Duncan. I guess kids started being helpful again.

At awards Borja Goizueta was awarded Robin Hood, Andrew Zechiel and Sam Detrick were awarded Expert Rifleman, and there were three successful JMG candidates--Fred Beckham, Carter Messick, and Edgar Fleming. Other special awards were the Greatest Athletic Improvement to Kevin Humphreys, the Greatest Physical Improvement to Ben Cooley, and the Greatest Swimming Improvement to David Birch.

Just before the final score was announced there was an emotional moment. Ginny Brutscher stepped forward to present the very first Bill Brutscher High Point Winner Trophy. As you may recall, Bill Brutscher had died the previous winter. The 1980 High Point Winner was quite a camper, Scott Norris, who broke all existing records with 1895 points, besting the second-place finisher, Tim Duncan, by 485 points. The final score was announced with a comfortable Maroon win with a margin of 6,000 points.

1981: MONHEGAN CHANGES, A LEGEND RETURNS, MEN IN SKIRTS & A WEDDING

As usual, veteran staff greeted campers in 1981, and a sizable group of 1980 JCs were now senior counselors. Fritz Monroe had moved on, and Mark Standen became the new DOA. Bob Zechiel and his family also had moved on. Pete and Nancy van den Honert became the new Camp parents, and John Detrick continued as Assistant Camp Director and worked in Trips with Steve Yale. Gary Saunders was back as Head Chef, Ginny Brutscher was Kawanhee Inn manager, and both the Kitchen and Inn had dedicated support staff. Ted Lape was chosen as Maroon Captain and Carter Messick, Greys Captain.

Since 1921 Kawanhee had claimed that Kawanhees on site did not suffer from hay fever. For many years this was a major advertising tool in recruitment. In addition to George Frank claiming campers were relieved from hay fever, there were several parent testimonials in the early catalogs about the relief Camp gave to their children who suffered back at home. Noteworthy was the testimony of Judge Henry Scarlett of Columbus and the apparent relief his young son, Campbell, received while at Camp. Campbell would go on to be part of Kawanhee for over forty years. Later in the 1920s, the claim was made that the area was also free of the effects of asthma. I'm not a doctor, but as an author of this book, I get to question this one. Truth be told there was not any empirical, medical evidence that these claims were true. Every summer Kawanhee has campers and some staff who suffer from asthma. Surprisingly, these claims had a long life with catalogs through the 1970's boasting of freedom from the symptoms of hay fever and asthma. By 1980 these claims disappeared in official Kawanhee literature, never to appear again.

Ever since Camp had ventured to Monhegan Island, we departed from Boothbay Harbor, and our boat was the *Balmy Days*--sometimes called the "Barfy Days" if the seas were rough! The harbor was a few hours from Kawanhee, and the boat trip to the island was also long, departing early in the wee hours--an early morning for campers who would tie a towel at the end of their bed to signify a wakeup call. In 1981 it was decided to change to Port Clyde--a lovely coastal port further up the coast from Boothbay. Port Clyde also had trips to Monhegan on the mailboat named the *Laura B*--a longer trip from Camp, but a shorter boat ride leaving later in the day, thus a 9AM departure and no more 4AM wake up calls.

The first trip to Port Clyde would turn out to be one of the wildest in history. Most of the campers were being transported on the *Bouncing Buggy*, the Camp truck as there were no vans back then. I went in Mr. Estabrook's station wagon with three young campers in the back seat and were ahead of the *Bouncing Buggy*. Mr. Estabrook wanted to make sure to be at the port early for our departure since it was a new port and a different boat company. I had been asked to go along to assist in getting all the campers, staff, and luggage on the boat. And since it was our first trip to Port Clyde, we hadn't estimated the travel time correctly. About an hour from the port, we made the correct calculation that we were going to be late, and suddenly the drive turned into scenes from a car chase movie, speeding fast and racing to meet the boat. We hoped the boat would wait since we had about twenty reservations, and they may not want to refund our money. Of course, missing the boat would have been our fault, but we remained hopeful they would refund. Call it blind hope, I guess.

There were some exciting moments as we raced and swerved on windy, narrow roads. At one point, my hand was just outside the window, the car plunged into the gravel along the road. I could have delivered mail. After taking a hard bend in the road soon after, a Knox County Sheriff's cruiser appeared in the rear distance. Mr. Estabrook slammed on the brakes, and we almost lost our cookies from the sudden change in speed. Being a history teacher, I chose at that moment to tell Mr. Estabrook that Knox County was named after Henry Knox, head of the Continental Army Artillery in the American Revolution. He did not seem the time was right for that trivial thought, though he did not say it in exactly those words.

Finally, we reached Port Clyde. As we descended to the harbor, we could see *The Laura B* had left the dock, but it was still in the harbor. Ahead of us a car was turning left and had its turn signal on, but there was no time for politeness as we passed the car on the left! Mr. Estabrook asked me if the people in the car had any reaction, and I told him according to their hand signal we were number one. They followed us down into the harbor and were quite angry, but we quickly explained the situation. I offered to fight the driver, but she refused to throw away her crutches. I always thought that her full body cast was fake.

Meanwhile, Mr. Estabrook ran to the dock. It was the first time I saw the Mr. Estabrook hankie wave. He pulled out a white handkerchief and waved it high in the air, yelling, "*Laura B, Laura B, Laura B.*" Finally, the boat turned around and returned to the dock. We quickly explained the situation, and they were not very happy, but they decided they would wait for the *Bouncing Buggy*. Luckily, it wasn't far behind. We formed a fire brigade line and passed duffle bags until they finally landed on the *Laura B*. The captain was not happy, and the remaining passengers who were delayed were understandably also upset. I drove back to Kawanhee with Mr. Estabrook going at a much slower pace, stopping for a quick dinner at the Knox Diner. I remarked, "Mr. Estabrook, did I ever tell you about Henry Knox?" Well, another time. Ever since we have left for Port Clyde in plenty of time. As of 2019, we still depart from there and still travel on the *Laura B*. In 2021 the Monhegan trip was cancelled for the first time ever, sadly due to COVID.

1981 was the embryonic start of Kayaking, though it was not a regular activity. Mark Standen brought a kayak that summer and loved using it. Soon a crowd of campers would enjoy watching him kayak, and he began to instruct these boys in kayak skills including how to do an Eskimo roll with a spray skirt. Alex and Mark Nachman, two popular campers, were some of the first to learn the new activity. Kawanhee knew a good thing when they saw it, and during that summer Camp bought another kayak. It would not be too long before kayaking would become a full activity.

In late July Kawanhee had its annual *Christmas in July* celebration, and that year we entertained a few special guests. One was Fred Hoster, a second-generation camper and counselor and former Captain. Fred was now living in Dallas where he was Public Relations Director for the Dallas Cowboys, and he spoke to the Camp on how Kawanhee had made a difference in his life. Another special guest that day was Bates who received a standing ovation from the crowd in recognition of his forty-seven years of service.

On Saturday August 1, 1981, there was a special event at our outdoor chapel--a wedding! There have been numerous Kawanhee weddings over the years, but this wedding was a little different since it happened while Camp was still in session. Mary Roziewski and Bruce Birch were married on that special day. She had been at Camp since 1977, and Bruce was the son of Herb Birch and brother of two other great Kawanhees--Brian and Barry. Bruce was also the brother of Bonnie Birch Schuck who had

worked at Camp a few years before. It was a wonderful ceremony on a beautiful day. But of course, they did not have much of a honeymoon!

A few weeks later the season ended with the awards and banquet. There were four Robin Hood Awards given to Ricardo Fuster, Joaquin Dualde, and Daniel and Fernando Olazabal. Peter Goodbody and Greg Fulda received their Expert Rifleman, and four campers received their JMG--Andrew Detrick, Erik DiPaolo, Peter Cano and Peter Kahn. The C.A. Crane Award for Most Helpful Camper that had been revived in 1980 went to the same camper in 1981--Tim Duncan. That was unusual but deserved. Scott Barnes won two special awards--the Greatest Improvement in Swimming and Greatest Physical Improvement. The Greatest Athletic Award went to Alan McEwan, and the Campbell Scarlett Award to David Fisher. Ginny Brutscher was on hand again to award the High Point Winner Trophy-named in honor of her late husband Bill--to Peter Cano who had 1455 points. The Maroons won that summer in a close and competitive battle finishing with 27,773 points to beat the Greys by just 700 points and with the announcement of the score the 1981 season ended. It had been an exciting summer, not every summer has the marriage of two staff members in the middle of the season.

1982: THE SUMMER OF THE PRINCES, & ANOTHER KAWANHEE WEDDING

1982 would be a vastly different summer on the shores of Lake Webb. We had some royalty at Camp. Mark Standen returned as DOA, and Elizabeth Green Standen took over as editor of *The Wigwam*. A notable staff member was Rees Tulloss who was Director of Sailing following in the footsteps of his dad, Edgar Tulloss, who held the same position in the 1940s. Rees and his father are one of the few--maybe the only--father and son combo to lead the same activity. Zeke and Candy Zechiel returned to work in Archery and Nature, and Tom Wojcik was the new Maintenance Director.

In the kitchen, Nancy van den Honert took over as Supervisor, and over at the Inn, a couple from Ohio, Don and Sue Gehret, began operating the Inn. And there were rumors that the Inn might be sold.

As you might have surmised from the name change mentioned earlier, Liz Green married Mark Standen--another Kawanhee wedding as they met at Camp. They married in North Carolina but later had a big celebration at the Inn. Drew Detrick (Greys) and Ed Fleming (Maroons) were selected as Captains, and an interesting free time activity that was introduced by Big John was Computer Fun. The catalog said working with computers would improve your hand to eye coordination and manual dexterity. I don't think we need that activity nowadays. A trip that continues to be popular had its beginnings that summer--White Water Rafting--an activity that was increasingly popular on some of Maine's rivers. For campers to attend the scenic Kennebec River trip, they had to meet age and swimming ability requirements.

At the awards ceremony Al Goizueta was awarded his Robin Hood Award. There were three successful JMG candidates that summer--Tom Johnson, Tim Duncan and Jim Ottley. David Sel was awarded the Greatest Physical Improvement Award, the Greatest Swimming Improvement went to Greg Perron, and for the second consecutive summer, David Fisher was awarded the Campbell Scarlett Award in Nature. Keith Bertani was High Point Winner and received the Brutscher Memorial Trophy and was also awarded a second special award, the Benua Cup for Greatest Athletic Improvement. The Maroons won by almost three thousand points, scoring 29,648.

ROYALTY COMES TO KAWANHEE

Three new campers arrived a week late at Kawanhee that summer, three members of the royal families of two European countries. One camper was Felipe de Bourbon, the Crown Prince to the Spanish throne. Also attending were Felipe's two cousins, Pablo de Grecia and Nikolas de Grecia, children of King Constantine II of Greece. Pablo was the Crown Prince to the Greek throne; however, a coup in Greece in the late 1960s temporarily removed King Constantine from power. In 1967 he tried to reclaim power in Greece, but his attempt failed, putting him and his family in danger of imprisonment or worse. They escaped to the Netherlands, and on the flight was the infant son of King Constantine and Queen Anne-Marie--Pablo (Pavols) de Grecia--a camper in 1982. Eventually King Constantine and his family moved

to England where they lived in exile for many years, yet he was considered the King of Greece until 1973 when the Greek government officially ended the monarchy. Nikolas de Grecia, the younger of the two Greek princes who attended in 1982, was not born until his family was in exile.

Felipe, the Spanish Crown Prince, was the son of King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia. Queen Sofia was Greek and German and had grown up in Greece as the daughter of King Paul, and King Constantine II was her brother. In 1962 Sofia married a Spanish prince by the name of Juan Carlos, a grandson of a former Spanish King. At the time of their marriage, Spain did not have an active and ruling monarchy but was ruled by Francisco Franco, a leader who had won control of Spain after the Spanish Civil War in the 1930s. A few years before his death, Franco announced that Prince Juan Carlos would replace him as leader of Spain--returning the monarchy to Spain. Franco died in 1975, and Juan Carlos became King and Sofia became Queen. Prince Felipe had been born a few years before and became the Crown Prince. How did these three royal boys make their way to Kawanhee? Felipe was a friend and school chum of Alvaro Fuster, a veteran camper who recruited Felipe along with his two cousins.

All three boys arrived a week late when we were eating our evening meal. I will always remember Mrs. Estabrook coming to my Deer Lodge table and telling me "The Princes are here." I had no idea what she meant, but I remember I was in my usual tennis clothes, covered with the red slate you got from being on our clay courts all day. I even remember thinking that maybe Camp had bought a bunch of Prince tennis racquets--an extremely popular brand in those days.

As we walked towards the Dining Hall porch, Mrs. Estabrook gave me a quick heads up on who the new campers were. Oh, how I wished I had worn a suit and tie to dinner. As we came out on the porch there were about twenty or so people at the bottom of the stairs--three boys in blue blazers, a group of serious looking men, an older man, and two elegant looking ladies. I was quickly adjusting to the situation, and after descending the stairs I realized I had just shaken hands with the Queen of Spain and the exiled Queen of Greece. Just another normal day at Kawanhee.

The younger Greek boy, Nikolas, was in Deer Lodge with me, and I began to lead the way to Deer with the whole group following. Mrs. Estabrook caught up and asked me what kind of bed awaited Nikolas. "Probably the worst bed since he was a week late," I told her truthfully. It was a top bunk stuck in a corner with a mattress about an inch thick. I also said the lodge was a mess as most lodges were at that time of day. She got a strange look on her face that I perceived to be the beginning of a panic attack. I was not far behind her. I tried to calm her by asking if I should thank Queen Sofia for the fact that Queen Isabella had approved the voyage of Christopher Columbus in 1492. She said no. Later I would find out that Queen Sofia wasn't Spanish, and she did not know Queen Isabella anyways. Back then Christopher Columbus was not viewed as negatively as he is today. I tried another attempt at humor to calm her, saying that at least we had the beginning of a good poker hand. You know, two queens. And that was the last time Mrs. Estabrook ever spoke to me.

Finally, we entered the lodge. I would later find out that Queen Sofia had an extensive and impressive group of royal relatives. She was the Great Granddaughter of Queen Victoria, the Great Granddaughter of Kaiser Wilhelm II (of World War I infamy) and second cousin to Prince Charles of England. I am glad I didn't know that when she stepped on a dirty pair of underwear. As we neared the bed, I began apologizing for its condition and promised to make amends. I will never forget what happened next. Queen Sofia told me the bed was fine, and she and Queen Anne-Marie (Nikolas's mother) wanted Nikolas and the other boys to have a normal summer. I will always remember her kindness and modesty. Queen Anne-Marie didn't speak that much, but she was feeling terribly ill when she saw her son's bed. The other two boys, Felipe and Pablo, were the same age and were assigned to Bear Lodge.

And thus started the summer of the Princes at Camp Kawanhee. The older gentleman was the supervisor of all the security guards and the princes, and he stayed at the Inn all summer. I was in the office the day he paid the tuition for the three boys. He opened a suitcase, and it was filled with bundles of cash. I thought was in some kind of mob movie.

The other men were all security guards and stayed the course of the summer. On the first night that Nikolas slept in Deer Lodge, I went out to walk to the Fort, and one of the security guards was patrolling outside. I think he might have had a weapon. Hawk Lodge didn't raid us that night! The night after the

boys arrived, the whole group had a catered dinner in our Dining Hall. Maybe not up to Queen Victoria standards, but hopefully nice.

As the summer progressed, I recall all three boys being down to earth, with good character. Nikolas won a tennis tournament, and the future King of Spain, Prince Felipe, wrote an article in *The Wigwam* about a night his lodge spent at the Tumbledown Graveyard where things got spooky (We no longer allow nights in the graveyard for obvious reasons, but it was the okay thing to do back then). Pablo wrote an article about the trip to Monhegan Island. As the summer went on, the security guards were not as clingy as when they first arrived. Sometimes the boys would be in an activity while the security guards played soccer. The boys left a few days early, and the whole Camp came out to say goodbye. Bruce Birch filmed their goodbye, and in the video, there is a section showing Queen Sofia walking up the hill to Bear Lodge. A few minutes later, she and Prince Felipe left the lodge, and a boy inside can be heard saying "Hang loose." Felipe tries to explain to his mom what the phrase means--a funny moment indeed. At one point Prince Felipe was presented with a Kawanhee hat, and I hope he still has it. Before leaving, like many boys, Felipe signed his name on one of the walls in Bear Lodge, and it is still there. Another story often told about Felipe's time in Bear Lodge is the story of the trap door--a small door on the floor of Bear Lodge that still exists. Stories say the trap door was for Felipe and Pablo in case they needed to escape, but the story is embellished since the trap door was there before 1982. Another story that persists is about Juan Forcado, a Spanish counselor who lived in Bear Lodge. He worked in the Infirmary and Shop and was additional security for the boys--a true story.

The boys never returned after one summer. In 1992 Prince Felipe was a member of the Spanish Olympic Team in Barcelona and competed in Sailing finishing sixth. Sailing was deeply ingrained into his genes. His Uncle King Constantine II had won a gold medal in Sailing at the 1960 Summer Olympics, and his mother Queen Sofia had been a replacement sailor for the Greece sailing team in 1960. Felipe was the flag bearer in Barcelona for his Spanish team as they marched in the opening ceremonies. I believe Felipe is the only camper to have competed in the Olympics. There was a counselor from the 1940s, Irving Bouton, who went to the U.S. Olympic trials in the javelin but did not make the team. As reported earlier, Kawanhee's first Waterfront Director, Mike Peppe, was the U.S. Olympic Diving Coach in 1948 and 1952, but he never competed as an athlete. In more recent times we had a counselor named Mark Zollitch who was training to be an Olympic Kayaker, but he did not make the team.

I've tried to keep up with the activities of the three boys (men now) as they grow older. Felipe became King of Spain on June 19, 2014, when his father King Juan Carlos abdicated. His official name is Felipe VI, and in 2014 Kate Estabrook Schoedinger wrote a nice letter of congratulations, and we received a nice return letter framed in the Museum. Felipe got married before he became King and has two daughters. I am guessing being King of Spain is a little easier than spending a night in the Tumbledown Graveyard.

The two Greek boys are involved in business and other ventures, both are married with children. Pablo is now known as Pavlos and has five children. I remember hearing that my former camper, Nikolas, got married about a week after our 2010 reunion. A few years ago, Pavlos and Nikolas's father, King Constantine II, was allowed to return to Greece and live as a commoner. His sons also spend time in Greece. Wikipedia says that Nikolas is a landscape photographer, and while researching this I came upon a picture of Pablo talking to an older lady in a nice dress and hat. I realized it was Queen Elizabeth II.

Although Felipe only attended for one year, Al Fuster told me at the 2010 reunion that Felipe enjoyed Kawanhee because he was treated as a regular person. I jokingly ask campers from Spain if they ever see the King around town. One camper told me his father works for the government, and at a meeting with the King, the King asked each person what their children were doing that summer. The father of the camper said that his son was attending Camp. King Felipe VI replied, "That is a fun place." Another recent incident involved the late Johnny Rullan--JP's and John Fritz's father. Johnny somehow found himself at a yacht club where the King and his entourage were enjoying a few days of sailing. Johnny also attended Camp and somehow got past the King's security at the yacht club (If you knew Johnny, you will find that not surprising.) and suddenly found himself in the dining room where the King was eating lunch. Johnny blurted out, "I'm from Camp Kawanhee, and the King replied very calmly, "Well tell me about Camp Kawanhee. How is the Camp doing?" The best testament about King Felipe's feelings about Camp

is best illustrated in an article that appeared in the Spanish press in 2018, the summer King Felipe and his wife, Queen Letizia, sent their two children to a summer camp in the United States.

Princess Leonar and Princess Sophia Follow in the King's Footsteps

King Felipe and Queen Letizia decided to send their two children to a summer camp in the United States to have an experience as enriching as Felipe had in July 1982. Far from Spain, the Crown Heir enjoyed a few weeks of anonymity in which he learned to be self-sufficient and work as part of a team. Queen Sofia took her son to Kawanhee and went to pick him up on the last day, and Felipe was joined by his two cousins, Pablo and Nikolas de Grecia and his friend and schoolmate Alvaro Fuster. The Prince and Pablo were assigned to cabin Bear where the Heir signed his signature (Felipe '82) on one of the wooden planks of the cabin, along with those of other companions. At Kawanhee the day began with the traditional raising of the flag before participating in various activities. Felipe only spent a summer there, but he liked the experience a lot because he was treated like a normal person.

1983: THE INN IS SOLD, A NEW FORT, NEW TENNIS COURTS AND A NEW LODGE

As you can tell from the title, 1983 was a busy year that all started in the fall of 1982. On October 23 the Inn was sold to Marti Strunk who was from the Farmington/Sugarloaf area and once was the wife of the famous singer, Jud Strunk. People might remember his appearances on *Laugh In* or his well-known song, *Daisy A Day*. He had been killed in a plane crash in the fall of 1981 near Sugarloaf Mountain.

The Inn had always been a wonderful place to have dinner or spend some leisure time. And, of course, it still is. The Inn had been part of Kawanhee since 1929. But truth be told it had trouble making money, sometimes losing money, and thus it ate into the profits of Camp. Kawanhee Inc. decided to sell the Inn and put the proceeds into the boys' Camp. With the finalization of the sale, Kawanhee Inc sold the Inn, and it has never returned. Some proceeds were immediately put into making physical improvements at Camp including a new Fort, Tennis courts, and a new lodge.

The Fort has always been in the same spot since it became the bathroom facilities in the early days. In the 1920s, the Frank Brothers were excited to report that new government approved chemical toilets were being added. In the 1940s, our cook, Laurence Briggs, spent one off-season making improvements including some nicer showers. By 1983 the Fort was again in need of an upgrade--not a small project. A whole new Fort would be built.

Construction started in mid-May with Tom Wojcik, John Bell and Billy Proctor. By Memorial Day, Pam Robinson, and Louisa van den Honert arrived. Soon John Detrick and a son arrived, and work hit a fever pitch. John had brought all the plumbing fixtures. And as opening day got closer, the work crew increased in size. In the last few weeks of the project, the roof was put in place, painting was done, and it was finished before the first camper arrived. The first official flush at The Fort was at 8:26 on the first night of Camp. Darren Belskis, son of Pete and Nan, had the honors. All the workers participated in a champagne toast that same night, and Camp had a new Fort

A new lodge was also built, the first since 1957. Kawanhee had lost three lodges in the 1977 fire, and this caused space issues as enrollments continued to rise. Bear Lodge had been built in 1957 to replace the Green Barn that burned, used as a lodge for older boys and was even called Bear Lodge. The new lodge would go into the open space next to Bear, but since Kawanhee had its hands full with construction projects, this project was outsourced to local builders. By the start of 1983, the new lodge was ready and was named for the cacophonous bird that we hear all summer- the Loon.

For several years building new tennis courts was a specified need. In 1921 a new tennis court was carved out of the potato field where our athletic field is today. We eventually had four courts, and in the 1940s one of the courts was turned into a basketball court. As the 1980s started the tennis courts needed repair; a losing battle with weeds was a yearly struggle. In 1983 a new four court tennis complex was approved that started in the spring with the laying of eight inches of sand and gravel for a good base. Next, the clay was brought in, and over weeks of hard work the clay was leveled. Afterwards,

professionals from the New England Tennis Company in Franconia, New Hampshire, came in to grade the surface and put down the familiar red, slate surface. The lines were put down, nets installed, fencing added, and finally a lot of sweeping and rolling of the courts. By the summer of 1984, a new concrete basketball court would be built at another location, and tennis would have their fourth court.

After all the construction projects, we greeted 130 campers in late June with another veteran staff. Mark Standen took a year away, and Steve Yale replaced him as DOA. Erik DiPaolo (Maroons) and Tim Duncan (Greys) were selected as Captains. At the beginning of the summer all were excited to know that two new campers were sons of the famous singer Julio Iglesias. His son Enrique was in Eagle and Julio in Pine Tree. Kate Estabrook tutored both in English. They attended for one summer, but both boys have gone on to their own successful, musical careers. Efforts to reach out to them have been unsuccessful. However, within the past year Enrique posted a picture on social media of him and Julio with two other young campers. They do remember Kawanhee.

Another interesting event that summer was a unique swimming event accomplished by Scott Norris. We have had boys swim the length of Lake Webb, but most stop at the docks after they finish the exhausting swim. Scott took it to another level and swam past the docks all the way to the Narrows where the lake meets the Webb River.

At the awards, Andy Zechiel received his Robin Hood, and Kevin Humphreys was the successful JMG. The Greatest Physical Improvement was won by Allan Patterson, the Benua Award went to Alex Alexander, and John Donahey was given the Shepard Award. Andy Coward received the Campbell Scarlett Award, and the CA Crane Award was shared by Gordon Scherer and Al Fuster. Patrick Moran received the Brutscher Memorial Cup as High Point Winner with 1405 points. The final score was close with over 61,000 points, the Greys winning by only 300 points.

A week after Camp ended, another special wedding took place. Mark Sengelmann, a third generation Kawanheean, married Julie Green who had worked at the Inn for several years, was a longtime summer resident of Lake Webb, and the sister of Liz Standen (Green). Julie was also the niece of the late Johnny Marble who had excelled as a camper and counselor in the 1930s and 1940s. Not only was this another Kawanhee wedding, but they got married at our beautiful outdoor, lakeside Chapel. They would have children who would be part of future summers as campers and counselors.

1984: KAYAKING PADDLES AHEAD, A CAPTAIN RETURNS, THE FOUNDATION FORMS

The 1984 campers were greeted by yet another veteran staff with a change at the top. There had always been one DOA, but it was decided that Camp would be better served with two people in that position. Mark Standen and Steve Yale were selected as DOAs; except for an occasional summer, the tradition of having two DOAs continues to this day.

Chuck Compher had been a camper in the late 1950s and early 1960s, the Maroon Captain in 1963, and his mother Liz had been the Nurse. After 1964 he and his mom moved on, and by the 1980s he was married with three sons and living in Texas. In 1984 the whole family--including his mom--visited Camp, and when an opening developed for the Head of Archery, Mr. Estabrook asked him if he would like to return after an absence of twenty years. Chuck accepted, and accompanying him was his wife Barb, a Camp Secretary, and his three sons Chuck Jr., Robert, and Michael. Eventually all three would become Captains. The Comphers would be part of Kawanhee for the next twenty years.

Once the summer started, Andy Coward (Maroons) and Al Fuster (Greys) were selected as Captains. It was a good summer with some notable events, one including the visit of three former legends who returned in late July--John "Pop" Nowald, Ben Bennett, and Clarence "Bates" Bateman. Pop had served Kawanhee for twenty-eight years and had directed Wrestling and Archery, was Director of Athletics, and finally DOA. Ben Bennett had spent twenty years in Shop, and Bates had spent forty-seven years as Director of Tripping. They spent six days at Camp and had a wonderful time. Kayaking became more popular, though it still was not a regular activity. It had progressed from the informal kayaking lessons a few years earlier with Mark Standen organizing a few kayaking trips.

As promised the year before, a new basketball court was built in time for the 1984 season, located near the Tennis Court Complex. At one time this area was the old Track and Field area. Most exciting was that the new court was concrete, so balls would no longer bounce off rocks on the clay, and balls shot off the backboards would give true bounces. This court would last until 2010 when it was cleared to make our new Athletic Field.

There was also a new Range Building constructed in 1984. It was built on the same site as the old Range. The most important improvement in the new Range was that there would be 12 shooting berths instead of 10. This was important because before 1984, large lodges had to shoot in shifts since all campers could not shoot at the same time. Before construction of the Range began, Bruce Birch, Range Director, made an unusual request. The Range office was filled with graffiti and other memorable items and memories. Bruce wanted to keep the office and all its memories and asked if the new building could be built around the old Range office. This request was granted and today this office remains as part of the Range—it even survived the Range renovations in 2020-2021.

Some exciting news was announced in 1984 when Camp had applied for a non-profit foundation to provide scholarships for boys to attend. We had to wait for approval from the IRS since the foundation wanted to be non-profit, and approval was granted that summer. Now people could contribute funds that would be tax deductible. Starting in 1985, the Foundation would provide scholarships or partial scholarships for some campers.

At the awards, Bob Banasik and John Vines were given their Robin Hood, Tony Louvat was awarded his Expert Rifleman, and Bob Banasik and Jamie Sanford were the two candidates who passed JMG. The Lattimer Award went to Shyam Rajadhyaksha, the Benua Cup to Owen Feeney, and the Shepard Cup in Swimming to Anil Butani. Bryan Evans was recipient of the Campbell Scarlett Nature Award. There is no record of anybody receiving the CA Crane Award, but it was awarded again in 1985, so perhaps they forgot, or it did not get printed. Javier Santos was awarded the Brutscher Memorial Cup scoring 1670 points. The final score was extremely close, especially considering that over 78,000 points were scored. The final score was 39,309 to 39,077 in favor of the Greys. So close!

1985: KAYAKING IS OFFICIAL, KNOCKABOUTS REFURBISHED, AND A NEW CHIEF

As usual the 1985 staff was made up of mostly veterans and a new, notable staffer, Dotty Jones Estabrook, who had recently married Jim Estabrook. Dotty would be at Kawanhee for over twenty years. She directed Nature for many years and was the Camp Tutor. Jim had not been at Camp since 1975 and performed many distinct roles when he returned. He would continue to serve as long as Dotty did, but more sporadically since he had a full-time job in Columbus, Ohio and would come for extended visits. Mark Standen returned as DOA with Chris Yardley as the new Co-Director of Activities.

That summer Richie Estabrook was appointed to portray the Chief and would continue in the role until the summer of 2006. Richie was also getting married after the 1985 season and often jokes that he was more nervous to play Chief Kawanhee than he was to get married.

Peter Brown (Greys) and Alan McEwan (Maroons) were selected as Captains, and there was exciting news in Sailing. The two Cape Cod boats, the *Seahawk* and *Seagull* were two beautiful large Knockabouts that had been part of the sailing fleet for years. Because of their age, they often had to be repaired year to year by the Sailing staff. It was decided the boats needed to be refurbished by a professional boatyard, the Rangeley Boat Company, over the winter. The vessels would return by summer, and an official christening ceremony was held with Forrest Dexter, a veteran of many years, doing the honors by politely breaking a bottle of champagne over the bows of both boats.

On the activity front, Kayaking finally became the newest, official activity after informal instruction for years. We had also purchased four new kayaks, and Kayaking would also give awards and levels on a weekly basis and end of season awards. Mark Standen again led the activity with help from Josh Cook as Co-Director. Justin Ford, Todd Worthington, and Mark Gibson were the first three campers selected as Kayaking champions in our history.

Camp received a special thrill when Bates made a visit--sadly his last trip to the place he had spent 50 years as Director of Trips. His friends, Chuck and Judy Hoffhine, joined him. A good time was had by all.

As usual the awards ceremony ended the season with a few special awards given out. Ray Browkaw was awarded his Robin Hood Award, and there were three successful JMG candidates, Jamie McPeak, Alan McEwan, and Bernie Gehret. There would not be another successful JMG candidate until 1990. David Lash received special recognition for finishing his plaque in one summer. Paul Bloomfield was selected as recipient of the Benua Award for Most Improved Athletic Development, Mike Duane won the Lattimer Award for Greatest Physical Improvement, and Allan Patterson was selected as the Most Helpful Camper. Fernando Guasch was awarded the Brutscher Memorial Cup with 1810 points, one of the highest in history. The Greys won by 10,000 points.

Andy Zechiel had been coming for several years and had earned a reputation as an exceptionally good marksman with the rifle. We had awarded medals through a program with the National Rifle Association--the two highest achievements being the Expert Award and the highest the Distinguished Rifleman. Kawanhee usually had one or two Expert Riflemen most summers, but the Distinguished Rifleman had never been awarded. That all changed in 1985 when Andy Zechiel became the first in history with only one other earning his Distinguished Rifleman since 1985.

1986: A BIGGER CAMP, TWO WEDDINGS, A NEW LODGE, AND TWO LOSSES

Shortly after the 1985 season ended there were two separate weddings before August had ended. Two children of Walter and Jane Estabrook got married to longtime companions, both taking place in Ohio. On August 17 Richard Estabrook and Ann Havener were married at the Havener Family Farm in Delaware, Ohio. A week later August 24, Ferd Schoedinger and Kate Estabrook were married at the St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Bexley, Ohio. Kate obviously has fond memories of her parents, and here is one anecdotal story she shared for the book:

Ice Cream Socials by Kate Estabrook

Nothing is more delicious than a dish of ice cream on a summer evening. But sharing ice cream with friends is even better. My parents, Walter and Jane Estabrook, lived at Pine Point during the season and loved hosting Ice Cream Socials at the cabin.

After dinner, they would invite three lodges at a time to Pine Point to create a mountainous ice cream sundae and chat. A distinctive feature was looking through old catalogues; Mom and Dad had them going back to the 1920's. Campers loved finding brothers, fathers, uncles, cousins, and grandfathers while admiring the clothes and hair styles over the decades. There was much laughter, animated conversations, and running around Pine Point inside and outside.

My dad loved vanilla ice cream with either caramel or butterscotch sauce, and my mom loved strawberry ice cream. There's always ice cream at Pine Point, so come on down!

There were also losses that off season. Rev. Stanley McCleave, who had been Chaplain and a Campcraft staff member, died over the winter. Rev. McCleave had arrived in the 1960s after the death of The Dean Ross Miller before the 1965 season. He was a terrific addition both in religious services and teaching boys about the Maine woods; he was also an active mountain climber.

Sadly, it was also reported that the son of longtime staffer, Ben Bennett, had died. Ben's son, Russell, had come for several summers. He came as a non-swimmer, learned to swim here, and went on to be a great swimmer. Russell died of an illness at a Columbus hospital at the young age of forty-two. To honor Russell, his parents donated a new award to honor the Most Improved Swimmer in Junior C, known as the Russell A. Bennett Award, that is still awarded every summer.

There was also a new lodge built in the open area just below the Infirmary--the largest lodge in history. It was so big that it has been nicknamed the *Warehouse* over the years. Officially it was named after one

of the lost lodges from the fire--Birch Lodge--and was built up from its original location on the waterfront. The work crew didn't waste any time constructing the new lodge; it was built in twelve days, completed in time for the beginning of Camp.

There were a handful of new staff members who came in 1986. Two notable staff were Chris Meehan who worked for several years in a variety of athletic activities--basketball--and Mark Nelson, the man who one day would be Managing Director. Mark Zollitsch, the new Kayaking counselor, was the talk of Camp that year as he was training to be a flat-water kayaker for the 1988 Summer Olympics. Although he did not quite make the Olympics, over the course of his career he has earned many medals including twelve Pan Am Championship Medals, five of them gold. Mark also has been awarded thirteen Olympic festival medals and over fifty U.S. National Championship Medals. He also was awarded a silver medal in the World Championships. It was great to have him on staff that summer, especially since he trained on Lake Webb. Mark was only at Kawanee for one summer, and it is reported that a few years after leaving he appeared on the popular game show, *The Dating Game*. According to sources he did not win.

Besides new counselors, Camp was mostly made up of veterans again. It was great to welcome back Liz Compher Hall (She had remarried.) who had been a Camp Nurse in the 1950s and early 1960s. The DOAs changed again with Mark Standen moving on and Chris Yardley returning. John Bell replaced Mark as the new DOA. John has been an iconic fixture for over fifty years. He's had many roles including portraying the Chied for fifteen years. He also is an English Teacher in Rumford, Maine and enjoys writing. Here is one special story he shared for the book:

Of Critters and Carbon by John Bell

Back in the early-to mid-80's I used to show up early to Camp--about May tenth to the twelfth, right after my last final exam in Portland--and was some years the first one there. What a privilege. There were at least two good things about this: I got to live in the Camp Mother's Cabin, Thoreau-like, until some of my buddies would show up a week or so later. The other is that I got to spend a lot of quality time with Jane and Walter Estabrook.

One of those mid-May mornings, I strolled out to Pine Point to visit with the Estabrooks; they had only just arrived a day or two ago. I joined them around the kitchen table; Walter had a story.

He told me they'd had some excitement earlier that day. The morning prior Jane had commented that the toast tasted funny. Walter had not detected anything amiss with the taste of the toast, and it was forgotten; the toast was consumed. This morning, Jane again commented on the toast, and this time Walter concurred. She asked (well, dictated to him) that he needed to unplug the toaster and check it out. Walter, of course, wasted no time. When he finally inverted and shook the toaster, a charcoal mouse dropped onto the table. A cautionary tale for everyone's annual Camp opening.

Camp enrollment in 1986 was a good deal larger than in recent years. 140 campers had signed up, and luckily, we had a new lodge to help house the new campers. Jamie *Fly* MacPeak (Greys) and Chuck Compher Jr. (Maroons) were selected as Captains. It was a special honor for Chuck Jr. since his father had been Captain of the Maroons as well in 1963. This was the first time in history that a father and son had both been Captains. The actual 1986 season was a rather calm one without much drama. Kayaking continued to grow, and we took quite a few kayaking trips.

At the awards, Craig Wolpert was given his Robin Hood, the Campbell Scarlett for Nature went to Shyam Rajadhyaksha, and the Benua Award for Athletic Improvement went to Richard Lewis. The Lattimer Award for Physical Improvement went to Randy Prior, and Todd Hall was awarded the Shepard Trophy in Swimming. The very first Russell Bennett Award for the Junior C Swimmer went to Darron Moore, and the CA Crane Award for Most Helpful went to Todd Worthington whose son, Trace, won the same award in 2019. It was a good sign for Chuck Compher Jr's team that his brother, Robert, was High Point Winner with 1570 points. Habib Wicks was second with 1300 points, and a second Compher brother, Michael, was third with 1280 points. When the final score was read, it turned out to be great

news for Chuck's Maroons who won with 41,045 points to the Greys 40,295 points. Overall, another great Kawanhee season in the books.

1987: YOURS TRULY IN CHARGE, AND HONORING DR. BUD SENGELMANN

Another veteran staff greeted the campers of 1987. Chris Yardley couldn't make it back, but John Bell could, and to replace Chris, Kawanhee turned towards your author. Apparently, there was no one else left. Kawanhee would barely survive the next decade! But 1987 got off to a great start when after an absence of over thirty years, we had war canoes again! As written earlier, the original war canoes had been destroyed in 1955 or 1956 by the collapse of the Rec Hall roof during a winter with deep snowfall. As you might imagine, war canoes were a hard item to replace, and it took Camp over thirty years to find some used war canoes at a Rangeley, Maine boat shop.

Among the few new staff members in 1987, two would create quite a career for themselves. 1987 was Dan Webster's first summer, and he would have a thirty-year career. Dan worked in Trips and later became Camp Director. It was also the first year for Diana Figliomeni (Yale) who would work in Tennis and Volleyball. She would work in many different departments over the years and would be the first female Trips counselor. A few years in the future she would marry Steve Yale, another wedding! Diana is still involved over thirty years later. Although living in Truckee, California, Steve, and Diana spent the entire 2021 season in Weld helping at Camp.

As the season kicked off Jeff Rice (Greys) and Mark Gibson (Maroons) were selected as captains. We had another summer with strong enrollment, high spirit, busy activities, and fun trips. A noteworthy event at mid-season was the Circus as staff ran carnival games and appeared as clowns or sellers of treats.

There was another sad loss when it was announced Dr. Bud Sengelmann had died. He had come as a camper from New Jersey and met the love of his life, Sonya, at Camp. They would marry and live in Columbus where he was a well-respected pediatrician. They raised three children who all attended or were employed by Camp or the Inn. Dr. Sengelmann was also a member of the Board of Kawanhee Inc. for years. Dr. Sengelmann's ashes were spread at a small beach across from Kawanhee where a memorial stone honors him. Dr. Bud, and his brother Robert, had bought the land a few years earlier to prevent development of the area. He also donated the trees that surround the new Dining Hall where there is a memorial plaque recognizing his gift.

The season ended with the banquet and awards with the Lattimer Greatest Physical Improvement given to David Sanford. The Benua Athletic Cup was awarded to Ted Bibart, the Shepard Cup for Swimming to Ramana Lagemann, the Russell Bennett Award for Junior C Swimming to Gary Compton, the Campbell Scarlett Nature Award to Juan Ramos, and the CA Crane Helpful Camper Award to Jim Garland. In the end, Juan Ramos was announced as High Point Winner with 1710 points with Richard Lewis second. Current Frank Foundation Board Member, Jose Otero, was fifth with 1470 points. The final score was read with Greys ahead by 4,000 points with 90,000 points scored overall.

After the 1987 season ended, there was more excitement at Camp. Under the leadership of Mark and Liz Standen, Kawanhee would hold its first reunion. There had been a growing desire to reach out to alumni, and an alumni association had formed to collect addresses and donations. Kawanhee was sixty-seven years old, and there were lots of alumni that we had lost track of, so a reunion seemed like a natural next step. Mark and Liz took the lead, and they were backed by a committee that included John Bell, Louisa Erf, Steve Yale, and Chris Yardley. The reunion was an enormous success and was well attended. It included wonderful events--a buffet dinner at the Inn, mountain climbs, slide and video presentations, Range, Archery and other open activities, golfing trips, a Bass Rock Swim, a softball game, and it was capped off by a Saturday night campfire. It was such a huge success that shortly after the reunion ended, the committee met and decided there would be reunions starting in 1990 taking place every five years. And that is what has happened--except, of course, in 2020. Kawanhee was getting to know its alumni.

1988: REC HALL EXPANSION, RECORD ENROLLMENT & TWO NEW LODGES

In 1988 there was another preseason building project--an extension of the northside of the Rec Hall. In the late 1920s an addition had been built on the north side of the original Rec Hall and became the offices of George and Raymond Frank. After a while, this space was not big enough, so an extension was built. The old extension was dragged away and eventually became the Polar Bear Cabin of Herb Birch and eventually became the History Museum.

The extension would not just house the office, but it would have two floors and include other offices and bedrooms. During the Rec Hall renovation project of 2018-2019, much of the 1988 extension was gutted, and new offices and spaces were built; however, the framework of the 1988 extension remains.

1988 was a great year in recruiting campers. Matter of fact, there were over 150 campers--the most in history. That was the good news. The unwelcome news was there was not enough room in the existing lodges. A lot of the campers had signed up late--not enough time to build new lodges--especially with the Rec Hall construction. So Kawanhee had to be creative. A counting of beds and space revealed that two additional lodges were needed.

Part of the solution was simple. There was an empty lodge sized building already on property located near the Fort and the Infirmary. For a modern Kawanheean, it was located near where the Burma Barracks are today. It would need a little work--easily accomplished--and it was decided that this "new" lodge would house the youngest campers. It was decided to name it Eagle--problematic since there already was an Eagle Lodge. As the reader hopefully remembers, after the fire of 1977 it was decided not to rebuild the original Eagle and Falcon Lodges. Because Eagle and Falcon were the first lodges in history, it was decided those names should not disappear. And thus, Panther and Polecat were renamed Eagle and Falcon in time for the 1978 season and had been called that since 1978. But now there had to be some other changes. For 1988 Eagle would be renamed Falcon and Falcon renamed Panther. Of course, the reader might think there were easier solutions as this all sounds confusing. But because the youngest campers were always Eaglets, the two lodges on the waterfront were renamed.

But alas, one more lodge was still needed. And there were no more buildings. There was some space under the Shop--normally areas used for storage. By clearing out the space and giving it a good cleaning and a little carpentry work, it would be a suitable space--well, barely. It was not the most desirable location, so it was decided that the oldest campers would live there. John Bell gave this new lodge its name, and since it was so close to the cove area where frogs constantly croak at night, it made sense to name the lodge Bullfrog. Living in either "new" lodge was not the best of circumstances, but we made it through the summer housing all 150 campers. The Eagle Lodge building near the Fort would be used a few more times in 1991 and 1992. But Bullfrog lasted only one summer. The storage space under the Shop was never used again for a lodge.

John Bell and yours truly returned as Co- Directors of Activities. Two notable, new staffers were Daniel Keating who would run Wrestling for many years and Lucy Ramsey as a new Nurse who would serve for many years. Although not new, Nancy van den Honert moved to Archery where she and Chuck Compher would run a great program.

The season was a calm one. Jeff Stroman (Maroons) and Gregg Mullen (Greys) were selected as Captains, and with 150 campers, it would be a fun year. On the Athletic Field, we were competing in more tournaments outside with campers enjoying seeing other camps and meeting new people.

At the awards ceremony Randy Prior was awarded the Expert Rifleman, Nick Ellis and Richard Lewis their Senior Robin Hood, Richard Parker the Greatest Physical Improvement, Max Haring the Benua Athletic Improvement, and Richard Lewis the Greatest Swimming Improvement. The Russell Bennett Award for the Junior C Swimmer went to David Condit, The Campbell Scarlett Award to Edsel Langhorne, and the Most Helpful Camper to John Donahey. Billy Koplitz was the High Point Winner with 1740 points, 300 more points than the runner up--quite a summer for Billy. The Maroons won with a total of 48,104 points beating the Greys by 3,000, totaling well over 90,000 points.

Clarence Bateman who had spent forty-seven years as Director of Tripping was now ninety years old and retired in Columbus, Ohio. Bates had also been on the Board of Directors. It was decided to honor

him with a special award, the Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year Award, given to Carter Bean that first year. It is still awarded every summer.

1989: TRAGIC LOSSES & NO EAGLE LODGE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY

Charley Abbott was a popular camper and young counselor who attended Camp mainly in the 1980s, the younger brother of John Abbott who had attended in the 1950s and 1960s. Charley was someone who got the fullest out of life, always full of spirit and great joy. It was with great sadness that Kawanhee heard Charley had died in an automobile accident in California in February of 1989. His family decided they would honor his memory in a unique way.

Enrollment dropped off from the previous summer with 135 campers signed up, compared to 150 campers, so there was no need to find additional space. Bullfrog lodge had disappeared into the annals of history, and there was no need to use Eagle, near the Fort. Falcon and Panther on the waterfront were again used, so for the first time in history there was no Eagle Lodge. You often hear people say "May there always be an Eagle and Falcon Lodge" in reference to the historic importance of those names, but they must have forgotten that in 1989 and in some future years.

The 1989 staff was the usual mixture of veterans with a spattering of new people. Two significant new members were Al and Amy Spencer. Al worked in Tripping for decades, and Amy worked in many different positions. Another new staffer was Jack Mondell--a college football coach. His wife Kathy, a former camper and counselor at Camp Kineowatha, joined halfway through the season. Jack started organizing a Weight Room, and although he left a long time ago, the sign, "Jack's Weight Room" is still around. Kris Simanek Tyler also started her long career in and would be at Kawanhee for over twenty-five years, eventually becoming the longtime Swimming Director. She was also part of the Leadership Team that operated Camp a few years ago when we temporarily moved away from a one-person Camp Director. Kris is also a gifted artist, and many of the signs around Camp are her creations. Many people were glad to see Alex and Mark Nachman return as counselors as they were popular campers. Dr. Nancy Rini joined the nursing staff, and she would be honored as Ohio School Nurse of the Year.

In the first week Chris Huntington and Jim Garland were selected as team captains. Today, Chris Huntington is the majority owner of the Kawanhee Inn. It was another good summer with clear weather and the usual trips, activities, and out of Camp athletic tournaments.

In July word was received that Clarence Bateman had died at a hospital in Columbus. Earlier it had been reported that Bates was in the hospital and not doing well. He was over ninety years old at the time of his death and certainly had a full life serving for over fifty years. We had honored Bates with the new Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year Award, and it was a blessing he was alive when this was first awarded in '88. Jose Blasco won the award in 1989.

In 1989 Herb Birch was celebrating his forty-fifth year of service at Kawanhee. If there was a quality of Herb's personality that stands out to anybody that knew him, it was his great spirit and positive outlook on life every day, every minute you saw him. So, in honor of Herb, it was decided to create a lodge award for the most spirit. The first lodge to win the Herb Birch Most Spirited Lodge Award was Beaver. "Cheerio and Beautiful" as Herb would often say!

At the 1989 awards, Joe Highman and Rupert Wetherilt were awarded their Robin Hood Awards, Expert Rifleman went to Tim Horton and Dexter Devoe, the Lattimer Greatest Physical Improvement to Ben Findley, the Benua Athletic Improvement to Jim Mullen, the Shephard Cup in Swimming to Robin Whetzel, and the Campbell Scarlett Award in Nature was shared by two campers--Cristian Marti and Orio Vila. The Russell Bennett Award for the Junior C Swimmer went to Pedro Duque. The High Point Winner was also Pedro Duque with 1,755 points earning the coveted Brutscher Memorial Cup. Pedro was also honored for finishing an Achievement Plaque in one summer.

The 1989 Maroon--Grey competition was one of the closest in history. The Maroons won with 46,180 points, and the Greys had a final score of 46,006. Although the difference was 174 points, it was even closer than that. Neither team knew this, of course, but as the last day dawned the difference was only seventy-four points in favor of the Maroons. There was one event to go--the annual Tug of War that

always takes place the last morning of Camp, only a few hours before the awards. The Tug of War was worth 100 points to the winner, and thus a Grey win would propel them to victory. A Maroon win would cement their victory. Alas, the Maroons won the Tug of War and thus won by 174 points--a good lesson to all campers that summer. Even after a summer of over 90,000 points, it all came down to one event--an exciting way to end the season.



The Kawanhee Inn has always been a big part of camp life but was sold in 1982.



The future King of Spain, Felipe, attended camp in 1982 and was in Bear Lodge. He is in the center of this photo with his arms folded. He was a close friend of Al Fuster, lower right



King Felipe VI and Queen Letizia on the day he became king in June 2014



In 1985, with the enthusiasm and tutelage of Mark Standen, kayaking became an activity



The first Kawanhee Reunion was a huge success in 1987. This group of notable alumni were headed up Tumbledown in the infamous "Bates Bouncing Buggy"



The pop singer Enrique Iglesias attended camp in 1983. He was in Eagle lodge with famed counselor Drew "Ish" Detrick, Enrique is on the far left.



Robert "BA" Altmaier became camp scorekeeper in 1974. He was also Head of Basketball, Athletic Director and acted as Guardian Angel for over 50 years. He is pictured here with Jim Garland (Left) and Chris Huntington (Right) as the final score is revealed in 1989...The Maroons won by 174 points!



The Kawanhee Inc. Board of Directors meeting at Pine Point in the mid 1980's

CHAPTER TEN

THE NINETIES

1990: THE SUMMER OF DEWITT, THE ABBOTT LODGE & A CAMPFIRE WEDDING

As 1990 approached, the Abbott Family decided they wanted to honor the memory of their son Charley, and it was proposed that new housing be built for staff members with young children--housing away from the noise of the center of Camp. The new lodge was built along the old road into Camp on a small hill above the Athletic Field and was completed in the spring of 1990, ready for the 1990 season. It would be forever known as Abbott Lodge.

Camp Dewitt was a well-established boys' camp located in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire. Due to some legal issues, it had gone out of business. The managing director and part owner, Tom Boyer, had contacted Kawanhee and offered to recommend us as a place for former Dewitt campers and counselors. That happened, and Tom Boyer was named as an Assistant Director in 1990 and brought over a group of former counselors and campers. In the challenging summer camp business of recruiting counselors and campers every summer, this was a great move. Though there were some bumps in the road as the two staffs and administration attempted to blend. Several former counselors and campers of Camp Dewitt would spend several summers at Kawanhee.

We had the usual veteran staff back for another summer with Tom Boyer as Assistant Camp Director, and he and his wife Jane served as Camp Parents. Another half dozen former Camp Dewitt staffers joined us. A mother of a staff member, Kay Cutler, became the first librarian in our history. In a groundbreaking move, Kate Estabrook Schoedinger was appointed as Assistant Director of Activities--the first female to hold that position in history. John Bell and I continued as DOAs. One Camp Dewitt staff member was Mike Lally, our cook through the 1993 season.

Andy Brown (Greys) and Shawn Flaherty (Maroons) were selected as Captains. Ironically, even with the addition of campers from Dewitt, enrollment was down with only 120, a drop of thirty campers in just a few years. 1990 was one of the first summers we participated in Lake Week, a celebration of Lake Webb with athletic events, a boat parade, a counting of loons, and other events. For the second consecutive summer there was no lodge named Eagle, and because of the decreased enrollment there was no need to use the cabin located near the Fort.

Flag Rush, one of the most popular Saturday afternoon Maroon-Grey activities, did not appear at Kawanhee until 1990. It was a gift from Camp Dewitt who played the game every summer, a variation of Capture the Flag. But it was played on an open field with lots of flags and constant action as players attacked their opponent's side to get flags and return to their side without being captured. It remains one of the most popular Maroon--Grey activities to this day.

On Saturday evenings, after the weekly campfire, counselors who were free would enjoy a night out. Some of the older counselors liked to go to the summer homes of Bruce and Mary Birch and Brian Birch just a few miles away where a large fire would be lit, and guests would enjoy conversation and refreshments. Helen Bottomley, the new Assistant Chef and Baker in the Kitchen, had worked at Dewitt and was dating a Mr. White. She decided she wanted to marry him on a Saturday night at the Birches. It was a wonderful ceremony, a unique evening at the Birches. Carol Cochran, who is still Weld Town Clerk in 2021, performed the ceremony. There was an uninvited guest who came late, a Franklin County Sheriff. He had received a complaint that the crowd at the wedding was being too loud. The situation was explained to him, and he understood asking us to be a little quieter. A piece of cake was offered to the Sheriff, and he accepted. He also signed the guest register. After the wedding Helen was known as Helen Bottomley-White, one of the few staff members who had a name change in the middle of a summer. Mary Birch had gotten married in the middle of the summer (1981) and thus also had a legal name change.

There are countless stories to tell (Perhaps someone will take up that project!), many involving the amusement of counselors with campers as unwilling participants. John Bell highlights one such story:

Incoming: Bald Mountain

by John Bell

One brilliantly starry night, late in the season of 1990, I found myself and another staff member hustling up the Bald Mountain trail. A careless lodge counselor had forgotten to pack a camper's medication for an overnight at the summit. So, there we were, delivering the meds. It was about 10:00.

As we neared the top we could see the glow of their campfire, and we could hear the group talking, laughing, and being silly and having a great time. We stopped about 150 feet below them and hunkered down in the boulders because I had an idea: the tractor beam of tradition pulled me right in, and I realized we had to try to frighten the campers first, of course. This opportunity could not and should not be wasted. A matter of honor. We agreed on and commenced to issue forth our best versions of blood-curdling mountain lion screams. They were pretty good screams. Instantly, there was nothing but crickets at the summit. My friend and I looked at each other quizzically.

We all know what an average-sized cantaloupe looks like; that was the size of rocks that promptly, after some discernible whispering, began to rain down on us. We bellowed in terror, and the bombardment ceased. We delivered the meds and congratulated the kids on their quick thinking and resourcefulness. Hard hats next time; maybe umbrellas.

The season ended with the banquet and awards. In Archery Ben Hoffhine and Steve Johnson were awarded their Robin Hood. For the first time in five years, we had campers who earned their JMG. The drought was over. The four boys were Robert Compher, Ben Hoffhine, Bob Hart, and John Donahey. The Lattimer Physical Improvement went to Andrew Nozik, the Benua Athletic Award to Chris Unick, the Most Improved Swimmer to Jim Dillon, and the Campbell Scarlett Award to Justin Bresse. The Russell Bennett for Junior C was awarded to Russell Twiss, Rik Papa was awarded the CA Crane Award, Hawk Lodge won the Herb Birch Award, and Florian Atchinger was selected as the Tripper of the Year. Diego Campo was announced as the winner of the Brutscher Memorial Cup with 1,975 points, the most in history. The Maroons won with 42,902 points; the Greys finished with 40,061 points.

1991- EAGLE LODGE RETURNS, VOLLEYBALL DEBUTS

In 1991 there was an uptick in enrollment--a positive development--and because of the increased enrollment another lodge was needed. Eagle lodge would make a comeback--at least in name. The cabin located near the Fort was put back in use again and was named Eagle as it had been in 1988. Falcon and Panther would continue on the waterfront.

Again, a veteran staff would greet the campers. John Bell could not return as DOA, and Mark Nelson, a natural leader, was chosen. He would work alongside your author since the policy of having two DOAs continued. A couple noteworthy staff assignments included Todd Worthington returning and leading Soccer and Zetta Wojcik, wife of maintenance director Tom, took over as Kitchen Supervisor. Amber Ramsey, Lucy's daughter, would have a unique activity combination in history--Laundry and Baseball.

Steve Yale and Diana Figlomeni had met at Kawanhee in previous summers, and then connected in San Francisco and were married in October 1990. They would both return in 1991 with Steve as Assistant Camp Director and JC Program Director and Diana directing the new Volleyball activity. As reported, they have remained incredibly involved with Kawanhee. Steve was the first President of the Frank Foundation Board and is still active on the Foundation Board. They raised two children, Eli and Olivia. Eli has attended camp for seven summers, working in kayaking and ropes and had been appointed Co-Director of Activities for the 2020 season before it was cancelled.

In the first week, captains John Donahey (Greys) and Robert Compher (Maroons) would be named, just as Robert's father and older brother had been named. The 1991 season was an active one with good weather, plenty of trips, and good tournaments in Camp and at other camps.

Kawanhee introduced a new activity--Volleyball. There had been a court for some years, and it was used during free time, lodge challenges, and the Maroon--Grey competition. In some of the preceding summers there was someone listed as a volleyball counselor, but it was not part of the regular schedule nor part of awards. That all changed in 1991 under the leadership of Diana Yale who set up tournaments and levels, and Volleyball became extremely popular and part of the regular schedule. Bump, set, spike!

At the awards David Frothingham, Pedro Canas, PJ Donahue, and Carlos Canas received their Senior Robin Hoods. Steve Johnson accomplished an incredibly unique Robin Hood award earning his second left-handed! We also had several more JMGs--Mike Compher, Trevor Cooke, and Joe Rini.

Special awards were awarded to Amando Rivera for the Lattimer Greatest Physical Improvement Award, Jay Wright won the Benua Award, and Willie Thornhill was selected as the Shepard Cup winner. The Russell Bennett Award for Junior C Swimming went to Tom Sealy, Carlos Morales was awarded Most Helpful Camper, Luke Koplitz won the Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year Award, and Brian Altfater was awarded the Campbell Scarlett in Nature--a sweet moment as he received it from his mother. Moose Lodge was winner of the Herb Birch Award for Most Spirited Lodge. Jamie Rubio was High Point Winner and thus had his name added to the Brutscher Memorial Cup. Mike Compher received special recognition for completing his Senior Plaque--an achievement rarely accomplished. Robert Compher and the Maroons won, and a record number of points were scored--well over 100,000. The Maroons ended up with 55,718 while the Greys finished with 50,517--another great summer!

1992: A RECORD ENROLLMENT, MOUNTAIN MAN COMETH, AND ANOTHER SAD LOSS

151 campers signed up in 1992--the highest camper enrollment in history. Luckily, everyone could fit in the available lodges; however, Kawanhee did need to make use of the "new" Eagle lodge that was located up near the Fort. The two waterfront lodges remained Falcon and Panther.

During the spring, the American Camping Association announced that we had the highest return factor of staff members of all summer camps in Maine--a 92 % return factor. In keeping with that theme, another veteran staff was in place for the record number of campers, with only three new staffers. However, there were a half dozen counselors who were veterans but had been away for a year or two.

Rik Papa (Maroons) and Michael Compher (Greys) were selected as Captains. Michael would be the fourth Compher to be a Captain. There were successful tournaments for Tennis and Archery at Camp Caribou, and there was a cool and competitive three on three tournament in Volleyball and a tournament at Camp Caribou. There were canoe races on Lake Webb as part of Lake Webb Week. One Sunday evening we had a presentation from a climber, Rick Wilcox from New Hampshire (a friend of Steve Yale), who climbed Mt. Everest. We continued with the Monhegan trip, white water rafting, and climbing Katahdin and Mt. Washington. The Androscoggin River trip was also popular.

Dan Webster and the Tripping Department started a new unique program called Mountain Man where campers were required to successfully complete components in Tripping or Campcraft. If successful, he was a Mountain Man, and in future years there would be more advanced levels.

The 1992 season ended with the usual Going of the Chief and the banquet and awards ceremony. Senior Robin Hoods in Archery went to Michael Compher, David Frothingham, Inigo Oyarzabal and David Price. In Range, Mary Birch was awarded her Expert Rifleman. Adam Ramsey stood alone on the Junior Maine Guide podium. Other special awards included Stewart McPhee earning the Lattimer Greatest Physical Improvement, Matt Rothman the Benua Award, Luis Roca the Shepard Cup for Swimming, and Brendan Rabon the Russell Bennett Award in Swimming. The CA Crane Award for Most Helpful Camper was awarded to Jose Raga, the Campbell Scarlett to Robbie Hayward, and the Clarence Bateman to Brad Fichter. Beaver was selected as winner of the Herb Birch Most Spirited Lodge Award.

There was great news when the High Point Winner was announced. It was Jamie Rubio who had also been High Point Winner in 1991--the first time in history that a camper had been High Point Winner two successive summers. There was a camper in the early days who was a High Point Winner in two successive summers, but the award was set up differently back then. So, Jamie Rubio was truly the first High Point Winner for the entire Camp season in two successive seasons.

The Greys won but had been losing by 2000 points and made a remarkable comeback to win. Both teams combined over 118,000 points--the most points in history. The Greys had a final score of 60,28 and the Maroons 58,074. In most summers, the Maroons final score would have been enough to win, but not in 1992. With the Grey victory, Michael Compher was the third Compher brother to be a winning Captain. I'm sure their father Chuck was proud of them as he was captain himself.

As Kawanhees settled in for the winter holidays, word was received that Forest Dexter, longtime Nature Director, had died on December 29, 1992, at a nursing home in Farmington. Forrest had come to Kawanhee as a college professor from New Jersey and later moved to Maine and taught at the University of Maine in Farmington. His daughter, Jeannie, had followed in his footsteps directing Nature for a few years in the 1980, and his son, Stephen, was a former camper.

1993: A RECORD FOR HIGH POINT WINNER & EAGLE LODGE DISAPPEARS AGAIN

Despite another good year of enrollment (148 campers) it was decided that Eagle lodge near the Fort would not be needed, so no Eagle yet again. To be honest, the Directors tried to avoid using it whenever possible. While most lodges had a nice lake view, Eagle did not have such a great view (unless a camper appreciated a short trip to the Fort as desirable). There was also a nice, short trip to drop off and pick up laundry. No one knew at the time, but when campers left Eagle lodge at the end of the 1992 summer, the building would never house campers again. It would house staff, and now the building is our Kawanhee office. But I am getting ahead of myself.

Although Eagle would not be needed, it was decided to create another lodge out of vacant space. The former laundry room was empty, and it was a bigger building than Eagle and would house more campers. This building is now the Art Room. But for three separate years in 1993, 1999 and 2000 it became a lodge. The empty building was cleaned out, had some carpentry work done, and presto, Coyote Lodge was used for three summers. In the spring of 2001, a new Coyote was built next to Trout Lodge, and thus the old Coyote wasn't needed anymore. A few years later, the old Coyote Lodge became the Art Room and remains so, although there are plans being discussed about moving the Art Room in a few years.

Again, Kawanhee kept its well-deserved reputation as a Camp with an incredible high counselor return factor and a veteran staff. Mark Nelson and I returned as Co-Directors of Activities, and we had a few new staff members and some new positions created. Ferd and Kate Schoedinger returned to Kawanhee as Camp Parents, and Ferd was hired for the newly created position of Director of Facilities Management. As Camp Mother Kate oversaw many of the special evenings such as skit night and Mr. Kawanhee night.

Russ Jessen (Maroons) and Alan Michalak (Greys) were chosen as Captains, and it was another active Summer. Steve Yale introduced Mountain Biking as a free time activity, and it became popular. We also had an American Camping Association inspection since as a member of the ACA we had to have an on-site inspection once every three summers. We passed with flying colors.

After every meal we ask a trivia question at Camp, and the camper, staff member, or guest who answers correctly gets a fantastic prize. I'm proud that I started this tradition. I can't remember the exact year, but I recall it was in one of the first years I was DOA. So, I'll pick 1993, and this is how it all started. After breakfast one morning, the campers weren't engaged in listening to announcements. They were not disrespectful, just quiet and half asleep. So, I decided to try to spice things up. As everyone sat there, I remembered a question I had seen in the game *Trivial Pursuit*: What is the only man-made structure that can be seen from outer space? After I asked, everyone sat there not knowing how to react. Finally, someone raised their hand and answered correctly--The Great Wall of China. Then we dismissed everyone from the meal. I thought that was fun and did it again at lunch. And kept doing it. Eventually, the Camp Store donated candy bars that became the prizes, and that increased the interest! Mealtime Trivia had been born. Trivia is still asked after every meal, but we no longer dish out candy but give small, fun prizes that I get at the Dollar Store or give away Kawanhee merchandise. I was happy that Trivia was included in the recent virtual campfires in 2020.

A few years ago, I discovered that my first Trivia question and answer had some problems. Turns out you really cannot see the Great Wall from a low orbit around Earth unless you use magnification. There

are a few other things you can see from outer space--the Great Pyramids, a copper mine in Utah, city lights, and some bridges. So, leave it to me, a fun activity I had initiated thirty years ago is based on a lie!

There were a few interesting items in *The Wigwams* of that summer--one, a request of lost catalogs--another piece of evidence that Kawanhee was trying to connect with its past. The History Museum was about seventeen years in the future. There was an interesting article on alumnus Elwyn L. Bloodgood. He recently reconnected with Kawanhee after being a camper from 1929-1934 and was the older brother of another camper--William D. Bloodgood. Both brothers served in the U.S. Air Corp in World War II and were in the same bomber group. William Bloodgood's story was told earlier in this project. You may recall that William Bloodgood was killed in a bombing raid over Nazi controlled France in late 1942. Despite the loss of his brother and fellow camper, Elwyn Bloodgood still had warm memories of Kawanhee. He said in the article, "I often think of the days at Kawanhee, and the credo I learned there stays with me: ALWAYS FINISH WHAT YOU START."

In 1993 the Junior Counselor program began to change. From the start, the junior counselors were full time staff members. Every other night they would be alone in charge of the campers in the lodge they had been assigned to. They also worked almost full time in an activity. The rules said they were only required to work two activity periods a day, but a lot of the JCs worked full time in the activity where they hoped to serve as a senior counselor. But in the 1990s, the JC program presented some legal challenges. Since junior counselors still paid tuition, they were legally considered campers. Thus, they shouldn't supervise campers without an SC present. That change was instituted in 1993. The JC program also began to be a more serious training program with group sessions scheduled to talk about being a counselor and scheduled group days and nights off. There would be more changes, but 1993 was a start.

At the awards ceremony there was a large group of archers who had achieved their Senior Robin Hood Award including Jacobo Calderon, Peter Cartei, Gonzalo De Armas, Sebastian Keiper-Knorr, Matt Rothman, Jamie Rubio and Ted Slee. Other special awards went to the following campers: the Lattimer Award to Joey Clarke, the Benua Award to Luis Roca, the Shepard Cup for Swimming to Tim Donahey, the Russell Bennett Award to Jake Jones, the CA Crane Award to Kurt Coursen, the Clarence Bateman Award to Jorge Marcial, and the Campbell Scarlett Award to Filippo Cosmelli. Pine Tree was awarded the Herb Birch Award for Most Spirited Lodge.

And what a finale it was. Early in the awards it was announced that Diego Campo had accomplished a feat that had rarely been done in history--finishing his Senior Plaque. But Diego did the impossible; he did it in one year! The High Point Winner was Kurt Coursen, and he demolished all previous High Point Winner totals and was the first to go over 2,000 points ending with 2,280 points. There were three other campers who also totaled over 2,000 points--Javier Valesquez, PJ Beauchamp, and Mario Padilla. Any other year and each of them would have been a High Point Winner. The final score was read, and Russ Jessen's Maroons totaled 61,739 points beating the Greys by about 9,500 points. The Maroon's total was the highest for one team in history.

After the campers went home, a project for deaf-developmentally disabled took place. Sixteen campers came and communicated with both hearing and deaf counselors using American Sign Language, written English, and visual gestures. It was a pilot project; its purpose was to see if such a group situation could work. The main goal was for everyone to have fun, a second goal was that all participants would learn something new. Everybody thought it was a success. As a deaf person, Jim Estabrook was the inspiration for Camp Sign-O-Watha, and he worked with the deaf-developmentally disabled in Columbus, Ohio.

Bruce Birch had been part of Kawanhee for thirty-seven years with the last twenty-five spent as Director of the Range. Bruce was the son of Herb Birch and brother to Brian, both longtime Shop counselors. The entire Kawanhee family was saddened to hear that Bruce had died unexpectedly in Florida on October 14, 1993. Besides Range, Bruce was a member of the Choir and led the Kawanhee Fire Department. Bruce loved Camp and would be missed. He was survived by his wife, Mary, who continues to serve Kawanhee.

1994: A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE & RECORDS SHATTERED

Enrollment dropped a little bit in 1994, so it would yet be another summer without a lodge named Eagle. Again, a mostly veteran staff returned with Mark Nelson and I as Co- Directors of Activities. Mary Birch replaced her late husband as Range Director, a position she still held as of 2021. Ted Simanek would spend his first summer at Kawanhee in Boating, Nature, and eventually be the founding father of our Art program. He also built the Totem Pole that sits in front of Nature. His wife, Betty, also joined in 1994 and would eventually work with Mary Birch in Range. Jacobo Calderon (Maroons) and Adam Ramsey (Greys) were selected as Captains in 1994. On July 10th, there was a memorial service at the Range for Bruce Birch, dedicating the Range in his honor.

On Sunday, July 24th, the entire Camp and guests met in the Dining Hall to celebrate Herb Birch's 50th year. The evening got underway with a turkey dinner, then the program started with Bill Yardley as host. Walter and Jane Estabrook and other staff members gave great testimonials about Herb, and I read a special *Log* about him. The Choir presented a lovely version of *Forever Young*, and Ted Simanek gave Herb a special caricature he had drawn. Herb was also presented with a beautiful photograph of Tumbledown. The comic highlight was a funny Chief ceremony performed by Chris Yardley (Herb) and John Bell (the Chief). Of course, John Bell would later pay a steep price for playing Chief Kawanhee in a satirical skit when in 2006 he was named to take over the real role of the Chief! At the end of the wonderful evening, the entire audience gave Herb a Kawanhee cheer and then everyone sang *For He's a Jolly Good Fellow*. The next morning, the entire Camp came to Polar Bear in one more tribute to Herb.

As usual the season ended with the *Going of the Chief* and banquet and awards ceremony. A new addition that had been added in recent years was an end of the year slideshow; usually there were two slideshows--a Camp show and a Tripping show. At the awards Carlos Canas, Jamie Rubio and D.J. Cram were awarded their Expert Rifleman. It was a successful summer for Kawanhee's JMG Program with five successful candidates: Billy Burbine, Brian Huntington, Jim Papa, Gabe Gehret, and Travis Hatley. Other special awards went to the following campers: James Chagaris won the Lattimer Award for Physical Improvement and the Russell Bennett Award for Junior C Swimming; The Benua Award for Athletic Improvement went to Jason Gardner; the Shepard Cup in Swimming went to Sean Duncan; Ian Lawson was awarded the CA Crane for Most Helpful Camper; Robbie Hayward was awarded the Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year; and The Campbell Scarlett Award in Nature went to Brian Osar. There was a tie for the Herb Birch Most Spirited Lodge Award with Loon and Crow.

Adam Cook received special recognition for having perfect attendance at Polar Bear for two successive summers. Jorge Marcial was the High Point Winner shattering all existing records by scoring 2,415 points. The 1993 High Point Winner, Kurt Coursen, was second with an outstanding 2,035 points. James Chagaris (Junior C) and Kurt Coursen (Junior A) were recognized for completing an achievement plaque in one summer. Torrey Liddell and Adam Ramsey were recognized for finishing their Senior Plaques--a rare feat. Over 114,000 points were scored with Maroons taking the win with 58,029 points and Greys finishing with 56, 667.

1995: THE YEAR OF THE TEEPEE AND TOTEM POLE & CELEBRATING 75 YEARS!

Enrollment in 1995 was equal to the previous few summers although a little less than the record-breaking years of the recent past, and again there was no Eagle Lodge in 1995. Again, a veteran staff was back with six new counselors. Kara Simanek joined her family and headed the Nature Department, leading it for several years. Today, Kara lives in Weld with her husband, Aaron Krouse, a counselor for several years who now works in our Kitchen. In 2018-2019 Kara was between jobs and helped build the new Rec Hall. Kara and Aaron would be yet another Kawanhee wedding! Ferd and Kate Schoedinger continued as Camp Parents, Patty Donahey continued as a Camp Secretary working with Barb Compher. Patty has attended every reunion and has organized activities for women who attend the reunions.

In the first week of the season, Inigo Oyarzabal (Maroons) and Brian Huntington (Greys) were chosen as Captains, and the season was a good, active one as many in the past. Archery continued to place high

in out of Camp tournaments especially at Camp Caribou--an archery powerhouse--and our second-place finish was a particularly good showing.

Two highlights of the season were projects honoring Kawanhee's Native American heritage. One was the construction of a Dakota-style teepee of the Plains Indian culture. Dan Webster, Director of Tripping, directed the project, and Adrienne Thompson of the Kitchen staff worked on the canvas. After the project was completed, it was set in an open space on property, and Dan looked forward to finding a more permanent location starting in 1996. In future years, the teepee would be a popular place for Lodge rest hours and overnights. Another project was the totem pole, constructed and designed by Ted Simanek--a project he envisioned as a gift to Camp in its 75th year. Ted chose three animal symbols to represent Kawanhee and our environment--the bear, the moose, and the loon. The totem pole rests beautifully outside of our Nature building.

After the *Going of the Chief* ceremony and the end of season slideshows, it was time for the banquet and awards ceremony. Two people, Kurt Coursen and Darren Belskis, earned a new Archery Award called the Olympic Robin Hood. In the Range there were three Expert Rifleman: D.J. Cram, Jim Estabrook and Rupert Wetherilt. Adam Cook was the only successful JMG. The Lattimer Award was given to Nathan Webb, the Benua Trophy to David Slocum, the Shepard Cup to Joe Barrows, the Russell Bennett Award to Fernando Martos, and Tim Donahey was awarded the CA Crane Award. Jake Kaplan received the Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year Award, Jose Gonzalez was awarded the Campbell Scarlett Award, and Deer Lodge was awarded the Herb Birch Most Spirited Lodge. With 1,765 points Spencer Aldrich was High Point Winner with his name inscribed on the Brutscher Memorial Cup. It was probably the closest High Point Winner competition in history as he won by only 20 points--a little more than one first level! Jeffrey Abbott was the runner up. Spencer Aldrich also received his Junior B Plaque in one summer, and Tom Papa was able to finish his Senior Plaque, again a rare accomplishment. The final Maroon-Grey score was read as a Grey victory with Brian Huntington's team having 54,696 points and Inigo's Maroon team finishing with 51,225 points.

A few days after Camp closed, 275 alumni descended on property to celebrate our 75th year. As had been the case since 1990, Camp was now holding organized reunions every five years. A lot of the activities were open, and there were Bass Rock swims, mountain climbs, great meals, and a Saturday night campfire. Everyone had a good time and looked forward to the 2000 reunion.

1996: LODGE TOTEMS, SEA KAYAKING & HERB TURNS 90

There was good, solid enrollment for 1996 with over 140 campers signed up, and once again we did not have a lodge named Eagle. Stop me if you've heard this before; we had a veteran staff with a few new counselors. George Moore was new and would run Wrestling for several years. Ferd and Kate could not return, so Laura Burbine, a mother of two campers/counselors became the new Camp Mother. Mark Nelson and I were still Co- Directors of Activities.

As usual the captains were selected at the end of the first week with Tom Papa (Maroons) and Bill Burbine (Greys). Tom had been a former Camp Dewitt camper. 1996 was a good season overall and was noteworthy in Archery since we beat Camp Caribou for the first time at their tournament, significant since Caribou was a powerhouse. There were the usual trips--river trips, every lodge climbed a local mountain, and The Katahdin trip was still popular. The new Whitewater Rafting Trip on the Kennebec was immensely popular, and we continued to take two trips to Monhegan.

As a carryover from the building of the Totem Pole, it was decided to let each lodge design their own using 3-D wooden cutouts--an idea generated by the artistically talented Simanek family. By the end of the season each lodge had created its own totem, and today these totems still hang in front of most lodges.

Some creative counselors came up with some new ideas to reach out to campers, and one new idea came from John Bell, a great fisherman who especially enjoyed fly fishing, and he decided to start a Fly-Fishing School. He got lots of interest offering lessons in casting and tying flies, culminating with a fly-fishing trip near Rangeley. Another new idea came from Al Spencer who enjoyed sea kayaking, and he scheduled a few popular trips to the coast to lead kayakers from island to island and spend a night or two

on an island. Kayaking in lakes and rivers had become popular since the 1980s, but Sea Kayaking was a unique experience with the ocean, often not as calm as a lake. Both activities would continue.

On the final day of Camp, we had a great banquet in the Dining Hall, and then the awards ceremony began after a short rest hour. Senior Robin Hood Award winners were Tom Papa, Sean Duncan, Enrique Amerigo, and Chris Atwell. Nancy van den Honert and Amy Spencer had been awarded both their Jr. A and Senior Robin Hood. Chad Guthrie, Lucas Pliakis and Chris Atwell were awarded their Expert Rifleman awards, and it was a particularly good year for successful JMGs with five successful candidates: Bradley Comfort, Kurtis Coursen, Brian Jacobs, Tim Johnson, and Torrey Liddell. Throughout the awards ceremony, many others received special recognition. The Lattimer Physical Improvement went to Kosei Hashimoto, the Benua Award for Athletic Improvement to Johannes Werhahn, the Shepard Cup in Swimming to James Chagaris, The Russell Bennett Award for Junior C Swimming division to William Crall, and Dan Sharpe was awarded the CA Crane for Most Helpful. Nate Duncan won the Tripper of the Year trophy, and the Herb Birch Award for Most Spirited Lodge was shared by Bear and Beaver.

Dan Sharpe was announced the High Point Winner with 2,155 points, and his name inscribed on the Brutscher Memorial Cup. Kurtis Coursen was second with 2,125 points--only 30 points behind Dan. Kurt had been a previous High Point Winner and always ranked high in the total points earned each summer. Dan also received special recognition by finishing his Junior B Plaque in one summer. The Greys won finishing with 61,169 points, and the Maroons had a final total of 59,40 points--an incredible number of points scored and that would continue.

It is safe to say that most 90-year-old people are not directing an active activity at a summer camp. But most people are not Mr. Birch. In 1996 he completed his 52nd year. In October Mr. Birch attended a family wedding, and afterwards the Birch family had a surprise birthday party for him. It was his 90th birthday. And Herb planned to be back at Kawanhee for his 53rd year in 1997.

1997: AMERIFEST DEBUTS, WE OWN CARIBOU, & THE LL BEAN FLYFISHING SCHOOL

The 1997 enrollment was just a few campers short of a record with 150 campers signed up. We were still a seven-week camp; however, for almost a decade the catalog printed this statement: "In 19-- (fill in the year) a limited number of boys will be accepted on a 4-week basis with an option to remain for the full 7-week program." Of course, that would eventually change. Although we had boys from all over the world in the 1990s, there was still a group from the original recruiting hotbeds of Ohio and New Jersey. Mr. Birch carried on as a recruiter in New Jersey, and Mr. Estabrook in Ohio. There were enough boys from Ohio and New Jersey that roundtrip, group flights were scheduled. That would change in the future.

Can you believe it? We had another veteran staff with a small group of newbies. Bill Koplitz returned after a few years away to be our photographer again. Bill and his wife, Peggy, had been valuable staff members for several years, and Patty Alexander was coaxed out of retirement to work in the Office. A great career began when Debi Brown (now Sullivan) began her career as Director of Tennis. Debi was still a few years from being Camp Mother. Russ Jessen became a new DOA with Mark Nelson. I was part time DOA and returned to my Tennis roots.

The first week started as usual with safety lectures, activities getting started, the *Coming of the Chief* and the naming of the Maroon-Grey Captains: Brian Jacobs (Greys) and Torrey Liddell (Maroons). It was another great season with Kawanhee doing quite well in outside tournaments; we beat Camp Caribou in Archery at their own tournament, and we also won several Tennis titles there.

A new Camp activity debuted, patterned after Game Night which took place twice a summer. Amerifest had similar type relay games but was centered around the July 4th holiday and included pie eating, doughnut eating, and other games. Amerifest was an immediate success and continues today.

Some of the new activities that had started in 1996 continued in 1997 including the popular Sea Kayaking trips. John Bell continued with his Fly-Fishing School, and since he worked at LL Bean in the winter, we became part of the LL Bean Flyfishing School. LL Bean sent two instructors who spent the day with our boys. Some new activities were a Wilderness School initiated by Director of Trips, Dan Webster, with half-day excursions where campers learned how to survive in the Maine wilderness. Ted

Simanek, an art teacher in the winter, set up a Ceramic program with a kiln, and although there was no official Art program, this was the early beginnings of Art as an activity. Steve Dexter, former camper and counselor and son of the late Forrest Dexter, brought a powerful telescope to Camp, and lodges enjoyed nights of great star watching. Under the leadership of Mark Gibson, the Moose lodgers renovated the Moose Outpost at Skookumee. The Moose Outpost was often used for overnights by different lodges.

As usual the season ended with the *Going of the Chief*, slideshows, and the banquet and awards ceremony. In Archery Enrique Amerigo was awarded the challenging Olympic Robin Hood, and staff member Kris Simanek was awarded her Expert Rifleman. There were two successful JMG candidates, Nate Duncan and Jamie Strawbridge. The Lattimer Award was given to Tom Tillett, the Benua Award to Conor Branch, the Shepard Cup to George Fraley, and the Russell Bennett Award to Chris Duncan. The CA Crane Award was awarded to Mike Lenard, and Eduardo Saldana was awarded the Tripper of the Year trophy. Moose Lodge won the Herb Birch Award for Most Spirited Lodge, and Forbes Rigsby won the Campbell Scarlett Award for Nature.

Colin Patierno was the 1997 Brutscher Memorial Cup High Point Winner with 2,490 points, and Jed Standen finished second with 2,105 points. He also received recognition for finishing his Junior B Plaque in one summer. The final score was a convincing victory for the Maroons with 64,771 points, the Greys finishing with 54,843 points,

1998: 3000 POINTS, CAMPERS PAINT BUILDINGS IN WELD & DRAMATICS

1998 was another Kawanhee season with a large enrollment, a record with 156 campers and another veteran staff. Over the winter, we had heard through the American Camping Association that we had the highest percentage of returning counselors each summer in all New England, using numbers from the past five summers. A few notable staff members joined including Pete St. John who started his long career and was Director of Campcraft but would eventually serve as Camp Director. As of 2021, Pete was back as Director of Campcraft. Kate Branch was a new nurse and would serve for many years. The three DOAs continued with Mark Nelson and Russ Jessen doing most of the work, and again I helped but also worked in Tennis. Mark Nelson was also named an Assistant Camp Director.

One of Kawanhee's nurses, Nancy Rini, received a great honor before the season and was selected as National School Nurse of the year! She was the first school nurse from Columbus, Ohio to win the award and only second from Ohio to win. She worked at East High School in Columbus.

At the end of the first week and the *Coming of the Chief*, captains were selected with Jorge Marcial for Greys and Darren Belskis for Maroons. Again, we competed in out of Camp tournaments and excelled again in Archery and went to the State of Maine Tournament and finished first. We also did well at tournaments hosted by Camp Caribou in Basketball, Tennis, Baseball, Range, and Volleyball. There were also great trips with a popular two-day canoe trip on the Androscoggin River, and we still climbed Mount Katahdin and all the local mountains. Monhegan was still popular with the two overlapping trips, and the new Whitewater Rafting Trip was also popular. Sea Kayaking continued for a third year as did John Bell's Fly-Fishing School with LL Bean helping to instruct a few days each summer.

In the 1920s and 1930s, Dramatics had been an important part of Kawanhee life with scripted plays and a weekly skit night, but Dramatics had dropped off over the years. A counselor named Tim Williams had revived Dramatics in 1976, and in 1998 two new counselors, Keri Racicot and Kerry Smolnik, tried to revive the program with two scripted plays produced including a Shakespeare play.

After the *Going of the Chief*, Skit Night, and slide shows, it was time for the awards ceremony. Enrique Alvarez -Sala and Betty Simanek received their Expert Rifleman Awards. It was a good year for JMGs with Jacob Jones, Adam Muther, Sean Duncan, Conor Branch and Will Alexander earning the distinguished award. The Lattimer Award went to Matt Wilson, James Chagaris was awarded the Benua Award and the Shepard Cup, the Russell Bennett Award was given to Ned Carson, Joey Clarke won the CA Crane Award, and the Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year went to Tristan Ramirez. Wildcat and Crow shared the Herb Birch Award Most Spirited Lodge. Michael Werhahn was the High Point Winner

and shattered all previous records finishing with 3,045 points--the first camper in history to score over 3,000 points in a summer! The Greys won with 64,009 points; the Maroons finished with 60,066.

On the morning after the 1998 awards ceremony and banquet, campers began their trek home. In 1998, we had campers from all over the world--a dramatic difference from the first 50 year where most of the campers came from two major places--Ohio and New Jersey. In those days, the train, bus or plane trips were planned for a vast majority of campers, but things had changed in the next 30 years where campers came from different places. Slowly the number of campers from Ohio and New Jersey declined. As late as 1997, there were enough campers from Ohio and New Jersey to reserve space on planes and busses to have an organized trip to and from Camp. But Kawanhee announced in 1998, the numbers of New Jersey campers had reached such a small number that there would no longer be a scheduled trip. The Ohio numbers were still high enough to schedule a plane, but, of course, in future years that would also disappear. Kawanhee had a record number of campers in some of the years after 1998, but they were coming from all kinds of various places.

1999: NEW LODGE, RENOVATIONS, TRIATHLON, LOBSTER CLUB DEBUT, EAGLE BACK

1999 got off to a rough start as the real world made a rude intrusion into Kawanhee society. Nina Bitterauf, who had been a popular member of the Kitchen in 1995 and 1996, was tragically killed in a car accident near Farmington, Maine. Anybody who knew her knows she as a remarkable person with lots of spirit, a desire to learn as much as she could, and a desire to better the world. Her brother Chris was a camper and counselor, and her sister Meghan also was part of the Kitchen for several years. A few years after Nina died, a half-mile trail near an elementary school in Farmington was dedicated in her honor, and it is also a nature learning center. Today, Nina's Woods is a popular destination in Farmington.

A few months after Nina's death the Kawanhee family received another jolt. In early May Kurtis Coursen, a camper and counselor of several years, was killed in a mountain climbing accident in Arizona. Kurt was one of the highest achieving campers in history. He was High Point Winner in 1993 and was the first High Point Winner to score over 2,000 points. In the same summer of 1993, he was selected as the CA Crane Award winner as Most Helpful Camper. In 1994 Kurt again scored over 2,000 points and was runner-up in points. He also received recognition in 1994 because he finished his Junior A Plaque in one summer and was a successful JMG in 1996. When word was received of his death, many people he had touched contributed to the Kawanhee Foundation Scholarship Fund in his memory.

A lot of important things happened before the campers arrived in 1999. There were some construction projects planned, and for the first time since 1986 a new lodge was built. There had been other "new" lodges created out of vacant spaces, but a new one hadn't been constructed since 1986. It would be in an undeveloped area to the southeast of Bear Lodge. Again, John Bell, Kawanhee's fishing guru, had a lot to say in naming this lodge. He had also named Bullfrog Lodge in the 1980s--a tribute to the bullfrogs constantly croaking at night. John lobbied hard for a lodge to be named after a fish, and thus it was named Trout. The second most popular choice, Piranha, was not accepted--thank goodness! The Landlocked Salmon, the Maine State Fish, was also ignored. The Coyote Lodge used in 1993 was used again and would be used again in 2000. Eventually Coyote Lodge became the Art Room. With the addition of Trout Lodge and the reuse of the original Coyote, we had the use of two more lodges to house campers. A new Coyote would replace the old Coyote in 2001, and no new lodges have been built since--not counting the rebuild of the burned down Coyote in 2019, mostly rebuilt in the fall of 2019.

With the addition of two more places to house campers, it was believed the cabin near the Burma Road would never be needed as a camper cabin again. It had not been used from 1993-1998, but because no new lodges were built in that time period, the cabin was always ready to be used. Year after year it was not needed, and when the summer of 1999 approached and Trout had been built and Coyote reused, everyone applauded not using the Burma Road cabin for campers since it was not in a scenic part of Camp. There were also plans to build a new Coyote Lodge next to Trout in a few summers, further strengthening the argument to not use it. And that has turned out to be true.

A second pre-season project was some much-needed improvements to the Rec Hall including tongue and groove beadboard on all the walls, new light fixtures, a new floor, and a refurbished fireplace and chimney. A much bigger Rec Hall renovation project would take place in 2018-2019. New stairs were added to the Dining Hall, a new roof for the Shop, and a new drilled well and water system.

Also, in 1999 it was finally decided to permanently bring back Eagle as a lodge name. Some people were disappointed that the name of one of the two original lodges in our history had only been used for three summers since 1988. Traditionally, Eagle Lodge had been used to house the youngest campers, and to keep this tradition Eagle became the name of the first lodge on the Junior Side--the northern side of the Dining Hall. That meant Falcon Lodge would be the name of the second lodge on the north side, keeping the traditional names that housed the youngest campers. In addition, these two original names would be part of our future, remaining as Eagle and Falcon ever since 1999.

With these changes, Panther disappeared forever but had a glorious history. Panther began as a lodge in 1922. To appease lovers of the Panther name, the Eagle cabin near the Burma Road was renamed Panther for three seasons. However, it never housed campers again, and in future years the Panther building housed Kitchen staff members, Tripping staff members, and Dan Webster lived there for many years. Today, this building is the Office and was dragged down from the Burma Road in 2014 and moved to its current location. But the name Panther lives on. A few years ago, when the new staff housing--the Burma Barracks--was built on the Burma Road, one of the four pods of the new building was named Panther. The other name that disappeared (after the fire of 1977) was Polecat, and it has never returned. And of course, the buildings once known as Panther and Polecat have never left; they are just called Eagle and Falcon today. The present Eagle Lodge (original Panther) is the second oldest structure on property--built in spring 1922. Only the Crow /Badger/ Sailing Department Building is older--built in fall of 1921.

Over 170 campers signed up for 1999--a record enrollment. Mark Nelson was in his new role as Assistant Director, and Russ Jessen and I were Co-Directors of Activities. I didn't work in Tennis that summer. Leo Turner started his twenty-year career in 1999 as Director of the Fort, in Maintenance, and in the Laundry. We had a new Head Chef that year, and as of 2021, Sean Minear is still with us. Sean is a Weld resident and a teacher of Culinary Arts at Mount Blue High School in Farmington, Maine. He is also President of the Weld Historical Society.

The first week of the season was a busy one with the record number of campers. After swimming tests, sports team tryouts, activities beginning, and the *Coming of the Chief*, the Camp family anticipated the announcing of the 1999 team captains--Jamie Strawbridge (Greys) and Sean Duncan (Maroons). It was an active summer, and we continued to do well in out of Camp tournaments. The usual trips were taken, and activities were busy. Organized Dramatics was again part of Kawanhee with several plays and a workshop presented. Instruction in Swing Dancing was a popular night, and the Dramatics Department also helped with the annual Mr. Kawanhee Night and Skit night.

Two new parts of Kawanhee life debuted in 1999--the Triathlon and the Lobster Club. The Triathlon--the creation of Swimming counselor Kris Simanek--included a $\frac{3}{4}$ mile Bass Rock swim to the diving tower, a 23-mile bike ride around the lake, and a 2-mile run from Weld to Camp; teams were created, and it would grow each summer. The Lobster Club was a unique idea to help recruit campers. If a camper helped recruit a camper, he would be treated to a lobster dinner at the Inn. Like the Triathlon, the Lobster Club would grow every year.

The last week is always the best week of the season. Sports tournaments, the *Going of the Chief*, the Camp and Tripping slide shows and then the banquet and awards. At the awards, James Forbes was given his Senior Robin Hood, and Enrique Alvarez -Sala and Chris Proctor were awarded the Olympic Robin Hood. Three people were awarded their Expert Rifleman--Luis Alvarez-Sala, Peter Yen, and Rudi Coursen. Rudi was new, so he did it in one summer! It was quite a year for the JMG Program with five people passing-- Joey Clarke, Chris Ryan, Dan Osar, Frank Cook, and Mike Pierson. In Swimming, Jon Casto and Mike Werhahn were recognized for swimming the entire length of Lake Webb.

The special awards went to the following people: the Latimer Award to Justin Whealen, the Benua Award to Kevin Lee (also awarded the Shepard Cup), Clay Colonna was given the Russell Bennett

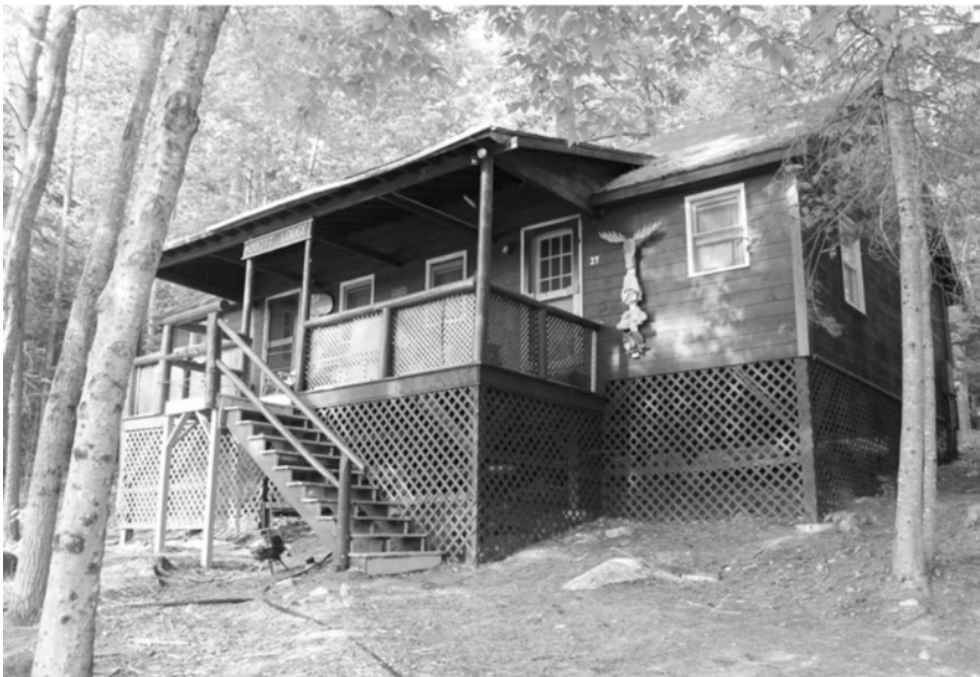
Award, the CA Crane Award to Brandon Jiaconia, Mike Lenard won the Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year, and the Herb Birch for the Most Spirited Lodge was shared again by two lodges--Hawk and Deer.

Jeff Cavanaugh was awarded the William Brutscher Cup as the High Point Winner finishing with 2,095 points. Will Alexander won special recognition for finishing his Senior Plaque. The Greys won breaking all existing records with a total of 74,465 points with the Maroons finishing with 68,730 points.





After Herb moved out of Skunk Ridge, the old camp office was moved next to the shop and renamed “Polar Bear Lodge”. Herb Birch passed away in the Spring of 2000 having served Kawanhee for 55 years. His cabin is now used as the History Museum.



Abbott Lodge was built to honor the late Charlie Abbott, a popular camper and counselor who was killed in an automobile accident in California.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

THE NEW MILLENNIUM

2000: NON-PROFIT STATUS, A NEW ACTIVITY AND THE LOSS OF A LEGEND

As the 80th summer approached, changes were happening. The Kawanhee Inc. Board of Directors, led by Managing Director Walter Estabrook, had operated Camp since 1969. He was ably assisted by his wife Jane and other Board members. But the Estabrooks were not getting any younger, and although there had been a few offers to buy Kawanhee over the years nothing had worked out. Both Walter and Jane were in their 80s and deserved a normal retirement. Of course, everyone involved wanted Kawanhee to continue as a boys' camp. As 2000 approached, a unique and creative plan had been formulated to keep Camp in operation for the future. The plan would involve a lot of cooperation and sacrifice.

The idea was that everyone who owned stock in Kawanhee Inc would donate their stock back and not earn any financial gain from selling their stock. Kawanhee would then create a non-profit foundation, and a new Board of Directors would operate Camp. This new plan had to get IRS approval, which it eventually did, and it was decided the name of the foundation would be the George and Raymond Frank Foundation--named after our legendary founders. The Board of Directors would appoint a Managing Director who would work full time operating Camp, including off season recruiting of campers and staff and operations during the summer--exactly what Walter and Jane did with help from the Board of Directors from 1969-1999 and what George and Raymond Frank had done before 1969. The major difference in the new model was that the Managing Director would not have any ownership stake, and he or she would be an employee of the Frank Foundation Board of Directors. Most people were excited by the new plan as it would enable Kawanhee to continue. People respected the sacrifice of former members of Kawanhee Inc who had donated their stock; the donating members included Bill and Marty Albershardt, Mike and Betty Frank Brassington, John and Helen Detrick, Victoria Green Dickson, Jim and Dotty Estabrook, John and Iris Estabrook, Richard and Ann Havener, Walter and Jane Estabrook, Philip P. Green III, Ben and Lydia Hadley, Chuck and Judy Hoffhine, Richard and Joan Miller, Ferd and Kate Schoedinger, Julie Green Sengelmann, Elizabeth Green Standen, John Tulloss, Rees Tulloss, Donald Wambaugh, and Steve and Diana Yale.

The George and Raymond Foundation officially became the owner and operator of Camp Kawanhee on January 1, 2000. The first Board officers were Steve Yale, President, Chuck Hoffhine, Treasurer, Mark Standen, Vice President, and Nick Gill, Secretary. The other Board trustees included Patty Alexander, Bill Dargusch, Jock Duncan, Jim Estabrook, Hank Hiser, Jeff Morgan, Kate Schoedinger, BA Altmaier, John Detrick, Keith Erf, John Estabrook, Fred Hoster, Mark Nelson, and Tim Vrael. Another important person on the new team was Louisa Erf who would be the accountant through 2015. Jane Estabrook was the accountant after leaving her responsibilities at the Inn and then the Kitchen.

Mark Nelson was an obvious choice to be the first Managing Director and was hired by the George and Raymond Foundation. Mark had been at Camp since 1986, first working in Campcraft and then Skiing. In 1991 he became DOA and had continued in that role for nine years, and then in 1998 he became Assistant Director. Mark accepted the job, and the new non-profit ownership was off and running. Walter and Jane Estabrook were still part of the leadership team--both seen as valuable advisors--and would continue to be so for the next several years.

As a non-profit organization, the George and Raymond Foundation could now take tax deductible donations to help further our mission. During that first winter, a lot of donations were received; one was a special gift from the Abbott family. A decade earlier the family donated the money for Abbott Lodge--a residence for young married couples with children. Abbott Lodge was named in honor of their son and brother, the late Charley Abbott, a former camper and counselor who died in an automobile crash in 1989.

In 2000 the Abbott family made another donation to establish a new, exciting activity--a climbing wall and ropes course--an expensive endeavor the Abbott family made possible. Climbing walls were

becoming extremely popular at summer camps, so in 2000 Ropes would debut as an activity. An area near Loon Lodge and Council Point was picked for construction which began in the spring. The Ropes course would be ready in time for the campers in our 80th year.

The first few months of 2000 had been great months--the start of the Foundation and the Abbott Family donation. But in mid-April the sad news spread among the Kawanhee family that Herb Birch had a fall at home, brought on by a stroke. He never regained consciousness and died in the hospital about a week later. A memorial service was held in New Jersey on April 27, and an additional service was to be held at Kawanhee on July 2, 2000.

Herb was 93 at the time of his death--the oldest, active staff member in history. In 1999 he had just completed his 55th year--the second longest tenure ever. Only George Frank has a longer tenure--57 years. Herb first came in 1945 and worked in Campcraft and headed up the Boy Scout Program. In 1952 he switched to Shop but kept working with the Boy Scouts. As Herb's tenure continued, he took on even more responsibilities; he was Chief Sachem at the Chief ceremonies after Raymond Frank died and was also the chief recruiter in New Jersey after Raymond died. Many of the Kawanhee family will always remember Herb as the originator of the Polar Bear program--our early morning dip activity.

All of Herb's children had been part of Camp at one point--Barry, Brian, Bruce, and Bonnie. His wife Jean and son Bruce had predeceased him. Away from Camp, Herb was an Industrial Arts teacher in Tenafly, N.J. until his retirement and was very involved with his church and Boy Scouts. Later in life he volunteered with the American Red Cross, Englewood Hospital, the American Cancer Society, the Tenafly Nature Center, and other organizations. It is hard to put in words what Herb meant to each person he influenced at Kawanhee. That is up to each person of the hundreds he mentored. His unlimited energy--even at age 90 and beyond--was a good lesson to us all. After Herb's passing, Kawanhee would never quite be the same.

Another mostly veteran staff greeted campers in our 80th year. With Mark Nelson as Managing Director, there were still three DOAs. Russ Jessen and I returned, and Simon Doolittle was added as the third. 2000 was noteworthy because Brian Birch replaced his late father as Director of the Shop and Debi Brown Sullivan started her twenty-year career as Camp Mother. A fresh staff member was Sandy Winkles who began her twenty-year career, starting out as a Camp Secretary, eventually moving to Range to work alongside her good friend, Mary Birch.

As usual the season started with lake swims, team tryouts, activities starting and the *Coming of the Chief*. On Friday of the first week, Jamie Lastra (Maroons) and Jon Casto (Greys) were selected as Captains. As activities got started, all campers and staff were excited by the new Climbing Wall and Ropes Course. Kris Simanek and Mark Gibson were Directors of Ropes in its first year.

On July 2 a large group of people gathered at the outdoor Chapel to honor the memory of Herb Birch. There were scripture readings, songs by the Choir, the Indian Prayer, and a benediction written by Herb. The service ended with the playing of *Taps* by Herb's son, Brian. And there were lots of stories told with laughter and tears. *The Wigwam* put out a special issue with a collection of condolence letters that had been sent to the Birch family and Camp.

In 2000 there is evidence of Camp slowly changing its approach to being more flexible in accepting campers for less than seven weeks. In previous summers, we would accept a few boys for four weeks, but in the catalog, that changed. We would now accept twenty-five campers for the four-week program.

It was the usual good summer with trips, good weather, outside tournaments, and lots of activities. It ended with a busy last week with longstanding end of Camp traditions. James Chagaris and Scott Luken were awarded their Senior Robin Hood, and James Forbes his Olympic Robin Hood. There were two JMGs--James Chagaris and Jed Standen. Luis Alvarez -Sala and Peter Yen were awarded their Expert Rifleman, and for the only second time in history, a camper/counselor was awarded the Distinguished Rifleman. Andy Zechiel had been given the prestigious award a few years earlier, but in 2000 Enrique Alvarez-Sala met all the requirements and was given the Distinguished Rifleman.

For Special Awards, the Lattimer Award for Physical Improvement went to Martin Min, the Benua Award for Athletic Improvement to Mike Fink and Dan Luken, the Shepard Cup for Swimming to Charles Darmanin, the Russell Bennett Junior C Swimming Award to Dan Alexander, and Tony Cottone

was awarded the CA Crane Award for Most Helpful. The Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year was given to Adam Aldrich, Rees Alexander won the Campbell Scarlett Nature Award, and Moose Lodge was awarded the Herb Birch Most Spirited Lodge--a special honor that year indeed. Jose Martinez-Perada was the High Point Winner scoring 2,995 points, 700 more than the runner up! He was also recognized for finishing his Junior C Plaque in one summer. Jon Casto, Matt Duncan, and Rees Alexander were also recognized for completing their Senior Plaques--a feat not accomplished very often. It was a close, final score in the Maroon-Grey competition with Maroons winning with 65,581 points and the Greys finishing just a few hundred points behind with 65,023 points--over 130,000 total points.

A few days after the campers went home, nearly 300 alumni descended on Kawanhee for a reunion honoring our 80th year. There were activities, (with Ropes very popular), golfing excursions, mountain climbs, Bass Rock swims, a lobster feed, a big campfire and a Sunday morning service. Walter and Jane Estabrook were honored throughout the weekend with special presentations. At a special ceremony in the Rec Hall, they received a beautiful quilt with the different squares donated by people who loved them. The new Frank Foundation Board Members presented the Estabrooks with a plaque and a framed picture to hang in the Dining Hall. Several people made speeches to honor their commitment and dedication to Kawanhee--a nice way to end our 80th year as Camp moved forward into a new century.

2001: A NEW LODGE, A RECORD ENROLLMENT, AND GOOD BEHAVIOR

As the 2001 season approached there were some off-season events and pre-Camp building. We lost another longtime veteran counselor, Ben Bennett, who had worked in Shop for decades alongside Herb Birch. Ben's son Russell--a camper who came as a non-swimmer and then became a great swimmer--had died very early in life in his forties, and Ben donated the Russell Bennett Award in his honor for the Junior C camper who displays the Greatest Improvement in Swimming. Ben had not been at Camp in many years, but many remembered him. He was almost 100 years of age.

In 2001 a new lodge, Coyote, would be built in the space next to Trout Lodge. A local carpenter, Randy Vining, built it in one week! As you have read (Hopefully I wrote this!) a building next to the Laundry and Fort had been turned into a lodge in 1993, 1999, and 2000 and called Coyote--now the Art Room. The building served its purpose as a place for campers in those three years, but it wasn't in a very nice location unless you have a desire to live next to a laundry or close to a bathroom facility for over 200 people. It also was not close to the lake, so it was a natural decision to build a new lodge. Although the new Coyote was not close to the water, it was in a nice location in the woods. As you will learn in a future chapter, this new Coyote Lodge burned down in the summer of 2019 but was rebuilt in the fall of 2019.

Besides a new lodge there were a few other notable events before the campers arrived in 2001. During the winter the Frank Foundation had bought 148 acres of land across the road, to protect Kawanhee from modern developments that might come close to our property. Another purchase was buying another fifteen-seat passenger van. During this time Kawanhee was moving toward vans to transport campers, enabling a lot more flexibility in Tripping. As written in an earlier section, the Bouncing Buggy had disappeared, and even in its last years of life the Bouncing Buggy did not transport campers. It was only used to transport luggage, but after an accident at the Portland Airport (with a concrete barrier in a parking garage, not another vehicle) the Bouncing Buggy retired.

Mark Nelson continued as Managing Director in 2001, and the threesome of myself, Simon Doolittle, and Russ Jessen continued as Directors of Activities. A group of six new staff members joined the staff, and a unique move was Joanna Sewall who went from working in the Kitchen to Soccer.

Camp had a record number of campers in 2001--169 campers! After the normal first week of activities, Will Alexander (Maroons) and Scott Luken (Greys) were selected as Captains. A noteworthy event was a talk given at our Sunday service by eleven-year-old Graham Marvin, the youngest person ever to give the sermon at our chapel. His talk was entitled *The Magic of Kawanhee*. Graham must still believe in the magic of Camp as he is now (2021) on the Frank Foundation Board; however, he is no longer eleven. Another cool event was a nice letter from a Connecticut couple that was visiting Monhegan at the same time our boys were on the island. The couple complimented our campers and staff on their behavior.

Although not mentioned in every section, some events continued year after year such as Christmas in July, Mr. Kawanhee Night, the Carnival, Skit Night, and other more recent annual events such as the Triathlon. The 2001 season was another good season overall. Trips were more plentiful since the vans enabled us to take more than one trip a day. The newer trips--Whitewater Rafting and Sea Kayaking--continued, and the old standbys of hiking, climbing Katahdin and Mount Washington, the Androscoggin River Trip, and Monhegan all continued. There was plenty to do in Camp and outside of Camp.

The best week of Camp--the last week--was busy as usual with tournaments, the *Going of the Chief*, the Camp and Tripping slideshows, testimonial Vespers, and finally the banquet and awards ceremony. At the awards, James Chagaris was awarded his Olympic Robin Hood, and four campers received their Expert Rifleman--Max Smith-Marder, Mario Alvarez-Sala, Tony Cottone, and Jose Martinez-Perada. It was an equally good summer for four JMG, successful candidates--Ben Estabrook, Sam Hoffman, Ryan Nuanes, and Sam Hoffman.

The special awards went to the following campers: Carl Tjader the Lattimer Award, Matt Fortunato the Benua Award, Alex Nering the Shepard Cup, Ben Standen the Russell Bennett Award (the first time it was awarded since Ben Bennett, the donor, had died) Gordon Magne the Most Helpful Camper, and Robin Curtis the Tripper of the Year. Three lodges shared the Herb Birch Award for Most Spirited--Beaver, Moose, and Trout.

J.P. Rullan was awarded the Brutscher Memorial Cup for High Point winner scoring 2,845 points, narrowly defeating the 2000 High Point Winner Jose Martinez-Perada who finished with 2,815 points. Jose had scored 2,995 points in 2000. Also recognized were Ben Altmaier and J.P. Rullan (Jr. C) and Jose Martinez-Perada (Jr. B) who all finished plaques in one summer. Jose had also completed his Jr. C Plaque in one summer the year prior. Chris Duncan and Jeffrey Cavanaugh also received congratulations for finishing Senior Plaques. The Maroons won with 70,720 points, the Greys finished with 64,381 points. The 135,000 total points was not surprising considering the record-breaking number of campers.

2002: A NEW ACTIVITY, A HUGE YEAR FOR JMG, AND LOTS OF POINTS

Before the season started in 2002 there was some pre-Camp work accomplished--a new deck on the Dining Hall and a nature trail started on our new property across the road. Art would become a regularly scheduled activity because of the influence of Ted Simanek who supervised Nature. Some of the Nature projects that campers finished to earn levels involved drawing and other modes of art. Eventually Ted began offering more art projects in free time including pottery. At the awards ceremony in 2000 and 2001 there were Art awards presented for the best projects. So, there was an Art department, but they had no home. That changed in 2001 when the new Coyote was built next to Trout, and that freed up the former Coyote building next to Laundry. In 2002 this building became the Fine Art Center, and as of 2021, it remains the same. There are long range plans to move Art to a new building that will be built behind the Rec Hall. This could happen soon or in a few years, or there will be a change of plans.

A very veteran staff returned with only one new member who had never been to Kawanhee before. Mark Gibson became a new DOA working with Russ Jessen as Mark Nelson continued as Managing Director. Joe Demers replaced Mrs. Estabrook as Bookkeeper, and Camp was proud that one of our nurses, Dr. Nancy Rini, was now supervisor for all school nurses in Columbus, Ohio.

After a busy first week Rob Connelly (Maroons) and Tony Cottone (Greys) were selected as Captains. 170 campers had signed up for Kawanhee, making it another good year in enrollment. With so many campers it was an active season, both on and off the camp grounds. Dan Webster continued with his wilderness survival trips as he had done for several years, and the Mountain Man program was popular as usual. John Bell continued his Fly-Fishing School. These programs ran each summer but are not mentioned every year in this book. Campers who had gone to Monhegan in recent years were excited to hear that one of the boat captains we used summer after summer, Zoe Zanidakis, had qualified for the popular CBS show *Survivor*. Unfortunately, she didn't win. Again, we participated in out of Camp tournaments, and the newer activities of Art and Ropes were popular. A lot of campers liked Basketball that summer as the Bowman brothers brought a lot of enthusiasm to the activity.

After a busy last week, Camp gathered for the banquet and awards ceremony. In Archery, Frank Cook was awarded his Olympic Robin Hood. 2002 was the greatest year in number of campers who had successfully passed JMG in history with eight successful candidates--Peter Sengelmann, Matt Duncan, Chris Duncan, Ben Morgan, David Wirth, Sam Morris, Alex Standen and Alex Sanchez-Navarro.

Some special awards were given to the following campers: The Lattimer Award to Dan Luken, the Benua Award to Harper Pack, the Shepard Cup to Dan Alexander, The Russell Bennett Award to Will Gering, the Clarence Bateman Award for Tripper of the Year to Graham Marvin, the Walter and Jane Estabrook Award for Staff Member of the Year to Kris Simanek, the CA Crane Award to Sam Morris, and the Campbell Scarlett Award to Corey Keny. It was announced in December 2002 that Mark Gibson would take over as webmaster and operate the Kawanhee website.

David Wirth scored 2,475 points earning the High Point Winner--his name inscribed on the Brutscher Cup. It close with David only twenty-five points ahead of Fernando Alvarez-Sala. JP Rullan, the 2001 High Point Winner, also did well scoring over 2,000 points, finishing fourth. JP also received recognition for finishing his Junior B Plaque in one summer and had finished his Junior C Plaque in the previous summer. The final score was a victory for the Greys with 72,075 points, and the Maroons finished with 70,339 points--the first that both teams finished with over 70,000 points.

2003: THE WELD DINNERS BEGIN

As the 2003 season approached another large group of campers had signed up. There were also two more losses of significant alumni over the off season that affected the Kawanhee family. The Reverend Hal Myers died at the age of 85 in April. He had been a camper and counselor in the 1930s, and many people recall his connection with the Orchestra. He was a very talented drummer and served as drum major for the orchestra/band when it marched. He later was drum major at Princeton. After becoming a minister Hal couldn't spend all summer here, but he had a summer home not far from Camp and often gave a guest talk at our Chapel on some Sundays. He kept involved all his life and was a member of the Kawanhee Inc. Board of Directors. Hal and wife Jean had two daughters- Judy and Marty--who both married counselors. Judy married Chuck Hoffhine, and Marty married Bill Albershardt.

Another loss that off season was the unexpected death of Craig Miller at age 46 who was part of the iconic Kawanhee Miller family. Craig had attended from 1966 to 1971 and was always remembered as a great sailor who worked in Sailing for a few years, attaining his Skipper Award and the more challenging Racing Skipper Award. Many of our softball players remember him as a great first baseman. His Grandfather was The Dean Ross Miller, and his father was Ross (Bud) Miller Jr. who attended for many years. His Uncle was Dr. Richard Miller who is featured throughout this project. Craig's sister, Lucia, still spends a lot of her summer on Lake Webb as does his uncle.

Many modern era campers who did not reach counselor status may wonder what the Weld Dinner is. It takes place the Friday before campers arrive during pre-camp training. Sean Minear and Jane Estabrook are usually given credit for starting the Weld Dinner--a way to thank the residents of Weld for their support of Kawanhee. Of course, for Sean Minear, a Weld resident and very involved with the community, the idea of the Weld dinner seemed a natural idea. The dinners continue to the present day and have grown in popularity over the years. It was not held in 2021 due to COVID.

Again, a very veteran staff greeted the campers with Mark Nelson continuing as Managing Director and Russ Jessen and Mark Gibson back as Co-Directors of Activities. A notable returning staff member was Scott Barnes who had been here for over twenty years working mostly on the waterfront--Kayaking, Sailing, or Boating. Paige Berry started her long career working mostly in Archery. In administrative news, Mark Standen was elected as the new President of the Frank Foundation.

Two second generation junior counselors were selected as Captains--Jed Standen (Greys) and Rees Alexander (Maroons). 168 campers were listed in the catalog, another banner enrollment--not quite a record but very close. Overall, it was a good season; nothing outlandish happened, but as chronicled earlier there were the usual trips, out tournaments, and activities. The usual special activities also took

place--Christmas in July, the Carnival, Skit Night, Mr. Kawanhee Night, Amerifest, the Triathlon, two Game nights, and the Lobster Club continued at the Inn.

In Archery, Andrew Altmaier was awarded his Senior Robin Hood, while David Wirth was awarded his Olympic Robin Hood. Over at Range, Nathan Webb and David Wirth were awarded their Expert Rifleman. It was another good year for Camp in the Junior Maine Guide program with three successful candidates: Mario-Alvarez -Sala, Austin Randall, and Alex Nering. The special awards in 2003 were awarded to the following campers: The Lattimer Award to Zach Hershberger, the Benua Plaque to Jack Addison, the Shepard Cup to Dan Alexander, the Russell Bennett Award to Steve Letarte, the CA Crane Award to Chris Smith, the Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year to Conor Morris, the Campbell Scarlett Award to Will Gehring, and the Walter and Jane Estabrook Staff Excellence to Pete van den Honert. Deer and Lynx were both chosen as winners of the Herb Birch Most Spirited Lodge Award. Ben Smith was High Point Winner with 2,060 points, Carl Barnard was runner-up with 1,945 points, the Maroons won with a total of 63,796 points, and the Greys with 60,092 points.

2004: A GLORIOUS YEAR FOR JMG, & THE INN SELLS TO A KAWANHEEAN

As the season approached, there was news that the Inn had been sold to a group that was led by a former camper, counselor, and captain, Chris Huntington. Even after Kawanhee Inc. sold the Inn, it was still a popular destination for families. That would continue under the new ownership group.

In the early 2000s there were more scheduled get-togethers for members of the Kawanhee family-- fall gatherings, work parties, and an alumni work weekend scheduled around Memorial Day. There were also scheduled winter walks to Bass Rock with participants earning their white K on their paddle. Originally the walks to Bass Rock were scheduled for Martin Luther King's Birthday holiday but now continue on President's Day weekend in February with a Saturday night dinner at a restaurant in Wilton and lunch at the Schoolhouse Variety in Weld after the walk.

Mark Nelson continued as Managing Director, and Russ Jessen and Mark Gibson were back again as Co-Directors of Activities. Some notable careers started in 2004. Andy Bourassa began as an Art counselor and eventually would become part of the leadership team that operated Camp for a few summers. Rebecca Altmaier also started her career by working in Nature and eventually would become the Camp Cabin Inspector, operate the Camp Store, and be the purchasing agent. In future years she would marry counselor Ed Watson--yet another wedding. Jim Estabrook continued to edit *The Wigwam* and took over as webmaster as Kawanhee started a website. 2004 was also the start of Dolores Stanley's long career as a Laundry Supervisor.

After a normal and busy first week, the Maroon and Grey Captains were announced at the noon meal on Friday--Will Dargusch (Greys) and Adam Aldrich (Maroons). It was another good summer with the Archery team winning a few more tournaments outside of Camp and Baseball, Basketball and Range also participating in tournaments. The usual trips took place, but a unique trip up Tumbledown was a cleanup trip. On the way up and down our campers picked up bags and bags of trash. We received another complimentary letter from tourists who had visited Monhegan at the same time as our campers and congratulated them on their behavior.

In the four years since the formation of the George and Raymond Frank Foundation there had been steady donations to support our mission. In the winter of 2004, they had received some extremely charitable donations, and since these were printed in *The Wigwam*, I feel it appropriate to reveal them here. Jean Myers, widow of Rev. Hal Myers, donated \$50,000 worth of securities to the Foundation in memory of her husband. Sadly, Jean died a few months after her donation. Butch O'Neil also made a very charitable gift by donating a building that was in Weld, a building he had purchased and had extensively renovated. Older alumni will remember this building as the site of the Hathaway Store. The Frank Foundation put the building up for sale. One of the big projects the Foundation was hoping to fund with the contributions was to purchase the land around Skookumee Beach to keep it in the Kawanhee family. (I spell Skookumee like how it was spelled in the 1920s catalogs. I know there are other spellings.)

After the excitement of the last week, the banquet and awards ceremony took place. In Archery, Evan Jones, Ryan Parrish, Ben Smith, and Chris Smith earned their Senior Robin Hood Awards, and Evan Jones was awarded his Expert Rifleman. We had the most successful JMG candidates since we started the program, and under the direction of Pete St. John twelve campers earned this distinguished honor: Dan Alexander, Carl Barnard, John Denby, Alex Dunn, Miguel Mayol, Luke Morris, Harper Pack, Carlos Pla, David Ruhle, J.P. Rullan, Johnny Sengelmann, and Chris Smith.

Special achievement plaques and trophies were awarded to a group of high achieving campers. The Lattimer Award was awarded to Cody Austin and Nathan Sullivan, the Benua Award to Sam Friedlander, the Shepard Cup to Sean Lee, the Russell Bennett to Wyatt Tulloss, and the CA Crane Award to Ben Friedlander. The Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year was given to Juan de la Lastra, the Campbell Scarlett in Nature to Issac Akers, the Walter and Jane Estabrook staff member to Rob Connelly, and Beaver Lodge was awarded the Herb Birch Award for most spirited. A.J. Johnson was High Point Winner finishing with 2,390 points with his name inscribed on the Brutscher Memorial Cup. Runner -up was none other than former High Point Winner J.P. Rullan who was only 65 points behind finishing with 2,325 points. The Maroons won finishing with 67,085 points, and the Greys finished with 60,014 points.

2005: SKOOKUMEE OUTPOST BECOMES A REALITY

Many alumni were saddened to hear of the death of Joe Shepard in February of 2005. Joe was a well-known member of the Kawanhee family as they remember him portraying the Duke of Zanzibar and the Duke's predecessor, the King of Abyssinia. His family donated the Shepard Cup, given for the Greatest Improvement in Swimming; the original Shepard Cup sits in the Museum. The most interesting story about Joe was relayed to me by Dick Miller. Joe served in the European Theater of World War II, and one day he was resting on the rear bumper of a Jeep and having a meal. They were close to German lines, so only a quick rest stop was allowed. Finally, Joe finished his break and stepped away from the Jeep. Within seconds, a German artillery shell made a direct hit on the Jeep and destroyed the vehicle.

Two other notable alumni passed away in the off season. Dr. Bill Yardley died at age 82--a former camper and counselor in the 1930s and 1940s--probably best remembered as the man who revived *The Log* when he returned in 1973. Bill was one of the staff members that was burned and hospitalized during the 1977 fire. He was revered as a great educator and earned his Doctorate in Education. His son Chris was a longtime Kawanheean, and Bill's wife Beanie was a Nurse for several years.

Donald Wambaugh died in June in Texas at age 79. He was a great counselor in the 1940s and 1950s and was best remembered by many as the driver of the Camp truck in 1948 when it had a serious accident and ran off the road and down an embankment towards a stream. Although Don was seriously injured, he heroically got out of the truck and helped get all the campers to safety.

As described earlier, the Frank Foundation had been fundraising for several years to help buy the Skookumee Beach property so future campers could enjoy the beach. Another goal with the fundraising project was to build a Junior Maine Guide Outpost Shelter on the beach. There had been several charitable donations to help buy the property, one from Mrs. Muriel Ruhle, the mother of former campers and counselors Steve and Tom Ruhle. She was also the mother of Jody Ruhle Barnard who had joined the staff in recent years. Muriel's late husband, Norman, was also a former camper and counselor. Tom Ruhle had been killed in an auto accident on his way home from Kawanhee in 1971, and Mrs. Ruhle's donation was given in memory of her son. Tom had been a successful JMG candidate and later was Director of the JMG program. Kawanhee alum Mark Sengelmann, an architect, designed the building, and the beautiful shelter had been completed by the time the campers arrived in June. The Campcraft Building had some renovations completed that included revamping and expanding the back storage area and a new roof that included an overhang for dry firewood storage. A new 90 horsepower Evinrude outboard engine was purchased for the ski boat.

As usual it was a veteran staff with a sprinkling of new people. Mark Nelson returned as Managing Director, and Russ Jessen and Mark Gibson returned as Co-Directors of Activities. Ed Watson started his

climb up the administrative ranks by being named Director of the Counselor in Training Program. Sue Cook began her long career as a Nurse, and as of 2021 her career continues.

A few weeks before the season started, two-time Super Bowl winning coach of the New England Patriots returned to his alma mater of Wesleyan University in Connecticut. Coach Belichick had graduated from Wesleyan in 1975 with a degree in Economics and was back on the campus to receive an honorary Doctorate. Introducing him at the ceremony was none other than longtime camper, counselor and 1948 team Captain, Dr. Richard (Dick) Miller, a longtime professor and department chairman of Economics at Wesleyan and Bill's professor in several classes in the 1970s.

Bill eventually became coach of the Cleveland Browns. One day Dick received a letter from Coach Belichick thanking him for teaching certain economics principles that helped him with the finances of operating a NFL franchise. Of course, Bill Belichick eventually found himself as coach of the New England Patriots, and by 2005 he had already won two Super Bowls. Dick and Coach Belichick had stayed connected, and Dick was the natural choice to introduce him at the ceremony. In an interview in the summer of 2020, Dick remembered that the night before the ceremony there was a formal dinner. Dick decided to ask Bill if he could have an autograph for his grandson, Blaise Mariner. Blaise was playing some youth football at the time. Dick remembers that Bill gave him that "look" that seemed to indicate displeasure. But then Bill replied, "How about a picture?" A few weeks later a package arrived at Blaise's house in New Mexico--a picture of Coach Belichick raising the Super Bowl trophy and included a handwritten message to Blaise. Dick says he and Coach Belichick communicate a couple of times every year. And since that ceremony there have been four more Super Bowls for the Patriots.

Another large group of campers had signed up for the season. David Wirth (Greys) and Alex Sanchez-Navarro (Maroons) were selected as Captains. It was a good summer as trips, scheduled activities, and out of Camp tournaments continued. Mid-summer we participated in Webb Lake Days as we had for several years and would continue to do so. The festivities included athletic competitions, canoe races, and a loon count on the lake. Another Weld event that we attended was the Weld Heritage Days, held on the last Saturday of July with fun games, refreshments, vendors selling gifts, an indoor garage sale, and Weld History exhibits. Our head Chef, Sean Minear, was President of the Weld Historical Society and really helped Kawanhee get involved in this celebration.

A Tumbledown Mountain clean-up hike took place, and Kawanhee received some local press about the hike. An article in the local paper, *The Franklin Journal*, described this public service project. In 2005 we got some help from Walmart who donated trash bags, gloves, beverages, steel wool, and wire brushes (to take off graffiti). After a successful hike, other Farmington merchants came forward to reward the hikers. The Narrow-Gauge Cinemas gave the campers gift certificates to the movies, and the Grainary, a restaurant in Farmington, treated the hikers to a meal.

After a busy seven weeks, the banquet and awards ceremony took place on the last Saturday. In Archery the winning Caribou Tournament team was introduced, and archers who had been on the winning team for the Maine State Archery Tournament were also introduced. The JMG program had a good summer with three successful candidates: Corey Connor, Gregor Hoffman, and Ned Carson. There were also the usual special recognition awards given out. Jon Ersider was awarded the Lattimer Cup, Bobby Savini and Willy Hauser shared the Benue Award, the Shepard Cup went to Tucker Emerson, Bobby Savini won another award, the Russell Bennett Award, and JP Rullan was selected as the Most Helpful Camper. The Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year was awarded to Spencer Branch, the Walter and Jane Estabrook staff member award went to Ed Watson, and Badger Lodge won the Herb Birch Award as Most Spirited. Bobby Savini won a third award, the Campbell Scarlett Award for excellence in Nature.

Tyler Slayman was winner of the Brutscher Memorial Cup as High Point Winner scoring 2,520 points, and AJ Johnson, a previous High Point Winner, was runner-up with 2,430 points. Three people earned the rare honor of finishing their Senior Plaque: A.J. Johnson, Tyler Slayman, and Dan Alexander. Harry Wellborn received special recognition for completing his Junior B Plaque, and Sam Friedlander completed his Junior A Plaque. The final score was close with Maroons winning with 57,797 points, the Greys less than 200 points behind with 57,608 points.

A few days after the season ended, over 200 alumni pulled into Weld and Kawanhee to celebrate our 85th year. It featured some open activities with Range, Archery and Ropes very popular. There were also Bass Rock Swims, mountain climbing trips, slide shows, and a softball game Saturday followed by an evening lobster dinner and campfire. On Sunday a small Chapel service was held, then a brunch and then goodbye until the next reunion in 2010.

2006: A CHANGE IN STRUCTURE, A NEW *WIGWAM* & TOWN WALKS END

After the 2005 season, a new management structure was approved. In the original model of the George and Raymond Frank Foundation that started in 2000, the Managing Director handled all the off season and in season responsibilities that the owners had done for eighty years including the recruiting of campers and staff and operating Kawanhee in the summer. The new structure would split the Director's job into two parts: the Executive Director or Directors would do most of the off-season work, and a new Camp Director position would direct during the Camp season. Mark Standen resigned as President of the Foundation's Board of Directors and accepted the newly created position of Executive Director.

Mark Nelson would slide over and become the Camp Director. However, Mark decided not to come back, and Pete St. John was selected as the new Camp Director. Pete was an eight-year veteran but had over thirty years of experience in camping. He had started in Campcraft and steadily moved up Kawanhee's leadership ladder. So as the 2006 season approached, Mark and Liz Standen began the process of recruiting staff and campers and getting ready for the summer. Liz was not officially the Co-Executive Director that summer, but she would be the next summer and continues in that role today. Pete St. John would take the baton from Mark and Liz as the summer started and direct Camp during the eight weeks (one week of pre-Camp counselor training and seven weeks of the Camp season).

In June we published the first edition of a new *Wigwam*, directed towards alumni as Camp continued to strive to keep in contact. The first issue was edited by Mark Standen.

The alumni of the 1960s were saddened to hear of the death of Tim McKee in the spring. Tim was only fifty-three and had worked in Nature, was a former Captain, and the first winner of the Campbell Scarlett Award for Excellence in Nature. He won it again in 1966 and shared it with other campers in 1967—the only camper in history to win the award in three consecutive summers. After the announcement of his death, the Frank Foundation received a lot of donations in his memory. Later, Tim's family donated some of his nature collections to the Ma Frank Memorial Nature Building.

An era ended with the 2006 season. As described earlier, during the first fifty years the camper population largely came from two places—the New Jersey/ New York area and Ohio. That changed somewhat in 1959 when the first campers arrived from Puerto Rico, and there were always a handful of campers from other places. Slowly, it began to change. The death of Raymond Frank affected New Jersey recruiting, although Herb Birth did a good job recruiting after his death, but as Herb aged the campers from New Jersey began to decline. As written earlier, by 1998 the number of New Jersey campers declined enough to cancel the New Jersey scheduled trip by plane and bus (earlier by train). This coincided with more and more parents transporting their children to Kawanhee.

In 2006 the other shoe dropped as it was announced that Ohio camper numbers had dropped so low that it was decided not to schedule the special plane trip reserved since the late 1960s. Before the late 1960s all Ohio boys and staff came by train. Walter and Jane had done a great job recruiting before and after the death of George Frank. I can personally attest that Walter was a great salesman. Mark Nelson was also a great recruiter, but by 2006 Walter and Jane were living in New England and enjoying retirement. Mark had moved on after the 2005 season to concentrate on his job and raise his young family. It was the end of an era with only a handful of boys coming from the two geographical areas that once made up almost 100% of the Camp population.

For much of history, campers looked forward to Sunday afternoons where they were allowed to walk the two miles to Weld. Depending on what year it was, there were one, two or three stores waiting for the onslaught of campers. Some stores would come and go, but the Weld General Store was always one of the oldest buildings in Weld. Over the years the store went through several owners and store names. In the

1960s it was called Masterman's and later Bronish's—and many other names and owners not listed here. The last owners were Jerry and Dot Nering, and they owned the store for several decades. Jerry and Dot called it the Weld General Store—always a welcoming place. Sadly, it burned down in the spring of 2019. Today the site is owned by the Weld Historical Society.

For many years there was another store across the street from the Weld General Store that was called Hathaway's. I can still remember going there in 1964 and looking in the pop cooler. Us Ohio boys called sugary drinks pop in those days. As I looked in the cooler, I saw two drinks I had never heard of—Moxie and Birch Beer. I tried Birch Beer, and it tasted a little like root beer with a slight wintergreen taste. I still buy it occasionally. I also tried Moxie which has a unique taste; you might say it's an acquired taste. Some people in Maine swear by it, and there is even a Moxie Festival in Lisbon, Maine. I had a bottle in 1964, and I'm glad to say I just recovered a few months ago. Some people think it tastes like cough syrup, but that gives cough syrup a bad name.

Hathaway's eventually closed, but the building remains in the center of Weld. A few years ago, Butch O'Neill, Kawanhee alum and Frank Foundation Board member, bought the building, made some improvements, then donated it to the Frank Foundation for the purpose of selling it.

Before his passing, Bill Myers reported in an email that in the 1930s and 1940s there was a small shop up the road from the Hathaway's building called Gracie's—located close to the Mount Blue Garage. Gracie's served ice cream and was a very popular place. For a few years in recent history there was another store in Weld located across from the old Hathaway's building. It was cleverly called The Other Store and is now a private home.

The rules for the walks to town were simple. You had to walk to and from Camp, counselors had to accompany campers, and you had to walk facing traffic. Campers tried to load up on sweets, and some campers even brought backpacks. Eventually Kawanhee began to see the walk as a negative experience—not very safe as cars and logging trucks sped down Route 142. As we became more health conscious, it was not a good idea for campers to buy all the sugary snacks. So, in 2006 the walks to town disappeared, and activities were offered instead. Today, the Skoolhouse Variety, located in the old Weld Elementary School, provides groceries, prepared food, and a friendly place to go.

Besides a change in the management structure, there were also major changes in program options with a two-week program, a three-week program, and a four-week program. The two-week program was designed for new, younger campers who wanted to give Camp a try but didn't want to commit to a longer stay. The three-week program was scheduled for the last three weeks for campers who had other plans earlier in the summer and wanted to enjoy the exciting last three weeks of Camp. The four-week program had quietly been part of Kawanhee for a long time. In the 1990s, Camp started advertising that they would take twenty-five campers for four weeks. That number kept rising, finally leading to an advertised four-week program beginning in 2006. There was still an option to stay the full seven weeks, but the summer camp landscape had changed. Many camps were now four-week camps with two sessions. Sports camps, family vacations, and other options made committing to a seven-week season more challenging. So Kawanhee was adapting to this changing landscape. The days when all campers came for the full eight or seven weeks were now over. The two-, three- and four-week programs continue to be extremely popular.

There were three new people in top administrative positions in 2006. Pete St. John was the Camp Director, and Sean Duncan and Ed Watson were the new Co-Directors of Activities. John Bell took over the role of the Chief; Richie Estabrook had done it since 1985 and decided it was time for someone new. John Bell accepted the challenge and portrayed Chief Kawanhee through 2019. A noteworthy new Kitchen staff member that summer was Bailey Scott who is still with us and serves as Camp Baker. Bailey will be our next Chef when her Uncle Sean Minear decides to hang up his meat cleaver. Bailey's older sister, Jessie, preceded Bailey by a few summers and was a dedicated employee for several seasons.

Dan Alexander (Maroons) and Juan de la Lastra (Greys) were selected as Captains and all the usual trips and tournaments took place in. We continued to do well in those tournaments. Activities at Camp were busy as usual, and the special nights continued including Amerifest, Skit Night, Mr. Kawanhee Night, and Lodge Game Nights. The JC program continued to evolve, and a new feature was a Junior

Counselor Trek—an extended hiking/backpacking trip with supervisors offering group sessions related to leadership and being a future senior counselor.

The last week was its usual craziness with tournaments, Skit Night, the *Going of the Chief*, the Camp and Tripping slide shows, and Testimonial Vespers. Finally, the last Saturday arrived, time for the noon banquet followed by the awards ceremony. Archery awarded four Senior Robin Hood Awards to Spencer Davis, Juan de la Lastra, Robert (Dewey) DiPrima, and Gaston Chassin de Kergommeaux. Near the end of the ceremony, special recognition awards were given out. Jacob Fogel was awarded the Lattimer Physical Improvement Award, the Benua Award for Greatest Athletic Improvement was given to Patrick Coyle, the Shepard Cup for Most Improved Swimmer to Christian Torchia, Peter Erf was awarded the Russell Bennett Junior C Swimming Award, the C.A. Crane Award for Most Helpful went to Ned Carson, Trace Rouda won the Campbell Scarlett Nature Award, and the Walter and Jane Estabrook Award for Staff was given to two people—siblings—Rebecca and Andrew Altmaier. Chase McReynolds won the Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year, and Crow won the Herb Birch Award for Most Spirited.

Gaston Chassin de Kergommeaux was High Point Winner with 3,440 points and was awarded the Brutscher Memorial Cup. Phil Coons and Jacob Fogel received recognition for finishing their Junior C Plaques, and Ned Carson and Sam Friedlander also received recognition for finishing their Senior Plaques. Sam did it in one season—extremely rare. The Maroons won the team competition with 53,999 points, and the Greys finished with 52,775 points. After the 2006 season ended there was another Kawanhee wedding; Wallis Tyler and Kris Simanek got married in a beautiful ceremony in the center of Camp on the last day of September, and a reception was held at the Inn.

2007: CO-EXECUTIVE FOUNDATION DIRECTORS & THE DINING HALL GETS A NAME

Before the season there was a big change at the top. Mark Standen had been named Executive Director of the Frank Foundation in 2006, and a year later Elizabeth Standen was appointed Co- Executive Director with her husband. The members of the Board of Directors were BA Altmaier, Beth Cuda Baker, Tim Bolon, Don Casto, John Detrick, Keith Erf, John Estabrook, Don Long, Jeff Morgan, Butch O'Neill, Kate Estabrook Schoedinger, Tim Vrabel, and Steve Yale.

Although the 2007 staff was largely veteran, there was a slight change in the administration. Pete St. John returned as Camp Director but decided to have only one DOA; Sean Duncan filled that role. Ed Watson went back to Waterfront Director. Sandy Winkles went from being a secretary to working in the Range with Mary Birch and would continue there through 2019. In the office Bernice Hoisington started her long career as Secretary, and she was still on the job as of 2021, although she threatens to retire one of these summers. Luckily Mark and Liz will never accept her resignation.

The 2007 season got off to a busy start as usual. At the end of the first week JP Rullan (Maroons) and Ned Carson (Greys) were selected as Captains. It was a normal season—busy activities, tournaments, and all the normal trips. There was a slight change in activities; Campcraft and Nature were combined into one and called Wilderness Training.

An interesting article appeared in *The Wigwam* in 2007, an article about the future History Museum with an artist drawing of the future museum. The Museum would not appear until 2010, but the article showed it was being thought about—another example of us trying to connect with our past and alumni.

A new tradition was started in 2007. Portland, Maine had a minor league baseball team called the Portland Sea Dogs, and it was decided that attending a game on a Sunday afternoon would be fun. The trip was kept secret until a surprise announcement was made on the morning of the trip, then the entire Camp headed down to Portland on several chartered buses. Each camper was given some money to buy snacks and souvenirs, and everyone had a great time. This tradition still happens every summer, although we missed it in 2021 because of Covid protocols.

It was another good year for JMG with four successful candidates—Tash Doughty, Max Zambito, John Fritz Rullan, and Ryan Erf. There were three Expert Riflemen, but the catalog did not name them. Range did recognize the camper with the most points, Alex Russo.

Special recognition awards went to a talented group of campers and one lodge. The Lattimer Greatest Physical Improvement went to Caleb Tulloss, the Benua Greatest Athletic Improvement to Enrique Corral-Herrera, the Shepard Cup for Greatest Swimming Improvement to Alessio Russo, and Luke Randall was awarded the CA Crane Award for Most Helpful Camper. Caleb Tulloss also picked up a second big award with the Campbell Scarlett for Excellence in Nature. The Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year was given to Zach Doucette, the Walter and Jane Estabrook Award for Staff Member of the Year was given to Matt Gering, and Crow Lodge won the Herb Birch Award as Most Spirited.

Enrique Corral-Herrera was the High Point Winner, honored with the Brutscher Memorial Cup, earning 3,000 points. Phil Coons was second with 2,695 points. And amazingly, JP Rullan was third with 2,300 points. JP had already been High Point Winner a previous summer and finished in the top ten several other summers. Phil Coons was recognized for completing his Junior B Plaque, and JP Rullan accomplished the incredible feat of finishing his Senior Plaque in one summer. The Maroons won with a final score of 51, 460, and the Greys finished with 50,436 points.

During the awards ceremony there was a very special moment. Walter and Jane Estabrook were led to the front of the Dining Hall, and on the porch railing was a sign covered in blankets. With the whole Camp family and guests watching, the blanket was removed, and it was revealed that the Dining Hall would now be called the Walter and Jane Estabrook Dining Hall—a great moment for all and a great honor for Walter and Jane representing their nearly fifty years of direct involvement with Kawanhee. It was appropriate that the Dining Hall would be named in their honor since the building of it was led by Walter and Jane and the Kawanhee Inc. Board of Directors after the tragic 1977 fire.

Happy Anniversary!

By Kate Estabrook

It's fitting that my parents, Walter and Jane Estabrook, celebrated their June 26th anniversary at Camp Kawanhee every summer. They worked every day of the year on some aspect of a Camp related task, and to celebrate their love of Camp and one another surrounded by campers and staff was a joy to them.

The Dining Hall often set up a table for two in front of the head table, like one would see at a wedding reception for the bride and groom. It would have a white tablecloth, a vase of flowers found around Camp, and place settings. Campers and staff would enjoy clinking their glasses encouraging them to kiss. My dad, who never shied from public speaking in the Dining Hall, would ask for silence so he could profess his love, devotion, and admiration of my mom. The Camp would cheer in thunderous approval. One particular anniversary was extra fun because someone brought numerous cans of Silly String and emptied all the cans on the beaming couple. The greatest moment was when my dad would extend his hand for my mom to join him. Then he would dip her for a big smooch! Love of Camp and all its magic certainly fueled their devotion for one another. May There Always Be a Kawanhee!

After the season, the Foundation formed a Buildings and Grounds Committee with Mark Sengelmann, an alum, Director. He would be assigned the task of directing the care and developments of our physical plant. Mark was a Portland based architect and the Buildings and Grounds Director for several Portland historic properties. Mark got things rolling by organizing an alumni work weekend in October 2007.

2008: A NEW CAMP DIRECTOR, AND THE PASSING OF TWO LEGENDS

Pete St. John chose not to be Camp Director in 2008, so Kawanhee started a nationwide search to hire a new Director. After a series of interviews and Camp tours, the position was given to Danny Packer, a schoolteacher at the Albuquerque Academy in New Mexico who lived on a ranch with his wife and three children. He had grown up in New England and had attended a camp like Kawanhee for several years.

A veteran staff returned with only three new staff members. Andrew Altmaier and Chris Yardley were picked as Co-Directors of Activities, and Mark Gibson started his long career as Camp photographer.; he

was still taking Camp pictures in 2021. Two long term staffers started with Jared Stinson as Director of Ropes and Emily Lou McClean as Nurse, both still with us in 2021.

It was decided before the season to drop Wrestling and Volleyball as regular activities, though Volleyball would continue in free time, and Wrestling dropped because of safety concerns. At the end of the first week, John Fritz Rullan (Maroons) and Ben Zambito (Greys) were chosen as Captains, and it was another good summer!

As usual the last week was full of lots of activities—tournaments, Skit Night, the *Going of the Chief*, Testimonial Vespers, slideshows and finally the banquet and awards ceremony. At the awards, it was another good year for the JMGs with four successful candidates: Trace Rouda, Will Gering, Sam Friedlander, and Spencer Davis. Special awards given toward the end were the Lattimer Award to Clayton Condit (a third-generation camper), the Benua Award to Max Zambito, the Shepard Cup to Nick King, the Russell Bennett Award to Luis Escudero, and the Campbell Scarlett Cup to Simon Winter. Will Gering won the CA Crane Award for Most Helpful, the Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year to Luis Cuadrado Granda, the Walter and Jane Estabrook Award to Mary Birch and Sandy Winkles, and Bear Lodge won the Herb Birch Award for Most Spirited.

Juan Fernandez was High Point Winner and finished with 2,365 points—an extremely close competition with John Fritz Rullan finishing second with only 5 points behind! Drake Williams was a close third with 2,290 points. John Fritz completed his Senior Plaque greatly helping his team, and Rye Salerno received recognition by completing two plaques in one summer. The final Maroon-Grey Score was extremely close with Greys finishing with 52,287 points and the Maroons finishing with 52,052.

In November a new unique fundraising campaign was initiated by Steve Yale—a member of the George and Raymond Frank Foundation—called the Captain's Challenge. Being a Maroon or Grey Captain is one of the greatest honors, and through this fundraising effort, Steve and the Frank Foundation were challenging past Captains to lead a fundraising effort—a competition among alumni. As past Captains contacted their former teammates to help with fundraising, a friendly competition ensued to see who would come out on top. The goal was to fund some major capital improvements that hopefully would be completed by 2010. There was exciting talk of a new Athletic Field with a normal sized soccer field, and Steve announced the totals would be announced at the reunion.

In March of 2009 it was announced that we had been chosen as an associate camp with the John Austin Cheley Foundation, only one of nine associate camps. Kawanhee was the only associate camp east of the Rockies. The Cheley Foundation was founded in 1989 in Colorado, and with a large endowment, they funded summer camp scholarships all over the country. The Frank Foundation announced that the first campers receiving scholarships would start attending in the 2010 season. Since 2010 Cheley recipients have attended every summer through 2021, and our relationship with them should continue. Steve Yale has served on the Board of Directors of the John Austin Cheley Foundation since 2017.

In early Spring, the Kawanhee family struggled with the sad news of the deaths of Walter and Jane Estabrook. Jane died on March 31, and Walter died less than a month later, on April 28th. Both had long and full lives, not only in their longevity, but also in their great accomplishments at Camp and at home. Walter had first come to Camp in the 1930s, attended for a few years and then worked in Archery. After they married, they settled in Bexley, Ohio and eventually sent three sons to Camp. Daughter, Kate, also worked at Camp for many years and married a counselor, Ferd Schoedinger. In the late 1960s the Estabrooks took another giant step by leading a group who would purchase Camp from George Frank, and they would be directly involved in its operation for over thirty years. It was Walter and Jane and the Kawanhee Inc. Board of Directors who led us through the disastrous fire of 1977. Through their efforts a new Dining Hall opened in 1978, and in 2007 the Dining Hall was named after them. And as the year 2000 approached they initiated the creative plan to turn Camp into a non-profit that would ensure its survival. Walter and Jane led the efforts to save Camp twice—in 1969 and 2000. They were the heart and soul of Camp for a generation. And that is a gift that can never be repaid. We are forever grateful to them.

And with the sad news, happy news followed a few weeks before the 2009 season began with another Kawanhee wedding on June 6th. Ed Watson and Rebecca Altmaier were married at the Catholic church in

Rumford, Maine, and the reception was held at the Walter and Jane Estabrook Dining Hall. Many friends and family were able to attend.

2009: SAILING BOOMS AND A MEMORIAL SERVICE

Finally, it was time for the 2009 season with Danny Packer back for his second year as Camp Director. Andrew Altmaier was DOA for a second summer and was joined by Ben Connolly, another DOA. Wallis Tyler started his long and continuing tenure as Director of Maintenance. Rees Tulloss, a former camper and counselor, returned to become Sailing Master. His father, Rees "Eddie" Tulloss, had been Sailing Master in the 1940s and Rees had been Sailing Master in 1982. Like many counselors, Rees had left Camp to pursue a career and raise a family. He was a gifted furniture maker in Massachusetts, but in 2009 he wanted to come back and continue making furniture in the off season. It was a great gift to Kawanhee as Rees made Sailing a much better activity. He continues to head up the Sailing Department as of 2021. Also, Pat Stanley started a career of over a decade joining her sister Dolores as a Laundry Supervisor. Will Fleming joined the George and Raymond Frank Foundation Board of Directors in 2009.

2009 was another good season, and Luke Randall (Maroons) and Will Ryan (Greys) were selected as Captains. The two-week, four-week, and three-week programs were all popular alternatives to the traditional seven-week program. Activities were busy as usual, and we still participated in a few out of Camp tournaments. The Trips department found some new and interesting day hikes, and the Mountain Man Program and wilderness experiences were still popular. Sunday afternoon lodge swim trips to Smalls Falls and Coos Canyon continued.

On July 13, 2009, the Kawanhee family and many guests and alumni met at our outdoor Chapel to honor the lives of Walter and Jane Estabrook. It was a wonderful service with some sadness and some laughs. There were scripture readings, poems, a few hymns, and a eulogy of Jane written and presented by John Estabrook and a eulogy of Walter written and presented by Kate Estabrook Schoedinger. There was also time for special remembrances by volunteers among the attendees. The service ended with a benediction by Judy Hoffhine and the playing of *Taps* by Brian Birch.

After a busy seven weeks an exciting week of tournaments, the *Going of the Chief*, slide shows, Skit Night, and Testimonial Vespers, it was time for the last Saturday. As usual the morning was time for packing, the Maroon-Grey Tug of War, and the Sailboat Regatta. At noon we had the banquet followed by awards. After the presenting of plaques, activity ribbons, and meritorious awards it was time to announce special awards. Ben Neiswander was the only successful JMG. The Lattimer Award went to Rye Salerno, Ted Kim was awarded the Benua Cup, Garrett Clark won the Shepard Cup, the Russell Bennett Award was given to Elisha Tyler, and the CA Crane went to Mike Dixon. The Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year was awarded to Justin Scott, Stefan Webster won the Campbell Scarlett for Nature, and the Walter and Jane Estabrook Staff Award was shared by CJ Clark IV and Debi Sullivan. Trout won the Herb Birch Award for Most Spirited Lodge.

Blaise Mariner, a future DOA, was High Point Winner with 3,295 points and awarded the Brutscher Memorial Cup. Eli Yale of Beaver Lodge was runner up. The Greys won with a final tally of 52,232 points with the Maroons finishing with 46,565 points.



Longtime staff member Mark Nelson was appointed the First Managing Director under the Frank Foundation.



The new Ropes Course and Climbing Wall was made possible by a generous donation from the Abbott family.



Art became very popular activity when it was introduced in the early 2000's



The new Frank Foundation board meets to plan the future of the Not-For-Profit organization.



In 2006 Mark and Liz Standen were appointed Co-Executive Directors of the George and Raymond Frank Foundation. Their dedication and stewardship of Camp Kawanhee is immeasurable.

CHAPTER TWELVE

THE 2010'S

2010: A NEW DIRECTOR, THE MUSEUM, A NEW ATHLETIC FIELD & OUR 90TH YEAR

2010 was a very active year. Danny Packer had decided not to return as Director, and Kawanhee turned to Dan Webster, a veteran of over twenty years and longtime Director of Trips. Andrew Altmaier and Ben Connelly returned as Co-Directors of Activities. Don (DL) Long joined the Frank Foundation Board.

A few issues of *The Wigwam* came out in the winter and spring reporting on winter news and listing campers that had signed up. In April the last print issue of *The Wigwam* was published, and in the future, it would be published online. This new *Wigwam* would be called the E- *Wigwam*, led by Mark Gibson, Kayla Erf and Jane Standen. *The Wigwam* had been printed continuously since 1935 but going to an online version was a sign of the times. The *Alumni Wigwam* continues to publish printed editions but also puts a copy on our website.

Before the season, the Crow's Nest, Badger Lodge, and Sailing department buildings received a facelift. A new Crow's Nest balcony was built, a cedar railing added, and new doors, new windows, and new paint. The exterior of the building looked great with the addition of new cedar shingles. One unique new feature of the building was that the entire exterior wall of Badger lodge could be removed, making it possible to store boats in the lodge over the winter.

After a busy start to Kawanhee's 90th year, Will Gering (Greys) and Ignacio Lasso de la Vega (Maroons) were selected as captains. There was some extra excitement when it was discovered that a Snapping Turtle had entered the swimming area. Ben Connolly, the Co-DOA, took control of the situation and the turtle was named Snapula. Finally, Ben wrestled and captured Snapula and took it to Hill's Pond—halfway between Weld and Wilton, where it continues to bite unsuspecting bathers. A funny film was made about Snapula and is in the History Museum archives.

An exciting free time was added on a few weekends with a SCUBA, taught by instructors from Lewiston, Maine. Many campers signed up and did some diving around the swimming area and Dining Hall. It was exciting that some campers found artifacts from the fire of 1977 in the shallow waters.

Another sidelight was the arrival of Rees's chickens from his home in Massachusetts. They lived in a pen behind Nature and have been part of Kawanhee since 2010 providing lots of eggs for Camp. After every meal Rees takes food not eaten for the chickens, thus he is sometimes called the *Chicken Man*.

As done in the past, we participated in Webb Lake Day. Walt and Jane had been active members of the Webb Association who made a special presentation in honor of them. The Association bought a glass bottomed kayak and named it in honor of Walt and Jane, to be used to look for invasive plants.

It was another awesome season! A recent, popular activity on the Monhegan trip was watercolor painting led by the Art Department. After the usual busy last week, the Camp family attended the awards banquet, and after activity ribbons were given out, it was time for some special awards. 2010 was the greatest year in Kawanhee's history in JMG with an amazing thirteen campers passing: Max Zambito, Harry Welborn, Ted Kasper, Anders Helgersen, Mac McReynolds, Blaise Mariner, Shea Rouda, Jamie Bolon, Forrest Weihe, Phil Coons, Peter Erf, Caleb Tulloss and Jack Dixon. Conner Dipaolo was awarded the Lattimer Award, and Kyle Howard was awarded the Benua Award and Shepard Cup—quite a summer for Kyle! Justin Webster earned the Greatest Improvement in Swimming, Bobby Savini the CA Crane Award for Most Helpful, Colin Grove the Clarence Bateman Award, Alfredo Fernandez the Campbell Scarlett Award, and the Walter and Jane Estabrook Award went to Rees Tulloss. Wildcat won the Herb Birch Most Spirited. Eddie Trayner was High Point Winner scoring 2,315 points and was awarded the Brutscher Memorial Cup. The Greys won with a score of 71,836 points, the Maroons finished with 62,624 points.

The History Museum officially opened at the 2010 reunion celebrating our 90th year. It was the latest development at Kawanhee connecting with its past. For the first half century, there wasn't an organized effort to reach out to alumni or honor our past. That all changed the next fifty years. An Alumni Association had been created, efforts were made to make a list of alumni addresses, Mark and Liz Standen organized the first reunion in 1987, and starting in 1990 Camp had organized reunions every five years. An *Alumni Wigwam* was now being published, so the next logical step was to create a physical location on property that could house archives and historical artifacts.

The Museum wouldn't have been possible without the financial support of Steve and Diana Yale whose contribution made the physical improvements to the existing building possible. The building itself had an interesting, historic past. Originally it was an addition to the south end of the Rec Hall built in 1929, serving as the office for George and Raymond Frank. By the 1980s the building had been detached from the Rec Hall and moved to a location next to the Shop. In 1988 an extension was built on the Rec Hall where the Frank office had once lived and still exists, although the interior was changed in the Rec Hall Renovation Project of 2018-2019. In the 1980s Herb Birch began living in the cabin next to the Shop—known as the Polar Bear Cabin for Herb's dedication to the morning dip. After his death in 1999, the cabin housed various counselors, and in 2010 it became the Kawanhee History Museum.

The building was moved to its present location near the visitor parking area. Over the winter and spring of 2010, Wallis Tyler made the extensive renovations to the building made possible by Steve and Diana's donation. Over the course of the summer, archives and artifacts were moved to the building and displays created. At the reunion, the Museum opened with great reviews. It continues to develop and improve. As mentioned in the preface, Tom Pears, an alumnus, has been a great benefactor to the mission of the Museum, creating digital files of archives and contributing financially to its success. Since 2017, Tom has made it possible to have an intern/curator to make it a better place.

A few days after the 2010 season ended, it was time for another reunion with another large group of alumni attending. As usual there were great meals, regular activities, golf outings, mountain trips, Bass Rock swims, a lobster feed, historic slideshows, a Saturday evening campfire, and a Sunday morning service with an emotional message by Judy Myers Hoffhine. It was great to see alumni who had not been back for many years; one was Mark Nachman who brought his family including two sons—Alec and Carson—who managed to catch every frog in our pond. Thankfully, we received a grant from the National Frog Repopulation Center to help replenish our frog population! We now have two frogs, hopefully one of each gender. The 2010 reunion was a fabulous time!

After the reunion, there was an exciting project taking place. All the fundraising efforts of the Foundation, like the Captain's Challenge, paid off, and a new Athletic Field was being constructed. We had a very good Athletic Field—four good tennis courts, a nice baseball field, an archery range, and a cement basketball court. The problem was our soccer field. In 1973 in response to a growing interest in soccer, we carved a soccer field out of the woods next to the Shop, and today this is home to our basketball court, gaga court, and garden. We had a soccer field, but much smaller than a normal sized soccer field. Over the years there was talk of trying to build a normal sized soccer field, and finally a plan was put into action, and fundraising started. Luckily, a well-respected landscape architect, Mike Clark, was hired to lead the project. Mike's son, Garrett, was a camper. The plan was very creative. Everything would be moved on the current athletic field which would create a large open space for a full-sized soccer field. To accomplish this, most of the athletic field had to be destroyed and rebuilt. The archery range was moved alongside the tennis courts near the woods which opened a space to move the baseball field back. Two of the four tennis courts were removed, and a third new court was built alongside the remaining two. The basketball court was destroyed and moved to its present location next to the Shop—now a great, central location for pickup games. All these changes created a big, open space for a new soccer field—a massive project that took most of the Fall. Mike Clark brought his crew to work on the project, and a few others also helped including Todd Tremble, Ben Connelly, and John Tulloss, Rees's brother and a former camper. I took pictures during the construction and made a photo album that is archived in the Museum. Finishing touches were put on in the spring, and by summer Camp had an amazing new Athletic Field!

2011: A GOOD AND STEADY SEASON

Compared to 2010—the reunion, the Museum, and building of the new Athletic Field—2011 was quieter but a good, active summer. There was consistency in the administration with Dan Webster, Andrew Altmaier, and Ben Connelly returning. Laurie Barker started her career in Art working through 2019.

The 2011 enrollment was high, and there was excitement as campers rolled in and saw the new athletic field for the first time. After a busy first week, Blaise Mariner (Greys) and Shea Rouda (Maroons) were selected as Captains, and it was another busy and fun season. One new feature was our involvement with a unique environmental program named Koviashuvik located in Temple, Maine, operated by Chris Knapp and his wife. Participants learned how to live in the Maine environment and do various projects including building a paddle and learning to make meals using only food from a garden and the woods. We would do more programs with Koviashuvik in future summers.

As usual the final week was a busy one capped off by the banquet and awards ceremony. Activities awarded their award ribbons and meritorious awards, then it was time for special awards. It was a good year for JMG with five candidates successfully passing—Juanki Fernandez, Carlos Prado, Drake Williams, Conner Fi Paolo, and Ferd Schoedinger IV. In Archery three campers were awarded their Robin Hood Award—Chris Sherman, Drew Cronin, and Kristin Kibler—and in Range, Carlos Tamames was awarded his Expert Rifleman. Chris Dipaolo was awarded the Lattimer Award for Greatest Physical Improvement, Elliot Galvis won the Benua Award for Greatest Athletic Improvement, Nick King won the Shepard Award for Greatest Improvement in Swimming, the Russell Bennett Award for Greatest Swimming Improvement was given to Xavier Albors, and the CA Crane Award for Most Helpful Camper went to Nate Stein. The Clarence Bateman Award for Tripper of the Year was shared by Max Balmaceda and Chris Mykrantz. Chris Mykrantz's father, Don, his Uncle Peter, and his grandfather are all notable alumni. Liam Wren was awarded the Campbell Scarlett Award for Excellence in Nature. Ned Carson won the Walter and Jane Estabrook Award for Staff Member, and Coyote Lodge was awarded the Herb Birch Award for Most Spirited.

Liam Wren was awarded the Brutscher Memorial Cup for High Point Winer and set a record in total points by scoring 4,660 points! Liam also accomplished an unbelievable feat by finishing three plaques in one summer—Junior C, Junior B, and Junior A. The final Maroon-Grey score was also remarkable with both teams scoring over 78,000 points. The Maroons finished with 79,618 points, and the Greys with 78,424 points. Both teams beat the previous record point total of 74,466—an amazing summer in the Maroon-Grey competition.

2012: THE KAWANHEE GARDEN AND TWO NEW DOAs

2012 was another quiet but good summer with Dan Webster back again as Camp Director, but there were two Directors of Activities, longtime veterans Ed Watson and JP Rullan. 2012 was another year of strong enrollment and a typical, good summer with the usual activities, trips, and special events such as Amerifest, Skit Night, Mr. Kawanhee Night, Open Mic Night and other special nights. At the end of the busy first week, Max Zambito (Greys) and Mac McReynolds (Maroons) were chosen as Captains.

One special activity that was introduced in 2012 was the Kawanhee garden with the Nature Department heading up the effort to plant the garden in an open space near the Basketball Court. The Garden continues to this day, providing vegetables that are added to the meals and nourishment for staff members who work and stay after the season. Another new activity I introduced was a trading card activity. Collecting baseball cards had been a favorite hobby in my youth, and I think it has been a fun activity since 2012. We collect sports cards, Magic, Pokemon, and Yu-Gi-Oh Cards.

After a busy last week, we celebrated the season with the awards banquet. In Range Jordan Payne and Kyle Howard received their Expert Rifleman. It was another great year for Kawanhee's JMG Program with seven candidates passing: Liam Wren, Fred Baker, Eddie Trayner, Eli Yale, Jamie Lasso de la Vega, Brandon Helgason and Morgan Kennedy. Following the ribbon and meritorious awards, it was time for special awards. Alec Russo was awarded the Lattimer Award for Greatest Physical Improvement,

Ethan Grove the Benua Award for Greatest Athletic Improvement, Ryan Duncan the Shepard Cup for Greatest Improvement in Swimming, Chris Sherman the Russell Bennett Award for Greatest Improvement in Swimming, and Robbie Kresch the CA Crane award for Most Helpful Camper. The Clarence Bateman Award for Tripper of the Year went to Quinn O'Neill, the Campbell Scarlett Award for Excellence in Nature was awarded to Julian Jacobs, and the Estabrook Award for Staff Member of the Year went to yours truly. There were apparently no other candidates! Bear Lodge won the Herb Birch Award for Most Spirited Lodge. Ethan Grove was the High Point Winner and thus was awarded the Brutscher Memorial Cup scoring 3,525 points, over a thousand points more than the second-place winner. Unfortunately, there was no mention of completed plaques in the catalog. The Maroons won with a final tally of 63,255 points, and the Greys finished with 61,208 points.

2013: CAMP DIRECTOR GETS A NEW HOME, & THE LOSS OF A BOARD PRESIDENT

Dan Webster returned as Camp Director, and Ed Watson and JP Rullan were back as Co-Directors of Activities. Mike Russo became a new member of the George and Raymond Frank Foundation. Before the season an alumnus had donated eight new sailboats to Camp, called Flying Junior Racing Sloops, adding greatly to the sailing fleet.

Another great addition were new Dining Hall tables, constructed by Rees Tulloss who earned his living as a furniture maker in Massachusetts in the off season. It would take several summers before all tables were replaced, but the process started, replacing the tables that had been in the Dining Hall since 1978. This improvement was made possible through a generous donation by Jeff and Molly Morgan.

There was another large group of campers, and at the end of the first week, Phil Coons (Greys) and Peter Erf (Maroons) were selected as Captains. Another good season was underway, activities were busy, and the usual trips and special events took place. We continued to do activities with the Koviashuvik Program out of Temple, Maine. In 2013 participants made baskets which many staff members and campers put to immediate use.

An interesting part of the 2013 summer was a continuing story that JP Rullan told every Saturday night at Campfire, a legend of Chief Kawanhee with an exciting, new chapter every Saturday. Near the end of the summer, JP put this story into print and published it. The cover of the book was done by Rosa Rodriquez, and Sam Reynolds did illustrations. We have several copies in the History Museum.

At the end of the season, it was time for another banquet and awards ceremony. Archery awarded two Robin Hood trophies to Ricky Fuster and Kuca Cavalli, and in Range Ricky Fuster and Elliot Galvis were awarded their Expert Rifleman. It was another good year for the Junior Maine Guide program with five successful candidates: Alfredo Fernandez, Preston Pegram, Juan Marco de Jesus, Kevin Banks, and Max Balmaceda. Near the end of the ceremony the usual special recognition awards were announced. Stefan Webster was voted as winner of the CA Crane Award, the Benua Cup was awarded to Daniel Mertus, the Lattimer Award went to Will Fleming, the Shepard Cup for Greatest to Eddie Trayner, the Russell Bennett Award to Ethan Hall, and Billy Sellers won the Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year Award. JP Rullan was awarded the Estabrook Staff Member of the Year, and Aiden Doherty was awarded the Campbell Scarlett Award in Nature. Beaver Lodge won the Herb Birch Award for Best Lodge Spirit.

Kawanhee was saddened to hear of the illness and passing of a former Board President and loyal supporter, Tim Vrabel. Tim started serving on the board very early in its history, and his great leadership skills enabled him to eventually be President of the Frank Foundation Board. He was probably best described as a friend of Camp through his friendship with Rich Estabrook. Tim's board membership was unique as he was the only board member in its history who was not an alumnus, parent of a camper or counselor, or had any other direct connection to Kawanhee. From a distance Tim loved the mission of Kawanhee and thus became involved on the Board. In 2012 he was diagnosed with cancer, and he appeared at the 2012 awards ceremony where he was presented with a special canoe paddle honoring his service. He died of cancer in January of 2013. Tim's legacy is honored by a sailboat named after him, and his grandson, Camden Larrabee, has attended for several recent summers.

Ricky Fuster was the 2013 High Point Winner with 4,430 points, and his name would be inscribed on the Brutscher Memorial Cup. There was also special recognition given to Will Fleming, Dennis Kennedy, and Ryan Duncan for completing both their Junior C and B Plaques in one season. Phil Coons and Peter Erf were also celebrated for finishing their Senior Plaques—a rare feat. The Greys won with 72,420 points; the Maroons finished with 62,957 points

After the boys left at the end of the season there was more excitement. The Board of Directors had approved the building of a new large cabin to be located near the main road into Camp. This cabin would house the Camp Director and his family. Wallis Tyler directed the work, and three counselors committed to staying for a few weeks to help—Ben Altmaier, Luke Randall and Mario Gracia. Rees Tulloss also helped on some weekends. After the three main workers left for school and jobs in early September, the only person left to help was yours truly. I'm proud to say I have no woodworking skills but helped as much as I could. I jokingly called Wallis and myself the Dream Team—probably more of a nightmare for Wallis. I signed my name on an inside board that was covered up by a finishing board, and so in a hundred years hopefully someone will discover it. That might be after the cabin collapses. Just kidding as you know anything built by Wallis Tyler is of sound structure. Most of the building was completed by late fall, finishing touches in the spring, and the cabin ready for the summer. The official name of the cabin is Shelter Hill—the hill that lies between the Athletic Field and Route 142. Campcraft used the hill as a place for boys to build shelters as part of their Campcraft levels, and thus it is an appropriate name.

2014: THE LEADERSHIP TEAM, THE TREE HOUSE, AND SOME LOSSES

The summer of 2014 would bring big changes in the leadership model for Kawanhee. After nearly three decades of service, Dan Webster would not return. Instead of picking one person to be Director, it was decided to form a Leadership Team that would be a group of leaders. Each member of the team would oversee a different area of Camp life. Ed Watson and JP Rullan returned as Co-Directors of Activities giving the Leadership Team some consistency since campers and counselors were used to them in those roles. Other members were Lee Pagni, Andy Bourassa, Mark Standen, Kris Tyler, Debi Sullivan, Rees Tulloss, and Liz Standen.

The two oldest things on Kawanhee's property were two tall, large pine trees. The older tree was in the grove next to Hawk and Deer Lodges. Unfortunately, the tree was dying, and it could fall during a strong storm; thus, the decision was made to remove the tree in the spring. The stump of this great tree remains, and when counting the rings of the stump it was revealed that the tree was nearly 200 years old! After its removal, the next oldest living thing on the property was a tall pine near the Burma Road—unfortunately needing removal to build the Burma Barracks.

Kawanhee was saddened to learn of the death of Doug “Walrus” Means after losing a battle with cancer. Doug was a very memorable, much loved Boating counselor whose mark will never be forgotten.

After the usual busy first week, Captains were selected and announced at lunch on the first Friday. Because the Captains are usually the same age, they are usually friends who have spent several years together growing up at Camp. But the captains usually are not related, but they were in 2014. Cousins Junaki Fernandez (Maroons) and Alfredo Fernandez (Greys) were selected, and you can be sure it would be a fun and competitive team challenge that summer.

A unique JC service project was completed under the leadership of Mario Gracia and the Shop staff. A Tree House located near the Ropes Course on the senior side was built by JCs, and ever since, it has been used as a place for lodges to meet in a secluded place or have overnight campouts.

As usual the season was full of the usual activities, trips and special evening activities. A backpacking trip was introduced by the Tripping Department—an extended trip that let campers spend a longer time on trails and mountain peaks. A few years earlier, Kawanhee had introduced the Allagash River Trip—a northern Maine river that flows through some of the most remote parts of Maine. Scores of Moose and other rare wildlife were spotted on these trips. The Allagash was for the Junior Counselor /Leadership Program boys, but in some years, it was opened to other, older campers. There was also something new at

the Range, and after years being involved with the NRA, we moved to the Civilian Marksmanship Program to administer the Range activity.

2014 was another good summer, and we met in the Dining hall on the last Saturday for our annual banquet followed by the awards. After activity ribbons and meritorious awards, it was time for special awards. Ethan Hall and Carlos Ruiz were awarded their Robin Hood Trophies. It was a stellar year for JMG with eight successful candidates: Thomas Reynolds, Chris Dipaolo, AJ Detrick, Jordan Payne, Ryan Duncan, Ethan Grove, Ricky Fuster, and Kyle Russo. The CA Crane for Most Helpful went to Kyrie Agee who was also awarded the Campbell Scarlett in Nature. The Benua Cup for Greatest Athletic Improvement was awarded to Daniel Mertus who was also awarded the Shepard Cup for Greatest Swimming Improvement and a third award, the Clarence Bateman Award for Tripper of the Year. The Lattimer Cup for Greatest Physical Improvement was awarded to Billy Sellers, the Russell Bennett for Greatest Junior C Improvement in Swimming was awarded to Kavan Kibler, the Estabrook Award for Staff Member went to Wallis Tyler, and Beaver Lodge won the Herb Birch Award for Most Spirited.

As written earlier, Dan Webster did not return. He had been at Kawanhee for thirty years, mostly as Director of Tripping and then Camp Director. He had visited during counselor training the week before Camp, and after dinner some counselors spoke about his great contributions to Camp. Mark and Liz Standen announced a new special award would be named in his honor—the Dan Webster Award for Most Helpful Tripper, and Billy Sellers was awarded it. Jordan Payne was awarded the Brutscher Memorial Cup as High Point Winner with 5,965 points—one of the highest totals ever. Also receiving acclaim were three campers for completing two plaques in one summer—Edu de no Velez for his Junior C and Junior B Plaques, and the two Captains and cousins—Juanki and Alfredo Fernandez for their Junior A and Senior Plaques. Eddie Trayner received recognition for completing his Senior Plaque—a rare accomplishment. The Maroons won, scoring an unbelievable 82,031 points with the Greys finishing with 70,729 points.

2015: LEADERSHIP TEAM PART TWO, OUR 95TH YEAR, AND CAMP TABONUCO BEGINS

2015 was another reunion year with over 200 alumni and friends set to celebrate our 95th year at the end of the season. Capital improvements including a new kitchen floor, an Infirmary makeover, and new elements out at Ropes took place before the campers arrived. It was decided that the Leadership Team model worked well in 2014, so it was in place again with Kris Tyler, JP Rullan, Rees Tulloss, Andy Bourassa, Debi Sullivan, Ed Watson and Lee Pagni leading. Mark and Liz continued as advisors to the Leadership Team in their role as Executive Directors of the George and Raymond Frank Foundation. Ed Watson and JP Rullan were back again as Co-Directors of Activities.

A unique activity staffing was a brother and sister team in Skiing with Ferd IV and Liza Schoedinger, the adult kids of Ferd Schoedinger III, a legendary skiing counselor from the past. BA Altmaier took over as Director of Athletics. Kim Hokanson was a new member of the George and Raymond Frank Foundation, and Mary Grove became the new Foundation accountant replacing Louisa Erf.

It was another full Camp, and Ethan Grove and Thomas Reynolds were selected as Captains. In addition to all the normal activities, the new Allagash canoe trip continued. BA revived some of our athletic relationships and competitions with fellow camps—very fun for the campers. We competed a lot with Camp Androscoggin in Wayne, Maine and competed in tournaments at Camp Caribou and other places. We even had a rifle/archery competition with Camp Fernwood, a girl's camp.

As usual the banquet and awards ceremony took place on the last day of Camp. Three boys passed their JMG—Billy Sellers, Daniel Mertus, and Aiden Doherty. Chase McGee was awarded the CA Crane Trophy for Most Helpful, Will Fleming earned the Lattimer Cup for Physical Improvement, Pablo Casanova was honored with the Benua Trophy for Athletic Improvement, the Shepard Cup for Swimming was awarded to Eli LaCroix, the Russell Bennett Cup for Junior C Swimming went to Chase Roberts, and Victor Maldonado won the Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year. Victor also won the Dan Webster Award for Most Helpful Tripper. The Estabrook Award for Staff Member was awarded to the entire lodge counseling staff in recognition of the great influence they had on campers. Hawk Lodge won the Herb Birch Award for Most Spirited Lodge, and Ryan Beuchamp won the Campbell Scarlett Award in

Nature. Billy Sellers was awarded the Brutscher Memorial Cup as High Point Winner scoring 2,135 points, and Liam Wrean was able to finish his Senior Plaque. The Greys won with 51,159 points with the Maroons finishing with 44,076 points.

A few days after campers left for home, it was time to celebrate Kawanhee's 95th year with a big reunion. Well over 200 people attended the reunion—a great time as usual. Bill Dargusch, BA Altmaier, and John Estabrook were the chief organizers. Activities were open, and swimming and mountain trips were planned. On Friday evening Mark and Liz presented a program on the state of Camp. Saturday was the culmination of the weekend, and a softball game was played; there were more pulled muscles than runs! After there was a lobster feed followed by a campfire with the Chief making an appearance, and a Log was read. After a Sunday brunch, everyone said their goodbyes and looked forward to the next reunion in 2020, when we would celebrate our Centennial!

Alumni of the early days were saddened to learn of the death of Ben Hadley in February. Ben and his brothers were all Captains—usually Greys. Later in life Ben had found marital happiness with Lydia Detrick. A few months after the reunion, another Kawanhee great, Henry Blau, passed away at his home in Weld. For many years, Henry and his family lived in the former home of Raymond Frank and his family on Center Hill. Henry had come to Camp during World War II and served for many years, eventually serving on the Kawanhee Inc Board after George Frank sold the Camp in 1969. As a camper, Henry was part of a memorable group who lived in Wildcat lodge, and the boys in that lodge formed lifelong friendships. Although ill health prevented Henry from attending the reunion, the only other surviving member of Wildcat, Richard Miller, was able to spend time with Henry at his home in Weld. Richard currently vacations in Weld during the summer. Today, there is a memorable bench dedicated to that group of Wildcat campers located on the porch of the Office. One of Henry's sons, Henry Jr., lives in the old house on Center Hill. Also in the Fall, Kawanhee lost another alum when John Fulda, a JMG award winner and longtime Campcraft and Trips leader, died at his home in Maine.

Since 1959 Camp has had a sizable group of campers from Puerto Rico. Unfortunately, not many of these campers had gone on to become counselors, especially senior counselors. But in the summers preceding 2015 this changed. A small group of dedicated senior counselors from Puerto Rico joined the staff. As these counselors absorbed the spirit and community of Kawanhee, a dream began to form in their minds—a Kawanhee community in Puerto Rico. Of course, the model would be different—a shorter period with different goals unique to the environment of Puerto Rico and its location. It was decided to turn the dream into reality. A proposal was made at the annual Board meeting, and the dream became a reality when approved. Camp Tabonuco had started. Tabonuco is the name of a tree native to Puerto Rico, and its roots grow deep below the forest floor and become entwined with roots from other trees. This gives the Tabonuco tree great strength, able to withstand hurricanes and other storms in Puerto Rico. To the founders of Camp Tabonuco, the tree represented great resilience through collaboration and unity—the mission of Camp Tabonuco. Little did the founders of Tabonuco know that in the coming years a great hurricane would ravage Puerto Rico, and a few years later a great pandemic would also ravage the country and the world. But Camp Tabonuco would stay true to its namesake and survive and thrive.

The camp is in Jayuya in the mountains of central Puerto Rico. Dates were scheduled for the week between Christmas and New Year's. In December of 2015, the first group of campers arrived at Tabonuco. The program concentrated on the goals of eco-education, sustainable agriculture, construction, cooking, and art. It was a successful first season leading to a second season in December of 2016. Several boys from Kawanhee attended both years.

In September of 2017 disaster struck in the form of Hurricane Maria. Tabonuco was damaged severely. Eventually the damage was repaired; the main workshop was rebuilt, debris was collected, and paths were cleared. It would be a while before another camper group would arrive. But they would arrive, and Tabonuco would survive and thrive.

In the pandemic year of 2020, there were more challenges to be met, and again those challenges would be met. New fruit trees were planted, a new storage shed was built, and a new greenhouse and

cabin were also built. Today the mission of Camp Tabonuco remains strong—to empower youth through experiential education and a co-living experience. As Camp Tabonuco looks towards the future after a few challenging years, the camp is amazed at the human resilience shown in recent years and how people can come together and make positive changes.

2016: DANNY, YOU CAN COME HOME, BURMA BARRACKS, & A SUITE PROJECT

There was another large construction project in the off season. When the new Dining Hall was built in time for the 1978 season, rooms had been constructed on the bottom floor, designed as living quarters for staff who didn't live in lodges with campers. These staff members included women, older staff (often called senior staff), married couples, and Kitchen staff. The original Dining Hall that was destroyed in the 1977 fire had rooms upstairs, and in the first few years of Camp the upstairs also included a game room, a photo darkroom, and rooms for parents before the Inn was built. The very first year in 1921 a group of the youngest boys lived upstairs, and their lodge was called the Flying Deer and was supervised by Ma Frank—the only time that a group of campers lived in our Dining Hall.

The rooms under the new Dining Hall were spartan but very livable, and there were two bathrooms. Over time the living quarters became known as the Kawanhee Hilton! Most summers the rooms were filled, and Mark and Liz and the Frank Foundation began to think about building something new. The project was approved and during the off season the Burma Barracks were constructed—located next to Art at the end of the Burma Road (also known as the Kitchen entrance road). Thus, the building became known as the Burma Barracks—a genuinely nice building built by Wallis Tyler and his crew that has four different sections or pods each with a bathroom. Today, the Burma Barracks houses women, Tripping, Kitchen, and other staff members.

Changes were also made to the rooms under the Dining Hall. Some of the rooms were kept the same, and some staff members live in those rooms. But the rooms closest to Lake Webb were reconstructed into two spacious and warm suites with large sliding glass doors with views of the lake. Residents can sit on chairs outside and enjoy the view on a warm summer day. The suites were designed to be used for married couples or senior staff members.

Another project was a new office. With the construction of the Burma Barracks, Panther had to be moved, and it was decided it would be a perfect size for a new office; the old office had been in the north end of the Rec Hall causing some issues since there were also rooms where staff could use computers or just hang out, making it tough for office staff to do their jobs. The new office would enable secretaries to have private space, and a terrific location had been reserved—a small area in the visitor parking area in the center of Camp, easily accessible to visitors and parents. Panther was moved to its new location, and Wallis Tyler did his usual great job of turning the building into a nice office with beautiful features. The Panther name lives on as one of the four pods in the Burma Barracks.

It had been decided in the months before the 2016 season that the leadership model needed to change; the leadership team would stay in place, but the old Camp Director position would be revived and filled by one person. There would be no question of who made the final decisions and who set policies. Danny Packer accepted that position; Danny had not been back since 2010, and thus he became Kawanhee's Grover Cleveland—two separate terms as leader of Camp. Returning as members of the Leadership Team were Ed Watson, JP Rullan, Andy Bourassa, Debi Sullivan, and Rees Tulloss. A former camper, Eli Yale (son of Steve and Diana Yale), made his debut as counselor working in Kayaking. The George and Raymond Frank Foundation added two new members—Jon Morgan and Jose Otero.

Another full Camp greeted staff members, and after a busy first week, AJ Detrick (Greys) and Ryan Duncan (Maroons) were selected Captains. It was another great season with a full Camp and busy activities and trips. BA Altmaier again organized lots of out of Camp trips for athletic teams.

An exciting 2016 event was taking part in Weld for its Bicentennial celebration. Weld was established in 1816, four years before Maine separated from Massachusetts. There were Bicentennial events all summer including a softball game on Kawanhee's diamond, and on one Sunday, the entire Camp was bussed up to the Weld Congregational Church to take part in their service. That was a first and quite

memorable. The highlight of our participation in Weld's celebration was the Bicentennial parade on a Saturday morning in late July. We built a float, all campers and staff marched, and our float won a prize. Afterwards there were all kinds of events and games at the Weld Historical Society. Ever since Sean Minear (President of the Weld Historical Society) took over the role as our Head Chef, we have had a special relationship with helping celebrate Weld's history. Every summer we attend Weld Heritage Days, Webb Lake Days, and some of our campers and counselors have performed public service projects on the grounds of the historical society. It was a pleasure to help celebrate Weld's Bicentennial and fun for all!

After a busy last week, the annual banquet and awards ceremony took place, the culmination of the season. Athletic activities gave out award ribbons, and non-athletic activities awarded meritorious honors. Special awards were sprinkled throughout the ceremony. In Archery, Ethan Hall won a Robin Hood Award, and Billy Sellers was awarded his Senior Robin Hood. It was another good year for JMG with six campers passing the rigorous testing program—Kristian Kibler, Drew Cooke, Daniel Jones, Jeff Hertzberg, Will Fleming, and Jack Figuerinhas.

Near the end special recognition was given to Jed Morgan for the CA Crane Most Helpful Award, Dylan Germain the Benua Athletic Cup, and Kingston Kibler the Lattimer Physical Improvement Cup. Kingston also won the Russell Bennett Award in Swimming. The Shepard Cup for Swimming Improvement was awarded to Kai Robles, Ben Coons won the Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year and the Dan Webster Award for Most Helpful Tripper. The Estabrook Staff Award went to Gordon Magne and TJ Frost. Moose Lodge won the Herb Birch Award for Most Spirited.

For the second consecutive year, Billy Sellers won the Brutscher Memorial Cup as High Point Winner. Only a few have ever won the prestigious award in two consecutive summers. Billy scored 4,435 points, and Manuel Espinosa was second with 4,165 points. Billy and Manuel were in a class by themselves with the third-place finisher 1,500 points behind Manuel. Three boys finished their Senior Plaques—very unusual—Xavier Albors, Will Fleming, and Kyle Russo. The Maroons won in a close contest finishing with 64,251 points with the Greys scoring 63,554 points.

After the season, Kawanhee lost two great veterans. Liz Compher Hall, a longtime Nurse and mother of Chuck Compher, died in March. Scott Leiper, a popular camper, and counselor from the 1960s and 70s, died tragically of cancer.

2017: A MUSEUM INTERN ARRIVES, AND KAWANHEE HOSTS A TOURNAMENT

2017 would turn out to be a quiet and calm year. There were no major building projects, another full Camp greeted staff, and Danny Packer returned as Camp Director. There were some slight changes in the administration with the title of the Leadership Team being dropped, although many of the former members of the Team returned and performed the same duties. Ed Watson returned as what would have been called Director of the Activities but was called Director of Programming instead and different as Ed served in that role by himself and did not have a partner. His former partner, JP Rullan, was now in charge of the Leadership /Junior Counselor Training Program.

A veteran who returned was none other than Ferd Schoedinger III. His two adult children (Ferd IV and Liza) had worked in Water Skiing, but they couldn't return, so Ferd III took it over. He had been a camper and counselor in the 1960s and 1970, had married Katie Estabrook, and was always here during parts of the summer. Now he was back running a department he once directed forty years before!

There was good news in the Museum when we hired our first intern. Tom Pears, one of the museum's great benefactors, had tried to hire an intern since 2015 and had people accept the job, but they dropped out, and we couldn't find another person before those seasons began. In 2017 we were successful when Eliza Graulich, a student from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine accepted the job. She did a great job and used her experience to create the History Museum website. The George and Raymond Frank Foundation welcomed two new board members, Graham Marvin and Jo Doherty.

With a full Camp there were plenty of activities to keep campers busy. Olin Lancaster (Greys) and Jason Hertzberg (Maroons) were selected as team Captains, and most of the activities and trips were the same as previous summers. BA Altmaier continued to send athletic teams to other camps for tournaments,

but for the first time in history, we hosted some tournaments. Our facilities weren't perfect for hosting large tournaments, but BA gave it a try and a soccer tournament would especially work with our full-sized soccer field. And it did. Four teams participated, and the tournament was a great success.

The season ended with our banquet and awards ceremony. As usual, the athletic activities gave out their champion, runner-up and most improved ribbons, other activities gave meritorious awards, and sprinkled throughout were special awards. Billy Sellers, Eric Beauchamp, and Ethan Hall won the Robin Hood award—Ethan's third Robin Hood Trophy. In Range, Kawanhee decided to move away from the National Rifle Association in 2016 and become involved with the Civilian Marksmanship Program. Of course, there were new and different awards boys could receive, one of the highest was the Blue Star, awarded to Daniel Jones. Bennett Calcagni was Rifleman of the Year.

The JMG program was successful again with four candidates—Ryan Beauchamp, Grant Moravec, Christopher Lancaster, and Carlos Unanue. For special awards, two people won the CA Crane Most Helpful Camper—Dylan Germain and Harry Rosberger. Jose Fernandez was awarded the Benua Cup for Greatest Athletic Improvement, Alex Keller was awarded the Lattimer Cup for Greatest Physical Improvement, Noah Kinara won the Shepard Cup for Greatest Swimming Improvement, and the Russell Bennett Award Junior C Swimming Improvement went to Mason Tyler. Donald Corbett was awarded the Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year, Griffin O'Neill won the Dan Webster Award Most Helpful Tripper, and the Estabrook Staff Award went to three staff: Bernice Hosington, Courtney Qi, and Mario Gracia. Beaver Lodge won the Herb Birch Most Spirited, and Nico Davidson won the Campbell Scarlett Nature Award. Fernando Medina was the High Point Winner, and his name was inscribed on the Brutscher Cup. The Greys won with 53,166 points, and the Maroons earned 48,299 points.

2018: THE NEW REC HALL PROJECT IS STARTED

It was another good summer with most of the excitement happening postseason with a major reconstruction project on one of Kawanhee's oldest buildings—the Herbert L. Berry Rec Hall. As the season approached, Danny Packer was back again as Camp Director. JP Rullan and Blaise Mariner were hired as Co-Directors of Activities. JP had been at Camp for the past several seasons, but Blaise had been away for a few summers. Macy Davis, a recent graduate of Kansas State University, became the new Museum curator. At the end of the first week, team captains were selected, and for the first time in history, two captains were selected for each team. For many years, there was usually an Assistant Captain selected as well. The Grey Captains were Grant Moravec and Diego Lopez, and the Maroon Captains were Will Fleming and Aidan Doherty.

At the awards ceremony there were the usual activity ribbons and meritorious awards. The Lattimer Greatest Physical Improvement went to Camden Larrabee, the Benua Greatest Athletic Improvement was awarded to Demetri Vonderlinden, the Shepard Greatest Improvement in Swimming to Carson Nachman, the Russell Bennett Junior C Swimming Improvement to Simon Stinson, and the CA Crane Most Helpful was awarded to Bennett Calcagni. Christian Scurtis was awarded the Clarence Bateman Tripper of the Year, and Ryan Beauchamp won the Dan Webster Most Helpful Tripper. The Campbell Scarlett Nature Award was given to Javier Torremocha, the Estabrook Staff Award was given to Camille Tulloss, Andrew Hauser and Alex Palmer. The Herb Birch Most Spirited went to Bear Lodge.

Franco Otero was the High Point Winner and awarded the William Brutscher Memorial Cup finishing with 3,405 points. Aidan Gaul was runner-up finishing with 3,235 points. Four campers finished their plaques: Dylan Germain, Grant Moravec and Chris Weldon finished their Junior C Plaque, and Ryan Beauchamp finished his Junior B Plaque. The Maroons won the team competition with 48,799 points, and the Greys finished with 41,926 points.

In the fall Kawanhee took on another major building project. The Rec Hall was one of the oldest buildings, built in 1924-1925. The building had some minor improvements over the years, but it was decided it needed a major overhaul, and the project was approved by the Frank Board of Directors. Plans were drawn up and construction would begin.

It had been decided that instead of tearing down the historic building and building a new one, construction would keep the old building in place with lots of interior and exterior improvements. The first step was to move everything out of the old building—mainly to Nature.

Wallis Tyler headed up the construction with a group of counselors helping including Jamie Bolon, Forrest Weihe and Gordon Magne. Later, Kara Simanek Krouse and BA Altmaier joined the crew. Randy Vining of Weld provided some help with heavy machinery. The first step was to take down the old Wrestling Building connected to the Rec Hall and run it perpendicular. In the fall of 2021, a new companion building would be constructed adjacent to the Rec Hall.

Over the next eight months, the project was completed. A space was provided for a new Camp Store, an improved Camp Library, and new office space and meeting rooms. There were beautiful new cedar shingles attached to the outside, and a new porch was built around the entire building. Dormers for the upstairs windows were added; they had been part of the original building in 1925 but had been destroyed in the 1950s when the Rec Hall roof collapsed. As the campers arrived for the 2019 season they were greeted by a beautiful new building.

2019: A SUPERB SEASON TO CAP OFF THE DECADE

Our 99th summer got off to a great start with another full Camp recruited to spend the summer on Lake Webb, and another veteran staff greeted campers. Eli Yale was back as Director of Ropes and brought a friend, Brandon Flora, out from California to help. They initiated the first ever climbing competitions throughout the summer, and they were a huge success.

The administration had some changes. JP Rullan was the new Camp Director. He had been the Assistant Director in 2018. The DOAs would be Camille Tulloss and Rohan Doherty. Camille established some history by being the only second female to be a DOA in history. Kate Estabrook Schoedinger had been assistant DOA in 1990. For the most part the season was a normal season with busy activities. The usual trips took place, and BA arranged a lot of outside athletic trips. We especially enjoyed competing with Camp Androscoggin. At the end of the first week Ryan Beauchamp (Maroons) and Ivan Castaner (Greys) were chosen as Captains, and as usual the teams were announced on Friday of the first week followed by a Tug of War.

Kawanhee made some changes in its popular two-week program. Originally the boys who participated in the program did so the first two weeks. Some boys decided to stay longer, but other boys decided to stay for only two weeks. In 2019 boys could become part of the two-week program at other points of the season. After the first two weeks, other new campers arrived to do their two week stretch, during the third and fourth weeks. And there was a third two-week session during the fifth and sixth weeks. All two-week boys were kept in the same lodges, and at the end of each two-week session there was a small awards ceremony and closing celebration. Gretchen Schmidt, JP Rullan's mother, ran the two-week program.

Monday morning, July 29th, started out as a normal day. Polar Bear swimmers took the plunge, the usual three bells sounded before breakfast, and after flag raising, breakfast began. It was during breakfast that a fire started in Coyote Lodge. Luckily, the fire was spotted in its early stages, and the Kawanhee Fire Department went into action. Emergency services were also called, and soon fire trucks arrived from Weld and other communities. It was too late to save Coyote, but other nearby structures were not affected. Thankfully, no campers or counselors were harmed as everyone was at breakfast at the time of the fire. And luckily, Birch Lodge was empty at the time as the JCs living there had moved into other lodges later in the season. So, Birch was available for all Coyote campers, and parents and local shopping trips were able to replace clothing and personal items. Soon after the season, Coyote Lodge was rebuilt in the same spot with Wallis Tyler leading the construction crew of Gordon Magne, Jamie Bolon, and Eddie Trayner.

On the last full day, the annual awards ceremony and banquet were held. Something new was initiated with the start times of the banquet and awards ceremony. The banquet started mid-morning, and the awards took place soon after. This hopefully would help the awards ceremony to end earlier and give traveling parents a chance to get on the road.

After the ribbon and meritorious awards, it was time for the usual special awards. Jed Morgan and Carlos Ruiz were both awarded their JMG. Other special awards went to Jonas Van Kirk earning the Lattimer Award, Simon Stinson won the Benuea Award, Brady Cooke was awarded the Shepard Cup, Sebastian Oyago won the Russell Bennett Award, and the Clarence Bateman Award went to Eric Beauchamp. Nico Unanue was awarded the Dan Webster Award, and the CA Crane Most Helpful Camper went to Trace Worthington. Trace had spent countless hours helping in the kitchen. It was cool that Trace's father, Todd, had won the same award in 1986. The Estabrook Award went to three people: Grant Moravec, Robbie Ray, and Macy Davis, and the Herb Birch Most Spirited went to Trout Lodge.

The High Point Winner was Edu Inclan who was awarded the Brutscher Memorial Cup, scoring 4,745 points. The 2018 high point winner, Franco Otero, was runner up with 3,710 points. The Greys won with a total of 54,012 points, and the Maroons finished with 43,640. As the awards ceremony ended, it was time for goodbyes as parents and most campers began the trek home. As usual there were a lot of "see you in ten moons or see you next summer" exchanges as campers hugged goodbye. But events would change Camp and the world in the next twelve months and make the 2020 season and Kawanhee's Centennial Celebration an impossibility.

2020: THE LOST SUMMER

Everyone was looking forward to the 2020 season; it was to be Kawanhee's 100th followed by a Centennial celebration and reunion in August of 2020. But it was not to be. As the winter and spring progressed, a pandemic affected every corner of the world. Many states were in lockdowns and events canceled as deaths mounted from the Covid-19 pandemic. And as spring progressed, it became a real possibility that Kawanhee events might also be canceled, and in mid-May it was decided to cancel the summer of 2020; about 80% of the residential camps in Maine decided to cancel as well. It was the first time in our 100-year history that a summer season was canceled. We had survived a Great Depression and a World War, but the pandemic was too big a hurdle. The Centennial celebration and reunion were also postponed. At the time of its cancellation, over 400 people had signed up for the reunion. Emily Benson, our museum curator, was at Camp for some of the summer but worked mostly remotely.

Of course, the news of the season's cancellation hit everyone hard. But Kawanhee quickly reached out to disappointed campers, staff, and alumni. A *Skookumee* email newsletter came out sharing news of campers and counselors as they adjusted to a summer without Camp and continued into 2021.

Led by Graham Marvin, Sam Reynolds, Camille Tulloss, Macy Davis, Eli Yale and others, a weekly virtual Kawanhee campfire was produced and premiered on YouTube each Sunday evening during the summer. There were also reports of some campers arranging their own celebrations and mini reunions; one such celebration was a get together of the 2019 Loon Lodge, many who had spent several summers together as friends. I am sure other such celebrations took place. The Albery family came to Maine from Granville, Ohio, and it was good to see them.

At the very end of 2020, the Kawanhee family sadly heard of the passing of a legend, John Detrick. Big John was an unforgettable former counselor and a great, active alum. He first came as a young camper shortly after the end of World War II, and after being away for a while, he returned as a counselor in the 1950s, then another hiatus and then another return. By that time John and his wife Lydia were raising their family of three boys—John Jr., Sam, and Andrew—and his daughter Lu Ann. All three boys became campers and eventually counselors and truly excelled at Camp. In the 1970s John became the DOA under the new ownership led by Walter and Jane Estabrook and Kawanhee Inc.; his leadership was invaluable during those first years. During that time John helped lead the building of many physical improvements. And on the night of the fire in 1977, John provided heroic leadership, saving the lives of counselors and staff. Eventually, John moved away from his role as DOA but was still an active participant returning to his roots and working in Shop, Trips, and taking care of special projects. He continued to be one of Kawanhee Inc.'s most valuable advisors as Assistant Director. After he retired from the summer staff, he became a continually active alum. He and his wife Helen helped organize and

run the first reunions in the 1990s and early 2000s. At reunions he was always there with still and movie cameras to document the moment. Later, he would provide discs of the pictures and movies he had taken.

John's legacy continues through his grandchildren—Gordon and Forrest—Lu Ann's children who were active staff members for years. Andrew's two children, A.J. and Erika, were also staff members in recent years. John Detrick's influence on Kawanhee will be felt forever, and the memory of his great leadership will live in our hearts as we move forward into our second century.

Earlier in 2020, the Kawanhee family also lost Jon Trayner. Jon was a memorable camper and counselor from the 1960s through the 1970s and worked in Nature, and some years at the Inn. He was a brilliant singer and often sang at Camp events and services. In recent years Jon attended reunions and was able to visit during the summer.

Another Kawanhee great, Tom Wojcik, Maintenance Director for many years, passed away after a short battle with cancer. Tom was responsible for helping build the tennis courts and other building improvements in the 1980s and 1990s. Lastly, in the spring of 2021, Kawanhee's oldest surviving camper, William (Bill) Myers died. Before he passed away, Bill was able to be a major help to me in writing this project. On a happier note, John White and Will Ryan, two notable alumni, were appointed to the George and Raymond Frank Foundation Board.

During the past few years, a great new feature has been junior counselor projects. JP Rullan originated the idea—a wonderful learning experience for JCs that benefits Camp tremendously. Each summer they break into working groups and brainstorm project ideas that will help Camp. They then present their ideas to a group of staff members for approval. Among the projects completed include: a hitting wall at the Tennis courts, a kickboard at the Soccer field, informative history kiosks located in front of historic locations, a pizza oven at Campcraft, a fence at Baseball to prevent balls from going into the swamp, a fence at Soccer to prevent balls from going deep in the woods, a wonderful large painting and covered bleachers at Basketball, a covered canopy at Ropes to be used on rainy days, a houseboat that is replica of one built in the 1930s, scores of trees planted around Camp and many other projects. As JP took on other roles, John Fritz Rullan, Drake Williams, Mario Gracia, and Danny Gracia, among others, helped with projects. The junior counselor projects have been one of the best ideas in our 100-year history.

2021: THE 100TH SEASON

Camp celebrated its 100th year of operation in 2021. Because of the cancellation of the 2020 season, the 100th season was delayed. Everyone knew that 2021 would be a different kind of season as the world still dealt with the Covid virus, but most overnight camps in Maine opened in 2021 as did Kawanhee.

During the winter Kawanhee was again busy making physical improvements. The new Coyote Lodge, replacing the one that burned down, had already been built in the fall of 2019. But there were plenty of projects to keep Wallis Tyler busy before campers arrived in June. An extension was added to the Infirmary, anticipating a need for additional beds in case of Covid issues. The Range was moved to be in a better location, and it was realized that the move created a perfect place for a large, multi-use outdoor pavilion that Camp had wanted to build for some time. Due to the success of the Centennial Campaign (a fundraising effort to celebrate the first 100 years), the dream of the pavilion became a reality. Through the generosity of alumni and friends, funds raised were designated for capital projects, scholarships, and an endowment fund. The Katahdin Pavilion would be named in honor of the tallest mountain in Maine, and construction began on the Pavilion after the season, to be completed by 2022.

Thanks to the donation of Richard Estabrook and Ann Havener and their children Ben, Katie and Kristen, a great new addition was built on the north side of the Walter and Jane Estabrook Dining Hall. The addition would give a lot more space for outdoor dining and be helpful in spreading people out for social distancing during meals. Richie also came up with the design for the addition—a tip of the hat to the old Dining Hall. A new porch with two levels and two sets of stairs allowed for a lot more outdoor space and movement. A handwashing station was built on the lower level. A new flagpole was placed off the porch in an open area. I think everyone agreed the new addition was beautiful.

There was also another major change, nothing to do with Covid. After a lot of discussion over the years, it was decided to make changes to the *Coming and Going of the Chief* ceremonies. Chief Kawanhee would no longer be part of the ceremony. There would still be two solemn ceremonies at the beginning and end of the season. In the Opening Ceremony, John Bell (who had portrayed the Chief since 2006) spoke about the Native Americans who had passed through the area long before us. It was a historical account that gave gratitude to indigenous tribes, teaching campers to be grateful and respect this beautiful, special place. He also spoke about making the most out of the summer--a very inspirational speech. Everything else about the ceremony was the same. The message from 2019 was dug up and read, and lodge representatives reading it would be renamed Messengers. Sachems would be dropped.

The Closing Ceremony at the end of the season started with the reading of the message by lodge Messengers who had written it for the campers of 2022. The message was then buried near the central fire and would be dug up and read in ten moons at the Opening Ceremony of 2022. The central fire was lit by the custom of the flying arrow from the top of a nearby tree. As usual the four winds (portrayed by four elders) were called on to read a short, script, followed by what Kawanhee meant to them. JP Rullan gave an inspirational, heartfelt message about his years here and how Camp had changed his life. Mark Standen closed the ceremony with an emotional statement, and the ceremony concluded. But then no one left. Campers and staff stayed around the fire and shared emotional thoughts about Kawanhee--an emotional and meaningful ending to a great night.

It was a full Camp with 170 campers signed up with 80 new ones--the most in history. Over the winter a task force had been formed to discuss how to operate safely with the challenges the virus presented. It was decided to postpone our Centennial Reunion for another summer, but Camp would go on as scheduled. JP Rullan was back as Camp Director, Camille Tulloss returned as Co-Director of Activities, and Robbie Ray joined her in his first year as a DOA. There were a lot of veteran staffers returning but also a lot of new staff who added a lot of spirit. One new member was Todd Hall, a camper in the 1988 iconic Bullfrog lodge, who had not been back since that summer. He led a very popular Shop program.

One of the major changes was there would be no visitors, and so the first day of Camp was very different with parents allowed a few minutes to drop off their sons. The virus protocols were strict the first week. Cabins came into the Dining Hall one at a time, and food was served buffet style by staff. Near the end of the first week, after testing results came back, protocol loosened up a bit. It was a challenging and different summer, but as Camp ended in August, there had been no Covid--a true testament to the huge commitment made by staff to stay safe. We had succeeded, and everyone could be proud of that. Parents were especially grateful for the opportunity of Camp after a challenging year.

Near the end of the first week, Carlos Ruiz (Greys) and Jed Morgan (Maroons) were chosen as Captains. Ethan Hall served as Co-Captain of the Greys, and Paul Calcagni was Co-Captain of the Maroons. Ruby Packer as Director of Trips organized some unique outings including a multi-day canoe trip around Lake Webb and a trip to the Mount Katahdin area for younger campers. White water rafting and the Monhegan Island trip were canceled due to Covid--the first summer we had not been able to go to Monhegan since the 1940s. Though it's important to note that all activities were open and active so Camp could feel as close to normal as possible.

Kawanhee lost a remarkable person after that season. In 1978 it was my honor to have Patrick Jeffrey as a camper in Deer Lodge. He was a remarkable and high achieving camper, a high point winner one summer. He was a great tennis player and even a greater person. His two younger brothers--Joel and Silas would follow Pat to Camp and be with me in Deer Lodge. A few summers ago, Pat's son, CJ, started his career. And in 2021 he was in--you guessed it--Deer Lodge. I know CJ as one of the greatest Pokemon card collectors in the world, and like his father is an energetic and endearing person.

After the summer, Pat tragically lost his life. Typical of Pat, he was trying to help his community when he died during a hurricane. The Jeffrey family has decided to honor his memory by establishing the Pat Jeffrey Financial Aid Fund, to support a more diverse and inclusive group of campers by providing assistance to a wide range of worthy boys. The Fund will be administered through the George and Raymond Frank Foundation with a preference for campers from New Jersey. Please contact the George and Raymond Frank Foundation if you wish to contribute.

As usual the season ended with a lot of exciting tournaments. The awards ceremony on the final day took place in the Rec Hall (It was raining.), followed by a banquet in the Dining Hall. It was the first time the awards ceremony had been held in the Rec Hall since the 1970s. For many years the awards ceremony was always held in the Rec Hall, but that changed in the 1970s when it was moved outside, weather pending. The ceremony was streamed because parents and friends could not attend. Eric Beauchamp and JD Bernard were awarded JMG. Other candidates were only one test short of passing. The Gardiner Lattimer Award for Greatest Physical Improvement went to A.J. Baldwin, the Benua Athletic Improvement Award to Charles Starr, and the Shepard Award for Greatest Swimming Improvement to Tristan Arp. Other awards were the Russell Bennett Award for Greatest Improvement in Swimming to Simon Stinson, the Clarence Bateman Award Tripper of the Year to Leo Marvin, the Dan Webster Award for Most Helpful Tripper to Joaquin Fernandez, and the CA Crane Award for Most Helpful Camper to Jake Sterner. Besides being a Captain, Carlos Ruiz won the Campbell Scarlett Nature Award. The Walter and Jane Estabrook Award for Staff Excellence went to Daniel Mertus, Billy Sellers and Jonathan Brenner. Finally, the Herb Birch Award for Most Spirited Lodge was given to Badger Lodge.

There wasn't much mystery of who would be the high point winner. Griffin O'Neill had led the competition the whole summer and ended up with one of the biggest margins of victory in history—4,600 points with the runner up having 1,865 points! It was Griffin's Day, and he earned it. Before the final score was announced, a special guest arrived to take part. Dick Miller, Maroon Captain of 1948 (the only year with a tie) walked up the steps of the Rec Hall with lots of energy and excitement—even at the young age of 90 years old. The final score was announced, and the Maroons won with 43,739 points and the Greys finished with 34,868 points. The banquet was the usual glorious and sad time as it would be our last time together. There was the usual great food and plenty of shouts, cheers, and singing. At the end of the meal, campers and staff formed a large circle (a tradition for the last several years) with a sing along to John Denver's classics *Take Me Home Country Roads* and *Leaving on a Jet Plane*. There were plenty of tears and hugs as we headed out to meet parents.

As I strolled out to the visitor parking lot to greet parents and say goodbye to campers, I felt so lucky to have had another summer at Camp. I know I'm in the sunset of my years and hopefully will be able to attend for a few more years and still be a positive influence on the Kawanhee family. At age 72 I'm not guaranteed anything, and I appreciate Kawanhee more than I ever have. My Kawanhee experience began in 1964, and it has forever changed my life. I estimate close to 8,000 boys have attended, and their lives have also changed. I think Kawanhee sets the table for any boy who wants to take advantage of activities, friendships, the beautiful environment, immense spirit, and guidance from adults. These are the ingredients that can change a person's life.



The 2021 Frank Foundation Board of Directors celebrating a successful and historic 100th Season!!





EPILOGUE

By Mark Standen

These pages speak of the tireless devotion and determination of so many who have passed through Camp Kawanhee over the past century. The reward for those sojourners, hopefully, has been unbridled joy, broad and deep learning, and enduring friendships. The Kawanhee experience somehow combines a singular and beautiful setting with an everchanging mix of people intent on making the best of the opportunity and leaving a precious place better than they found it.

Kawanhee has changed by degrees over time, as it must to remain vital and relevant, but its bedrock remains constant. A Kawanhee summer offers boys the chance to catch their breath, take stock, and create a vision for the bigger picture of their lives. In so many cases, this opportunity for reappraisal has been profoundly life changing. It has been for me, in ways and for reasons that I doubt are at all unusual.

I landed at camp in 1960, arriving, as many of us do, the result of an unlikely mix of coincidences and random events. My grandfather, Roy Nickerson (“Nick”), was the Range director and a close friend of Herb Birch. My brother and I were able to attend camp because of our grandfather’s interventions and because of the Frank brothers’ generosity. I was a nervous and bewildered seven-year-old kid, the product of a short-lived marriage and a tumultuous household. I was too young at the time to understand that I was seeking bedrock, but I have known for a very long time that I found it there, among the pines, wondering what lay on the other side of Tumbledown and the Jacksons. So much of what has followed in my life, including most importantly, my marriage and my children, can be traced back to those formative summers when I learned so much about what is possible. As an adult, from Tumbledown’s back peak I finally beheld what lies to the north, and it is wondrous. The Kawanhee experience counts for so much more when it is deeply personal, and it is striking to me that so many Kawanhees through the past century have done the work to make it and keep it so very personal. It is what sustains this place.

The importance of camp has never been more evident to Liz and me than it is now, as we contend with a rapidly warming planet and a pandemic in its third year that shows no signs of abating. Kids these days tend to be nervous and bewildered, much as I was about sixty years ago, but for very different reasons. In many cases, the pandemic has forced kids indoors, kept them from their schools, their friends, their teams, their piano lessons, and on and on. The anxiety of campers and counselors alike manifests itself at camp, that is true, but it is overshadowed by a community full of abiding hope and goodwill, where the beauty of nature offers a soothing balm to whatever may ail us. Our common calling must be not just to love this rare place, but to take care of it for future generations.

May there always be a Kawanhee!

Mark Standen
Co-Executive Director
George and Raymond Frank Foundation
May 2022

AFTERWORD

BETTY FRANK BRASSINGTON: THE ONLY CHILD OF OUR FOUNDERS

Betty Frank Smith Brassington was the only child born to either of our founders, George and Raymond Frank. George had no children, and Betty was the daughter and only child of Raymond and his wife Frannie. Betty would go on to have a remarkable life. When her parents sent her to a camp in her youth, she found herself in a tent with none other than Jane Fonda. This is tremendously ironic since Jane's brother, Peter, would attend in 1949. As an adult Betty got involved in local politics in California and eventually became the State Chair of the California Democratic Party. Her house is filled with photos of her pictured with iconic Democratic politicians (including Presidents) of the past half century. As of the Centennial, Betty is 83 years old and lives in San Francisco, California. The following article was published in the 2015 *Wigwam* as she prepared to come to Kawanhee and attend the reunion to celebrate our 95th summer. Although Betty was the only child of Raymond Frank, she has had several children and grandchildren, and so the Frank legacy will continue.

My Special Connection to Camp Kawanhee By Betty Frank Brassington

Kawanhee has been a Camp for boys since 1920. My father, Raymond Frank, and his older brother George Frank started it. They were often referred to by initials: GR, George Reginald, for Uncle George and RC, Raymond Conant for my dad. I was born in Englewood, New Jersey on the last day of September in 1938 as a hurricane raged from Florida to Nova Scotia. We moved to Weld in 1946. I was 8 years old and entering the third grade in school. In Weld I was enrolled in a two-room schoolhouse where K to 4th and 5th through 8th grades were together. I spent my summers at Camp Kawanhee. Our cabin was on Pine Point (the current Estabrook cabin) by the shore of Lake Webb.

Our house in Weld was on Center Hill. Anyone who has gone up to the Center Hill Ledges has gone by our house. Back in 1946 on the way up the hill, the road turned to dirt at the Old Farmer's Wife, a summer ice cream parlor. Our property was in a clearing with fields of hay and panoramic views of the whole lake, three mountain ranges, and beautiful sunsets. Just beyond our barn, there was a close-up view of Mount Blue.

My father RC purchased our home from the original owner Lizzy Russell, widow of Willard Russell. In the home were all the original handmade tools used to build it in the 1880s—now donated to the Weld Historical Museum. There was a huge homemade cider press made from a hollowed-out tree trunk in the barn. It was still in working order, and we used to make cider from our apple trees and from adjoining properties. Some changes were needed for a house built a hundred years before we moved in including winterizing, storm windows, installing a furnace, and indoor plumbing.

I have clear memories of my grandmother Abby Conant Frank (Ma Frank) who lived with us in Englewood, New Jersey. She was bedridden with arthritis and elected to move to a convalescent home in nearby Dixfield when we moved to Weld. She had a deep appreciation for the beauty of Weld, and she paid close attention to world news, keeping up with national and international developments. The part of me that became interested in local, national and international politics was in no small measure imbued by those times I sat with my grandmother as well as time I spent with my parents. There were practical lessons in politics too, such as the time my father invited Maine Governor Hildreath to Weld and our house one spring during mud season. The Governor and his staff car had to park where we parked, a half mile away from the house and hike up in the mud to our house. By the next spring the road was paved.

Bootsie was my dog, a Collie mix, given to me by Uncle George when we moved to Maine. He thought I needed a big dog to keep me company. Bucky, an orphaned fawn, was given to us by the game warden who lived next door and found it abandoned on the side of the road after its mother was killed by a car. We kept the fawn all summer in an enclosure at Camp behind the Nature Department. He survived after

very frequent feedings with a baby bottle provided by my mother, Frannie Frank, who was also Camp mother. We took Bucky to Baxter State Park where there is no hunting at the end of the summer.

After the road was paved, we had a school bus driver who picked me up on the way up to Mt. Blue State Park to meet the Jones children. The driver's daughter, Lucille Pettingill Rolf, and I met once in California, and we will meet again this summer. We have remained friends with many others in town as well. I have made many lifelong friends that I see whenever I return to Weld. I finished eighth grade in Weld. I was the only one graduating that year and going to high school. The Weld High School consolidated that year with Wilton, but instead I was accepted as a freshman at Northfield School for Girls in Northfield, Massachusetts. Lucy Pettingill was a year behind me in school, and the next year she started high school in Wilton. We have stayed in touch for over seventy years.

What is the essence of what we love? What do we remember? Our friends. Caring for other people. Learning about nature. The loving bond of family, extended family, and community. These were all things I learned and that grew in me in Weld and at Kawanhee. I am moved when I see pictures of the baseball diamond and the scoreboard and know that my children and grandchildren will know of their legacy in the sign of Frank Memorial Field. I may have been born in New Jersey during a hurricane, but I have never had any doubts about where I am from and what has made me the person I am, with the values I have. Everyone who has spent meaningful time at Kawanhee knows what I mean. Kawanhee has given us the opportunity to discover and to dream. The challenges to make ourselves better, to improve ourselves and our world, enjoy ourselves, our friends and what nature has given us are the essence of the Kawanhee experience and what we hope to pass on to future generations. May there always be a Kawanhee.



A Kawanhee gathering in San Francisco to celebrate our history. (From R to L) Betty Frank Smith Brassington, Steve Yale, Diana Yale, Eli Yale, Mike Altmaier and Mike Brassington

POSTSCRIPT

CAMP KAWANHEE MEMORIES

THE TRAIN TRIP TO CAMP

In the early days one part of a Columbus, Ohio, boy's experience was the train trip to Boston where we got on a bus to Camp. The last train trip was in 1969, and campers took the plane after that. Earlier in our history the train trip went all the way to Wilton or Dixfield—each about 10 miles from Kawanhee. But as train travel decreased in the 1950s, it was no longer possible to take the train all the way to Maine.

Today we have boys attend from all over the world, and only a few come each summer from Ohio and New Jersey. Almost every camper is dropped off by parents, with a few flying into Boston or Portland. But that was not the way it was in the 1960s. Half the camp was from Ohio--recruited by George Frank, and half was from New Jersey--recruited by Raymond Frank. There were a few boys from Puerto Rico and a few other places.

Since very few parents dropped off campers, almost every camper from Columbus took the train. My memories of the train trip are still vivid to me. We left from the old dusty Union Station in Columbus. As a history buff, I remember the Union Station was noteworthy because President Lincoln's body had gone through Union Station in 1865 on the way to his burial in Illinois. Union Station was torn down years ago.

I remember we left for our trip to Boston about dinner time. Before boarding you had to give George Frank or Chuck Hoffhine one of the two copies of the keys to your footlocker trunk and duffle bag. We kept one copy, but if you lost a key, the extra key was in the office. By the time I came in 1964, George Frank was in his mid 70s and didn't take an active role in leading the trip anymore. I remember him sitting in the front seat and not really moving much. Chuck Hoffhine and Fred Ball were the leaders of the trip--a fun trip for sure. Sometimes our departure from Columbus didn't go like clockwork. One year Tim McKee was late. Chuck left the train and tracked down Tim in the station. As they returned to the train platform, the train was pulling out! As the entire Kawanhee group cheered them on, Chuck and Tim ran to catch the train and were able to jump on the back--just like in an action movie.

When we stopped in Cleveland, we picked up a camper named Bruce Andre. In Buffalo, they changed locomotives, and we were there for a long time. One year we had a six-hour delay in Buffalo. Later we found out there had been a train derailment up ahead--very comforting! The remainder of the night we traveled across New York and into Massachusetts. One year we passed a burning building along the tracks. As we passed, we could see written in big letters on the side of the burning building the name Frank Brothers Inc; campers thought this was a bad omen, but they were trapped on the train to Camp.

The dining experience was great--white linen tablecloths and real fancy silverware. We could order anything we wanted for the one meal, breakfast after the all-night trip. We were always the last car of the train and had to walk through the other cars to get to the dining car. One year there was a mix up in Columbus. Our special reserved car wasn't on the train--or so they said--and we had to wait hours for the New York Central Railroad to attach our car. The next morning as we headed for breakfast the very next car was completely empty with a sign that said, "reserved for Camp Kawanhee for Boys"! It was there the whole time. Chuck Hoffhine saved the sign.

We arrived in the Boston area around noon and met up with the Jersey campers who had been bussed from New York City. The bus trip was also memorable as I especially remember stopping for lunch at the Howard Johnson's restaurant in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. We ate box lunches on the lawn. I also remember that first year, as we neared Kawanhee, some "mean" veteran campers would tell me Camp was around the next turn. It wasn't. But we finally arrived. When we did roll into Camp, the buses had almost every camper who was signed up. Counselors were in the center of Camp with lodge lists, and as you disembarked, a counselor would tell you what lodge you were in.

The end of Camp in the 1960's was vastly different than it is now. Today, a little while after the end of the awards ceremony, Camp is totally empty of campers, as parents and campers get into cars and start the

trip home. In the 1960's very few parents came to attend the awards ceremony. A great majority of the campers were going home the same way they came--by train and bus. Matter of fact, the Going of the Chief ceremony was held the last night after the awards ceremony. There were some years where the weather forced the ceremony inside or it was canceled.

The next morning, we all had to get up before sunlight for an early breakfast and the subsequent bus trip to Boston. Bill Albershardt and his campers would wake the Camp up by parading from lodge to lodge and making an incredible amount of noise with their mouths or banging on a variety of pots and pans. After tearful goodbyes, we got on the bus to Boston. Most years the Ohio and New Jersey boys bussed together to Boston and then split up. The Ohio campers had to wait several hours for our train, and we were treated to a bus tour of historic Boston where we stopped at the USS Constitution (Old Ironsides), Bunker Hill, and a few other places.

One year both the Ohio and Jersey boys took the train from Boston to New York where the Jersey campers were home at that point, but the Ohio campers still had a long way to go. In this one particular year the Ohio campers had to get in an armada of taxis and go from Grand Central Station to Penn Station. And then it was on to Columbus.

As you can imagine the train trip was fun for a group of young boys. And you can also imagine that the train was always late or delayed, and thus we were very late in arriving at Camp. I remember in 1969 I was already at Camp when the bus rolled in. It was over six hours late. I happened to be standing next to Mr. Estabrook who was in his first year of running the Camp. He was obviously frustrated at the lateness of the bus and said to anybody listening, "That's the last year we are taking the train." And it was.

THE EIGHT WEEK SEASON

From 1921 until 1974 Kawanhee was an eight-week Camp. It was changed to a seven-week Camp in 1975, and today it remains a seven-week Camp as it has for the last 48 summers. When Kawanhee was eight weeks long almost all campers stayed the full eight weeks. Camp did offer a four-week program, but only a few campers signed up for half season. However, Camp was flexible enough to allow campers to adjust the length of a summer depending on family needs. Because Camp went very late in August, there would always be older campers and counselors who had to leave for school or pre-season sports practices.

Kawanhee opened every summer on June 30 and ended around August 25th. It didn't matter what day of the week those days fell on the calendar--very different from today when Camp always opens on a Sunday and closes on a Saturday. A few years ago, Kawanhee experimented with a mid-week opening and closing, but it was not very popular because almost all campers are dropped off and picked up by parents, so it was harder for working parents.

The August 25th closing date that existed for the first 50 years wouldn't work today as many schools start in mid-August. In the early years most schools in the United States started after Labor Day. Kawanhee's various programs of different lengths make it possible to have a good experience and leave time for family vacations or other choices.

EASTERN AND WESTERN BOYS

As you can surmise, with half the Camp from Ohio and half from New Jersey there was somewhat of a rivalry between the two geographical groups, but it wasn't too serious--no fights or anything like that. The boys from New Jersey were always called Eastern Boys, and the boys from Ohio were called Western Boys. Ohio isn't truly in the west, but it was as far west that we recruited campers. The New Jersey campers were better at soccer even though we didn't have a soccer department in the 1960s, but sometimes we would play pickup games in the baseball outfield.

Occasionally regional pride would break out in the Dining Hall when the Western Boys would sing the Ohio State University Fight Song. The Eastern Boys would have to sit and take it; they didn't seem to know the Rutgers Fight Song. However, the Eastern Boys were not shy in talking about the latest World Series victory of the New York Yankees. And each summer, the culmination of this Kawanhee

geographical rivalry was the annual East-West softball game played the last week—always very spirited and competitive. The winner had bragging rights until next summer.

Gradually Kawanhee had campers come from other parts of the country, and the percentage of campers from New Jersey and Ohio began to shrink slightly. After George and Raymond passed away, Walter Estabrook and Herb Birch still were successful recruiters in Ohio and New Jersey. But with the passing of Herb and Walter, campers from the two states that once supplied most of the Camp population have shrunk to a few dozen. The memories of the rivalry of the Eastern Boys and the Western Boys and the East-West game are faded memories of a different time in history.

CAMP KINEOWATHA

Camp Kineowatha was a girls' camp located in Wilton, Maine--ten miles from Kawanhee. Kineowatha was older than Kawanhee, founded around 1914. Starting in the 1920s, the Kawanhee catalog mentioned Camp Kineowatha as a camp that would be suitable for sisters, relatives, or friends of Kawanhee campers. Over the years, many families took advantage of a girls' camp only a few miles from Kawanhee.

Every summer there were a couple of dances at Kineowatha for older boys and counselors from Kawanhee. They were very tame affairs with highlights such as the shoe dance. All the girls put one of their shoes in the center of the dance floor, and each guy picked a shoe and then found the owner of the shoe for a dance. Another social event every summer was a mixed doubles tennis tournament at Kineowatha. I remember hitting my partner in the back of her head with a wayward serve. She didn't talk to me after that!

Beyond organized social events, there were several counselors from both camps who would date each summer, but it was a challenge to visit a Kineowatha girl in the evening. Our counselors would have to wait until taps at nine o'clock and then drive over to Wilton. Kineowatha had a security guard at the gate, and by that time it was almost 9:30, and the girls had a curfew of 11 PM, so you had limited time—just enough time to get a pizza in Wilton, have a conversation, or play a game of ping pong. There were a few serious relationships that developed. I dated a counselor named Charlene Jason. Dating might be too strong a word, but we hung out together at the Kineowatha Rec Hall in the evening. After that one summer, I've never seen her again. I've recovered emotionally and never think about her. Yet ironically, I do remember what she looked like because I have twenty-six pictures of her glued to my wall with an eternal burning candle under each picture. But I've moved on. Unfortunately, Camp Kineowatha closed in 1973, and today the site is the Wilton Town Park. Since its closing, there has never been another girls' camp near Kawanhee, and the sisters of Kawanhee campers had to find a girls' camp far away from Weld.

Several esteemed friends of Kawanhee attended Kineowatha including Liz Standen, Kate Estabrook Schoedinger, and Judy Myers Hoffhine. There are lots of others. For Kawanhee campers and counselors who attended through 1973, a Kineowatha dance brings back fond memories. Even the shoe dance.

THE BOUNCING BUGGY

Today Camp Kawanhee has a fleet of leased vans to transport campers and staff all over Maine and New England. Vans have been a recent addition, but before we purchased or leased vans, we had one major vehicle to transport—the iconic Bouncing Buggy—also known as Bates' Bouncing Buggy since it was often driven by Director of Trips, Clarence (Bates) Bateman. For many years the Buggy was the only way to transport a large group of campers and counselors. If an additional vehicle was needed, a trip leader would take a private car. Over the years the Bouncing Buggy went through several transformations with new engines, transmissions, and other repairs.

The Bouncing Buggy was a large flatbed truck painted blue with *Camp Kawanhee for Boys* painted in white paint on the outside of the driver and passenger doors of the front cab. Behind the cab, the flatbed was outfitted with several rows of metal benches with some cushioning on the seats. The Bouncing Buggy earned its nickname! To get to the often-isolated places we traveled, the truck had to travel over

rough roads. It was a thrill to be a passenger in the front cab with Bates or other drivers. On the side of the truck near the roof there were rolled up plastic flaps, left rolled up in good weather, but rolled down in bad weather to keep campers and staff dry. That was awful, especially if you were seated in the back row. When the truck was idling, the exhaust would seep into the truck, and you felt like a prisoner with the flaps pulled down. Somehow, we all miraculously survived. Guardian angels, thank you!

Eventually the Bouncing Buggy began to age, often in need of repair. Kawanhee slowly moved to get other smaller vehicles but kept the truck. Eventually the Bouncing Buggy was retired as a vehicle carrying passengers. For a few years it transported luggage to and from airports or large trips. On one such airport trip the roof had a collision with a concrete support near the top of a parking garage. That was the end of the Bouncing Buggy. Not all memories of the Bouncing Buggy are good memories, but it was a unique vehicle that all alumni remember during the years it existed.

SKUNK RIDGE

Skunk Ridge was a small area located near Pine Point Road. It was not part of the original purchased property in 1920. This area was annexed by Camp Kawanhee in the 1930s and was sold again in the 1960s, and this area is no longer owned by Camp. There were two major parts to the Skunk Ridge area. First, there was a dock that was once used as our ski dock and at times as a fishing dock. Second, there was a cabin located near the dock on the other side of the road which was used to house staff in the years after the Green Barn fire of 1956. The Green Barn was located at the same location as the Skunk Ridge Cabin. For a few years it housed the boys who worked in the Kitchen. Even though they were not campers, they were listed in the lodge list as the Skunk Ridge Boys, published in *The Wigwam*.

Eventually the Skunk Ridge Cabin was used to house some of the older men who worked at Kawanhee. Almost all these men were married, but their wives did not come to Kawanhee. Some of the men who lived there were Herb Birch, Ben Bennett, Ed Chace, Stan McCleave, Bob Duffey, (Bob eventually rented a cabin at the Inn for his entire family.) among others. From the lens of history, the most noteworthy events at Skunk Ridge were the early morning dips the men took in Lake Webb, usually accompanied by lots of yelling and singing. These dips were the early rendition of what eventually became the Polar Bear Club.

Probably the most famous visitor that slept at the Skunk Ridge Cabin was Ray Phillips, the Hermit of Monhegan. Every trip to Monhegan featured a visit to the hermit. Ray Phillips was a graduate of the University of Maine, and at one time worked as a meat inspector in New York City. One year he dropped out of society and moved to an island across the harbor from Monhegan called Manana. He had made a house out of driftwood and raised sheep and other animals. Many Kawanhee campers who visited him will always remember the manure on the floors and smell in his house.

Ray Phillips became rather famous and had some magazine articles and books written about him. One summer he needed to attend a wedding on the mainland, and Kawanhee Trippers (led by Chuck Hoffhine) offered to take him to Camp where he would travel to the wedding. He stayed at the Skunk Ridge Cabin for a few days. Rumors around Camp said that some of the Skunk Ridge residents who were set in their ways didn't appreciate their famous visitor. As the years passed, the residents of Skunk Ridge slowly retired or passed away, and only Herb Birch remained and lived there until 1982. The Skunk Ridge Cabin still exists, located along Pine Point Road, and used for storage.

WHITES

A camper in the 1960s had to bring two unique sets of shirts and pants, called Whites. Campers had been required to bring Whites since our earliest days, and early Camp photos show the staff wearing their Whites. Campers were required to wear Whites at church or special events like the banquet and awards ceremony. Each camper's set of Whites was a dress shirt and dress pants in bright white colors--if you call white a color. When wearing Whites, you looked like you were selling ice cream or were a client or staff

member at penal or mental health institution. Eventually the tradition of wearing Whites was phased out. Almost everybody thought that was a good idea.

THE WELD DANCES

For many years the Weld Town Hall was a hopping place with two weekly dances, one a square dance on Friday and the other a rock and roll dance on Saturday. The dances attracted people from all over western Maine. Because of town rivalries or jealousy of Kawanhee counselors—who were mostly from out of town--there were sometimes minor disagreements between groups. But mostly the dances were good fun and very popular with the counselors since it gave them a chance to socialize with girls since there were very few on staff those days. Eventually the dances disappeared. But if you walk by the Weld Town Hall today, you can almost hear the Beatles singing a song or two.

HAIRCUTS

Twice a summer a group of barbers would arrive and set up chairs on the Rec Hall porch and cut everyone's hair. This practice continued into the 1960s. For most of our early history, campers and counselors kept their hair short and the arrival of barbers was no big deal, even welcomed. But by the mid 1960s things began to change. A lot of boys and men began to let their hair grow and in the mid 1960s a camper named Bob Heintz arrived with the first official Beatles haircut in history. Not surprisingly, he quickly earned the nickname Beatle.

Beatle's new hairstyle didn't sit well with George and Raymond or many of the older counselors who had been raised in a different era. And other campers also sported a longer hairstyle. Suddenly being forced to get a haircut twice a summer wasn't very popular, and Kawanhee reached somewhat of a compromise; campers could miss a haircut if they had permission from their parents. That was better than hiding in the woods.

George and Raymond also didn't care for counselors who had facial hair. One such counselor was Kenny Love, a team Captain in 1962 and later director of Water Skiing. After George Frank suggested he shave his beard, Kenny came up with a novel and hilarious solution. He sat in the Dining Hall where only the left side, shaven side of his face was visible to George. The right side of his face was unshaven and not visible to the watchful eyes of Mr. Frank. Of course, this only lasted a day or two, but it gave everyone a good laugh. As the 1960s rolled on, Kawanhee eventually adapted to a changing society, and the twice a summer haircut disappeared never to appear again.

APPENDIX

Late in my research, I was able to piece together campers who were given special awards from 1921-1970. I have listed award winners from 1971-present in each yearly section of the second half of this book. I thought it easier to present early award winners in this format. I guess real books sometimes have appendixes... I wanted to have one also.

The Gardiner Lattimer Award for Greatest Physical Improvement

1921-William Vickery (The Lattimer Award was the only special award given in our first summer.)

1922- Richard Spencer, Neil Perkins,

1923- Ralph Lyon

1924- Campbell Scarlett

1925- Ralph Lyon

1926- Ed Mattox

1927-Henry Peters

1928-Foster Richardson

1929-Charles Carmody

1930-William Perdue

1931-William Perdue

1932-James Edwards

1933-Leon Jillson

1934-Ernest Holthouse

1935-Ralph Luycas

1936-John Bittenbender

1937-Allen Estabrook

1938-Stanton Smith

1939-Edward Lord

1940-Ethan Davis

1941-Allen Miller

1942-Charles Drinkle

1943-James Moseley

1944-David Logan

1945-Tom Ross

1946-Ray Brown

1947-Richard Donnenwirth

1948-William Devorss

1949-Tony French

1950-Peter Mellon

1951-Richard Silver

1952-Chris Creith

1953-William Keating

1954-Sam Cushman

1955-William Acker

1956-William Acker

1957 John Murray

1958- Blaine Kristen

1959- Tom Pears

1960-Tom Patton

1961- Ray Katzenbach

1962-Herbert Lorentzen
1963-Charles Wight
1964-Joseph Naylor
1965-Ken Chapman
1966-David Slocum
1967-Douglas Wilks
1968-Jon Trayner
1969-John Wambaugh
1970-Jim Markarian

The Benua Award for Greatest Physical Improvement (first given in 1925)

1925- Robert Potter
1926-Wentworth Helver
1927-Royer Edminister
1928-Charles Gillespie
1929- Scott Little
1930-Cleveland Cory
1931-Richard Brunner
1932- John Nelson
1933-John Nelson
1934- Hallet Addons
1935- Stuart Johnson
1936-Murray Chism
1937- Robert Page
1938-Donald Wambaugh
1939- Henry Hirschland
1940- Henry Hirsheland
1941-Andre Maisonpierre
1942- John Maurice
1943- Ted Mixon
1944-Frank Harrah
1945-Cecil Locker
1946- James Black
1947-Curtis Bury
1948- Curtis Lattin
1949- Bruce Miller
1950-David Fergus
1951-Robert Knowlton
1952-Howard Burn
1953- Larry Copeland
1954-Fred Richardson
1955-David Fung
1956-David Fung
1957-Jack Wilson
1958- Joe Foden
1959-William Ruggles
1960- Lance Lisle
1961- Tim Ferguson
1962-Robert Himmelwright
1963-Richard Trug

1964-Bruce McEwan
1965- Jim Estabrook
1966- Seth Kallman
1967- Bryan Halds
1968- Chris Shaefer
1969-Greg Sweney
1970- Jim McDonald

The Shepard Award for Greatest Improvement in Swimming (first given in 1930)

1930- Wade Volwiler
1931-Mac Henney
1932-Richard Force
1933-Alfred Brads
1934-Elmond McKee
1935-Joe Lincoln
1936-David Metcalf
1937-James Fulton
1938- Arthur Reeve
1939-David Trowbridge
1940- Russell Paul
1941- John Moores
1942- Dan Whitacre
1943- Drew Davies
1944- Robert Warren
1945- Fred Reinmund
1946-Richard Donnenwirth
1947-Neil Gest
1948- Ivan Garbin
1949-Fred Ward
1950- Jackson Wright
1951- James Murphy
1952- William Gibson
1953-Allen Martin
1954-Douglas Mitchell
1955- Jonathan Fish
1956-Jonathan Fish
1957- Richard Bentley
1958- Roger Liddell
1959- James Duffey
1960-Gene Fish
1961- Frank Henry
1962- Dale Bonnie
1963- Charles Weight
1964- Milton Zapata
1965-Paul Bennett
1966-John Sisson
1967- Jon Dargusch
1968- Charles Akwine
1969- Darren DeVoe
1970- Andy Strahan

The C.A. Crane Award for Most Helpful Camper (first given in 1923)

1923- Richard Spencer
1924- Arnold Jones
1925- Dwight Hollenbeck
1926- Donald Chipman
1927- Jim Sears
1928- Sidney Sweet
1929- Robert Murray
1930- Stephen Searles
1931- David Miller
1932- Robert Diest
1933- Johnny Marble
1934- Hicks Lawrence
1935- Tom DeVoe
1936- Tom Devoe
1937- William Carleton
1938- John Aigler
1939- Warren Sullivam
1940- Ross (Bud) Miller Jr.

1940 was the last summer the CA Crane Award was awarded until 1980. Despite my best efforts there is nothing I could find that explained this. Perhaps there were no helpful campers for forty years! Ok, I kid.

The Douglas Vincent Award for Most Courteous and Kind Camper

As written, the Douglas Vincent Award was named in honor of a young camper who died of a heart ailment while exercising at school in 1927. The new Shop Building built in 1928 was also named after him. For reasons that are not clear, the award was only given for six years from 1928-1933.

1928- David Miller
1929- David Miller (David was the camper/counselor who told a remarkable story about evenings spent at the Lakewood Theater in Madison, Maine where he got to know some up and coming actors and the daughter of Will Rogers. He told his story to Ed Hamblin at the 1987 reunion.)
1930- Manual Johnson
1931- Richard Diest
1932- Richard Powell
1933- Johnny Marble (also won the Most Helpful Camper the same year!)

There are other special awards that Camp Kawanhee now gives, but they were all instituted after 1970, and thus their stories are included in that part of the manuscript.

SOURCES

Interviews and Conversations: some for the project, some over the years:

Chuck and Judy Hoffhine, Dr. Richard Miller, Bill Myers, BA Altmaier, Robert Zechiel, John Detrick Sr., Sean Minear, Chris Yardley, Mark and Liz Standen, Jones Harris (through Steve Yale), John Bell, Kate Estabrook Schoedinger, Ferd Schoedinger, Rich Estabrook, Jane Standen, Jeff Sengelmann, Mark and Julie Green Sengelmann, Rees Tulloss, Steve and Diana Yale, Holly Windle, Betty Frank Smith Brassington, DL Long, Mary Birch, Sandra Winkles, JP Rullan, Cary Esser, Dr. Edwin Trayner, Dave and Patty Alexander, Rosara Rodriguez Munoz, Tom Pears, Jerry Nering, Emily Benson, Dr. Carlos Del Valle, Patsy Hunt, Bernice Hoisington, Bailey Scott, Rosaria Rodriguez

Printed Materials:

Camp Kawanhee catalogs 1922 -present
Camp Kawanhee *Wigwams* 1935- 2018 (about 90 % of the information in this project)
New England Indians by C. Thomas Wilbur
Maine Echoes- a tribute to The Dean Ross Miller and Raymond Frank published 1966
I Remember When, A Weld Family Album published 1993
Letter from RC Frank to George C. Hodges March 1921
Webb Lake Association Newsletter
“The Beginnings of Camp Kawanhee” a one-page document written by George R. Frank

Other Sources:

Wikipedia: Will Rogers, Lakewood Theater, Peter Fonda, Beatles song “She Said, She Said”, Lake Webb, King Felipe VI, King Constantine II, The Abenaki
Websites: World War II 91st Bomber Group, Kawanhee Inn, New York City Vital Records, *Find a Grave.com*, *Ancestry.com*, U.S. National Archives, Ohio State University Athletic Department, Kristoff de Geyler (Glen Goodwin), U.S. Census, American Cemetery of the Ardennes, Harvard University Memorial Church, www.kawanhee.com (especially all oral histories done by Ed Hamblin and scanned *Wigwams* and Kawanhee catalogs through 2000)
The archives of the Camp Kawanhee History Museum

Photos:

Camp Kawanhee Catalogs
Bill Koplitz, Camp Photographer
Mark Gibson, Camp Photographer
Collection of the Camp Kawanhee Museum
Betty Frank Smith Brassington Collection- Donated in 2015
Ilana Lybargar-photos of American Cemetery of the Ardennes
Photos taken by Michael Altmaier--That’s me.
Photos taken by Steve Yale
Websites of King Felipe VI, 91st Bomber Group, Kristoff de Geyer

