



SENIOR NEWSLETTER

JULY 31, 2011

GREETINGS FROM THE SHORES OF MOOSE POND . . .



One would think that the mid-season changeover would be a time of recharging, a time of re-energizing, or even a time for a deep breath before the push toward Awards Night – but no. This is Senior Winona and that is not even close to the way things panned out this week. There was no break; there was no deep breathing; there was no re-anything - there was simply constant motion in every direction. From trips to sporting events and EP's to activities, the men of Senior continue to amaze me with their capacity to take advantage of everything camp has to offer. So, with this in mind, let me fill you in on what your boys have been up to this week.

Willey Mountain Day Trip

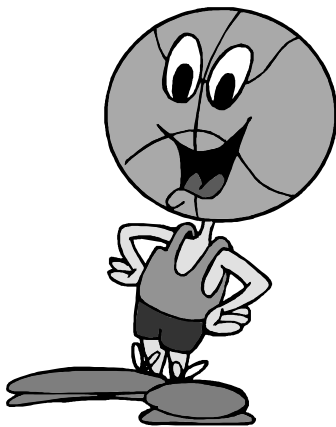


On Monday, **Uncle Scotty Israel, Uncle JK Purtzer** and special guest star **Uncle Lime vom Lehn** along with campers **Eric vom Lehn, Max Keser, Leo Merk, Perry McCarthy, Matt Eisenberg, Alexis Rochat,** and **Jonathan Merritt** headed up to Crawford Notch to climb Mt. Willey. We got everyone up before first bell and were headed out to New Hampshire before breakfast (a real milestone for the mountain crew). Arriving at the Willey House parking lot, we wasted no time, and almost immediately were climbing up the steep Kedron Flume trail that put us at the head of the Willey Range Trail. After clambering up a series of wooden ladders, we headed off the trail and over to the Willey Slide. This slide is climbed by some in the winter, but is rarely traversed by regular hikers because it involves two bushwhacks,

one on the way in and one on the way out. After about 30 minutes, we broke out of the woods into a giant boulder field, which we traversed. The large rocks can move when stepped on, so the going was slow. Once we hit the far side of the boulder field we headed up the slope in a strategic line to keep any rocks from interfering with the person below. After sitting in the ferns at the top of the slide for lunch, the stalwart crew put their packs back on and pushed onward through the bush to the trail between Mt. Willey and Mt. Field. Eventually, we headed back down to the A-Z trail and descended down into Crawford Notch. We hopped back in the van and headed down to Breeder's pool for a quick dip and some BLT 's prepared over the camp stove, wrapping up an extremely long but satisfying day.



Indian Acres Night Hoops Game



On Monday evening, the Hoopsters once again traveled to Indian Acres for a rare night game. In a most anticipated rematch from the win against the same team a week earlier, Indian Acres came out swinging, but Winona's defense was too much for the fast-paced offense of the opposing team and shut them down repeatedly. Even with the assistance/cheerleading of Indian Acres entire sister camp, Forest Acres, Winona's team of **Nick Cagganello, Conor Ingari, Eric Cosmopulos, Isaac Kouk** and **Fritz Gemmer** kept their composure, their focus, and, yes, their flow and put up a 12 point win, returning to Senior in the middle of evening assembly to the roar of cheers from their fellow campers. YUP!

(Over for more news!!)

Junior Maine Guide Testing Camp

The Junior Maine Guide Program is sponsored by the state of Maine and has been a part of Winona's essence for almost 75 years. Over the course of the summer, the JMG candidates study and practice their campcraft skills, readying themselves for a five-day "testing camp" where their knowledge and abilities are put to the test. This year, as in many prior, **Uncle Wally Wilson** happily took on the task of getting our men ready to face the challenges of testing camp.



On Monday morning the adventure began as eight "staunch and true" Winona men departed for Oquossoc, Maine for five days of testing camp. The campers included: **James Koenigsberg, CJ Harrington, Brad Goodman, John Rigby, Henry Kremer, and Geoff Keating.** They were joined by CIT's **Angus Bass and Miles Littlefield,** and led by **Uncles Jimmy "The Steak" Catlin and Mike Harrist** on what would be a week of adventure and "manly" activities. The boys were met by some serious weather Tuesday night, and their ability to handle themselves in the outdoors was really stretched. However, they remained focused and worked through their tests despite Mother Nature's attempts to derail them. Their meals, as always, were the talk of testing camp, and they handled themselves in true woodsman fashion in all other areas as well. We are all looking forward to getting the results back this Monday, but regardless of the outcome, all of the boys performed amazingly well!



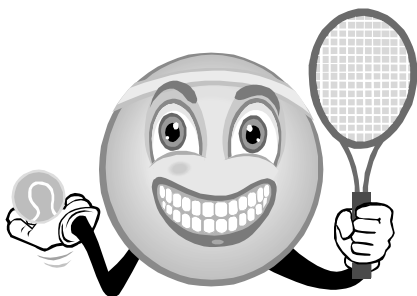
Advance Guard

As the sun burnt off the last wisps of fog from the lake's glassy surface on Tuesday morning, 40 of the toughest and bravest men of Winona readied themselves for one of the most challenging trips of the season: The Funtown Splashtown saga of Advance Guard. Once completing the arduous pack out of both swimsuit and towel, vans were loaded, sunscreen was applied, and game faces were donned. The day was cool, but the boys' nerves were cooler, tackling slide after ride with skill and precision, succumbing only to the distraction of the life-guardian angels

at the bottom of each ride. Excalibur was a piece of cake, The Tornado couldn't have blown Dorothy's skirt up, and the Dragon's Descent was slain with ease, leaving the men of Winona victorious yet again, and undefeated in their challenges against the amusement park. How they survived Funtown Splashtown on a simple diet of Dippin' Dots, and an overdose of rides and games is still a mystery, but in the end it was indeed fun!

Steep Falls

On Tuesday, July 26th, Senior kayakers, **Luchmuch Bol Bol, Isaac Kouk, Matt McShea, Robbie Zisselman, and Max Keser** paddled some of the lowest water levels on record in their descent of Steep Falls. While the water levels made for some easier paddling, **Matt** and **Max** nonetheless enjoyed ferrying below the raging falls just down stream. Choosing other entertainment, their beach going counter parts of **Robbie, Luch,** and **Isaac** enjoyed frolicking in the warm waters of the Saco River. Eventually, the sun took its toll on the crew, and forced them to shore to enjoy some liquid refreshment and some tasty BLT's. Following lunch, the rope swing beckoned and the group answered the call, finishing the day with some radical maneuvers off the rope!



Tennis vs O-AT-KA

On Wednesday, Senior Winona hosted a tennis match against Camp O-AT-KA. This first match of second half ended with Winona taking the win, 3-2. Play started with both doubles teams consisting of **Conor Ingari and Pablo Portuondo** and **Fergus Reid and Matt McShea** posting 6-love wins. Second singles played by **Max Winfield** and third singles played by **Alvaro Nicolau** had a tougher time in very tight, well-fought matches. To complete Winona's victory,

Louis Reveilhac, playing first singles, won handily in a 6-love set. All-in-all, a great day for the racquet men, who showcased not only their skills, but their sportsmanship and composure on the court.



Moosehead/Spencer Canoe/Mountain Trip

On Wednesday, fifteen intrepid trippers set off from the shores of Moose Pond on the third annual Spencer/Moosehead Adventure. The boys were broken into two groups, one equipped with backpacks and the other with canoes. Team Beaver was led by **Uncles Scott Israel and Ben Hurd** and consisted of **Connor Grant, Walker Crouse, Alex Emmons, Emmanuel Sitinas, Leopold Merk, Andrew Moreau** and **Ben Kruteck**.

Team Great Northern Lights was led by **Uncles Mike Harrist and Andy Frame** and consisted of **Leyton Johnston, Perry McCarthy, Tom Middleton, Albert Gratacos, Max Keser, Marc Vieta Fernandez, Alexis Rochat, and Tovic Ben**. The boys found themselves in one of the most pristine corners of Maine. Moosehead Lake is the largest lake in the state and is known for fishing and its colorful history going back to Abenaki times, when it was known as the flint capitol of the northeast. The mountains in the region, including Big and Little Spencer, are known for their remoteness and the Appalachian Trail's "Hundred Mile Wilderness" which runs south and east of the Big Lake.



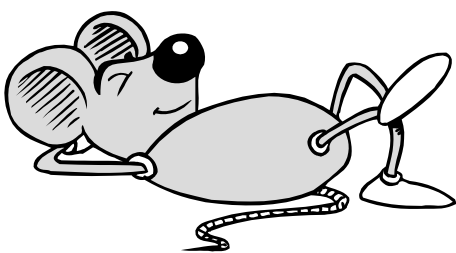
Canoe Portion



Team Great Northern Lights was shuttled north by **Uncle Rocky Rockafellow**, who dropped the crew in Lily Bay at the southeast corner of the lake. After a quick lunch the crew paddled north into a headwind that was fought with valor and arrived at their campsite tired and hungry. As the sun dipped below Mount Kineo, the boys enjoyed a filling supper of steak chili and rice with a side of sautéed kale. The next day, the group enjoyed the fruits of an early start with a windless paddle, and after conquering Spencer Bay, pushed up a stream for about a mile to that night's campsite. After lunch and a snack, the boys enjoyed the unspoiled waters of Spencer Pond sitting at the base of Little Spencer

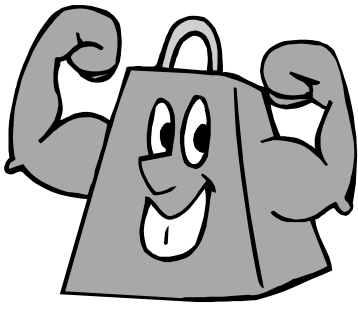
Mountain. While swimming, they were surprised to hear the call of Team Beaver from across the pond: not a growl, but a melodious version of "The W in Winona." The two teams met and the evening was spent in celebration and enjoying each other's company and successes in the beauty of Maine's Northern Woods. The evening was topped off with a big old chicken stir fry and the largest pineapple upside down cake this side of the Mississippi... made in a 14 inch Dutch oven! In the morning, after some delicious blueberry pancakes, Team Beaver swapped gear with their comrades and began their paddle back down Spencer Stream.

Upon arriving on Moosehead, the boys discovered the wind spirit encouraging them to turn around. A strong wind from south hit the group paddling from the north. They challenged the spirit, but alas it won, forcing them to set up camp early and rearrange plans for a pick-up. No problem, however, as the shorter day meant more relaxing time on the Great Lake, sitting in awe before its size - a feeling of the sublime overtaking the voyager - clouds sitting like top hats above Big and Little Spencer - the eagle spirit fishing and mocking the group. Sitting together, the Big Lake and us, we watched as the sun dipped below the trees in the morning; what was left of the spirit was just a faint whisper and the boys enjoyed an easy, windless paddle to the pick-up. **Uncle Rocky** and his dog Brooke met the boys and took them to a Barbecue joint on their way home . Pulled pork anyone??



Mountain Portion

For the start of the mountain portion of this epic adventure, Team Beaver, including **Connor Grant, Walker Crouse, Alex Emmons, Emmanuel Sitinas, Leopold Merk, Andrew Moreau** and **Ben Kruteck** journeyed into the mountains of Maine's great north woods. The boys began with a moderate hike up Borestone Mountain with **Uncles Scott Israel and Ben Hurd**. After reaching the summit, everyone agreed it was a nice spot for a quick rest hour in the beautiful sunshine, as the flat top provided an excellent nine-person nap area, and commanding views of the surrounding lakes and mountains. Come the next day, we realized that the nap would be well deserved. Day Two was a grueling vertical hike up Little Spencer Mountain which towers over gorgeous Moosehead Lake and Spencer Pond. After climbing through Little Spencer's "chimney" with the help of a well placed rope, the boys scrambled across rockslides and ledges to the summit. There they enjoyed a solid cold cut lunch and stunning views of Moosehead Lake, even spotting their canoe tripping brethren crossing Spencer Pond. Their evening destination in sight, the Mountain Trippers hastened their pace to the foot of the mountain where they greeted the canoers with a hearty rendition of "The W in Winona". At the campsite they shared stories of the past two days and enjoyed a hearty dinner of chicken stir-fry and pineapple upside down cake. It was truly a Great Northern Woods Fiesta.



On Friday, **Uncles Scotty** and **A-Frame** picked up Team Great Northern Lights in the exchange that makes this trip so special. The new group, including **Perry McCarthy, Max Keser, Albert Gratacos, Leyton Johnston, Tom Middleton, Marc Vieta, Alexis Rochat**, said their good byes to Moosehead Lake, **Uncles Mike Harrist** and **Ben Hurd** and the rest of the crew as they headed for the deep undercover of the North Woods. Undaunted by the necessary bush whacking, the biggest challenge seemed to be the carrying of the heavy loads as they worked their way to the peak of beautiful Barren Mountain. Despite the cloudy morning, the skies cleared just enough for the Winona mountain men to capture

gorgeous views off of the Barren Slide as they climbed their way to the top. After a solid day of hiking the boys settled down at the Misty Cloud Pond Campsite just below Barren Peak for some delicious back wood pizzas and guacamole. In the morning, the boys had a quick oatmeal breakfast and cruised back down the trail in time to catch Mr. Golden Sunshine popping out of the clouds to heat things up just enough for a refreshing dip in Little Wilson swim hole before returning to the shores of Moose Pond.

Wigwam 3v3 Soccer

The 28th of July saw Senior Winona travel to Camp Wigwam to face six other camps in a 3 v 3 indoor soccer tournament. The Winona men were split into two teams. The first team was formed by **Deaquan Bryant, Teddy Craven, Louis Reveilhac**, and **Max Winfield** who showed great skill and sportsmanship throughout the first round, but got unlucky and did not make it to the semifinals. The second team of **Will Banes, Arturo Marzal Higueroa, Matt McShea, Charles Rivkin** and **Johannes Wittig** played quite well and fought their way into the semifinal round, eventually ending up in third place. This was an excellent day for Winona's players as they not only played well but showcased their great attitudes and hard work. Their sportsmanship was noted not only by coaches **Logan Garrels, Javi Ventas**, and **Zoot Grantham**, but by other coaches at the tournament as well.



Androscoggin River & Frenchmen's Hole



On Thursday, **Uncle Ben Farrell** took Senior campers **Fritz Gemmer, Brendan Hanley, Pablo Portuondo, Alvaro Nicolau, Brian Loughran** and **Sam Newcomb** on a white water kayak adventure. The two hour long journey through the beautiful Crawford Notch State Park took the campers to the exciting rapids on Androscoggin River. The white water was at an exciting level and offered a great learning environment for all of the campers. The river offered up the opportunity to practice their paddling skills and the kids did not back down. After banging out some BLT's for lunch, we loaded the trailer and began the journey back to camp, checking out the amazing rock formations and waterfalls at Moose Cave and Screw Auger Falls in Crawford Notch. Our final stop was in Bethel, at a great swimming spot, Frenchmen's Hole - a beautiful pool for jumping and swimming and for the brave

hearted, a chance to kayak over a small waterfall. The day ended with pizza and chocolate milk before returning to the shores of Moose Pond. The boys had a great time and showed true Winona spirit.

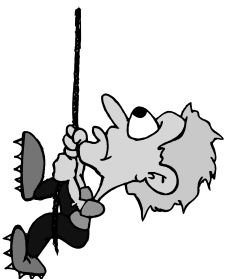
Cathedral Ledge

Also on Thursday, a crew of excited climbers - **Alexander Vasconcelles, Brian Ash, James Geraghty, Matthew Eisenberg, Taran Daly**, and **Dominic Vernazza** led by **Uncles AJ Johnson, Tristan Yerkes**, and **Aunt Liz Van Loon** - went on a day trip to tackle the granite cliffs of Cathedral Ledge in North Conway, New Hampshire. Aside from the amazing views offered by this storied climbing venue, the group enjoyed mild weather, a selection of climbs designed by nature to challenge their developing skills, and a rock face virtually all to themselves. The boys should be proud of their work here, as Cathedral can seem quite daunting even to the climbing anointed.



Square Ledge

Bright and early the very next day another rock trip headed out, only this time the destination was Square Ledge in the shadow of Mt. Washington. **Uncles AJ Johnson** and **Tristan Yerkes** led the "Rope Slinging" crew of **Pablo Portuondo, Alvaro Nicolau-Mancera, Sam Newcomb, Brian Ash, Alexander Vasconcelles**, and **Vincente Hoyos** to the base of the ledge where **Uncle AJ** set two courses for the boys to climb. With the threat of thunderstorms in the forecast, the crew got in some great wall work and then called it a day as the low clouds started to roll in.



Sailing News

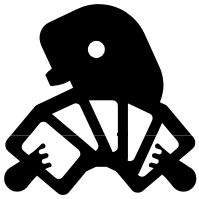
This week we have plenty of news from the sail docks. The Senior tillermen have taken advantage of great southerlies and racked up many hours of practice time on the Pond. The sail staff of **Steak Catlin, Casey Dropkin,** and **Bubba Dropkin** continue to gybe with the Senior's, introducing many new faces to the world's greatest life sport. Thus far, the rhumb line to Merits in sailing includes: **Nick Cagganello, Christian Chiafullo, Walker Crouse, James Geraghty, CJ Harrington, Sam Jones, Geoffrey Keating, Isaac Kouk, Jack Krivitsky, Ben Kruteck, Perry McCarthy, Andrew Moreau, Spenser Simon, Nikita Uvarov,** and **Eric vom Lehn,** with more to come in the very near future.

Also this week, Winona set sail for two regattas. On Thursday, Wohelo played host on the eastern shore of Sebago Lake. The boys enjoyed hanging with several other girls' camps on the beach at "Little Wohelo" while waiting for their chance to sail the course in one of Wohelo's fleet of Tech Dinghies. The sailing team of **Sam Jones, Jack Krivitsky, Eric vom Lehn,** and **Christian Chiafullo** contributed in this successful event. The wind was light and there were some long drifts to challenge their nerves. The boys hung in there and wound up just 4 points short of 3rd place. On Friday we headed to Pleasant Pond for race day #4 at the Agawam Cup. The breeze was steady and our crews consistently came in with top 3 finishes. As the scores for the day were tallied, the Winona sailors were pleased to find that they remained in 2nd place in the overall standing.



As fun as all the sailing has been thus far, it must be stated that the real prize, and what we are all looking forward to, is next Thursday's annual edition of the Winona Regatta. Our multi-fleet event includes over 100 sailors, three fleets of racing boats, and forty-eight races. It is always an amazing event, and I look forward to sharing the highlights with you next week. Until then, keep the wind at your back!

Wyo



Much to the surprise of the boys of Senior Winona, Friday night's EP was not the usual fare of speed ball or capture the flag, but instead a surprise visit to the south end of the lake to our sister camp, Wyonegonic. Our gracious hostesses had a casino night all set up in their Wiggy, and even the torrential rain could not dampen spirits as games of Jenkins, Uno, Blackjack, and many others kept everyone highly entertained

Big W Swim Meet

A fairly windy, but beautiful sunny day at Camp Winona set the stage for the Big W swim meet. This coed activity is an annual event held here on the shores that brings six camps together for an afternoon of swimming and fun. This year, despite a stellar effort by the Winona boys, we placed 3rd in the meet; enduring more than a little sisterly harassment from Wyonegonic who placed first. "Staunch and true" to the core, solid swim strokes were put forth by **Christian Chiafullo, Pablo Portuondo, Josh Karen, Spenser Simon, Branden Laverdiere, Thomas Van Kralingen, Vincente Hoyos,** and **Brian Ash.** A highlight for the Senior swimmers was a first place finish in the 50 free by **Josh Karen,** who swam with some serious power. While the Big W is the premier swim event of the summer swim season, the Camp Micah Invitational is yet to come, so stay tuned for results yet to come.



I don't think I have forgotten anything, but if I have you can be sure that I will be reminded tonight during tent time when the kid get a chance to read this and hopefully write you more than a short note. Did I mention that that there really was no "break" at mid season? Well, if there was any question prior to this newsletter, there should not be any now as this could be the longest update I have yet put together. Your children certainly are doing camp the right way, with non-stop energy and a growing love for the shores of Moose Pond – I am not sure it gets any better than this! So, until next week, this is **Uncle Clay,** from his desk overlooking the most beautiful pond in the world, wishing you well.