



SENIOR NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 15, 2011

GREETINGS FROM THE SHORES OF MOOSE POND . . .



Where did the summer go? Really! Where did it go? It seems like only yesterday that I was moving into my cabin and preparing for the summer of "going for it!" Last time I promised an epic account of the final week of camp, but as I look at it, and try and wrap my head around writing it, I am thinking you would probably be better off with the abridged version. Truth-be-told you would probably get through A Tale of Two Cities in less time. To illustrate my point I have attached a schedule of Senior Winona's last week for your perusal. If there were any questions about why some of your children came home in a semi-catatonic state that schedule should provide the answers. The absolute bottom line is that your children were amazing! The energy levels that I have been speaking of all summer did not waiver one bit and in the end when they needed to step it up they did that just that.

The most impressive aspect of the final week was the Wyo Playday/Senior Circus double. In the span of 24 hours the kids (with the help of **Uncles Zoot, Marty, Ned Berube, Michael "River Thug" Harrist, and Scott Israel**, transformed the Cobb into a "Rave Cave" for our dance with sister camp Wyonegonic. Trust me, this was no ordinary cave. Complete with a winding entry-way stalactites and stalagmites, bats floating everywhere, black lights, day glow paint, and music by DJ Goulet – the campers danced the evening away. Once that

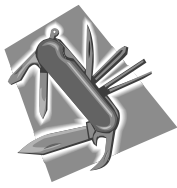


was done, the Cobb was broken down the next day and transformed into one of Winona's fondest traditions: the Senior Circus. Carnival booths on the first floor boasting games ranging from shave the balloon, to bowling, to arm wrestling, to bench joust, to Ga Ga Ga were enjoyed by the entire camp. Upstairs the haunted house did its best to excite the multitude of Junior and Inty's who lined up to get in (again, and again and again). Over in the Senior Wiggy, a casino was constructed complete with a roulette wheel, blackjack tables, a Craps table, a mock horse racing booth, and a Poker table. No worries – the only currency here was the mighty NECCO wafer. The whole circus was preceded by a parade through camp where the entire costumed Senior unit did its best to entice the younger campers to come and enjoy the circus (not too tough a sell, actually). So, just to recap – 24 hours to design and build a rave cave, dance up a storm, break it down, clean it up and then rebuild a circus the next day that has to entertain the entire camp, then break it down and clean that up as well. All while doing red gray activities in between! Sound amazing? It was, and not just because they managed to get it done, but because they did it with unbelievable creativity, energy, and never lost sight that they were putting on a show that the younger campers would never forget. Mission accomplished!



Another impressive double was the Treasure Hunt/beach day affair. The treasure hunt, which runs at night, was one of the closest it has been in years, with four teams in the Wiggy at once looking for their final clues and treasure. The groups: A, B, and C ran 12, 8 and 6 miles respectively and entered the Wiggy after two plus hours of running just as excited as the had left it earlier in the evening. As it turned out, the Reds took the A race and the Grays the B and C. The next morning the unit awoke, with some help from me in the grove, to a quick breakfast and then a trip to Crescent State Park Beach where we spent a beautiful day recovering from the long night of running. Following the beach we grilled out at Fort Williams State Park, eating way too many hotdogs, hamburgers and kielbasas – rolling back into camp at lights out.





The final event worthy of special mention was the Great Relay. This three-hour relay is the culmination of the summer Gray/Red competition and includes every activity. In a relay race fashion, the kids run through, around, and all over camp doing different tests at every activity (that's 20 plus activities), ending at the Campcraft area with a wet-day fire. This fire building is part of JMG training where a billet of wood is soaked in water for a time, and then using only a knife and an axe (matches too) a team of two



must build a fire that boils water to a roll. The Grays held a commanding lead throughout the first 2/3 of the race but the Reds brought it back and arrived at the Camp Craft area only a couple of minutes after the Grays. Unfortunately for the reds, the Gray duo was on their "game" and had the water boiling over in short order, allowing the grays to take the relay.

I might have described these events to you a little out of order, but I think you get the idea. It really was straight out sprint to the finish.

While this has only been my first year as Unit Director, I have been a member of the senior staff for a long time, so when I tell you that this was an exceptional group of young men I really do know where of I speak. This unit gave it everything they had, every single day without exception. They competed, they paddled, they climbed, they chased, they laughed, and most importantly they did it together. And that is how it should be. I may be more than a little bi-ased, but this is one "Band of Brothers" I will truly miss. So, until next June, when we do it all again, this is Uncle Clay, from his desk overlooking the most beautiful pond in the world, wishing you well AND hoping to see you all again on the shores of Moose Pond!

2011 SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP BANNER

BEST CAMPER	Luchmuch Bol Bol
SECOND BEST CAMPER	Max Keser & Branden Laverdiere
HONORABLE MENTION BEST	Perry McCarthy

ACTIVITY	CHAMPION	HONORABLE MENTION
Swimming	Joshua Karen	Branden Laverdiere
Canoeing	Walker Crouse	Nikita Uvarov
Campcraft	James Koenigsberg	Henry Kremer
Riflery	Dominic Vernazza	Jonathan Meritt & Branden Laverdiere
Archery	David Fields	Matthew Parker
Tennis	Charles Nelson	Sam Maggiola & Fergus Reid
Baseball	Eric vom Lehn	Nicholas Cagganello
Arts	Tovic Ben	Antoine O'Quin
Recreational Sailing	Jack Krivitsky	Eric vom Lehn & James Geraghty
Regatta Sailing	Angus Wilson & Samuel Jones	
Riding	Alvaro Nicolau Mancera	Arturo Marzal Higueroa & Spenser Simon
Soccer	Henry Kremer	Pablo Portuondo
Kayaking	Brian Loughran	Bradley Goodman
Tech Rock	Alexander Vasconcelles	Ben Kruteck & Deaquan Bryant
David Fields	Connor Grant	
Lacrosse	Matthew Clayton	Matthew McShea
Basketball	Nicholas Caggenello	
Windsurfing	Eric Cosmopolus & Valentin Jerez	
Mountain Biking	Nikita Uvarov	Thomas Braxton & Salvador Casellas

	Tribe Winner	Seneca
Color Team	Red	
JL Gorham Smith Award	Zoot Grantham	
Senior High Point	Spenser Simon	

JUNIOR MAINE GUIDES

James Koenigsberg
 Angus Bass
 Miles Littlefield

Leyton Johnston
 Perry McCarthy
 Tovic Ben
 John Rigby
 Walker Crouse
 Connor Grant

TRIP BANNER

Max Keser
 Nikita Uvarov