



# INTERMEDIATE NEWSLETTER

JULY 23, 2018



Greetings and salutations from Intermediate Winona! We had a fantastic close to the First session of our summer with several overnight trips, final requirements for many First session campers and great weather throughout. Our final week of First half was highlighted for many campers by some of our favorite Evening Programs (EPs), including "Chaos," which combines Ultimate Frisbee and Speed Ball, "Braveheart," and the always popular "Troy." Counselors flex their creative muscles coming up with these fantastic EPs and the competition is fierce. On Friday, we hosted many parents and siblings at the mid-season all-camp cookout, and it was a pleasure to see those who could attend! To wrap up First session, our final night included an epic campfire with songs, stories and plenty of laughs.

While we were sad to see our First session campers depart, we look forward to staying in touch and seeing them next summer. We were very excited to welcome 30 Second session campers who are already competing in EPs, learning new skills in activities, and enjoying the beautiful scenery of Moose Pond. I am excited to share the tribes and colors for our first year campers: **Daniel Amisi**, Gray Seneca; **Matthew Coronado-Cantor**, Gray Seneca; **Alejandro Hoyos**, Red Mohawk; **Nicholas Kirby**, Red Ojibway; **Ian Macomber-Straight**, Gray Seneca; **Simon Mutunzi**, Gray Ojibway; **John Nally**, Gray Delaware; **Nicholas Smith**, Gray Ojibway; and **George Stamatoyannopoulos**, Red Seneca. Campers compete for the banner throughout the summer, with most EPs being for color points and the unique "Oscar" showings counting toward the tribal teams. Campers remain on these teams for life and the competition is part of what makes Winona so special as campers learn sportsmanship, perseverance, and teamwork.



Intermediate Winona had two canoe trips depart this week, the first being a one night trip on our very own Moose Pond to stay over on Newts Isle beyond the causeway in the northern most corner of the lake. Campers **Colton Love**, **Donald Pimentel**, **Jack McGovern**, **Jordi Quirch**, **Tom Spater**, **Devan Sarkar**, **Evan Audette** and **Ramkel Luak** went on the short, but beautiful, paddle up Moose Pond on Sunday afternoon with Pleasant Mountain in their rearview and a taco dinner in their future! The boys got the VIP treatment with a Bat Barge ride back to camp for Winona's World Famous Banana Split Night, and were woken up by the BAT on Monday morning who made a safe getaway on a boat. Needless to say, this was a very exciting trip!



Another canoe trip set out for the Saco River on Wednesday for a two-day paddle from Swan Falls down to the takeout at Walker's Bridge. **Uncles Drew** and **Rigel** along with **Aunt Lisa** were accompanied by nine fine young men of Camp IX, **John Proulx**, **Evan Audette**, **Jack McGovern**, **Gabe McGarry**, **Henry Sloss**, **Tommy Soltanian**, **Ward Jenkins**, **Rowan Pedraza** and **Donald Pimentel**. On the first day, after stopping for lunch, the boys continued down to Fiddlehead campground for dinner and s'mores around the camp fire before an early rise to the smell of bacon the next day! This was a unique trip for Winona, as it is our only poling trip of the summer. This is a traditional canoeing technique wherein boys actually stand in the canoe and captain their vessel using a long wooden pole that can paddle, push off the ground, and balance the boat. This was a unique opportunity to learn from some of our best canoe staff and take a float down a river we have adventured on as a camp for many decades. The crew returned Thursday evening in time for EP and were all smiles and proud stories!

Our first overnight kayak trip went out this week under the leadership of **Uncles Ned** and **Cody** along with Senior staff members and Senior campers. **Xander Krauskopf**, **Andrew Chen**, **Pedro Angarita**, **Gunnar Lundin**, **Eli Shifrin**, **Paul Devillard**, **Dash Lamphier** and **Dante Luna Lugo** left on Tuesday to take the long trip up to The Forks, Maine where the Kennebec and Dead rivers converge. The boys set-up camp on Wednesday night in a touch a bad weather but were well rested with full bellies to set out on the Kennebec the next day. These brave young men spent the next two days paddling the section from Carry Brook down to The Forks, often called the "Lower Kennebec." One of Winona's most challenging trips, these gentlemen paddled Class III rapids with determination and all showed big smiles when they returned to camp feeling ever more confident in their paddling ability!

We had two mountain trips in Intermediate this week, the first on Monday to Table Rock with a staunch crew of **Andrew Chen**, **Nathan Monchik**, **Elijah Nacht**, **Gunnar Lundin**, **Gus Kolva**, **James Halley**, **Xander Krauskopf**, **Graham Wilson**, **Henry Sloss**, **Renzo Martinez**, **Finn Wentz** and **Henry Hoffman** led by **Uncles Matt**, **Rafa** and **Rigel**. This trail was partly on the very well known Appalachian Trail and, as they hiked, campers learned some of the history of this large trail system. The boys began their two and half mile journey on a steep uphill followed by a delicious lunch with a view of Old Speckled Mountain and Grafton Notch. After exploring some caves and rocks, this brigade descended for a swim at Deep Hole with various sized ledges to jump from into the water.

(over for more news)

Editors Note: Your son's unit's weekly Newsletter may also be accessed online: <http://winonacamps.com/welcome-parents/unit-newsletters>. Please note that in the weekly unit Newsletters, we focus primarily on out-of-camp trips and sporting competitions which are just a small part of the entire program here at Winona.

Find us on  You can find current photos of Winona by visiting us on our Facebook page (Winona Camps – Maine) or our Bunk1 site.

The mountain trip this week was along the Wright Trail to the top of Goose Eye Mountain's East Peak, sitting at 3,790 feet. **Uncles Matt** and **Decker** led a group of campers including **Celso Marranzini**, **Matias Ferrucho Rave**, **Ryan Hays**, **Ben McVane**, **Gus Kolva**, **Jordi Quirch** and **Renzo Martinez** on this two-day trek which was highlighted by beautiful pools and cascades along the side of the trail. The boys set camp along the Wright Trail, played card games and told stories under the tarp before a good night's rest to summit the peak the following day. Up top, they had stellar views above the tree line prior to descending to their pick-up location at Bull Branch Road.

As always, we had a number of Men of Distinction this week, read each Saturday night at our unit campfire:

**Matthew Gasperini** for dominating in our EP, Braveheart

**Jordi Quirch** for the first eagle in Rock Climbing

**Donald Pimentel** for doing an amazing job on the canoe trip

**Ward Jenkins** for being an incredible sailor in the Agawam Sail Series on Friday, an ongoing competition throughout the summer

**Tommy Soltanian** for the first Sloyd Eagle in the unit and general carpentry skills

We also had a large number of campers complete their Full Chipmunks this past week. For those new to Winona, campers work toward their Chipmunk, Beaver and Eagle in each activity as they complete increasingly challenging requirements. Campers can then earn a Full Chipmunk, Beaver and Eagle by completing requirements in 7, 5 and 3 activities respectively. For a Chipmunk, campers must finish those requirements in canoeing, campcraft and swimming, activities central to Winona's traditions. Congratulations to those receiving Full Chipmunks: **Paul Devillard**, **Lucas Allsopp**, **Jose Maria Grullon Gonzales**, **Phelps Henry**, **Ward Jenkins**, **Ramkel Luak**, **Mun Luak**, **Matthew MacDougall**, **Celso Marranzini**, **Dante Luna Lugo**, **Gunnar Lundin**, **John Proulx**, **Manuel Santelises Alvarez**, **Tommy Soltanian**, **Tom Spater**, **Finn Wentz** and **Graham Wilson**. Congratulations also to Tommy Soltanian for working to finish his Full Beaver and Eagle to complete a truly accomplished First session!

We are expecting a bit of rain this week but managed to get some regular activities in on Sunday morning and will continue to work around the wet weather all week. We don't let any sort of weather slow us down, and we are certainly in full swing as Camp IX begins the Second session of the summer! We look forward to staying in touch, sharing our stories of adventure, and continuing to live by the Winona Way, which is always "Staunch and True".

Until next week,

Uncle Jeffrey Lamson (2002-2018)

The BAT 2014

Intermediate Unit Director