



JUNIOR NEWSLETTER

JULY 25, 2018



Opening Day for the Second session here at Winona is always an exciting time for campers, counselors and parents as we transition from one "Staunch and True" group of young men to another. The weather cooperated, the new campers met their tent counselors, settled into their cabins or tents and began to meet other boys throughout the unit before the shout of "light outs!" signaled the end of the camp day. It was a pleasure to meet, or reconnect, with those who were able to make the trip to Maine with your sons.

Before we swing into Second session, here's a recap of the action from the end of First session. I'll also share news from the beginning of this week as we get the "new" unit into the various routines of camp life.

On Wednesday, Winona anglers **Lucas Vannoni, Shema Iranzi, Charles Bevier, Victor Peney, Luke Wetter, Nathanael Drake, Carl Hoff** and **Maksym Borodin** along with **Uncles Nick, Stephen** and **Xavier** eagerly set-out early in anticipation of catching "the big one". It was a still morning with a heavy fog as the group enjoyed some fishing, with the only sounds breaking the silence: the lures hitting the water and an occasional loon call. As the fog lifted over Pleasant Mountain, it was time for a big breakfast of bacon, egg and cheese sandwiches on Loon Isle. The group spent the rest of the morning exploring and fishing the South End of Moose Pond. Our early-morning anglers returned to Winona just before lunch with big smiles and some pretty big fish tales.

Wednesday also saw the young men of Junior Winona set-out on the final full-day mountain trip of First session. **Uncles Branden, Jordan** and **Shaw** led the pack, which consisted of campers **Oliver Eastman, Sam Rather, David Phillips, Victor Rannik, Yubo Gao, Luis Latour, Noah Bruchou, Roberto Fernandez** and **Shalom Kwitonda**. The boys left for Pleasant Mountain with the goal of reaching the vast blueberry fields that sprawl across the upper portions of the mountain. After a steep ascent up the Bald Peak Trail, the crew conquered the summit of Pleasant, and picked a substantial amount of blueberries along the way. The hikers then headed across the ridge to the North Peak where even more blueberries were picked. After a speedy descent, they headed to **Uncle Matt's** house for a swim on the opposite side of Moose Pond. The campers were smiling as they headed back to camp that night.

After rest hour on Wednesday, **Uncles James G., Richard, Jakob** and **Aunt Brooke** led Junior ecologists **Cooper Holton, Dylan Henwood, Lucas Vannoni, Peter McDermott, Jack Wetter, Luke Wetter, Michael Vannoy, Jaak Rannik, Josh Feng** and **Dain Gutmann** to Sherman Farms in Center Conway, New Hampshire. The campers learned about sustainable farming practices and the buy-local initiative, as well as had the opportunity to sample the Farm's famous strawberry milk. After petting and feeding some baby goats, our ecologists bought some fresh carrots, broccoli and corn-on-the-cob to accompany a chicken and fried rice dinner they helped to cook. It was a meal and a trip to remember.

On Thursday, we were once again visited by the world famous BATs. **Uncle Walker** pretended to sleep-in and missed breakfast. Tradition states that a counselor who sleeps-in is tossed into the bracing morning waters of Moose Pond. The entire unit relishes the process and gathered on Junior Beach to cheer on the spectacle. **Uncle Nick** led the countdown to launch and just as **Uncle Walker** hit the water the two masked men burst forth from the Eco Lodge. **Ronan Zwiefler** had figured out that something was amiss and led the charge to bring down one of the masked men. The campers organized quickly and most had an up-close view of both BATs. **Nuer Bol Rik** had the "good fortune" to be deposited gently to the side as he came so close to fulfilling the dream of every camper; that of catching the BAT. One BAT did indeed fall down on the slippery slope that goes to the Round House and was actually running behind one group of campers. What great suspense! The group stated that this was the most daring "showing" of the summer!



Thursday morning featured the first stuffed animal mountain trip of the year to Hawk Mountain in nearby Waterford. On this trip, the hikers were encouraged to bring their favorite stuffed animal along and have their picture taken with their critter at the summit. No worries that two campers lacked an animal as **Uncle Lime** had them borrow his son's favorite animals from nearly 20 years ago. The counselors enjoyed seeing them hiking with the favorite critters peeking out of the top of their packs. **George Thompson** had the most impressive display of his animal out the back of his pack (borrowed from **Uncle Lime**) while hiking the entire 0.8 miles to the overlook. The rest of the crew consisted of **Uncles Stephen** and **James B.**, and **Luke Gagan, Lochlann O'Connell, Shema Iranzi, Oscar Jennings, Roland Jennings, James Gasperini, Cooper Holton, Jack Drechsler, Victor Rannik** and **David Phillips**. It was reported that both the stuffed animals and the boys enjoyed this hike, and rumor has it that a picture from this trip made it to the Winona Facebook page.



Editor's note: **Uncle Lime** departed Winona on changeover day, but before leaving he wanted to thank **Peter King** and **James Gasperini** for helping him take pictures of the banners that are located in the Junior Wiggy. This is part of a greater project that has him photographing every banner in camp. Thank you for helping our resident historian.

(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.



On Thursday afternoon, Junior saw the return of a very special event here on the South End of camp. **Uncle Rob** spearheaded Winona's pinewood derby, where the campers designed and constructed their own wooden cars and raced them down a specially made track. The process involved picking a specific car design, sanding, painting and naming a car that would represent their tribe at the "Winona 500", a showdown of epic proportions.

The day dawned with tribal flags flying, a track decorated with various Winona insignia and the "official" announcers calling each race. A special slow motion camera was installed to catch the photo finishes. **Uncle James G.** made cupcakes that were arranged to spell out Winona 500. This sweet treat offered a welcomed break as the judges prepared the final race for what proved to be an exciting end to the event. We started with four tribal brackets, each looking to send its top four cars into the Sweet Sixteen championship bracket. After many races, using a double elimination format, we had the best each tribe had to offer for the finals. The following campers represented their tribes in the finals:

Mohawks: **Everett May, Ronan Zweifler, George Thompson, Victor Peney**

Delawares: **Ollie Reiman-Ellis, Tristan Baker, Roland Jennings, Yubo Gao**

Senecas: **Camden Hawkes, Michael Vannoy, Lorenzo Vannoni, Dylan Henwood**

Ojibways: **Sam Rather, Nuer Bol Rik, Ben Lemieux, Luke Gagan**

As the Finals commenced, the boys could be seen lining the edges of the track, looking up the sleek racing slope with both anticipation and a keen desire to win on their faces. Fist pumps and victory laps were evident after each rung of the championship ladder was completed. The final results found Dylan and his "Chicken of Steel" car in third and Everett's "Fire & Lightning" finishing second. The "War Canoe", created by Nuer, triumphed over all the cars to finish in the top spot. A mild milk bath celebrated his victory and he posed for pictures in victory lane. We also recognized those boys that spent extra time to create a showpiece. The campers voted at a special booth for categories that did not involve racing elements.

Most Creative - **Ben Lemieux**

Best Name - **Max Olson**

Best Overall Design- **Lucas Vannoni**

The campers will be bringing home their cars. I hope the cars will serve as a reminder of a fun event and the boys' summer away from home. Great job to all the campers!

On the last full day of First session, **Duncan May, Tristan Baker, Oliver Eastman, Lorenzo Vannoni, Charles BeVier, Max Olson, Ollie Reiman-Ellis, Ben Lemieux, Camden Hawkes** and **Ronan Zweifler** took to the diamond with Coaches **Uncles Robbie** and **Matt** to play a baseball game versus Camp Wigwam. During this hard-fought battle, the lead changed with each successive inning. The coaches were impressed by the defensive prowess of Duncan who made some astonishing defensive plays playing second base. The last inning found Winona down four runs and looking at a time deadline which indicated that this game could not go into extra innings. Tristan, Oliver and Lorenzo had key hits in the last inning, driving in the runs necessary to tie the game up. Charles stepped to the plate with the bases loaded and coolly uncorked a walk-off single to give Winona the victory. What a great way to end the First session!



On Friday night, the unit gathered for its weekly campfire and this time it was to say goodbye to many wonderful boys that were with us for First session. A huge thanks to those departing as they were a ton of fun to have for the first 3½ weeks, demonstrating a variety of strong character traits and wonderful personal growth. Counselors recognized the boys who excelled in their activities and tents by giving them special awards. The campfire time also featured songs, special visits from our usual cast of characters, and skits from Tent 1 (**Oliver Bean, Luke Gagan, James Kirby, Lochlann O'Connell, Viktor Rannik**) and Tent 12 (**Charles Bevier, Josh Feng, Max Olson, Max Rosenbaum, Lorenzo Vannoni**). The festivities culminated in a

slideshow by **Uncle Rob** of the First session action and what action it was! The slideshow always amazes me as it shows how much we do in such a short space of time. The campers huddled up and remembered some of the best events of this summer. There were some tears in eyes by the end but as a wise old man once told me, you shouldn't say "goodbye", but rather, "see you next summer". We look forward to seeing those who left again next summer, either in Intermediate Winona or right back here in Junior.

**SEE YOU
NEXT YEAR!**

Now into the exciting Second session of our camp season...

Sunday night found the entire camp gathered at the Cobb Memorial Building for the official start of the Second session. We sang Winona songs and veteran campers received Second session chevrons or honor shirts and discovered the identities of the campers that would lead the various teams in their quest to capture the banner. In color wars, the defending champion Reds will attempt to repeat the feat under the leadership of Captain **Nuer Bol Rik** and Lieutenants **Hadrian Mitrovic, Leif Sonne** and **Wesley Persons**. The Grays, currently leading and hoping to return the banner to a lighter hue, will be led by Captain **Lorenzo Vannoni** and Lieutenants **Grant Cuneo, Phin Inman** and **Max Olson**. The color competition is close right now and I look forward to a tight race down the stretch as we head into Red/Gray week and the Great Relay.

The tribal competition involves four different teams, vying for recognition on the banner at the close of the summer's competition, coming in just three short weeks. Chief **Gray Devine** and Sub-Chiefs **Lyle Fuchs** and **Everett May** will lead the 2017 banner champions, the Mohawks, as we enter Second session. The tribes have been competitive this summer, with the Delawares taking the lead in the first half of the camp season. The following Chiefs and Sub-Chiefs will lead their groups for the rest of this summer:

Delawares - Co-Chiefs **Tristan Baker** and **Aiden Bevin** and Sub-Chief **Ollie Rieman-Ellis**

Ojibways - Chief **Ben Lemieux** and Sub-Chiefs **Nick Buggie** and **Peter King**

Senecas -Chief **Devon Hermes** and Sub-Chiefs **Camden Hawkes** and **Frank Sherlock**

In tribal action this past week, **Nathanael Drake** and **James Gasperini** each had captures of the medicine stick. I look forward to adding names to this list as the tribal competition heats up and the new campers learn the nuances of this unique activity. The arriving group of campers have impressed their advisors with their energy and enthusiasm by vaulting into action when the whistle blows for stick showings. I'm sure we'll see many more names added next week as all the campers become acclimated with the rules. Good luck to the color teams and tribes. Let's continue to have a great summer of friendly competition.



On Monday morning, **Uncles Walker, Stephen** and **Aunt Rebecca** set off for Newt's Isle with a hardy group of canoe trippers. Joining the leaders on the adventure were **Ollie Smith, Gabriel Henrich, Nick Buggie, Carson Kaplan, Mark Weaver, Lucas Vanonni, Devon Hermes, Hugh Williams** and **Leif Sonne**. The canoers enjoyed an adventure through the raindrops as they navigated the waters of Moose Pond. Upon arrival, the group set-up camp, had the ever-popular pizza pita-pockets, explored the island and played camp games.

The following morning the trippers were greeted with a surprisingly gorgeous day, with some breezy conditions. The counselors reported that the campers exhibited positive attitudes and great teamwork, with the fortune of spotting a bald eagle. Upon their return, our campers settled back into the routines of Junior Winona and the Tuesday night movie. The counselors asked me to also include a special shout out to Devon, who did a great job steering the all-camper canoe in particularly difficult conditions.

On Monday, **Uncles Branden, Jordan** and **Chip** lead the first mountain trip of Second session. Their destination was Pinkham Notch, where they would conquer a number of shorter hikes. Joining them were campers **Jordan Woodfield, Matthew Sonne, Jack Allen, Kasper Potter, Phin Inman, CJ Kaplan, Max Soderstrom, Aiden Bevin** and **Isaac Yombe**. To start things off, the boys ascended a short but rugged trail to Square Ledge, a well-known rock-climbing destination with great views of Mount Washington. From the top of the ledge, they encountered a unique view of Pinkham Notch and the surrounding fog. After a quick descent and lunch at the Joe Dodge Visitor Center, the hikers headed back out to Lost Pond, a narrow and rocky pond tucked deep within the mountains. To end the day, they hiked down a short but steep trail to Glen Ellis Falls, the highest waterfall in New Hampshire. The boys were impressed with the natural beauty at hand. They returned to camp satisfied knowing they had visited so many new places in one day.

On Monday, Junior Winona traveled to Camp Wigwam for the second GaGaGa game of the summer. Sometimes referred to as the "other sport of kings", GaGaGa is a dodge ball-type game played in a walled octagon, using a single ball. Playing in configurations from 5 v 5 to 1 v 1, players sweep the ball low along the ground to eliminate their opponents. Knowing that Camp Wigwam was set on avenging their early season loss, **Uncles Nick** and **Potz**, along with **CIT Cousin Parker**, selected a stellar team of **Graves Fairman, George Thompson, Ben Lemieux, Connor Sims, Frank Sherlock, Camden Hawkes, James Gasperini** and **Nuer Bol Rik**. This group is known for their powerful spikes and evasive maneuvering. Initially the boys were caught flatfooted, getting swept in the first three games. Then veterans Ben, Camden and Frank delivered some crushing blows to get Winona back into the competition and turn the tide. Soon our players found their groove, including Graves, who the Wigwam players dubbed "The Whirling Dervish" for his dizzying barrages of feigns and dodges. When the dust of the octagon cleared, Winona had triumphed once again, 313 to 260. More importantly, a good time was had by all!

Junior Winona took a trip to Camp Indian Acres for a baseball game on Monday afternoon. **Uncles Robbie** and **Matt** took campers **Will Hogue, Lorenzo Vannoni, Ian Lawrence, Gray Devine, Luke Davis, Max Olson, Ben Lemieux, Graves Fairman, James Kirby** and **Grant Cuneo**, as well as Inty camper **Ward Jenkins** for the showdown with our camp rival. Winona had a tough time establishing a defensive rhythm in the game since every time they took the field it started to downpour. However, the rain didn't stop Luke and Lorenzo from making great plays at their respective positions. The coaches want to recognize Graves for exhibiting unending hustle throughout the game. In the last inning, Winona was down a couple runs when Max, Ben and Ward had hits that produced RBIs. In the end, the late surge was not enough and the group accepted the loss. The campers left the field with smiles on their faces and gave a loud & hearty "Brix Brax" cheer to their opponent.

Tuesday saw the second mountain trip of the session, this time to the Boulder Loop trail heading up the East Ledge of Hedgehog Mountain. **Uncles Branden, Jordan** and **Jack** led the way for this "Staunch and True" group. Joining them on the trip were campers **Bennett Ash, Ben Lemieux, Jaime Piramoon, Will Hogue, Luke Gagan, Ollie Reiman-Ellis, Camden Hawkes, Lyle Fuchs, Everett May, Peter King** and **George Thompson**. The boys showed great endurance on route to the East Ledge of Hedgehog, and they were rewarded with breathtaking views of Mount Chocorua and the rugged Mount Passaconaway. After spending time exploring the East Ledges, the group made a quick descent back to the van for a relaxing time at Sabbaday Falls. Truly a rewarding day for the campers involved.

Also on Tuesday, the newly formed Winona kickball team headed to the field for a match vs. Camp Owatonna. Led by Coaches **Uncles Robbie** and **Chip**, campers **Lorenzo Vannoni, Ian Lawrence, Nuer Bol Rik, Timmy Paul, Graves Fairman, Jack Allen, Hunter Davis, Grant Cuneo, James Gasperini, Ollie Smith** and **Luke Davis** took to the field after having a practice in the morning. Jack led the charge offensively with numerous extra-base hits and up & down the line-up. On defense, amazing plays were made throughout the game. With the score ending 20-8, it was the largest margin of victory Junior Winona has had this summer. Well done, boys!

(over for more news)

Activities continued throughout the end of First session and into the beginning of Second session. To receive the Full Chipmunk pin, the boys have to earn Chipmunks (completing basic requirements in the activity showing they are proficient with their skills) in swimming, canoeing, campcraft (outdoor living skills) and four other activities of their choice. To receive the Full Beaver pin, the campers need to continue working hard, showing more advanced skills in five of the activities. To reach the Full Eagle designation, they need to exhibit a very high level of skill in three of our twenty activities. I look forward to awarding many more pins in the coming weeks.

Chipmunks - Luis Latour, Oliver Eastman, Camden Hawkes, Grahame Bean, Nathanael Drake, Michael Vannoy, Jack Drechsler, Roberto Fernandez Banuchi, Charles Bevier, Noah Bruchou, Cooper Dutton, Lorenzo Vannoni

Beavers - Lorenzo Vannoni

Eagles - Rafa Saujet, Lorenzo Vannoni

A big shout out goes to Rafa for earning the first Full Eagle in Junior and all of camp! It is quite a feat to achieve this distinction in just one session. Lorenzo also deserves kudos for completing his trifecta, which means getting all three pins in the same week.

In the action for "Best Tent" the boys in Tent 5 (**Jack Allen, Taber Gale, CJ Kaplan, Duncan May, Timmy Paul**) emerged victorious and received the much deserved extra "lodge" (candy bar). **Uncle James** and **Aunt Rebecca** were very complimentary of the tentwork they saw from the new mix of campers. Everyone is responding well to their new responsibilities of communal living. (If only their rooms at home looked so good... J)

As I conclude this edition of the Junior Times, I hear the laughter, excitement and the enthusiastic screams of the campers at free swim, free time activities, and snack shack. We are excited to announce the results of two more athletic events at the end of today. Once again, thank you for sharing your sons with us this summer. For those that have departed, we'll see you next year. For those that are with us now, we look forward to a fabulous Second session. It is a pleasure and privilege to work here on the shores of Moose Pond with such an outstanding staff and boys.

Until next week,

Jim Morse, Junior Unit Director

(Wi 1982-1989, 1991-1995, 2008-2018)

The BAT 1991

