

JUNIOR NEWSLETTER

JULY 11, 2018



The weather here on the shores has been absolutely perfect as the clear skies have ushered in the beautiful sunny days that we look forward to. The lake beckons each evening with the boys splashing and swimming to cool down after the heat of the day. We have a very enthusiastic and energetic group for the first half this season. Every trip and sporting event has filled quickly, which only highlights the boys' willingness to take advantage of the opportunities that exist here at Winona. They have had a great time in activities, Evening Programs, free time, trips and other events throughout the week. Life here in Junior is now humming along as we have established routines and everyone has settled in to their lives away from home.



On Wednesday, **Uncles Jakob** and **James** traveled to Camp Wildwood with **Max Olson, Oliver Eastman, Duncan May, Luis Latour, Shema Iranzi, Charles BeVier** and **David Philips** for the first tennis match of the summer. The Winona singles hit the court first, with Max swiftly and confidently beating his rival 6-0. Oliver also won his singles match, coming back from a 3-0 deficit to win the game in a cool and confident manner. The Winona doubles took the court next, with teams consisting of Charles and Luis, and Shema and David. Although these "Staunch and True" doubles teams played valiantly against their counterparts, both teams lost. Duncan, Winona's third single, stepped onto the court. He performed admirably, fighting until the end in his close game. In the end, Winona would come home with a loss but were happy to have experienced the thrill of competition.

Is there a wilderness challenge appropriate for Juniors on July 4, with the anticipation of many people in the mountains on a hot day? This July 4, Table Mt. (2,700') near Bartlett, New Hampshire would be that challenge with **Hadrian Mitrovic, Sam Rather, Michael Vannoy, Maksym Borodin, Nathanael Drake, Roland Jennings, Oscar Jennings, Peter King** and **Carl Hoff** joining **Uncles Lime, Branden, Jordan** and Cousin **CIT Ben** for the adventure. Planning to beat the heat, the group got off to an early start and hiked through nearly two miles of hemlock forest that produces its own cool microclimate. The last quarter-mile before the summit overlook featured several sections of scrambling over granite slabs, a section enjoyed by the group. After enjoying a nice view from the top, the afternoon was capped by a swim in a small pool just off the trail. They only saw two other groups on the mountain the entire day and had the swim spot all to themselves. Nicely done boys!

Thursday saw the canoe trippers make their way out of camp for an adventure right here on Moose Pond. Led by **Uncles Walker, Stephen** and **Ike**, campers **James Kirby, George Thompson, Oliver Eastman, Noah Bruchou, Ben Lemieux, Henry Lamphier, Carl Hoff, Hadrian Mitrovic** and **Michael Covington** set out for Loon Isle, on the southern end of the lake. The crew had difficult paddling conditions with a strong headwind. Ben was resolute while sterning the camper-only boat in these trying conditions. At Loon Isle, they enjoyed a hearty lunch of pizza pita-pockets and a refreshing swim. Dinner consisted of pasta with broccoli and sausage, and roasted marshmallows around the campfire for dessert. The day ended with stories around the campfire and a clear sky of stars overhead. The next morning the campers and counselors woke up, loaded the boats and had a much easier paddle back-despite a few light rain showers, returning to their Junior camp routines with big smiles.



On Friday, the first overnight mountain trip left for the greater adventure of the wilderness around us. **Uncles Lime** and **Branden** led the expedition to Doublehead Mountain. **Yubo Gao, Everett May, Devon Hermes, David Phillips, Nuer Bol Rik** and **Lorenzo Vannoni** were the group of young men who embarked on this journey. The boys began their hike after lunchtime, just outside of Jackson, New Hampshire. The path up North Doublehead was steep and the packs were heavy, but they ascended the 3000' mountain in no time. On the top of the mountain is a rustic cabin where the group stayed the night. After eating a delicious meal of chicken wraps served up by Lime and Branden, the boys moved steeply downhill and then back up toward the summit of South Doublehead. Approaching the summit, they encountered an overlook and were treated to a majestic view of the Eastern White Mountains with low sunrays occasionally streaming through the clouds. After summiting South Doublehead, they returned to the cabin for two "True Stories" and a well-earned night's sleep. After awakening to beautiful sunshine on the summit of North Doublehead and a quick breakfast, the group packed-up to head down the steep col from the previous night. They descended the Old Path, which very much resembled "The Forbidden Forest" from Harry Potter. The boys remarked about how it felt like autumn weather, and how different overnight backpacking is from day hiking. I'm happy to report that Junior Winona's first mountain overnight was a smashing success!



A group of "Staunch and True" campers took to the baseball diamond on Saturday to play a game against Camp Indian Acres. The group involved **Nathanael Drake, Charles BeVier, Oliver Eastman, Max Rosenbaum, Max Olson, Grahame Bean, Oliver Bean, Michael Covington, Duncan May, Ronan Zweifler** and **Oscar Jennings**. Oliver made some astonishing plays at shortstop throughout the game. Charles was the key batter in the line-up as he had multiple RBIs. The game went into extra innings with Junior Winona ultimately losing this stellar matchup. They still had a great time and exhibited sportsmanship throughout the competition.

(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.

Saturday's tennis team celebrated a well-earned victory against their counterparts at Camp Wigwam. After warming up, campers **Nathanael Drake**, **Max Olson** and **Carl Hoff** hit the courts for their singles matches. All three displayed their court savvy and expertise by dominating their opponents and securing victories for the team effort. **Leif Sonne** and **Oliver Eastman** worked as a team to win their doubles match 8 to 4. **Victor Peney** stepped up in grand Winona fashion by volunteering to pair with a Wigwam camper so that each player could participate and have fun. An injured Wigwam player necessitated the move and it ended being a highlight of the day as all the players came together and showed that bonds could be formed across camp lines. The campers compared traditions and realized that being away for the summer is a unifying factor. While traveling back to camp the group stopped at a local orchard for a snack. This turned into another highlight as campers shared stories from their matches over wood fired pizza slices and fresh lemonade. **Uncles Chris** and **Jakob**, our coaches for this great day, were impressed by the group on all levels!



Also on Saturday, we had our traditional hamburger and hot dog cookout and the unit's first organized campfire. **Lucas Vannoni** was lucky enough to pick the coveted "Lodge" hamburger and the prize that is linked to it. Tent 6 (**Grahame Bean**, **Jack Drechsler**, **Rodrigo Melo Garcia**, **Luke Wetter**), Tent 9 (**Tristan Baker**, **Roberto Fernandez Banuchi**, **Camden Hawkes**, **Peter King**, **Jack Wetter**) and Tent 10 (**Yubo Gao**, **Ben Lemieux**, **Victor Peney**, **Oliver Reiman-Ellis**, **Leif Sonne**) did skits in front of the unit.

They sang camp songs, and campers and counselors tried to solve a baffling two-minute mystery read by **Aunt Rebecca**. The counselors entertained the unit by appearing as several strange and creative characters that were performed with aplomb. As we closed the proceedings, counselors recognized the Junior Men of Distinction, those boys that had shown exemplary character traits during the week. I'm pleased to report that so many Juniors were mentioned that I couldn't list them all here. To finish, **Uncle Robbie** used "Uncle Al's Yale Book of Quotes" to leave the boys with something to think about as they walked down the grove for lights out.

On Monday, **Uncle Rob** drove the Junior soccer team to Camp Indian Acres for a tournament. **Uncles James** and **Jakob** coached the boys, who were excited to put their skills and teamwork to use after some excellent training sessions. In the first match, they came up a little short. Camp Wigwam's defense proved to be too tight for **Tristan Baker** and **James Gasperini's** powerful shots on goal. The coaches adjusted and were ready for the second game that quickly followed.

The boys had a short break and then played against the hosting team. Junior Winona was afforded plenty of shots on goal with the great play of the strikers. **Carl Hoff** scored with a long kick from outside of the box that managed to find its way into the net. Everyone was so excited to get one goal and then added to the euphoria when **Noah Bruchou** had an amazing run and managed to beat the defense, scoring the winning goal with five minutes to go!

After celebrating the win they came up short against Camp Robin Hood in the semi-final. The defeat did not dampen the mood as they were still so excited about their earlier victory. The coaches cited great goalkeeping from **Oliver Eastman** and outstanding play from **Tristan**, **James**, **Grahame Bean**, **Lochlann O'Connell**, **Charles BeVier**, **Rodrigo Melo Garcia**, **Roberto Fernandez Banuchi**, **Luis Latour** and **Dain Gutmann**.

On Monday, **Uncles Walker**, **Ike** and **Jordan**, left to paddle the waters of the old course of the Saco River with **Viktor Rannik**, **Maksym Borodin**, **Roland Jennings**, **Oscar Jennings**, **Michael Vannoy**, **Shalom Kwitonda**, **David Phillips**, **Sam Rather** and **Victor Peney** for another overnight adventure. The boys had a great time navigating the river as the paddling provides different challenges and benefits, as compared to lake paddling. They got to see a plethora of wildlife, including a variety of birds with the highlight being two bald eagles. The group enjoyed a big beach campsite, a dinner of honey roasted chicken and potatoes over the fire, a campfire under the stars, as well as jokes and games throughout the trip. Returning on Tuesday with many wonderful tales, they felt the trip successfully fulfilled the requirements of an outstanding away-from-camp adventure.



Monday also found another mountain trip heading out to explore the north slope of Albany Mountain. **Uncles Lime**, **Branden** and **James**, led campers **Jaak Rannik**, **Ronan Zweifler**, **Axel Lundin**, **Peter McDermott**, **Duncan May**, **Luke Wetter**, **Camden Hawkes**, **Jack Wetter** and **Peter King** on this Junior mountain adventure. The boys handled the ascent well, learning proper pacing and breathing. Later on, the open 1930' overlook offered views to nearby Keewayden Lake, Pleasant Mountain and a number of peaks that Juniors have already visited this summer. The trip concluded with a brief swim in Great Brook, a fairly secret swim hole. Smiles were also a big part of the day. The group came back tired, but with the feeling of a job well done.

The next day, **Uncles James** and **Lime** were at it again on a combined eco/mountain trip to "The Roost" and the Wild River. Joining them were **Aunt Rebecca**, **Cousin CIT Ben** and campers **Peter King**, **Ben Lemieux**, **Dain Gutmann**, **Dylan Henwood**, **Carl Hoff**, **Luke Gagan**, **Peter McDermott**, **Everett May**, **Michael Covington**, **Lucas Vannoni** and **Lorenzo Vannoni**. The Roost hike is a 1.5 mile loop over the area that was ravaged by a series of giant forest fires from the days of the lumber barons clear cutting the mountain forests in the early 1900's. The mill village of Hastings, which employed hundreds, closed down for good in 1926. Now the entire area is part of the Wild River Wilderness Area, which was where the group had lunch and a swim to conclude the trip. The boys were able to learn the lessons of nature reclaiming the land in a relatively short period of time.

The tribal competition has heated-up in the last week. The scores at the end of Sunday's action saw the four tribes separated by 22 points. **Nathanael Drake**, **James Gasperini** (x2), **Camden Hawkes**, **Max Rosenbaum**, **Sam Rather**, **Victor Peney** and **Ben Lemieux** had captures for their respective tribes this week, while **Charles BeVier** (x2), **Shalom Kwitonda** and **James Gasperini** had three point finds. The Delawares have taken the early lead. Each tribe still has an excellent chance at the coveted spot on the banner as we roar toward the second half. I constantly emphasize the character traits of perseverance and grit when keeping the boys engaged in a summer-long competition. It is a marathon, not a sprint.

Just after the first Newsletter of this summer was mailed **Jack Wetter** accomplished a first in camp: Jack was the first camper in Junior, and all of camp, to receive a Full Chipmunk pin. To achieve the Chipmunk level, campers need to complete requirements in the various activities, showing that they are proficient with their beginning skills at each step. To receive the Full Chipmunk pin the boys have to earn Chipmunks in swimming, canoeing, campcraft (outdoor living skills) and four other Junior activities.

The Junior unit continues to work hard fulfilling the requirements in our many activities to earn Chipmunks, Beavers and Eagles. Other Full Chipmunks this week were awarded to **Carl Hoff, Hadrian Mitrovic, Lucas Vannoni, Peter McDermott, Ronan Zweifler, Max Rosenbaum, Axel Lundin, Lochlann O'Connell, Yubo Gao, Henry Lamphier** and **Raphael Saujet**. Congratulations!

In other award news, the boys of Tent 8 (**Nuer Bol Rik, Nathanael Drake, David Philips, Sam Rather**) received the Best Tent distinction in our second full week of camp, thwarting the boys of Ten 10 who were hoping for a repeat performance. Tent 8 campers were excited about the recognition and the extra lodge (candy bar) that goes with the award. Everyone in the unit continues to do well with keeping their tents and cabins clean this summer. Keep up the good work!

A quick shout-out to **Camden Hawkes** and **Max Olson** who "played-up" by representing Junior at all camp competitions. Camden qualified to sail as part of our camp regatta sailing team. Max did the same, but it was on the tennis courts. His skills warranted an invitation to a tennis tournament invite and he performed well. Congrats to both as they made us proud here on the South End of camp.



I conclude this Newsletter while the fishing trip is on the lake, activities galore on the activity board, and the Advance Guard group is preparing to leave for the Aquaboggan. The excitement in the unit has been immense as the boys really enjoy the special events! Those leaving for the Advance Guard trip are lathered with sunscreen, wearing their new t-shirts and are ready to slip and slide the day away. The atmosphere here on

Moose Pond is perfect and those who are staying for the day have an amazing choice of activities, along with the special fishing trip.

Thanks again for sharing your sons with us this summer. Until next week,

Jim Morse

Jr. Unit Director

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

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