



SENIOR NEWSLETTER

JULY 15, 2018



Greetings! This week's newsletter had to be written one day early. Our schedule this weekend will be quite busy with events including a trip to Portland Sea Dogs baseball, viewing of the World Cup final game and a very special Evening Program on Sunday night. The Allagash canoe trippers have checked in with **Uncle Spencer** and **Aunt Laura** and will be returning as scheduled this afternoon. I will surely report on their great adventure in my next letter. It's been a busy week, so without further ado:

The Incomparable 2018 Adirondack Exploratory Adventure Extravaganza departed Monday morning with **Aunt Nina** safely delivering eight intrepid wayfarers to the wilds of northern New York. **Uncles Ned** and **Alex F.** began a five-day sojourn with **Owen de Cordova**, **Matthew McVane**, **Jackson Monz**, **Victor Quirch**, **Andrew Sack** and **Maximo Sanchez** by hiking up the headwaters of the Hudson River to picturesque Indian Pass. Later, at a secluded site on the west side of the MacIntyre Range, the boys enjoyed Uncle Ned's delectable pulled pork, steak and salty guacamole.

On Wednesday, the outdoorsmen crossed Cold Brook Pass, scaled rugged Mount Marshall and deepened their appreciation of the local flora and fauna while camping near beautiful Lake Colden. Thursday they deepened their appreciation of the grippy bedrock of the Canadian Shield (the Adirondacks are the only mountains in the eastern United States not geologically Appalachian) while climbing Mount Colden's sublime trap dike and western slide. Some of the boys even spelunked on the summit and in the afternoon all swam in the Opalescent. By the final day, the campers were on their way to becoming seasoned mountaineers, well-acquainted with wilderness navigation, Leave-No-Trace practices and the denizens of Adirondack Park itself. For a finale, Friday they rose at dawn and ascended Algonquin Peak, the second-highest in New York. From its expansive alpine top they reveled in a polychromatic panorama extending from Vermont to Quebec.

On Monday, **Uncles PJ** and **Garrett** took **Will Thompson**, **PJ Henwood**, **Cooper Dutton** and **Ben Chadwick** to compete at the "Wannigan Crank" rock climbing competition at Camp Takajo. The routes of the day were noticeably harder than in previous years and the competition was just as tough. Despite this, the "Staunch and True" Winona climbers worked together, sharing route beta (information), strategies and cheering each other on. Teamwork and good effort found PJ taking second place and Cooper taking third. A successful day on the rock tower for Winona had the boys excited for trips to come!



On Tuesday, **Kevin Allsopp**, **Will Thompson**, **Nick Voyzey**, **Cooper Dutton**, **Sam Marwill** and **Tibo Bonte** participated on the kayak program's last trip of First Session to Limington and Steep Falls. With spirits high that morning, the trailer was packed and off they went! They started at Steep Falls working on their fairy gliding. The kayak staff worked with the yakers, building skills in the rips. Nick ran his first waterfall in a kayak! Late morning skill drills included "edging" and how to deploy a safety "throw bag." The day was beautiful and warm. Sitting on the river bank enjoying an Italian sub sandwich was the perfect way to relax and take in the sights and the sounds. In the afternoon session, our kayakers paddled down to Limington where they surfed waves and played in the current. The boys arrived back in Senior a little tired but very happy!



Tuesday evening, the following boys were selected to represent Winona on Camp Council: **Harry Chadwick**, **Christian Sweeney**, **George Stephan**, **Gleb Gamsheev**, **Nuar Bol Bol** and **Miles Brown**. These council members made and served many batches of tasty popcorn. A delicious snack enjoyed by all. *The Last Jedi* was shown on the big screen in The Moose Pond Cinerama.

On Wednesday, the Winona kayakers joined our very own Stand Up Paddle (SUP) Boarding program for a trip to beautiful Popham Beach. **Ian Hoffman**, **Max Jones**, **Ben Chadwick**, **Nuar Bol Bol**, **Rieky Bol Rik**, **Mason Cilley** and **Buay Koak** along with five Intermediate campers had a great time navigating their boats along the shoreline. Though the ocean was chilly, all the boys geared up and surfed the waves. The afternoon was spent surfing in kayaks, fine tuning some skills and playing water football. The day concluded with chicken "bombers" (patties) and salad for dinner. After a good day's workout and full bellies, the boys rested on the journey back to Moose Pond.

Also on Wednesday, the Senior Winona tennis team attended the annual Camp Indian Acres tennis tournament. Head coach **Uncle Sam** led players **Guillaume Kopff**, **Miles Brown**, **Jasper Brown**, **Charlie Collins**, **Baird Hruska**, **Harry Chadwick**, and **Christian Sweeney** with the help of **Coach Z**. Excellent weather and playing conditions made for a great day of competition against the hosting camp and Camp Wigwam. In the first match, Winona faced the hosts of the tournament. Guillaume breezed through his opponent with a strong 8-0 win. The other matches proved not be so one-sided: three were in fact decided by a tiebreak. The doubles pair of Harry and Christian volleyed well but lost 13-11 in a thrilling tiebreak. Baird and Charlie were overpowered by a strong doubles pair, but relished the exciting competition. Jasper stepped up against a stronger opponent and was able to come away with a huge win for the Winona team. In perhaps the most impressive match of the whole tournament, Miles improbably came back from down 7-3 match point to eventually force a tiebreak. He went on to defeat his opponent in the tiebreak, clinching a 3-2 win over Camp Indian Acres.



(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.

Winona was rushed back onto the court only minutes after its first match to face Camp Wigwam. Miles, forcing his opponent into making mistakes, in so doing tallying another win. Guillaume cruised to another victory. Charlie had a great showing in the match, but was unable to pick up the victory. The tourney came down to the Chadwick/Sweeney pair redeeming themselves in yet another tiebreak, winning 7-4 to give Winona another 3-2 team win.

The boys waited with anticipation to see the outcome of the final match between Camps Indian Acres and Wigwam. Winona had held head-to-head tiebreaks against both of those teams, so one of the teams would have to sweep in order to take the lead. They eventually split their matches, and, for the first time since 2008, Winona took home the victory! It was an exciting, memorable day, and the trophy will soon find its way to the dining hall's display case.



On Thursday, mountain bikers **Harry Chadwick, Jorge Enebral Alonso, Eathan Heath and George Stephan** and counselors **Uncles Luch, Alex S., Sam D. and Sammy** took to the trails of North Conway, stopping first at the Pudding Pond trails, which were a great warm-up. After riding the Sticks and Stones Loop a few times the group ventured up Cardiac Hill, which is every bit as challenging as it sounds! The downhill from the top was well worth the ride up. Cardiac Hill offered fast and enjoyable turns all the way to the bottom. After riding at Pudding Pond the group traveled to the bottom of the Red Tail Trail to ride a few jumps. After some demonstrations by Uncle Alex the mountain bikers took to the jumps with ease and were "sending it." Following a terrific day on the trails the group cooled off at the Swift River. Pizza was also shared and happily devoured: a well-deserved treat, ending the day on a high note.

Thursday, Winona's sailors went to Sebago Lake with **Aunt Jesse and Uncle Cam D.** for Camp O-AT-KA's annual regatta. Although the wind may have abated, the boys' spirits did not with Skipper **Nick Voyzey** and crew **Nick Davidson** claiming 2nd, 1st and 4th place finishes; and Skipper **Henry Clark** and crew **Jack Bonnefond** finishing 3rd and 1st. At the end of the day, Winona compiled 10.5 points—good enough for a 2nd-place finish and our best overall score since 2014!

Thursday evening, Senior and Inty Winona traveled with **Uncles JK and Kyle** to Camp O-AT-KA for their annual archery tournament. The all-star team of **Maxime de Clercq, Austin Gauggel, Cosme Vega, Alex MacDougall and Chase Gerber** shot straight and true through 10 rounds. Austin led the squad with 219 points total, followed closely by Alex with 209. Apart from a few sore fingers and arrows lost in the depths of the hosting team's forest, Winona had a successful and rewarding experience. The exemplary Senior archery team performed admirably, amassing a total of 865 points for a strong showing in the tournament. (The results will be announced by Camp O-AT-KA next week.)

On Friday, **Uncles Sam D. and Sam S.** brought the "Staunch and True" Winona lacrosse team of **Kevin Allsopp, Nuar Bol Bol, Jack Bonnefond, Jasper Brown, Charlie Collins, Nick Davidson, Jorge Enebral Alonso, Gleb Gamsheev, Ian Hoffman, Baird Hruska, James Thompson, Will Thompson and Lee Wilson** to Camp Indian Acres for a much-anticipated match up. The game started off with each team going scoreless after both defenses shut down the opposing offenses. Finally the scoreboard lit up midway through the second quarter when Kevin scored to put Winona up 1-0. The rest of the game went back and forth. Will and Lee were both stellar in goal and made important saves while Baird and Nick led the charge on offense. At the end of the game a strong defensive stand sealed a 4-3 win for the Winona lacrosse team and made for a joyous van ride back to camp.

The balance of the week the boys worked diligently on their activity requirements. **Ian Hoffman, Carl Bruening and James Thompson** were each awarded Full Merit pins in the Dining Hall by **Uncle Spencer**. The Full Merit achievement entails reaching the Merit skill level in swimming, canoeing and campcraft as well as meeting the Merit level in five additional activities of the boy's choosing. The achievement squares on the Senior Master Chart are filling in rapidly. I anticipate sharing the names of many more high-achieving campers with you next week!

Memorable evening programs this week included Dodgeball, In-the-Grove Capture the Flag, Pictionary, Cuckoo on the Buzzard and a raucous game of Blow Pong. The tribes have also been very active with creative and daring showings.



Senior camp is abuzz with activities and significant accomplishments as the boys build skills on land and water. Their friendships are growing stronger every day. As I finish this week's missive to you we are in the last few minutes of rest hour. The Senior Grove is quite a sight. Several of our teenagers are relaxing, enjoying quiet conversations. A small group has gathered in tent 3, quietly playing cards, while another small group is in tent 7 playing Magic. Some of the boys are even availing themselves of the daily siesta opportunity to sleep! Yet they are all anticipating the bell, which signals the end of rest hour and the possibility of a totem showing. As the bell peals, there's a mad dash to secure a front-row seat. This position assures a prime spot in the middle of the action. The Senior Wiggy will soon again be filled with laughter. Under the towering pines, there's no place on earth this perfect!

I look forward to sharing the final events of First Session in the next letter. Until then, I hope you have a great week too!

Uncle Jeffrey "Bubba" Dropkin
(1983-1986, 2002-2018)
The BAT 2015
Senior Unit Director