



JUNIOR NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 1, 2018



Second session is humming along. The new campers have settled into the daily routine and now look, and act, like Winona veterans. Full Season campers have been a great help getting everyone acclimated to camp life. This week has been incredibly busy as evidenced by all the events detailed in the newsletter. I still marvel sometimes at the variety of activities that Junior campers can choose from. Every day we have four activity periods with up to twenty choices for the boys to try. What fun!



Last summer, Junior Winona was still learning the complexities and nuances of the competitive *Steal the Bacon* game and wins were difficult to come by. The 2018 season found Junior's team undefeated going into a match versus Camp Indian Acres. Winona's crew of **Ronan Zweifler, Wesley Persons, James Gasperini, Duncan May, Leif Sonne, Dylan Henwood, Graves Fairman, Camden Hawkes, Devon Hermes** and **Lorenzo Vannoni** showed why our squad is now considered one the most competitive. **Uncles Nick and Potz** had put the team through their paces earlier that morning, working on feigns, misdirection and strategy, so that by the time competition arrived, the Junior crew was in top form. While Winona made short work of the competition, it was Junior's sportsmanship that really stood out. More than a few times, the Winona campers complemented their opponent on a nice play, gave them a hand-up off the ground after a diving attempt, or offered an encouraging word to the other team. While the coaches were pleased with the boys' victory, they were even more proud of the class they displayed on the field.

That same day, **James Kirby, Ian Lawrence, Matthew Sonne, Ben Lemieux, Kasper Potter, Luke Davis, Connor Sims, Timmy Paul** and **George Thompson** defended our home court against Camp Indian Acres in a basketball game. Led by captains James and Ian, the boys played great team defense and made the most of their shots at the net. The game was highlighted by superb ball movement by point guard Matthew that led to easy looks for the starters, tenacious defense by Kasper on the opposing point guard and outstanding hustle by the entire second unit. After a defensive battle throughout all four quarters, Winona was up by just one point and needed a big stop. Armed with the heavy task, the boys communicated with each other and forced the opponent into taking a tough shot, eventually leading to a victory for the home team. Coach **Uncle Nate** was very impressed with the boys on all fronts.

Junior Winona is currently committed to something we are calling the "Big Rock Initiative" (encouraging each Junior camper to spend the night at Winona's outpost: Big Rock campsite). The staff, led by **Uncles Rob, Xavier, Potz** and **Nick**, has revitalized the old camping spot right here on camp property. Tent 11 (**Devon Hermes, Everett May, Hadrian Mitrovic**) and Tent 12 (**Gray Devine, Phin Inman, Max Olson, Frank Sherlock, Lorenzo Vannoni**) and their counselors **Uncles Matt, Ike, Robbie** and **Aunt Rachael**, were the first to enjoy it. The group hiked to the spot where they dined on a BBQ chicken dinner prepared by Uncles Rob and Xavier. They then were able to come down the hill to Junior for Evening Program (EP) and a BAT showing, then traveled back to the campsite. The Intermediate Unit Director, **Uncle Jeff Lamson**, surprised the group with all the fixings for s'mores and regaled the group with stories. The two tents returned to the Junior unit the next morning to ring the bell and shout "Good morning, Junior!" to their peers.

Our second visit to Big Rock was on Sunday when **Uncles James B., Jack** and **Shaw** led **Jordan Woodfield, Mark Weaver, Bennett Ash, Connor Sims, Hugh Williams, James Gasperini, Ronan Zweifler, Paxton Hawkes** and **Wesley Letellier** to the campsite. The group enjoyed teriyaki chicken-vegetable-and-pineapple kabobs cooked on the grill. Later that evening they were surprised by **Coach Z.**, our resident guide on all things Winona, who found a box of s'mores hidden among the camping supplies.



Our third adventure left Monday with great anticipation. The stalwart group had **Jack Allen, Taber Gale, CJ Kaplan, Duncan May, Timmy Paul, Luke Davis, Will Hogue, Ian Lawrence, Jaime Piramoon** and **Max Soderstrom** accompanied **Uncles James, Branden, Nate** and **Aunt Rebecca** up the hiking trail to enjoy their night under the stars. The meal was scrumptious kabobs again and the grilled pineapple continued to be a hit. **Uncle Clay Miles** was our surprise campfire guest for this group. Uncle Clay has a vast knowledge of the BAT, and other camp traditions, that dates back to the 60's and he wove tales that kept the boys riveted as the flames danced in the night. The group returned on Tuesday morning pleased with the time away from camp.

(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.

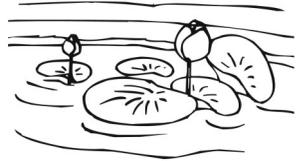


On Thursday morning, **Uncles Jordan and Branden** took the first overnight mountain trip of Second session to South Baldface Mountain. Accompanying them was a noble squad consisting of campers **Max Soderstrom, Lucas Vannoni, Calder Kaplan, Aiden Bevin, Bennett Ash, Lyle Fuchs and Will Hogue**. On the first day, the boys hiked through the wilderness with heavy packs, but they made it to the shelter in no time. They even passed an Inty

Wyo trip on the way to their destination. That night, they were treated to delicious chicken fajita wraps served up by Uncle Jordan. After a humorous evening of storytelling, everybody got a good night sleep in the Baldface Shelter.

The following morning, the boys woke up to a spectacular view from the nearby ledges. With low clouds covering the sky, only a handful of mountain peaks were visible above the sea of clouds, providing quite the sight. After a hearty breakfast, the trippers headed up an infamously steep section of trail to the summit of South Baldface. This portion of the trail is above timberline and often wet, making it a thrill for young hikers. Thankfully, their adventurous spirit kept them positive throughout this section and they conquered South Baldface with ease. After a quick descent back to the shelter, they paused for some lunch before returning to the trailhead. Before getting back to the van, the hikers stopped for some cliff jumping at the gorgeous Emerald Pool. This trip would prove to be quite challenging, but the whole crew handled it like champions!

On Thursday morning, **Uncles Richard, James, Josh and CIT Cousin Carter** took campers **Nuer Bol Rik, Grant Cuneo, Taber Gale, James Gasperini, Jaime Piramoon, George Thompson, Mark Weaver and Jordan Woodfield** on an overnight trip to Loon Isle. The boys stayed cool throughout a sporadic drizzle on the paddle to Moose Pond's south end, "braving" the Narrows and paddling through placid patches of lily pads to reach their final destination. After a swift set-up and a lunch of chicken bombers, they enjoyed a swim, clay sculpting, fort constructing and other assorted activities. Dinner consisted of beefy macaroni and cheese, and finished the night with some s'mores around the fire and few rounds of a classic Winona game: Mafia. After a brief rendezvous with the Junior fishing trip in the morning, they began heading north under a clear sky with memories of the prior day's fun fresh on the mind. They arrived back at Winona just in time for pizza Friday and the canoers have since raved about the trip.



Before Friday's first bell of the day tolled to wake the sleeping Junior campers, **Uncles Nick and Robbie** crept to the Junior fishing boats with **Lorenzo Vannoni, Oliver Reiman-Ellis, Timmy Paul, Max Olson, Luke Davis, Hunter Davis, Camden Hawkes and James Kirby** hoping to catch "the big one". The conditions were perfect in the cool stillness of the morning. The two boats quickly went to the Narrows on the south end of Moose Pond where, on the first cast of the day, Max hooked and landed a nice-sized largemouth bass. What a great start for this excited group of campers! After a few more fish were caught, the group surprised the Junior canoe trip that had spent the previous night on Loon Isle as they were packing up to head back to Winona. The anglers enjoyed a big breakfast of bacon, egg and cheese sandwiches on Loon Isle, before setting out to explore the south end of the lake. As the sun rose from behind the pines and the morning chill began to turn to warmth, the group decided to head for Eagle Rock and a few jumps into the refreshing waters of Moose Pond. Lots of smiles and stories were shared as the group returned to Junior Winona just before the lunchtime bell.



The action this week with the BAT was fast and furious, providing many thrills and close calls for the campers and counselors. At Thursday's EP, the group was treated to a double BAT showing. The boys were engaged in the classic game Bombardment, when both BATs rounded the corner and raced toward the basketball court where the game was well underway. As they streaked across the mesh fence encircling the court, the two black-clad figures unleashed jolting BAT screams, much to the chagrin of the campers trapped inside. The campers reacted quickly though, pouring out of the back and front of the enclosure to give chase. The BATs weaved through numerous campers to escape to CIT. The Juniors received a great view of the two masked men and chattered about the appearances all the way to free swim. It was a little too close for comfort if you ask me!



At Friday's morning line up, the group was once again treated to a BAT showing, this time by a lone-cloaked figure. While listening to the announcements for the upcoming day's events, the BAT rounded the corner of the Wiggy and hopped up on the rock at the head of line up. The BAT unleashed his trademark screams and wheeled around to head up our access road. **Ben Lemieux** could see this one coming and was the first camper to give chase. **Isaac Yombe** and **Frank Sherlock** also were close behind and raced up the hill in hot pursuit. All campers gave chase as the masked man disappeared into the early morning.

Everything seemed normal in Junior Winona on Monday, but in reality, the BAT was at it again. As **Uncle Rob** took note of the tribal scores and places, the BAT snuck out the south door of the Junior Wiggy and proceeded to carefully crawl over to the gimp rack on the front porch. When Uncle Rob smacked the mallet on the log to open stick showings, out came the BAT into assembly! After two loud screams and a pulse-pounding pursuit, the BAT ran across the porch and veered down the ramp to the safety of a getaway car. A shout out once again goes to **Ronan Zweifler** who seemed to know it was coming - he got right up in the BAT's face even before the first scream was emitted and was efficiently deposited to a safe spot away from the BAT.

The action keeps coming! On Monday, the campers were surprised at EP's assembly with the second BAT showing of the day, this time a double dose of caped goodness. As **Uncles Jakob** and **Ike** led the drumroll to begin EP, the entire Wiggy began to shake. Everyone could feel the anticipation for the event designed by Uncles Ike and Jakob through the very floor they were sitting on. Using the distraction, the door swung open and out came two counselors, but it was not who the campers were expecting. With one BAT holding an EP board reading "BAT SHOWING" and the other holding our Junior totem, the two ran right up to the campers and let out a few screams. Both BATs proceeded to run out of the Wiggy in opposite directions, with one curling around the back and the other racing towards CIT. Hot on the BAT's tails were **Lyle Fuchs**, **Camden Hawkes** and **Luke Gagan**. Luke, being so close, shared a special moment with the BAT as he got two personal screams within five feet of the BAT before watching the masked bandit disappear into the distance.



On Saturday, the Junior tennis team of **Max Olson**, **Matthew Sonne**, **Leif Sonne**, **James Gasperini**, **Ollie Smith**, **Grant Cuneo** and **Luke Davis** along with **Uncles Nick S.**, **Jakob** and **Coach Z** travelled to Camp Indian Acres for a tennis match. Max played brilliantly at the number one singles position, outlasting his opponent 6-2 and 6-4. Ollie playing number two singles, faced a very tough, consistent opponent and went down in two close sets. Matthew out-slugged his singles opponent with consistent hard forehands. At this point, going into last two doubles matches, Winona held a slim 2-1 lead. Leif and Luke were paired at the number one doubles position with Grant and James holding the number two doubles spot. Both double teams fought hard and made some great shots, but in the end, Winona lost both matches. Although Winona lost the overall match 3-2, these "Staunch and True" tennis players battled hard and the coaches were very proud of their performance.

Also on Saturday, Junior Winona joined swimmers from Inty and Senior in the "Big W" Swim meet to compete against campers from Camps Wyonegonic, Skylemar and Wohelo. The boys swam in several different races, including individual age group events and relay races as a squad. **Will Hogue** had two particularly strong finishes in the individual breaststroke and freestyle events. **Matthew Sonne** placed second as an exhibition swimmer in the 25 butterfly stroke for 13 and under, and swam the backstroke length of the 13 and under medley relay. **Connor Sims** cracked the top three in the individual backstroke, and we saw other strong individual swims from **James Gasperini**, **Camden Hawkes** and **Gray Devine**. The Junior relay teams were no less competitive. After practicing their racing dives and starts all morning, **Timothy Paul**, **Jaime Piramoon**, **Luke Gagan** and **Nick Buggie** put in impressive performances against stiff competition. All in all, the swim meet was a success with Winona placing third by a six-point margin. Our Juniors were instrumental in getting the Winona team to the podium and should be proud of their perseverance.



Saturday night found Junior once again gathered for a unit campfire. Under the careful instruction of **Uncle Richard**, the boys learned and then belted out the Junior Winona song. They also shared laughs with one crazy Moustache Man (**Uncle Branden**) and his Moustache Boys (**Tristan Baker** and **Devon Hermes**) as they entertained the group with ridiculous jokes. Tent 4 (**James Gasperini**, **Paxton Hawkes**, **Wesley Letellier**, **Hugh Williams**, **Ronan Zweifler**), Tent 5 (**Jack Allen**, **Taber Gale**, **CJ Kaplan**, **Duncan May**, **Timmy Paul**) and Tent 11 (**Devon Hermes**, **Everett May**, **Hadrian Mitrovic**) took part presenting tent skits to the unit with their counselors. **Uncle Potz** regaled the unit with a classic tale of a BAT showing that included many of the fathers of current campers who were, in their day, counselors or campers themselves. Then the entire unit participated in solving mysteries with some help from **Aunt Rebecca**. **Uncle Jack** and **Uncle Richard** performed a skit that made the entire unit laugh and think at the same time. Uncle Branden, who led this campfire, did a Top Ten list featuring Junior camp. The night ended with the Men of Distinction, a tradition where counselors recognize campers who have exhibited character traits such as kindness, sportsmanship and selflessness. **Uncle Will** then played a bluegrass tune on his banjo. Thanks to all the counselors and boys for their participation, making this weekly event a continued success into the Second session.



As if the excitement of the week wasn't enough, Junior Winona squared-off against Camp Owatonna on the soccer pitch this week. Players **Aiden Bevin**, **James Gasperini**, **Hugh Williams**, **CJ Kaplan**, **Hadrian Mitrovic**, **Tristan Baker**, **Timmy Paul**, **Duncan May**, **Graves Fairman**, **Jack Allen**, **Lorenzo Vannoni**, **Will Hogue**, **Ian Lawrence** and **Phin Inman** suited up for the Winona squad. Junior played an incredible game on both ends. James and Tristan were particularly active on the field, contesting the ball, pressuring the opponent's defense and leading the counter attacks. Duncan and Phin proved to be figurative brick walls on defense, and CJ stopped some very tough shots while in goal. Aiden managed to put two goals in the back of the net, and James and Jack scored one each before time expired, ensuring a 4-1 Winona victory. Coaches **Uncles Will** and **James** reported that the boys displayed admirable sportsmanship throughout the contest.

(over for more news)

Monday was the day of a truly legendary trip for the men of Junior Winona! With **Uncles Branden, Shaw** and **Aunt Carmen** and campers **Max Soderstrom, Devon Hermes, Everett May, Matthew Sonne, Kasper Potter, Lyle Fuchs, Camden Hawkes, Grant Cuneo** and **Max Olson** accompanying them, the group departed for the rugged Grafton Notch for two challenging day hikes. After a quick trip up, the boys headed down the notorious *Eye-brow Trail*, which featured iron rungs, ropes and other fun obstacles for them to enjoy. Later that afternoon, they set-out for the *Table Rock Loop*. The trail up to Table Rock proved to be exceptionally challenging, with cliffs, caves, boulders and steep granite stairs to maneuver through. However, the trail would not hold them back for long and they ascended in unbelievable time. Atop Table Rock, they were treated to a magnificent view of Grafton Notch and Old Speck, one of the highest mountains in Maine. After a fast trip to the van, the boys headed back to camp with a feeling of tremendous gratification!



On Monday afternoon, **Uncles Matt, Stephen** and **Josh**, as well as CIT **Cousin Rishi**, took campers **Paxton Hawkes, Nuer Bol Rik, Alex Kirkwood, Mark Weaver, Gabe Henrich, James Kirby, Connor Sims** and **Beckett Hawkes** on a canoe trip to Kezar Pond. They started their trip at the Hemlock Covered Bridge, an incredible Maine historical landmark built in 1857 to serve the local horse-drawn carriages of the original farming community. The boys paddled up the old course of the Saco River into Kezar Pond. They were treated to wonderful weather and made short work of a paddle to a unique campsite, where they built expansive sandcastles. A scrumptious dinner of chicken/broccoli alfredo pasta was followed by s'mores and campfire games. Spirits were high as our intrepid trippers paddled back to the Hemlock Bridge the next day.



On Tuesday, we had a special guest visit Junior camp. Ray Reitze, wilderness expert and survivalist, came to work with campers during two of our activity periods. Campers **Luke Gagan, Taber Gale, Timmy Paul, Lyle Fuchs, Grant Cuneo, Frank Sherlock, Dylan Henwood, Jordan Woodfield, Ronan Zweifler, Peter King, Everett May** and **Hadrian Mitrovic** were accompanied by **Uncle James G.** and CIT **Cousin Carter**. Ray showed the boys a primitive technique of fire building: the bow drill. A bow drill uses the friction between two pieces of wood to create the heat, or spark, to light tinder that is located below. A string wrapped around one piece of wood gets the bow drill to move at incredible speeds to generate the necessary heat. Each tried the technique and was excited to learn an ancient art, not often seen today. They also learned how to turn basswood bark into cord and rope. The Junior gimp skills really paid off again!

The tribal competition continues to be exciting to watch this summer. The Delawares, under the leadership of **Tristan Baker, Aiden Bevin** and **Ollie Rieman-Ellis**, hold the top spot on the leader board over the Ojibways, Senecas and Mohawks. The Delawares may have the lead, but all the tribes have made huge strides this week with successful showings of the tribal stick. The gap between all the tribes has shrunk considerably in the Second session as the new campers have infused the proceedings with a new energy and events like Kingpin have helped some of the tribes. We'll be watching closely as we come down the stretch to Awards Night.

Captures and finds during stick showings for this week - **Everett May, Dylan Henwood, Leif Sonne, James Gasperini, Kasper Potter, Lorenzo Vannoni, Hunter Davis, CJ Kaplan** and **Ollie Reiman-Ellis**.

Congratulations to those listed below for completing all the necessary requirements to receive their Chipmunk, Beaver and for some, Eagle pins. All the boys are very keen to complete requirements in the various activities and be recognized in front of the entire camp.

Chipmunk: **Leif Sonne, Dylan Henwood, Luke Gagan, Ben Lemieux, Ollie Smith, Tabor Gale, Connor Sims**

Beaver: **Leif Sonne, Ben Lemieux, Ronan Zweifler**

Eagle: **Leif Sonne, Ben Lemieux, Ronan Zweifler**

In other award news, the boys of Tent 6 (**Luke Davis, Will Hogue, Ian Lawrence, Jaime Piramoon, Max Soderstrom**) under the leadership of **Uncles Branden** and **Nate** took the top spot of the tent score rankings, seizing the "Best Tent" award for the first time this summer. They were excited for the recognition and extra lodge (candy bar) that goes with the award. Everyone in the unit is doing well with keeping their tents and cabins looking good throughout the summer. Tent 6 will have to keep up the great work to keep the other tents at bay!

I conclude with the Second session Advance Guard group preparing to depart for the Aquaboggan Water Park. The excitement in the unit is evident! They are slathered with sunscreen, new Advance Guard t-shirts are on and all are ready to slip and slide the day away. The atmosphere here on Moose Pond is absolutely perfect and the boys who remain here for the day have an amazing choice of activities, including a favorite, tubing on the lake with **Uncle Tweedy**. Thanks again for sharing your sons with us this summer.

Until next week,

Jim Morse, Junior Unit Director

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

The BAT 1991