



JUNIOR NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 8, 2018



Boy noise, and all the wonderful activities attached to it, continues to fill every nook and cranny here at Junior Winona. This week, our Honors Mountain and Canoe trips went on grand adventures. Today we have the Sturdley Cup playoffs (Winona "street" hockey) and we will finish the day with tribal Air Band competition. Red/Gray week is in full swing as we hurtle to the finish line. Camp life continues to hum along and everyone is enjoying what camp has to offer. The boys are learning and maturing as they gain independence through all the varied experiences offered in Junior. It is a joy to watch them grow through the camp process.

The week that was...

Early Wednesday morning, campers **Ian Lawrence, Nick Buggie, James Gasperini, CJ Kaplan, Carson Kaplan, Hadrian Mitrovic, Dylan Henwood** and **Lucas Vannoni** departed for a fishing adventure on Moose Pond with **Uncles Robbie, Matt and Chip**. CJ and James started the trip by catching the first two fish, which were both smallmouth bass. After the early morning fishing, they stopped at Loon Isle and cooked bacon, egg, and cheese sandwiches for breakfast, then the boats traveled farther south to the end of Moose Pond. CJ, Lucas and James each were able to reel in a largemouth bass. Ian and Carson were lucky enough to catch a smallmouth bass.



Also on Wednesday, **Uncles Jordan, Shaw, James B.** and **CIT Cousin Trip** led campers **George Thompson, Leif Sonne, Ronan Zweifler, Timothy Paul, Duncan May, Ben Lemieux** and **Taber Gale** up the steep inclines and winding paths of Pleasant Mountain. Packed for a beautiful sunny day of hiking, the group left for the day-trip with the ambition to fill their bags and water bottles with blueberries. The boys ascended the trail with some extra incentive of M&Ms promised at the summit. Not surprising, they arrived ahead of schedule and had time to take photographs and play some camp games before it was time for the traditional mountain fare of cold cut sandwiches followed by Oreo cookies. After picking an incredible amount of blueberries, they were quite satisfied that they achieved their original goal. After lunch, the campers hiked the summit ridge across Pleasant Mountain to the top of the ski trail and saw the trails and lifts with only grass, not snow. From there, they descended down the trail running parallel with the slopes to find themselves back at the van with plenty of time to spare before dinner.



On a balmy Thursday morning, Junior campers **Jack Allen, Connor Simms, Graves Fairman, Beckett Hawkes, Paxton Hawkes, Ronan Zweifler, Ben Lemieux** and **Luke Davis** arose to the sounds of birds chirping as the sun peeked over the horizon. This early wakeup allowed for these staunch young men to depart the Junior Swim docks prior to the morning bell. Bound for the southern part of Moose Pond, the campers were filled with excitement. From two separate vessels the boys fished several choice locations. Finally, Luke landed the first fish of the day, a beautiful smallmouth bass. After releasing the fish, it was time for breakfast. Unfortunately upon arrival at Loon Isle, **Uncles Stephen and Nick** discovered there would be no breakfast sandwiches; they had forgotten the English muffins. However, with some quick thinking, and good old-fashioned Winona ingenuity, the bacon egg and cheese sandwiches became bacon egg and cheese omelets. Not only did Uncle Nick man the helm of the boat, he expertly manned the Coleman stove, safely delivering delicious omelets to the hungry campers. After devouring enough eggs to feed a small village, the campers set-off again.



Also on Thursday, Junior Winona continued their time-honored tradition of embarking on the Honors Mountain trip to Mount Washington. The Honors Trip (recognizing some of the strongest hikers in the unit), consisted of campers **Max Soderstrom, Peter King, Aiden Bevin, Matthew Sonne, Grant Cuneo, Lyle Fuchs, Everett May, Kasper Potter** and **Devon Hermes**. Joining them were **Uncles Branden, Jordan** and **CIT Cousin Trip**.

Day one saw unusually hot temperatures in the area as the boys made the rugged ascent from Pinkham Notch to their camp at Hermit Lake. The group was quickly met with a plot twist as some of the *Tuckerman's Ravine Trail* was closed due to bridge repairs. The solution was a partial ascent of the *Sherburne Ski Trail*, a steep and muddy slope that runs parallel to the intended route. As was expected, the Sherburne was handled well by the group and they arrived at Hermit Lake ahead of schedule.

(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.

Day two proved to be one of the toughest days of hiking Junior has done in many years. They made a plan to ascend Mount Washington via the *Tuckerman's Ravine Trail*, hike around the boulder strewn *Summit Cone* and descend via the notorious *Boot Spur* to spend a second night at Hermit Lake. With the chilly morning, the boys filled up with cocoa and oatmeal, and then went up the Ravine in no time. The hike up *Tuckerman's Ravine* is a tough one, with steep rock faces and dizzying heights. However, the strong young lads made quick work of the Ravine, and then up the *Summit Cone* to the top of Mount Washington. As the boys stood upon the great summit, they felt a huge sense of accomplishment as they noticed all the adults who had driven to the top via the auto road. After a quick trip around the *Summit Cone* to the *Boot Spur*, they began the descent down to the campsite. This featured a trail known as *The Boot Spur Link*, believed by some to be the toughest trail in the entire state of New Hampshire. However, the group showed expert mountain skills as they descended the rough pitch safely and swiftly.



On the final day of the Washington excursion, the boys awoke to some early morning pancakes as they readied themselves for the hike back to Pinkham Notch. They made it down in record time but as they approached the bottom, one last obstacle stood in their way. Due to the previously mentioned closure of the *Tuckerman's Ravine Trail*, the group had to descend the mud of the *Sherburne Ski Trail*. After conquering the *Sherburne* once and for all, the boys arrived in Pinkham to encounter the friendly face of **Uncle Matt C.** As Uncle Matt drove them back to the shores of Moose Pond, these "Staunch and True" campers felt a tremendous sense of gratification as they recalled their accomplishments from the previous three days.

The Honors Canoe Trip, much like the group on Mount Washington, recognized many of the campers that have exceeded expectations out on the lakes and rivers this summer. This trip set-out to Lake Umbagog in northern New Hampshire and was ably led by **Uncles Richard, James, Will** and **CIT Cousin Rishi**. On the trip, **James Kirby, George Thompson, Mark Weaver, James Gasperini, Hugh Williams, Nick Buggie, Camden Hawkes** and **Phin Inman** were treated to an epic adventure. On day one, the group drove north to the put-in on the Magalloway River and that is where the tale begins. What was supposed to be a two to two and a half hour paddle turned out to be a five-hour paddle along the river, but the boys persevered and handled it like true champs. When they made it to the campsite, they helped set-up, while the counselors cooked some delicious quesadillas snacks. Games and swimming followed for the afternoon and they were treated to fire grilled chicken and potatoes for dinner. To say the least, everyone slept well that night!



Friday Morning, the campers woke to a hearty breakfast of eggs, sausage, potatoes and onions. After packing up camp, the campers enjoyed a peaceful paddle to their next campsite where BLTs and more quesadillas were cooked, and they had a brief rest. The campers swam the day away and had a feast of chili with rice, orange brownies and s'mores. Sitting by the campfire, they enjoyed camp songs, stories and games.

Saturday proved to be another exciting day as the weather presented another challenge. Even through the steady rain, the campers were able to help cook a pancake breakfast, pack up camp and get the canoes expertly packed. Gliding through the raindrops, the canoers were able to make it to the take-out in record time. What should have taken two hours, took them fifty-five minutes. A "Staunch and True" group for sure! The sun finally peeked out and everyone warmed up while they waited to be picked up by **Uncle Potz**. These Junior campers should be incredibly proud of their accomplishments. Well done boys!



Saturday night found Junior, once again, gathered for a campfire, loudly singing camp songs, listening to stories and sharing memories from the week. Tent 2 (**Hunter Davis, Gabe Henrich, Dylan Henwood, George Thompson**), Tent 5 (**Jack Allen, Taber Gale, CJ Kaplan, Duncan May, Timmy Paul**), Tent 10 (**Aiden Bevin, Ben Lemieux, Ollie Rieman-Ellis, Leif Sonne, Isaac Yombe**) and our current CITs planned and delivered skits to the unit. We also had The Time Travelers come for a visit and had the wise cracking Mountain Mike attend as well. To say the least the laughs were plentiful, echoing through the treetops.

The entire unit participated in solving two-minute mysteries with **Aunt Rebecca** and then listened as the counselors passed the sharing stick, recognizing our "Men of Distinction" of the week. The "Men of Distinction" recognizes those campers that have gone above and beyond to help their fellow campers, or the unit as a whole. The talking stick also found its way into the hands of plenty of campers, as they wanted to recognize each other for kind words and deeds. The sincere comments from so many made this night extra special. The weather cooperated and the gathering was a great way to end our day.

On Sunday, many in the unit participated in the annual George Sudduth Memorial Wyonegonic/Winona Road Race. The course is 4.2 miles and is hilly, a challenge for any skill level. I was impressed by the campers and staff that took part in the event. I apologize if I missed anyone, as some runners did not report to the scorer's table at the end of the race. There were over 150 runners in this year's event. From the race results, those that completed the race for Junior were **Uncles Nate, Nick, Chip, Rob, Jack, Jakob** and **Aunt Carmen**, along with campers **Ben Lemieux, Will Hogue, Lyle Fuchs, Devon Hermes, Leif Sonne, Nuer Bol Rik, Jack Allen, Duncan May, Ian Lawrence, Aiden Bevin, Max Olson, Camden Hawkes, Tristan Baker, Matthew Sonne**, and **Timmy Paul**. Special recognition goes to camper Will Hogue who finished in 31:13, which gave him 16th overall! Congratulations to those that attempted, and finished, this very impressive challenge.



Sunday evening found the entire camp gathered at the Cobb Memorial Building for Vespers, presented by Junior Winona. This summer, the counselors and campers chose to focus on empathy, understanding and inclusion, and how these traits allow for campers (and staff) to fit in to this place we love, called Winona. **Uncles Xavier and Potz** created our presentation and enlisted the help of **Uncles Chip, Richard, Stephen and Matt**, along with campers **Timmy Paul, Lorenzo Vannoni, Jordan Woodfield, Luke Gagan, Grant Cuneo, Devon Hermes, Paxton Hawkes, Wesley Letellier, Lucas Vannoni and Dylan Henwood**. The Junior Players presented a skit in four parts that dramatized the challenges of entering a new environment like Winona and the benefits that are reaped when we take the time to get to know others - to empathize for and understand them. The service was both funny and informative, making everyone who attended take a moment to think about what it means "to walk in another's shoes".

Sunday also found **Uncles Chip, Richard and Josh** brought **Nuer Bol Rik, Grant Cuneo, Kasper Potter, Ollie Smith, Nick Buggie, Lyle Fuchs, Alex Kirkwood and Lucas Vannoni** back to Big Rock. The counselors received help from **Uncles Nick and Rob** who cooked chicken pita pockets and started the fire so as to enjoy delicious s'mores. The special guest for this group was **Uncle Spencer Ordway** who brought all the fixings for the special dessert.



On Monday, **Uncles Rob, Jakob, Jordan and Aunt Natasha** brought Tent 1 (**Graves Fairman, Luke Gagan, Beckett Hawkes, Carson Kaplan, James Kirby**) and Tent 2 (**Hunter Davis, Gabe Henrich, Dylan Henwood, George Thompson**) to the Big Rock campsite. **Uncles Rob and Richard** cooked another feast, topped-off by the usual marshmallow and chocolate specialty dessert. This group had fun around the campfire.

For the second time in two years, Junior ecologists went to the Maine Wildlife Park. **Everett May, Duncan May, Lucas Vannoni, Lorenzo Vannoni, Carson Kaplan, Peter King, Aiden Bevin, James Kirby, Wesley Letellier, Hunter Davis and Camden Hawkes** were led by **Uncles James G., Nate and Aunt Carmen** with CIT Cousin **Stephen** for this different sort of adventure. While at the park, the campers saw different owls that are native to Maine, and were amazed by the size of both the golden eagle and bald eagle (both injured in the wild and unable to be released). They also watched a baby moose and two fawns being fed. After the campers had their lunches, they fed bears and ducks, and observed an albino raccoon, a porcupine and a coyote. The counselors said feeding the fish in the park hatchery proved to be the group favorite. On their way back to camp, they were treated to ice cream in Bridgton. The boys cannot wait to return next year!



Monday morning, **Uncles Jordan, Josh and CIT Cousin Will** continued to provide an opportunity for the boys to experience nature as they took campers **Camden Hawkes, Paxton Hawkes, Beckett Hawkes, Timmy Paul, CJ Kaplan, Nuer Bol Rik, Hadrian Mitrovic and Dylan Henwood** to trek up Jockey Cap. Despite the warm weather, they summited the peak in near record time. At the summit, the boys enjoyed spectacular views, including the ridgelines of Pleasant Mountain, South Moat and even Mount Washington. After the warm hike and a gourmet lunch, the campers and staff enjoyed an extra long dip in New Hampshire's Emerald Pool. A fun time was had by all!

Monday also saw our canoe trippers head out on the lake again, this time to Loon Isle. **Uncles Stephen, Jack, Will and CIT Cousin Parker** brought **Tristan Baker, Matthew Sonne, Max Soderstrom, Grant Cuneo, Jack Allen, Jaime Piramoon, Mark Weaver, Nick Buggie and Will Hogue** on the last canoe trip of the 2018 season. The boys started with a strong headwind, but clear conditions. Upon their arrival to the island, the boys set-up camp and enjoyed a lunch of gourmet Crispy Chicken Sangys (i.e. "sandwich", a variation of the classic Winona Chicken "bomber" patties). After the filling and nutritious lunch, the trippers took a break for rest hour. Campers read in hammocks, played cards, and napped in preparation for the afternoon ahead. Due to the hot temperatures and humidity, a lake swim was in order. After an hour of splashing about, these young trippers got changed and set to work constructing the campfire while Uncle Stephen prepared the main course: a chicken and broccoli pesto pasta. After the meal, the boys cleaned up, the fire was lit, s'mores were had and stories were told.

Although counselors had planned on a later morning with some extra time to catch up on much needed sleep, campers were up right after the sunrise. Tents were packed-up along with dry bags as Uncle Stephen manned the grill once again for his world-renowned breakfast tacos. The canoes were then loaded and the trippers were met with a strong tailwind, allowing for a swift return to camp. Their lightning-fast return allowed for a visit to the Snack Shack and mail call upon arrival back to Junior camp.

Tuesday marked a bittersweet occasion, the final mountain trip of the summer. **Uncles Branden, Robbie and CIT Cousin Pat** lead the way, guiding campers **Luke Davis, Graves Fairman, Leif Sonne, Taber Gale, Jordan Woodfield, Luke Gagan, Peter King, Ollie Smith and Hadrian Mitrovic**. The group set out for Eagle Mountain, a lightly traveled peak overlooking the town of Jackson, New Hampshire. They arrived at the trailhead at the Eagle Mountain Inn around lunchtime so they stopped for lunch first and started hiking soon after. At first, the trail was wide open and flat, but it quickly became steep and narrow. As the group reached the top, they were treated to stunning views of the Eastern White Mountains, particularly Mount Kearsarge and Moat Mountain. The hikers had snacks and then descended back to the van. The next goal in mind was a swim stop, but to their dismay, the weather had turned. As a decent alternative, they came back to camp and to eat Oreos, then played on the shark mat when the sun came out. It was truly a leisurely, but pleasant end to the mountain trip season!

(over for more news)



The boys of Junior continue to work on keeping their tents clean and tidy to garner points for the "Best Tent" competition. This week found both Tent 6 (**Luke Davis, Will Hogue, Ian Lawrence, Jaime Piramoon, Max Soderstrom**) and Tent 10 (**Aiden Bevin, Ben Lemieux, Ollie Rieman-Ellis, Leif Sonne, Isaac Yombe**) atop the leader board to receive the coveted prize and recognition (an extra candy bar). Next week's score will include trunk pack-out and other things involved with preparations for heading home. Hard to believe we are in the home stretch for the summer!

A special shout-out goes to **Tristan Baker** who was chosen to participate with an all-camp sailing regatta team that travelled to compete in the Camp Agawam Regatta. He did well with his older Winona counterparts and came back proud of the achievement.

In other news, **Hunter Davis** caught the biggest fish of the camp season, a whopper that was 20 inches and 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds! We'll see if someone can top that during the last week of camp. My money will be on **Luke Davis** (Hunter's brother), who has displayed his fishing skills throughout Second session.

The boys of Junior continue to work hard fulfilling the requirements in our many activities to earn Chipmunks, Beavers and for some, Eagles. Pins were awarded in the following levels this week:

Chipmunks - **Everett May, Nuer Bol Rik, Devon Hermes, Taber Gale, Gray Devine, Kasper Potter, Graves Fairman, Wesley Persons, Alex Kirkwood, Ian Lawrence, Will Hogue**

Beavers - **Everett May, Nuer Bol Rik, Devon Hermes, Tristan Baker, Gray Devine**

Eagles - **Everett May, Nuer Bol Rik, Devon Hermes, Tristan Baker**

Shout-outs to Everett, Devon and Nuer for achieving their trifecta (receiving all three pins).

The tribal competition continues to be very entertaining to watch this summer. The Senecas have snatched the lead from the Delawares. The Senecas may have the lead, but the tribes have made strides this week with creative showings of the tribal stick. We'll be watching closely. Can the Senecas hold on through the Sturdley Cup, Air Band and the Treasure Hunt? How will the last week of stick showings pan out? Only time, and the work of the tribes, will help shed light on this answer.

Captures and finds this week: **Lorenzo Vannoni (x2), Jack Allen, Ben Lemieux, Kasper Potter, James Gasperini (x2), Nuer Bol Rik and Frank Sherlock.**

I hope this newsletter finds your family well as the summer winds down. Your boys will be returning soon with tales of their adventures here on the shores. My hope is that years from now those adventures will be kept in their hearts and shared around your dining tables, or even family campfires, at home.

Until next week,
Jim Morse, Junior Unit Director
(Wi 1982-1989, 1991-1995, 2008-2018)
The BAT 1991

