



JUNIOR NEWSLETTER

JULY 18, 2018



Greetings from Junior Winona. Mid-season is a time we transition to a new group of boys. It will be sad to say goodbye to friends we have made during this first part of the summer, but as I have learned over the years, this special place has a way of always bringing us back.

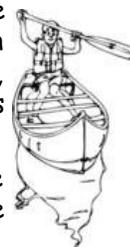


The past week was one that was packed with lots of fun and we look forward to the same in our second session. Before we say farewell to some of the boys, a look back on the week that was here in Junior camp:



Junior had two exciting Moose Pond fishing trips this week. Wednesday morning **Uncles Nick, Robbie and John** led anglers **Cooper Holton, Oliver Eastman, Nuer Bol Rik, Hadrian Mitrovic, Duncan May, Luke Gagan and Michael Covington**. Friday morning found anglers **Ben Lemieux, Dylan Henwood, Lochlann O'Connell, Devon Hermes, Axel Lundin, Jaak Rannik, Leif Sonne and Oliver Bean** heading out with **Uncles Nick, Robbie and Chip**. Both groups left the Junior docks before the rest of camp was awake, hoping to find all the choice fishing spots. The groups stopped after some fishing at Loon Isle for a big breakfast of bacon, egg and cheese sandwiches. Each trip caught a few fish before breakfast and eagerly anticipated exploring the south end of Moose Pond after filling their bellies. By the end of the two trips the anglers tallied an astounding sixteen fish. For many it was their first fish; an experience they will remember forever. **Cooper and Axel** won the awards for largest fish on their respective trips. The boys returned to Winona before lunch with tales of reeling in the big one, and for some, the one that got away.

Thursday's beautiful morning started with some brave campers setting off the shores to travel down to Nort's Cove campsite, located at the south end of Moose Pond near our sister camp, Wyonegonic. **Uncles Matt, Shaw and Nate** brought campers **George Thompson, Henry Lamphier, Ronan Zweifler, Luis Latour, Duncan May, Nuer Bol Rik, Roberto Fernandez Banuchi and Yubo Gao**. The canoers chose to set out early and were lucky to have clear skies and the wind at their backs. The leaders were impressed with the group's ability to persevere through the heat and the distance of the paddle. They sang Winona songs the entire way and arrived in record time. All put forth wonderful effort and had fun at the campsite. They enjoyed delicious meals, swimming off the sandy cove, playing games, roasting marshmallows for s'mores, and sharing stories around the campfire.



The paddle back to Winona Friday morning was just as beautiful and full of more songs and stories. The counselors want to give special recognition to **Nuer** for ably steering the lone all-camper canoe from the stern throughout the entire trip.

Also on Thursday, **Uncles Lime and Branden** led seven mountain trippers (**Carl Hoff, Sam Rather, Tristan Baker, Victor Peney, Oliver Eastman, Max Rosenbaum, Max Olson**) to Waterville Valley, New Hampshire, for two individual day hikes and a stay at Uncle Branden's family home in that area. Beautiful weather provided the backdrop for the two hikes that have never been done before in Junior Winona. In fact, they were new trail mileage for Uncle Lime who has hiked and logged nearly half of the 1,600 miles of trails in the White Mountains. The first day they went to the nearby popular twin peaks of Welsh and Dickey. Although both summits are less than 3,000', they have lots of exposed granite, which makes for very exciting climbing and views of beautiful scenery. This was also the first trip of the year in which blueberries were in abundance.

The second day hike was a more remote trek to the East Ponds near Scar Ridge and Mount Osceola. The group lowered their boy noise volume at the ponds to absorb the peacefulness of the wilderness for themselves and the few other families visiting the area. Devouring all of the steak portions, the large bowl of peas, tater tots, and 18 dinner rolls with impressive breakfast portions, the hikers learned the need for many more calories per day when out in the mountains. Each returned with smiles from this unique mountain trip.

On Friday, **Jaak Rannik, Ollie Reiman-Ellis, Ben Lemieux, Nathanael Drake, Everett May, James Gasperini, Michael Covington, Hadrian Mitrovic, Rafa Saujet and Lorenzo Vannoni** took to the Ga-Ga-Ga court against Camp Wigwam, for the first ever Ga-Ga-Ga game against another camp. Ga-Ga-Ga is truly a camp game as you do not see it offered in other venues, such as school. The game requires athleticism, quick reactions and a dose of teamwork. **Uncle Robbie** and **Coach Z** created a match that consisted of three sets, each featuring five different games. Winona ended up winning the three series by a staggering margin. Uncle Robbie and Coach Z cited spectacular plays from Everett, Michael and Rafa as keys to the victory. The entire Winona team played well and displayed good sportsmanship. Having all that practice on the court during free time paid off. Well done!

Saturday found the campers assembled in the Junior Wiggy for activity announcements. These announcements keep the campers focused on the counselors, conveniently allowing other surprises to happen. During assembly, and all its usual wackiness, our resident "man in black" snuck out of the arts and crafts room and unleashed the signature scream from the back of the gathered campers. Startled at first, the campers rallied and chased The BAT out the back door of the Wiggy. **Uncle Matt** did his best to block, but **Victor Peney** and **Jaak Rannik** somehow managed to slip through to get close to the escaping BAT. The BAT got away again, but the daring of the "showing" excited the campers which kept them busy guessing the identity of the masked man as they returned to the Wiggy.

(over for more news)

Campfire on Saturday found Junior around a beautiful fire built by **Uncle Richard**, with stars peeking down on them. Counselors brought new characters "Knock Knock Knuckles" and "Canoe Stu" to entertain & **Uncle Doodle** (aka **Uncle Branden**) presented a new top 10 list highlighting how Juniors could defeat Thanos (Avengers villain). **Aunt Rebecca** read a two-minute mystery and Tent 2 (**Maksym Borodin, Dain Gutmann, Dylan Henwood, Rafa Saujet, George Thompson**) were the first super sleuths to crack the case. Tents 3 (**Noah Bruchou, Shema Iranzi, Oscar Jennings, Henry Lamphier, Michael Vannoy**), 7 (**Michael Covington, Carl Hoff, Roland Jennings, Peter McDermott, Lucas Vannoni**), and 8 (**Nuar Bol Rik, Nathanael Drake, David Phillips, Sam Rather**) performed in front of their peers in creative and funny skits. Counselors passed the talking stick and give out "Men of Distinction" shout outs to campers that exhibited exemplary character during the week. Campfire closed with music by **Uncle Walker** on his guitar, then **Uncles Lime** and **Nate** singing the words of Taps in perfect harmony. A huge thanks to all the campers and counselors for making this weekly tradition such a smashing success!

Monday had our first session Honors canoe trip depart for Cupsuptic Lake. This trip is by invite only for those campers that have exhibited behaviors on canoe trips that put them in a special category. **Uncles Walker, Will, Ike** and Cousin **CIT Connor** led campers **Nuar Bol Rik, Grahame Bean, Henry Lamphier, Timmy Paul, George Thompson, Ronan Zweifler, James Kirby, Ben Lemieux** and on a three-day, two-night expedition. Learning outdoor living skills while paddling in the beautiful wilderness of Maine, they experienced some windy conditions but paddled hard and fought through it. The trippers had scrumptious meals, clear nights and lots of fun in the great outdoors. After dinner on both nights, stories and jokes were told by the fire, games were played and Uncle Walker brought out his guitar. Despite the raindrops on day two, they returned to Winona with many great memories of their experience during the longest trip of the first half.

Monday also found the mountain trippers at it again as **Uncles Lime, Doodle** and **Robbie** led **Oliver Bean, James Gasperini, Jaak Rannik, Rodrigo Melo Garcia, Roberto Fernandez Banuchi, Peter King, Oliver Reiman-Ellis, Victor Peney** and **Charles BeVier** to Rumford Whitecap. Although only 2,200' in elevation, the beginning elevation is at 600' making it a more difficult hike than its elevation might imply. The entire group did an outstanding job of hiking efficiently during the 2.4-mile ascent, which took them over many open sections where frequent views and blueberries were available. A more challenging downhill trail made for a total of 5.2 hiking miles for the day. A swim at Bear Pond capped off the warm day. Though a difficult hike for some, everyone returned to Winona with a major sense of accomplishment.

Shortly after lunch on Monday, the Junior basketball team traveled to Camp Wigwam for their first game of the season. The team consisted of **Max Olson, Max Rosenbaum, Shalom Kwitonda, Shema Iranzi, Michael Covington, Tristan Baker, Oliver Eastman, Dain Gutmann, Nathanael Drake** and **Leif Sonne**. After a tough start, which saw Winona fall behind by 15 points at half, the team became energized in the second half by the tenacious defense of Dain and Oliver. Tristan led the offensive attack, making almost half of the team's baskets for the game. Despite their efforts, Winona came up short, but ended on a very positive note due to the vast improvements made in the second half. Demonstrating great sportsmanship, they left the game with smiles and headed back to camp for a swim in the familiar waters of Moose Pond.

Tuesday morning brought a burst of excitement as The BAT made another visit to Junior. This "showing" found the boys in morning line up, listening to announcements before heading to breakfast. The BAT burst forth from the counselor area and sprinted up to the back of the Red/Gray lines. With help from **Uncles Matt** and **Robbie**, our favorite masked man uncorked a "wake-you-up" scream and quickly turned to make his escape. The entire unit wheeled around in their lines to give chase, and hopefully, get a closer look. This time it was **James Gasperini** that got a little too close for the counselor's liking. James weaved through the blocking and was right there until the very end. The BAT vanished down to the CIT area and the boys had a chance to tell tales as they walked to breakfast.

Full Chipmunks this week were awarded to **Viktor Rannik, James Kirby, Luke Wetter, Dain Gutmann, James Gasperini, Oliver Bean, Michael Covington, Shema Iranzi, Oliver Riemann-Ellis, Jaak Rannik** and **Josh Feng**. Campers have been working hard on the different requirements in activities. Many have advanced into the Beaver and Eagle requirements with some of the activities, which are harder and take longer to accomplish. I'm pleased to announce that I awarded our first Full Beaver, requiring a higher level of proficiency and difficulty in five different activities, to **Jack Wetter**. Jack was the first in all of camp to receive this distinction. "Brix Brax" to Junior for their continued hard work in the activities.

In other award news, Tent 8 (**Nuar Bol Rik, Nathanael Drake, David Phillips, Sam Rather**), once again received top honors for their hard work in the tent and the Best Tent distinction that accompanies sweeping, bed making and general tidying. The boys were excited for the recognition. **Uncles Chip** and **Richard** were very proud of the top-notch work of the group as the boys exhibited outstanding teamwork and dedication. Everyone in the unit is doing well with keeping their tents and cabins looking shipshape this summer. Keep working hard!

Tribal competition is heating to a boil in Junior! **Nathanael Drake, Cooper Holton, Lorenzo Vannoni (x2)**, and **Jaak Rannik** had captures over the past week. The Delawares remain in the lead and the tribes are keen on capturing the stick to close the margin. We have had a variety of showings this week as the leaders and their advisors are coming up with more and more creative ways to "show" the stick and receive points. They have been doing a great job in the competitions as they truly understand the nuances of the game. It will be exciting to see how the transition to second half affects the standings. I can't wait to see who comes out on top and receives the coveted recognition on the banner.

The sun is shining, the breezes are blowing, another fishing expedition is out early, our first ecology trip is getting ready to depart and the boys are enjoying many other activities here in Junior. Tomorrow afternoon we look forward to the Winona 500, a new take on a very old tradition that has been a smash success over the last few summers. I promise more details on that exciting event in the next newsletter.

Until next week,

Jim Morse Jr. - Unit Director
(Wi 1982-1989, 1991-1995, 2008-2018)
The BAT 1991

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.