



SENIOR NEWSLETTER

JULY 29, 2018



Greetings from Senior Winona! Our first week of Second session was filled with many new opportunities.

As I welcomed back the Mooselookmeguntic canoe trip yesterday, **Andrew Shanahan** told me about the trip. This was his first extended canoe trip: "The lake was really nice. The food was great and it was fun to camp with my friends. I wasn't really sure at first what to expect. Now, I'm looking forward to the next one!" Earlier in the week I witnessed another milestone. Outside my cabin I heard, "pedal, pedal, pedal!" As I stood up from my desk, I observed **TJ Beltran** being coached by **Uncle Alex S.** Both were on mountain bikes. TJ found his balance a few minutes later, riding for the very first time, later explaining that he lives in an urban area. "There aren't too many places to ride at home." He was beaming! This made me wonder how many other campers have tried a new activity this summer.

So, here's a list of the first-ers from this summer at camp: **Kristian Baker** kayaking; **Eric Paradis** trying both riflery and kayaking; **Ian Hoffman** learning to rock climb; **Jack Campbell** and **Aidan Larrabee** trying mountain biking; **Ethan Cyr** playing tennis; **Oscar Katzinski** rolling a kayak; **John Benson** climbing a mountain; **Tanner Roper** campcraft; **Miles Brown** regatta sailing; **Baird Hruska** and **Kevin Allsopp** an overnight kayak trip; **Daniel Schlumberger** and **John Mahar** participating on an overnight canoe trip; **Rieky Bol Rik** and **Colby Beliveau** an overnight technical rock trip; **Eduardo da Silva Witze**, **Max Jones** and **Daniel Kearney** playing in a lacrosse game; **Lucas Sudduth** going to Junior Maine Guide testing camp; and **Elijah De Hart** trying stand-up paddle boarding. Learning with friends from counselors who are passionate about their hobby is a true recipe for success!

Here's a look at this week in Senior Winona:

At Sunday Service we officially welcomed our Second session campers. A summary of Red/Gray and tribal standings was also mentioned. In Red/Gray competition the First session results are quite lopsided with Reds dominating most Evening Programs (EPs). Leading the Reds are Co-Captains **Kristian Baker** and **Miles Brown** with Lieutenant **John Benson**. The Grays' Co-Captains are **Cooper Dutton** and **Ben Stevens**, and their Co-Lieutenants are **Matt McVane** and **Will Thompson**. In tribal activity the action has been "creative." Three tribes have scored more points through the First session than in all of the 2017 season. The Mohawk leaders are Chief **Nuar Bol Bol** and Sub-Chief **Gleb Gamsheev**. The Ojibway Co-Chiefs are **James Thompson** and **Ben Chadwick** and their Sub-Chief is **Jack Campbell**. The Senecas are led by Chiefs **Carl Bruening** and **Nick Davidson** and Sub-Chief **Henry Clark**. The Delaware tribe has Co-Chiefs **Harry Chadwick** and **Owen De Cordova** and Sub-Chief **Mason Cilley**.



On Monday, campers **Ben Stevens**, **Lucas Sudduth**, **Owen De Cordova** and **Kevin McDonald** headed north to Oquossoc with aspirations of achieving the status of Junior Maine Guide (JMG). Over five days, the young men took written, oral and physical tests to prove to the testers they have what it takes to join a long line of Winona JMGs. Whether it was setting up a personal shelter in the pouring rain, taking bearings and drawing their own maps in the ripping wind, or proving their canoe prowess, the boys persevered through it all. **Uncle Ned B.** had only great things to say about the many meals they prepared themselves, as well as high hopes for the four candidates. They returned Friday tired, but hopeful and proud of their accomplishments and the hard work they put in while chasing their JMG dream! Final results will be announced this week.

Senior's mountain trips program kicked off Second session on Monday with an excursion to scenic Bald Mountain near Lake Webb. **Uncles Niko, Sam** and **Alex** led **Nuar Bol Bol**, **Rieky Bol Rik**, **Eduardo Da Silva Witzke**, **Ian Hoffman**, **Max Jones**, **Will Jurek**, **Juan Ignacio Loynaz Kaehler**, **John Mahar**, **Rodrigo Mata Keri**, **Eric Paradis**, **Eli Rountree** and **Andrew Shanahan** up the peak's steep northeast ridge to the open summit ledges, where the cloud cover created an aura of mystery. On their way back to Winona the wayfarers stopped at the famous Frenchman's Hole on the Sunday River, where nearly all took the plunge into the unique, horseshoe-shaped pool.

Monday night, in the first official Evening Program (EP) of Second session, the Reds & Grays squared off to play the popular game *Steal the Bacon*. The Grays started the Second session in the win column!

Marvelous Mount Crawford was the destination of Tuesday's hike in White Mountain National Forest. **Uncles Sam** and **Alex** led **John Benson**, **Harry Chadwick**, birthday boy **Henry Clark**, **Nick Davidson**, **Gleb Gamsheev**, **Matt McVane** and **Bill Strachan** across the Saco and up the historic Davis Path to the beautiful blueberry-laden summit ledges. Après hike, the boys traveled by van through storied Crawford Notch where to their surprise they espied a big black bear with not one, not two, but three cubs! The group continued along and capped the fine day with a swim at Upper Falls, where a good time was had by all.



(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.

Tuesday, **Uncles PJ** and **Garrett** took **Ethan Heath, Ian Hoffman, Oscar Katzinski, Cole Vaupel** and **Bob Verniers** on an exciting rock climbing day trip. The team made a slight change in schedule due to rainy conditions. When the rock climbers arrived at Cathedral in New Hampshire, the granite was too wet. Instead of climbing, the boys explored a few unique features of the cliff and then worked on the technical aspects of climbing. Later in the day they traveled to Jockey Cap, which was significantly drier. Uncles PJ & Garrett set two challenging routes and the climbers worked these routes for a few hours, advancing higher with each attempt. While the day's weather was less than optimal, the campers were rock stars and stayed positive. Overall: a fantastic trip!



On Tuesday, **Sam Marwill, Thomas Chassat, Sasha Barinsky** and **Grayson Cuneo** traveled with a few Inty campers to Limington and Steep Falls. Spirits were high that morning as kayakers expected big water due to the ongoing rain. Upon arrival at Steep falls the yakers worked on their ferry gliding skills. Sam took his first paddle down a waterfall, not an easy maneuver in a kayak! After fine-tuning some new skills (edging and how to use a throw bag), the kayakers took a waterside lunch break of Italian subs and then a swim. After lunch the boys paddled down to Limington, surfed in the waves and played in the swift river current. On Thursday, **Kevin Allsopp, Kristian Baker, Nick Beliveau, Baird Hruska, Will Jurek, Bob Verniers** and **Sam Marwill** also spent the day at Limington and Steep falls. On both trips, the boys came back very happy!

Also on Tuesday, **Jenoup Bol Bol, Jack Bonnefond, Andy Deng, Buay Koak, Ben Libby, John Mahar, Daniel Schlumberger** and **Andrew Shanahan** with **Uncles D. Todd, Todd, Ingi** and **CIT Cousin Rijs** departed camp after breakfast for the drive to Mooselookmeguntic Lane where they were met by heavy headwind which they handled with ease. They spent the first night at Birch Point campsite where Andy and Buay started peeling shrimp for the chicken shrimp stirfry they cooked for dinner that night. The next morning they got up early, but the wind was already blowing and they fought it again to Upper Dam where they portaged into Richardson Lake. On Richardson they finally had tailwind which helped them to their next campsite, Three Pines, where they spent the next two nights. The first night they cooked chili for dinner and had s'mores for dessert. The next morning they had a sleep-in and had French toast and strawberries before heading out in the canoes to scout some possible campsites on Big Beaver Island. The next day they were awoken by the sun shining and got going quickly, packing out their campsite and heading to the takeout spot just across the lake. The boys on the trip faced some incredible weather conditions but didn't give up and came out on top.

Camp Council for the week was selected on Tuesday. Receiving this honor to represent Senior Winona were **Ty Slayton, Eduardo da Silva Witzke, Ben Chadwick, Nicholas Beliveau** and **Ellison Roper**. These Council members prepared an excellent batch of popcorn and served up ice-cold soda to accompany the movie, *Spiderman*!

The "Sleeper" Sandwich Range Whitewater Hiking Extravaganza embarked Wednesday for the wild White Mountains. **Uncle James** safely delivered **Uncles Sammy, Alex, CIT Cousin Ben** and campers **Sasha Barinsky, Ben Chadwick, José Garcia, PJ Henwood, Tanner Roper, Eli Rountree** and **Cole Vaupel** to the remote Flat Mountain Pond trailhead, whence they followed Pond Brook, swam and braved stormy weather before reaching their lean-to at Flat Mountain Pond's scenic west end and feasting on pulled pork and zesty guacamole.

After the rains abated Thursday, the boys proceeded to traverse around the pond and were observing a great blue heron when all of a sudden they were surprised by a splash of a moose in the water! Waters remained high the second day and Uncles Sammy and Alex were duly impressed by the campers' teamwork and expedition behavior amid challenging conditions: the boys even worked together to build a log bridge at one river crossing. In the afternoon the group ascended Mount Whiteface and the counselors were again impressed by the boys' attitude and fortitude over the course of the steep climb. From their campsite near the peak the group admired the expansive view beneath the full moon.

On their final day the mountain trippers summited four more peaks--East and West Sleeper, and South and Middle Tripyramid--before seeking cover in the valley of Sabbaday Brook from one more storm. Thanks to the rain, though, Sabbaday Falls was at its most spectacular and sublime, and the group gazed in awe at the thousands of cubic meters of white water hurtling down the volcanic rock of the basalt dike. Upon meeting their trusty driver **Uncle JK**, the boys regaled him with tales of their awesome adventure.

On Wednesday, the first mountain bike trip of Second session traveled to the Pudding Pond trails in North Conway, New Hampshire. **Ellison Roper, Elijah DeHart, Ethan Cyr, Oscar Katzinski** and **Uncles Alex S. and Sam D.** warmed up on a trail called *Sticks and Stones*, which is a short loop with enjoyable rock features that afford the boys the opportunity to practice balance and other skills. After riding the loop the group ventured up *Cardiac Hill*, which proved just as thrilling as its name suggests. The downhill was well worth the strenuous uphill climb. The riders flew down the technical trail jumping over roots and rocks. Upon completing this segment of the ride they moved on to a new location. From Hurricane Mountain they made their way to jumps at the bottom of the *Red Tail Trail*. All the campers were having a great time, and after a bit of convincing Elijah hit the jumps and was proud that he had conquered his fears. Evading inclement weather, the group departed early for a quick dip in the Swift River before returning to camp.



On Wednesday, **Uncle Sam S.** and campers **Guillaume Kopff, Miles Brown, Bob Verniers, Nicholas Beliveau, Charlie Collins** and **Matt McVane** traveled to Camp O-AT-KA for what would be a hotly contested tennis match. After taking the trophy at the Camp Indian Acres tournament earlier this summer, the bar was set high for this group of experienced players. Bob came out with excellent control and power as he overwhelmed his opponent en route to an 8-0 victory, giving Winona an early edge. Guillaume began slowly against a very strong player, then later turned up the heat with a flurry of winners and competitive fire that couldn't be matched, finishing with an 8-2 win. Miles struggled to find his stroke early, finding himself down 6-2 with the momentum stacked against him. After a quick water break and some refocusing, the crowd witnessed an inspiring performance in which he stormed back to force a tiebreak. His opponent was fortunate to weather the storm, yet a phenomenal match it was! The doubles pair of Charlie and Matt made for a very entertaining contest, as they both possess a knack for flare and creativity. After a long series of volleys, lobs and drop shots, the boys eventually fell to a close 8-6 loss. Bob and Nick were then called upon to break the 2-2 tie and made quick work of their matchup with an impressive 8-1 finish. Congratulations to the Winona tennis team on a fantastic, undefeated season!

Thursday the Winona sail team traveled down Moose Pond for our first regatta of Second session, the Wyonegonic regatta! A solid day of wind was unfortunately stifled by plethora of rain; however, our sailors persevered. The skippers consisted of **Harry Chadwick, Henry Clark** and **Nick Davidson** and their crews were **Matt McVane, Gleb Gamsheev** and **Miles Brown**. At the end of the day the weather got the best of them and Winona finished in 6th place. Our team has its sights set on next week when we host the Winona Regatta!

Rieky Bol Rik, Mason Cilley, Nuar Bol Bol, Colby Beliveau and **Taylor Stansfield** joined **Uncles PJ and Garrett** on a three-day trip to Pawtuckaway. On Thursday, with the rock being too wet for climbing, the group went on a nature walk, finding frogs, newts and myriad other woodland creatures. Following up the unique afternoon with delicious chicken fajitas, the group prepared to make the most of their next day. They started the day with egg burritos and then went to the wall. After surveying potential routes they chose a crag and set a few ropes on a beautiful chimney and 5.8 crack system, which they enjoyed for most of the day before preparing dinner and sharing stories around a campfire. On the third and final day, they discovered a new crag that turned out to be a huge slab with several amazing and fun climbs. After learning the essential techniques of slab climbing, the boys decided to keep climbing until it was time to head back to camp. Great trip!



Uncles Dierhow and **Alex**, along with guest hiker **Aunt Lea** from the Winona office, led **Nicholas Beliveau, Jack Campbell, Ty Slayton, Will Sonne** and **Bob Verniers** on a unique excursion Saturday to the wild country up near the Maine-New Hampshire-Canada border. The crew first summited Aziscohos Mountain, which afforded them a view of fifteen lakes as well as a vast panorama of peaks extending from Quebec to Bigelow to the Mahoosucs. Then, for an encore, they climbed Table Rock in Dixville Notch, a breath-taking exposed crag on the side of Mount Gloriette that boasts a sheer drop of over five hundred vertical feet. After safely descending, the trippers stopped to cool their brakes in the wholesome waters of the Bear River at Deep Hole.

Also on Saturday, the Senior Winona Swim Team competed against four other camps for the most coveted title in Winona Athletics: Big W Champions. **Ben Stevens, Thomas Chassat, Ben Libby, Ben Chadwick, Grayson Cuneo, Sasha Barinsky, Matt McVane, Nick Davidson, Kristian Baker, Oscar Katzinski, Owen de Cordova, Will Jurek** and **Harry Chadwick** took to waters of Moose Pond in a grueling effort to secure the first-place seat. The boys of Senior participated in various events including breaststroke, backstroke, butterfly, freestyle, medley relays and freestyle relays. Owen achieved a 2nd place seat in the 50-yard breaststroke, alongside another 2nd place finish by Sasha in the 25-yard backstroke. The 200-yard freestyle relay team of Nick, Matt, Will and Kristian as well as the 100-yard medley relay team of Ben Chadwick, Oscar, Ben Stevens and Thomas both had strong showings in their events as well. In the end, alongside the Intermediate and Junior swim teams, the boys were able to clinch a third-place overall finish, demonstrating the aptitude of the Winona swimming program.

Senior Winona's lacrosse team of **Kevin McDonald, Daniel Kearney, Max Jones, Gleb Gamsheev, Henry Clark, Kevin Allsopp, Eric Paradis, Cole Vaupel, Konnor Gike, Ian Hoffman, Jack Bonnefond, Eduardo da Silva Witzke, Tyler Beliveau, Jose Garcia, Baird Hruska** and **CIT Cousin Patrick** took to the field



Saturday afternoon for a Second session matchup against Camp Indian Acres. Many of Winona's players were suiting up for their very first lacrosse game but nonetheless the team took the field with confidence. The game got off to a strong start with Kevin Allsopp dominating at the face-off X and scoring the first goal of the game to put Winona up 1-0. The offense continued to put pressure on the the opposing team's defense with Baird picking up a rebound and finishing, and Patrick scoring from outside. The Winona defense played valiantly the whole game. Kevin McDonald stepped up and played in goal in his first-ever lacrosse game and made multiple astonishing saves to keep Winona in the game. Daniel, Gleb and Max played excellent defense and held their opponent to just 3 goals. Both Patrick and Kevin scored their second goals off of well-executed dodges, helping to propel Winona to a 5-3 win.

(over for more news)

This coming week our activities will be in high gear. Many of the boys will participate on honors trips (mountain, canoe, kayak, rock and mountain bike) and others will compete in a host of special events (Winona Regatta, Camp Micah Swim meet and basketball, baseball and soccer games). I look forward to telling you about all of the excitement in the next letter.

In the meantime, I hope you have a great week too!

Tripper Dropkin
Cat about Town,
and Chief of Staff, Senior Unit Director Jeffrey "Bubba" Dropkin.

Uncle Jeffrey "Bubba" Dropkin

(1983-1986, 2002-2018)

The BAT 2015

Senior Unit Director