



# JUNIOR NEWSLETTER

## August 8, 2023



Hello from the quiet shores of Camp VI. It is hard to believe that another season has come and gone, but what a fantastic season it was. So many Chipmunk, Beaver, and Eagle requirements were achieved in an array of activities. The Junior campers hiked more than 10 mountains and paddled to more than 8 overnight trips. They experienced victory and defeat in intercamp competitions, as well as within camp during Evening Programs (EPs), Stick Showings, Red-Gray events and so much more. The staff here in Junior taught the boys basic requirements to understand activities, and then challenged them when they were ready for more. The 2023 season was a great success, and we cannot wait to see so many of you again in 2024.

Last Wednesday we held our annual Treasure Hunt. In Junior, the race is a competition between the Squadrons. The counselors create clues that take the four teams all around camp in a race to find the treasure at the end. This year's event was a nailbiter, with only 12 minutes separating the first team to finish and the fourth team to finish. The Ospreys team of **Will Kirkham, Eddie Sumner, Henry Garrels, Svend Cassidy, Lee Kennedy, Wojciech Kapinski, Bear Lillibridge, Clark Slocum, Levi Sumner, Quarty Van Gelder, Sam DeMento and Kevin Gentile** finished in first. In second place, just 30 seconds behind, were the Hawks: **Jack Gagan, David Gengler, James Amis, Timothy Desrosiers, Bryson Jones, Lucas Brion, River Lillibridge, Finn Colgan, Wyeth Parkes, Jude Cassidy, Hugo Perez Lacalle, Cole Herlacher and William Hoefkens**. The third-place team, just seven minutes behind were the Ravens: **Luke Bessingpas, Henry Thompson, Zeke Soderstrom, Liam McGovern, Nolan Desrosiers, Henry Ling-Skeele, Grantley Totherow, Brody Reece, Oliver Jin, Jacob Brion, Night Bussiere, Clark Esposto and Russell Esposto**. The fourth-place team came in just 4 minutes behind the Ravens were the Falcons: **Audoen McGinn, Gus Ebmeyer, Gabe Newbold, Sebastian Gonzalez Urista, Andres Rincones Krueger, Max Sokolowski, Nick Brion, Nolan Kelly-Williams, Pablo Carriedo Creixell, Owen Whitbread, Blake Watkins and Ethan Fiedler**. Each team ran with a competitive edge that was only rivalled by the fantastic sportsmanship they displayed cheering on the other squads as they passed each other along their routes.



On the last Wednesday morning we had our annual Great Relay. The counselors set up a relay race where the Reds and Grays must complete challenges at every activity. The race started with the Junior Mini Marathon, which loops the south end of camp before heading to the swim docks. The race then travels all around Junior. Every camper participates for their team, and as the baton traveled from activity to activity, the lead changed time and time again. At the last activity, campcraft, the teams select two members to build a fire that boils water. The two groups were only a minute apart going into the final challenge and they worked diligently as the rest of the unit looked on. The Grays finished ahead of the Reds claiming the Great Relay.

Wednesday night was the famous Senior Circus hosted by the Senior unit. The campers and staff in Senior work hard to create the best carnival on this side of the Saco, and this year did not disappoint. From the haunted house to mini golf, and face painting, the boys had a spectacular time.

Thursday was our last campfire of the season and our Unit Night. As always, campfires are a great community time where we share stories and sing songs. Unit night also allows counselors to give the boys in their tent special awards, as we all reflected on an amazing summer. We closed the night out with our Men of Distinction, where campers and counselors get to recognize someone who positively impacted their summer here at camp. The event brings a great deal of laughs, smiles and the occasional tear.

On Friday, the entire camp gathered at Awards Night in the Cobb Memorial Hall to celebrate the accomplishments of the teams that won the banners, and the campers who would be recognized for their dedication to activities they worked tremendously hard at, day in and day out. The banner this year was claimed by the Grays, and even though it was a close competition, once again we were most proud of the way the Junior unit celebrated each other in victory and defeat. The Squadron competition traded hands only a few times throughout the summer, but the Osprey's victory at Treasure Hunt, and during the Sturdley Cup sealed the banner for them this season. The BATs also came to celebrate with us and unmask themselves. **Uncles Todd Baker (Senior), Garrett Kearns (Senior) and Dan Krause (Intermediate)** told stories about their favorite showings throughout the summer, mentioning several Junior campers who were close(ish) to The BAT this season. The best part for me was the reaction on the boys' faces when they were all unmasked!



(over for more news)

The 2023 season was truly spectacular. We were able to take part in many activities, events and competitions that make the summer unique and special to Winona. Closing Day is always difficult as we say goodbye to all the campers that we hope to see again next summer. The staff have already begun to plan for the 2024 season and it is with great anticipation that I await the end of the school year and the opening of the 117th season here on the shores.

Until next time, Brix Brax!  
 Uncle Zach Clayton (2001-2012, 2015, 2016, 2021-2023)  
 The BAT 2022  
 Junior Unit Director

**JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP BANNER  
 2023**

**BEST CAMPER** August "Gus" Ebmeyer  
**SECOND BEST CAMPER** William Kirkham  
**HONORABLE MENTION BEST CAMPER** Henry Thompson

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>CHAMPION</b>	<b>HONORABLE MENTION</b>
Swimming	Brody Reece	Clark Esposto
Canoeing	Oliver Jin	Luke Bessingpas & Zeke Soderstrom
Campcraft	William "Liam" McGovern	Audeon McGinn
Riflery	James Amis	Finn Stevenson
Archery	Kurt Mueller	Henry Ling-Skeele
Tennis	Gabriel Newbold	Clark Slocum
Baseball	Audeon McGinn	Timothy Desrosiers & William-Bertram "Wilby" Deckelmann
Arts & Crafts	Matthew "Bear" Lillibridge	Soren Wolinetz & Night Bussiere
Recreational Sailing	Henry Ling-Skeele	Nathaniel Zweifler
Farm & Garden	Kevin Gentile	Bryson Jones & Russell Esposto
Soccer	David Gengler	Maximilian Sokolowski
Mtn. Trips	Henry Garrels	William Kirkham & Edmund Sumner VII
Canoe Trips	Henry Thompson	William "Liam" Trickett & Pablo Carriedo Creixell
Kayaking	Bruce "Lee" Kennedy	Samuel DeMento
Basketball	William "Liam" McGovern	William-Bertram "Wilby" Deckelmann
Gimp	Griffin Haley	Jack Gagan & Nicholas Brion
Squadron Winner	Ocean Ospreys	
Color Team	Gray	
Donald Wilson Award	Benjamin Chadwick	
John Fils Archery Award	Russell Esposto	
E. Kendall Gike Swimming Award	Matthew "Bear" Lillibridge	

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.

You can find current photos of Winona by visiting us on our Facebook page (Winona Camps - Maine), Instagram (winonacampsmaine) or our Bunk1 site.

Find us on  