



SENIOR NEWSLETTER

August 8, 2023



Greetings from the Senior unit as we bring our 116th season to a close. Just 36 hours ago we said goodbye to a very special group of young men. I am proud of the community we built this year in Senior Winona. The boys developed strong friendships. They laughed and sang with vigor. They cheered louder than I can ever remember. They challenged themselves figuratively by climbing "peaks" they never thought to be possible. They created memories to last for months and life skills which will last forever. I hope a few of your son's stories have made it to your dinner table.

Last week the Senior campers were busy finishing activity requirements and receiving recognition for their summer accomplishments. Receiving Full Merit pins last week included **JP Bessingpas, Duncan May, Lazar Golden, Federico Schad Imbert, Sebastian Calderon Chubb, Liam Colgan, Will Hogue, Florentino Perez Colmenar, Leif Sonne, Rhys Williams, Cesar de Meeus d'Argenteuil, James Sennott, Rodrigo Ansaldo Primavera, Claudio Boada, Tucker McNamee, Darryl Villasenor, Santiago Gonzalez Urista, Viktor Rannik, Flynn Williams, Wesley Gibbons, Jaime Piramoon** and **Carlos Carriedo Creixell**.

Full Distinction pins recognition included **JP Bessingpas, Nuer Bol Rik, Brayden Paradis, Peter McDermott, Lazar Golden, Federico Schad Imbert, Miles Dinger, Alex Kirkwood, Lucas Vannoni, Jaak Rannik, Kasper Potter, Inigo Gil de Juan, Jaime Piramoon, Carlos Carriedo Creixell, Tristan Baker** and **Duncan May**.

Full Excellence pins were achieved by **JP Bessingpas, Nuer Bol Rik, Inigo Gil de Juan, Duncan May, Miles Dinger, Alex Kirkwood, James Gasperini** and **Jaime Piramoon**.

The Senior Reds top finishers in the George Sudduth Memorial Road Race included **Will Hogue** (1) and 1st overall, **James Gasperini** (4) 8th overall, **Leif Sonne** (5) 14th overall, **Lyle Fuchs** (6) 22nd overall, **Lazar Golden** (7) 23rd overall. The scoring combination gave the Reds a 16-point advantage over the Grays.

The Grays had four crossing the finish line in the Senior top ten. **Miles Dinger** (2) and 2nd overall, **Tucker McNamee** (3) and 3rd overall, **Claudio Boada** (4) and 4th overall and **Julian Springer** (10) 29th overall. For the first time in race history the top three finishes were all from Senior. Congratulations boys!

During Red-Gray week, the Grays had victories in rock climbing, swimming and sailing. The Reds took riflery, mountain biking, soccer, disc golf, kayaking, basketball, tennis, archery and lacrosse.

On Monday, the Senior unit took a break from their busy schedule to enjoy a peaceful day at Crescent Beach. This state park is located in scenic Cape Elizabeth, Maine. A relaxing day playing in the sand and swimming in the cool waters of the Atlantic Ocean. Beach Day by tradition ends at nearby Fort Williams Park. Fort Williams is a decommissioned and mostly demolished Army post, active during WWII. Now it is a spectacular 90-acre family recreation area. The boys enjoyed gazing over the harbor, watching boats and ships as they pass by the Portland Head Light lighthouse. They enjoyed exploring the fort's ruins and the walkway which overlooks the city of Portland and the harbor. The Seniors also devoured 180 Bubba burgers and 15 pounds of BBQ kielbasa!

This year's Treasure Hunt took place on Tuesday night under the stars. The weather was perfect for the event, cool and dry. The teams all completed the hunt with an elapsed time of two hours & ten minutes. The Red and Gray A, B and C teams ran throughout camp, up and down hills, roads and trails. They tested their camp trivia knowledge by solving clues. Exhausting and challenging, the Treasure Hunt builds comradery & pride. The winning teams this year were, Red A, Red B and Gray C.

Senior Circus is one of Winona's favorite nights. The event begins with the Senior Circus parade which delivers the campers to the Dining Hall and a special carnival-style supper. The younger units are then entertained by Senior campers who host a variety of carnival style games and activities. Fortune telling, face painting, miniature golf, bowling, giant bubbles, crate climbing, fishing, lax shoot challenge, 1:1 soccer, mini-hoops, sponge toss, slack line, bench jousting, a haunted house and the infamous Senior Circus Casino. The campers pay game admission fees with NECCO wafers! The costumed Senior campers had a Brix Brax time, too!

The final event for Red-Gray week is the Great Relay. Each activity has a challenge for the boys to complete. This year, as the race progressed the Grays enjoyed an early lead. In the end, however, the first team to strike the bell was the Reds.

This year's Squadron competition was limited by rain at times. We did manage to approve 21 totem showings during the six weeks and ten 2nd Evening Program's (EPs). There were a few totem captures and it was found just once. Unfortunately, the totem went missing in the last few days of camp. We are still looking for the totem and we are hoping it may be found during Family Camp. The Swift Falcons ended the season with 12 points. The Mountain Hawks had the totem for one double point Tuesday and scored 20 points. Unfortunately, the Swift Falcons relinquished the totem by capture on July 9th and did not recover afterwards. The Falcons final score was 77 points. The Ocean Ospreys were consistently in the mix. They collected points on two double point Tuesdays and won a few EPs. The Ospreys finished in 2nd with 95.5 points. The Dirigo Ravens tallied a bulk of their points on July 11th a double point Tuesday which included a three showing bonus. The Raven finished in 1st place with 102.5 points. Congratulations to the Dirigo Ravens this year's Squadron champions!

Friday night, The BATs came to celebrate with us at Award Night and unmask themselves. Congratulations to **Uncles Todd Baker** (Senior), **Garrett Kearns** (Senior) and **Dan Krause** (Intermediate).

(over for more news)

Finally, I'd like to conclude with a special thank you to the Senior Winona counselors. The Senior staff provided many opportunities for your son's growth this summer. They gave their all in every aspect of camp life. They coached in their tents and activities. They lead by example and mentored on the water, fields, trails, rivers, courts, ranges, wood shop and art studio. It was an amazing summer, one of the best in my seven years as Senior Unit Director. I hope the memories we made together, on the shores of Moose Pond this summer, will last a lifetime.

Thank you to all of our Senior campers and families. I look forward to greeting you in just 327 days. I know Saturday June 29th, 2024 will be a happy & sunny day!

Until then, I hope you have a safe and healthy "off season".

Brix Brax,
 Uncle Jeffrey "Bubba" Dropkin (1983-1986, 2002-2023) The BAT 2015
 Senior Unit Director
 Caretaker of Bailey, Senior's favorite Chocolate Lab
 and Bailey's Chief of Staff, the orange cat, OB James (obnoxious boy)



**SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP BANNER
2023**

BEST CAMPER Nuer Bol Rik

SECOND BEST CAMPER Jaime Piramoon & Tristan Baker

**HONORABLE MENTION
BEST CAMPER** Leif Sonne

ACTIVITY	CHAMPION	HONORABLE MENTION
Swimming	Jaime Piramoon	William Hogue
Canoeing	Peter McDermott	Duncan May
Campcraft	Alexander Kirkwood	Flynn Williams & Luke Wesner
Riflery	Federico Schad Imbert	Cooper Holton
Archery	James "JP" Bessingpas	Cesar de Meeus d'Argenteuil
Tennis	Wyatt Russell	Lyle Fuchs & Jack Drechsler
Baseball	Jaak Rannik	Lyle Fuchs
Art	Michael Vannoy	Darryl Villasenor
Recreational Sailing	Kiefer Gilligan	Kasper Potter
Regatta Sailing	Jose Maria Elias de Tejada	Miles Dinger
Soccer	Rodrigo Ansaldo Primavera	Oliver Lambert & Kasper Potter
Kayaking	Kiefer Gilligan	William Hogue & Connor Sims
Rock Climbing	Henry Lamphier	Wesley Letellier
Sloyd	Alexander Kirkwood	Lucas Vannoni & Cooper Holton
Lacrosse	James Gasperini	James "JP" Bessingpas
Basketball	James Gasperini	Darryl Villasenor & Haret Jucup
Mountain Biking	Benjamin Lemieux	Sebastian Calderon Chubb &
Squadron Winner	Dirigo Ravens	
Color Team	Red	
JL Gorham Smith Award	Ingimundur Sigfusson	
Senior High Point	Duncan May	
Douglas W. Turrell Award	Tucker McNamee	

JUNIOR MAINE GUIDES

Alexander Kirkwood Liam Colgan

Leif Sonne Nuer Bol Rik

John Proulx Sebastian Calderon Chubb

Miles Dinger

Haret Jucup

TRIP BANNER

Tucker McNamee

Jaime Piramoon

Wyatt Russell

Darryl Villasenor