



CAMP WABUN



*"Everyone must believe in something. I believe I'll go canoeing."
~ Henry David Thoreau ~*

Pretty simple words, but for the 76 campers and 29 trip staff from last summer, and the 4,000+ alums who have dipped paddles into Temagami waters . . . there is an understanding of just how profound canoeing can be.

EXCITING TIMES - LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

Dear Wabun Community:

We're just over three months removed from our 82nd season and while many are wearing mackinaws still saturated with the wonderful smell of last summer's campfires, we're looking forward to what will be an amazing 2015 season. With this comes an exciting leadership transition for the Camp as Jessica Lewis will become Wabun's 5th Managing Director since its founding in 1933.

The triumvirate of Dick Lewis, Walter "Nibby" Hinchman, and Marg Lewis has been leading Wabun for over 35-years. During this time, Wabun has grown in both numbers and program, not the least of which are the implementation of girls' sections, the start of three-week Camp seasons, the expansion of areas in which our sections travel, and the creation of truly magical end-of-season parent and alumni celebrations. Happily, while the roles will change, Dick, Marg, and Nibby will still be at Wabun each summer, lending expertise and experience to campers and staff alike.

INSIDE THE NEWSLETTER:

LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

**IT'S ALL IN THE
NAME**

**Wabun Wedding
- with a twist**

**New Family
Perspective**

PARENT VOICES . . .

Join us in NYC!!!

At the August 10th Camp Wabun Board of Directors meeting, Jessica Lewis was unanimously elected as the next Managing Director. To say that Jessica is qualified for this position is an incredible understatement. She spent six-years between the gunwales as a Wabun camper and twelve as a staff including four Bay Trips. Katherine Finnegan, who spent three years tripping with Jessica shares, "Working with Jess, I was able to watch her combine canoe tripping-mastery with friendly warmth and love. She brings laughter and comfort to the people around her!" Jessica's experience away from Camp is equally impressive. Jessica graduated from the University of Vermont with a Bachelor of Art in Asian Studies and spent one year studying at the Beijing University of Education in China. She also earned a Master of Art degree from the University of Montana (Missoula) in Intercultural Youth and Family Development. Her passion for travel extends beyond the canoe. Jessica has spent 5 years living in China and Taiwan, including a year leading students on 3-month trips on the Silk Road through the expeditionary organization Where There Be Dragons. For the past three summers, Jessica has been working at Wabun in all facets. She has been integral in the staff training program and management of the Camp.

Jessica is assuming a position held by Dick Lewis since 1976. Anyone who has heard Dick speak knows the passion that he has for Wabun. In his 39-years as the Camp's leader, he has cared for, influenced, and inspired thousands of campers and staff. Former camper and staff mate, Bill Green, shared the following, "In 1965 - when I was a 10-year-old Chippy, Dick was a 20-year-old-assistant staff. I returned the next summer because of the life-changing Wabun experience and the early mentoring I had already received from a young, Dick Lewis. His guidance and great friendship have continued ever since. In 1972 I was his assistant staff in Chippies; in 1975 we enjoyed a memorable post-season trip in the Temagami area; and I continued to work on the staff under his dynamic leadership for many years, including a

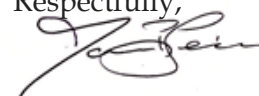
return visit as Chippy staff for Wabun's 75th anniversary season in 2007."

Dick has been an institution at Wabun for nearly four decades and I know that the campers, staff, alumni/ae, and Board join me in sharing our deep appreciation for his leadership. We are thrilled and cordially invite everyone to a celebration of Dick, Marg, and Nibby's contributions, and a welcoming of Jessica and the new leadership team on March 7th at the Roger Smith Hotel in New York City. There will be much more information coming out shortly, but the weekend will include the celebration event, a concert by the *Queen of Hearts*, a Wabun information Open House, and many opportunities to reconnect with each other.



Lastly, our Open House season has officially started and I truly hope that you might be able to attend one that is in your area. Reminiscences are rekindled and stories are shared about life on the land (and water). And, if I could be so bold, please think about those in your professional, personal, family, and school lives who you think would be interested in hearing about how meaningful the Wabun experience can be.

I wish you and your family the absolute best for the upcoming holiday season and thank you for your support for all that we do.

Respectfully,


Jason P. Lewis
President, Camp Wabun Board of Directors

A Letter from Jessica Lewis – Camp Wabun Managing Director

It is with great excitement that I write to introduce myself, and my colleagues, Sarah Flotten and Julie Hinchman; the incoming Camp Wabun leadership team. It is truly a gift in this life to do work that you love for an organization you believe in. Adding to that, coworkers who are knowledgeable, energetic, and great fun to be around has me counting myself one of the luckiest people I know! I am confident that Sarah, Julie's and my qualifications, convictions, and deep love of this camp combine to create a leadership team that is experienced, innovative, and strong. I look forward to working with such talented educators and appreciate this opportunity to tell you a little more about our team.



Sarah Flotten, already a seasoned canoe tripper, came to Wabun more than 20 years ago as a trip staff, and has spent every summer since on Garden Island. Among innumerable other duties, Sarah dedicates tremendous effort and energy year-round to ensure Wabun offers staff meaningful, relevant, and up-to-date research-based training in youth development and group facilitation. This focused effort enables staff to shape a canoe trip program and culture that is intentionally designed to bring out the best in the young people. In addition to her educational background as a Bush Fellowship recipient and graduate of the Harvard University Graduate School of Education, Sarah draws her educational philosophy from over 20 years of experience as a middle school social science teacher, coach, and academic dean at Breck School in her home city of Minneapolis. In reflecting on wilderness canoe trips and looking forward to her new role as assistant director, Sarah says,



"The time I have spent canoeing northern lakes and rivers has been instrumental in shaping who I am and has influenced both my personal and professional life. Equally at home in the city and the woods, I believe that experiential education creates the most effective environment for adolescents and the structure of camp provides experiences that are critical for positive identity development. The friendships forged between the gunwales during a summer at Wabun remain for a lifetime and I am excited to help shape those adventures as assistant director."

Sarah's extensive knowledge of and enthusiasm for respectful travel in the wild places of the far North is apparent after just a brief conversation with her, as is her desire to help Wabun provide this remarkable opportunity for kids.

Julie Hinchman came to Garden Island as a staff child; in 1967 became the first female camper enrolled at Camp Wabun; and went on to lead the first all-female trip to James Bay in 1986. After many years as a camper and trip staff member, Julie came on as in-camp staff and has worked in many capacities from managing the kitchen to outfitting gear, and most recently serving as a trip coordinator. Julie knows all the behind the scenes work that goes into ensuring that sections travel well-researched routes equipped with the gear, food, and resources to enjoy the safety, comfort, and culinary excellence that are the hallmarks of a Wabun canoe trip.

"Camp Wabun is in my blood and soul. The work, the fun, the challenges and successes have sustained me and made me the person I am today. My proudest moments at Wabun have been watching my own daughter grow through her Wabun experiences over the past seven years. Over the years I have seen many boys and girls grow into exceptional men and women because of their experiences at Wabun. I am excited to take on the role of assistant director at Camp Wabun, and to help continue the legacy of helping others to have the sort of formative opportunities that will allow them to become leaders in their schools and communities. I know that Wabun does that for every camper and staff member every summer."



No stranger to creating a comfortable environment for kids away from home, Julie has been a high school science teacher and dorm parent at the Loomis-Chaffee School in Windsor, Connecticut for twenty-eight years following her graduation from Macalester College. Teaching, coaching, advising the robotics team, implementing a Sustainability Committee and subsequent Agriculture Program are just a few of the initiatives Julie has undertaken in her career with Loomis that allow her to work elbow-to-elbow with her students. Julie is a strong believer in experiential learning - "...getting your hands dirty, working with others toward a common goal, embracing the challenges and enjoying the rewards of one's actions and efforts." It is our great fortune to have Julie as part of the Wabun team.

As for me, **Jessica Lewis**, Jason already introduced a bit of my educational and professional background in his letter. I have been privileged to work for some pretty remarkable organizations across the globe, however it is Wabun, the land, the people, the ethic that created it and sustains it that has done more to shape my character than any other experience/entity in my life. For me, working with young people is my calling. I love it! I remember times as a Wabun trip staff when the day drew to a close and my body ached to reunite with my tent and sleeping bag, but I could not pull myself away from the fire and the ring of young women around it laughingly rehashing the day. There is a spark - an engagement with life, playfulness, and an innate drive to discover in young people. In the classroom, on expeditions, and on service sites, I have sought to find ways to set the stage for kids to kindle that spark in themselves and one another. At Wabun, it has been my pleasure to find there has been no need for me to set that stage. The campers do it themselves and we adults get to bask in their glow.

Wabun celebrates the capabilities and competencies of young people in a way that is rare and special. It honors the importance of mindful connection with oneself, one another, and one's environment, and in so doing quietly demonstrates that joy and meaning come from honest, simple pleasures born of intention, interaction, and straightforward effort. Wabun has been the ground I've stood on, the water I've drunk, and the air I've breathed since I first set foot (or diapered-bum, rather) on the shores of Lake Temagami as a 6 month-old in 1979. I was gifted to have grown up a child of the camp, and am truly grateful to have the opportunity as an adult to devote my skills and abilities as managing director to help nurture a program and organization I believe in so whole-heartedly. Immeasurable thanks to Marg, Dick, and Nibby for your leadership and love of Wabun- we stand on your shoulders and will do our best to honor and grow the camp you have dedicated so much of yourselves to craft.

Warmly,

Reflections - by Dick Lewis

I love Wabun, and I have since my earliest days as a camper in 1954 - what it is, what it offers, enlivens, and encourages. For all of us, campers, parents, staff, and our owners/directors, it is at base an opportunity - a carefully constructed blank canvas that invites and encourages the artistry and strength of the individual camper. It is about the coalescence of others and self into an interdependent, organic unit where the one depends on the all, and there is powerful security and comfort felt in the coalition. Initially, there is caution. At the start, the paddles seem long, the portages intimidating, and everybody is new to me. Then it unfolds: those about me are in the same place; we can support and be supported by each other; the comforts and joys at the end of the day are of our own devising; the meals are of an elegance that we would not even have dared to imagine or hope for; the sounds and sights are new in both their depth and pace - moose ambling on a shoreline, the natural world sliding by at four miles an hour.



Nibby, Marg, and I have been the canvas-providing team since 1974. Together, we have celebrated Wabun's 50th and 75th anniversary seasons. For over forty years we have endeavored to balance the principles and dedications of our founders while staying abreast of the developments in the expeditionary industry - ensuring that our world of wood, canvas and leather still has a vital and relevant place in today's world of titanium and Kevlar. We three have sustained and prepared - kept alive the notion that there is a place for the youth of today to step away from the world of electronics for a spell and immerse themselves in the natural world, while keeping an eye toward the next generation of the camp's leadership

Going into its 83rd season, Wabun will be led by the supremely talented quartet of Julie Hinchman, Sarah Flotten and Jessica Lewis as the management team of Directors and Jason Lewis as President of the Board of Directors. This team has defined and led the best of what Wabun is all about. From the oldest to the youngest campers, the females and the males, from three-day trips to Ko Ko Ko to six weeks into the areas above the Arctic Divide, these four have an experiential base the likes of which the Camp has never seen before. When I add to that the collectivity of their accomplishments and sensitivities in the world of education, I am left simply humbled - we just keep getting better. Thanks Nibby and Marg - I think we have done more than we could even had hoped for in keeping the dream alive.



I love Wabun and revel in what I see as its next iteration.

Dick Lewis

IT'S ALL IN THE NAME



The Kitchen Wannigan ("K") remains one of the most indispensable and invaluable pieces of equipment for a Wabun section. It holds all of the pots, pans, utensils, and, of course, the prized reflector oven in which delectable bannocks, cookies, pies, and pizzas are baked. While the shape and construction of the "K" has remained largely unchanged over the last 80 years, the naming convention has had a creative boost in recent years. The "K" becomes almost a part of the sections and assumes its own personality. Here are some of last year's section "Ks". Favorite??? To see the amazing food produce by each "K", turn to the next page!



BREADLINE

~ we don't eat, we dine! ~



A NEW FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

We had 35 new families join the Wabun last summer. With each new camper (and family) come new experiences and new perspectives. Sydney Horner was a first-year Wenonah and her parents, Sam and Susanne, joined her at the end of the summer for Wabun's big celebration. We asked the Horner family about the decision to go to Wabun, about the experience for both the camper *and* the camper parents (!), and about the Sydney before and after Camp. Their answers are wonderful:



What section were you in?

Sydney: I was in section Wenonah for 6-weeks with girls ages 11-13. My friends in my section were kind, hardworking, and fun to hang out with. I was the smallest and the youngest in the Wenonah section. Some of us had been here before and for some of us it was our first year such as me. It was my first summer at Wabun and so far, the best summer I have ever had and that I can remember.

Sydney (left) with her staff, Ellen Haenszel.

Had you ever canoed before? What was it like when you first arrived at Camp?

Sydney: Going to a camp for 3 or 6 weeks is scary especially if you never canoed before, but let me tell you there is nothing to worry about I went for 6 weeks and NEVER canoed before in my whole life and it was hard but totally worth going. When I first got to Wabun I was surprised it was so beautiful.

What are some of your favorite memories from this past summer?

Sydney: Not only were the trips fun, but base camp was fun too, from watching the powwow and the softball game to playing nuke 'em or kickball. I also enjoyed canoe tripping, cocoa parties, and much more.

Name your favorite meal and favorite bannock.

Sydney: My favorite meal was "South of the Border" [to the right] and my favorite bannock was pineapple upside-down.



Can you describe your biggest accomplishment this summer?

Sydney: I had never put a canoe on my head before and right before the parents came I put canoe 98 on my head. I got some help, took some steps forward. It was so heavy so I took it off. Still, I put a canoe on my head!

As you think back on Wabun, are there things you learned about yourself that apply to your school life?

Sydney: I learned to be organized, stay on one task at a time, and tough through it even if it's hard. Yes, you can take breaks, but try to be quick, I learned to tough through in portages, I did take a lot of breaks on my first portage, but you take less and less each time.

SYDNEY'S PARENTS: Sam and Susanne Horner

How did you first hear about Wabun?

Sam: We first heard about Wabun after doing a yoga class at the Athletic Club of Columbus. We were having dinner and overheard a former camper and parent, Mr. Jim Schrim, discussing the wonderful benefits of the camp. Mr. Schrim was sitting at a table next to us and I found that my daughter was listening to his conversation more intently than to ours. Jim spoke of adventure, canoeing and outdoorsmanship as well as the learning lessons of organization, responsibility, etc.

Susanne: I also remember Jim saying that all the world's problems would be solved if every child went to Wabun – and I agree! Any visitor to Wabun can see the respect taught or experienced at Wabun for the world and its inhabitants. I can only imagine the life lessons learned, being a camper and 'digging deeper' – living day-to-day on the water and land with fellow campers.

Why did you decide to sign Sydney up last summer?

Susanne: The evening we learned of Wabun, we went immediately home and researched it. We watched the videos, read the stories, and were impressed by news articles. Syd was hooked! She is our only child and had only been to a one-week 'sleep-away' camp before. Not to mention, she had never canoed and had only 'car camped'. I'll be honest, my apron strings are pretty short but, I also knew what an amazing experience this was going to be for my daughter – one I wished that I could experience, also.



Sam: We actually didn't decide to sign Sydney up; Sydney decided to sign herself up. Typically, children in Sydney's class were doing three day camps, one week camps or two week camps. We both wished for Sydney to enjoy a "summer camp" which lasted for an extended period of time. Sydney initially signed up for the three week camp; however, after going to an open house in Bexley, decided to extend her stay at Wabun an additional three weeks.

As parents, what was it like to have Sydney away for six-weeks? How did you stay "connected"?

Sam: This is a hard question to answer. We were quite frankly, afraid. Sydney is our only child and we have never been away from her longer than one week. The first week was difficult. We found that the time alone from Sydney, actually strengthened our relationship with her and more surprisingly, brought our relationship (husband and wife) closer as we had six weeks of "alone time". Staying "connected" was somewhat difficult as we are geared in this society to email, telephone conversations, etc. It was interesting to feel the pure excitement from a simple letter coming from your daughter. The opening of the correspondence was typically a celebratory time for us. The letters were packed with information of their daily activities and her love for us. Those letters were read more than a couple times I can assure you. They brought us comfort and satisfaction that our daughter was having the "time of her life."

Susanne: Having never met any of the staff or many of the other campers was a little unsettling to me. Those fears were easily quieted when we arrived at the Toronto airport for drop-off. I would say within five minutes, Syd was playing cards with other campers while my husband and I enjoyed meeting Dick and other staffers. Seeing Syd so happy made it easy to say goodbye – and I drew on that thought whenever I got to 'missing her'. Sydney's letters were celebrated and we read them over and over! It was fulfilling and so satisfying to hear the she "was having the time of my life" or things like, "you guys would love it here!" Sam and I, I feel, grew closer with Sydney while she was gone and also with one another. As for Sam and me, it was a practice run for being empty nesters – and after all these years, we found out that we still like one another! Seriously though, we were able to have our time together and enjoy being a 'couple' again.

Can you share your feelings when you first saw her at camp at the end of camp summer?

Susanne: I tear up thinking about when I first saw her at camp after 6 weeks of being gone. I was giddy with excitement, anxious to hear EVERYTHING and also just wanted to wrap my arms around her. Pulling up to her campsite, I did my best to keep my cool and just gave her a big long hug. We let her lead the way by showing us her campsite and telling us about some of the gear and duties each of the campers performed. Seeing all of these new experiences our daughter had gained and skills she had learned filled me with pride. I was so happy for her, words cannot describe. I wouldn't miss being at Wabun for the end of the year ceremony for anything. The two days that we spent seeing base camp and getting to know other families was incredible. Hearing the campers log at the end of the ceremony was magical – the funny stories that the kids shared about one another and the fun they all had had (- without an Xbox or video game!), the sense of self pride at what all they had accomplished, and the feeling that they all had experienced mother nature's gifts on a level they never thought possible, was truly a sight to see.



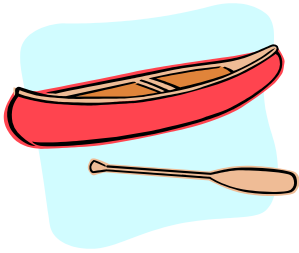
Sam: After six weeks, you kind of wrack your brain to figure out a cute or appropriate thing to say to your child after six weeks of absence. For me, all of my planning and reciting was “thrown out the window” after I viewed our daughter on an island on Lake Temagami. She looked so beautiful, strong, happy and bruised/bug bitten up (in a very good way). When we got off the boat to greet her, we all cried and hugged and then walked together to discuss her six-week adventure. The end of the camp experience at Wabun was magical. From boarding the barge to go to “base camp”, to seeing your child for the first time in six weeks, to excellent food, to setting up your tent on the island, everything was amazing. The morning that the children paddle in from their respective journeys was one of the more emotional moments that I have had with my family. Words truly cannot express the powerful impact that this had upon me. Suffice to say, we are already “gearing up” for this summer's year-end event!

Is there any difference between Sydney pre-Wabun and Sydney post-Wabun?

Sam: Absolutely! I think we had a pretty good kid to start; however, the Wabun experience has given my child confidence and skills that I could never have instilled. She is willing to take chances, is more organized and responsible. Sydney's performance in school has greatly benefited from her experience. This is a “direct” result from the Wabun experience. She was always a popular kid in her class; however, she was not the best student. After Wabun, she is one of the top students in her class and has asserted herself with her peers as being a “quiet” leader. Wabun is simply an amazing place that has done amazing things to unlock the full potential of my child. By the way, the first question I asked Sydney after not seeing her for six weeks was: “Did all of your gear work?” She smiled and said that everything was perfect except for her boots which did not fit properly. She said that **next** year, she would like to get some different boots! In that simple response, all of my questions concerning Wabun were answered.

Susanne: I had always wanted her to use her ‘voice’ more – let her opinions be heard and to stand up for herself. She accomplished so much on trip that she gained confidence, pride and self-awareness. These attributes let her realize that world is a much bigger place than she had ever imagined, that she ought not ‘sweat the small stuff’. At school, especially, we see a much more organized, focused student – getting up early, packed and on the water will teach you those skills, I think! But, also, we see a more driven young lady who is willing to take on challenges and risks because she knows she is a capable and strong individual.

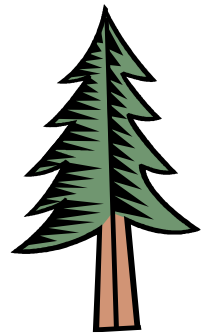
WABUN WORD SEARCH



Find the Wabun words below!



K W N R L P U G F T J Q W K Q
L O H A E M L O C T F P W P G
Z A K I G V K S T T M T R A E
O H K O T I I L V U A I E D O
G V X E K E N R T K P S F D N
O W L H F O P N S V O Y L L A
V V P D B D K I A Y T Z E E C
U V Y P U C P T N W M W C R W
U Y H F O A E X H E V V T O R
R P F N W M V E E P R J O I R
V L N A A R E D P I N E R R Y
E A T G V T L W O A T S D A S
B T A T U N T S E H C L J T C
A M W H U D S O N B A Y V N N
I K S Z N U B A W G Z F Y O P



ATTAWAPISKAT
BANNOCK
CANOE
CHESTNUT
DUFFLE
EAT
HUDSONBAY
KOKOKO
LAKE
OATS



ONTARIO
PADDLE
REDPINE
REFLECTOR
RIVER
TEMAGAMI
TUMP
WABUN
WANNIGAN
WHITEPINE



A WABUN WEDDING – WITH A TWIST



Wabun alums join Phoebe and Matt.

The wedding involving a Wabun alum is always an opportunity for a reunion. Over the years, there have been many celebrations of nuptials that have included a Wabun Cheer for the happy couple. This past August brought together many Wabunites for the wedding of Phoebe Knowles and Matt Luongo. Phoebe was a long time Wabun camper and staff and is a very dear friend of ours. BUT . . . this wedding was a little different as not only was there camp representation in the audience, but Wabun's very own Dick Lewis was the officiant for the ceremony. In Phoebe's words, "It meant so much to us to have Dick

officiate our wedding this past summer. He brought the perfect combination of light hearted fun and ceremonial gravitas to the occasion. After the customary pronouncements, vows, etc. he wrapped up the ceremony by comparing marriage to a canoe . . . propelled by two people, balanced and in unison. And gave this final blessing, 'May your campsite at day's end provide rest, comfort and reflection...And throughout your travels, please do your very best to keep the red side down. Have a great trip!' Best wedding advice ever!"



Phoebe and Matt, we wish you all the brightest of horizons as you paddle on . . .



WABUN IN NYC!!! MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Join us **March 7th, 2015** for a celebration of Dick Lewis, Marg Lewis, and Nibby Hinchman and a welcoming of Jessica Lewis, Sarah Flotten and Julie Hinchman at the Roger Smith Hotel in Midtown Manhattan.

The weekend will include:

- a Wabun Open House
- an alumni reunion & cocktail hour
- a performance by the Queen of Hearts
- a celebratory dinner



Special "Wabun Friends and Family" rates are available for hotel reservations.

Contact info@wabun.com for more information and to RSVP. Hope to see you there!

PARENT VOICES . . .

At the end of last summer, parents had an opportunity to share reflections on their camper and staff's summers upon their return. Here are some of their thoughts!

I look forward to hearing about _____

... our camper's reflections. Wabun is a big part of his personal fabric forever.

I can't believe my camper/staff _____

Worked so beautifully as a team - not knowing each other but now... helping each other... encouraging each other... Spotting each other. Learning life's important lessons in a few short (6) weeks. Many Thanks!

Aug 7-14
It's difficult to explain but when any one asks us about WABUN, we say, yes, we send our kids off for 6 weeks, yes, they have no connectivity to us or the rest of their world, and yes, they figure out how to live, cook, make shelter and survive. Not sure what happens out there, but they come back as confident, secure young men/women, ready to face their lives. What a gift, WABUN. What a life-changing experience. How lucky we are to have met you. Thank You.

how proud the campers are about what they have accomplished

- made the decision to try something new: Unexpected, in one round she loved it! Thank you Wabun!

My grandson came here as a big kid, he is leaving a young man. Thank you Wabun

I am so proud of my camper/staff for _____

Challenge is opportunity presenting itself.
Guidance, mental toughness we love you Wabun

Embrace the opportunity to attend Wabun and always having a smile on her face!

- is looking forward to splitting wood at home!

What each child has learned about themselves.



When I saw my camper/staff I felt _____

Thrilled & PROUD
Awe'd by their newfound strength.
Really really Happy

tremendous joy and tremendous pride! She looked beautiful, healthy, happy.

All she did was smile !!
Thanks

Thank YOU, Wabun Parents, for all that you do!

2014-2015 OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

These get-togethers are also the primary way that new families learn about what, how, and most importantly *why* we do what we do. We would love to see you at one of these upcoming events and encourage you to invite others you think would enjoy all that comes from a Wabun experience. As always, we appreciate your dedication and efforts in spreading the Wabun word.

Saturday, January 10, 2015

4:00 pm

**Wakefield
MA 01880**

Saturday, January 10, 2015

4:00 pm

**Hamden
CT 06517**

Sunday, January 11, 2015

1:00 pm

**Columbia
MO 65203**

Sunday, January 11, 2015

3:00 pm

**Freeport
ME 04032**

Saturday, January 24, 2015

4:00 pm

**Minneapolis
MN 55419**

Saturday, January 31, 2015

1:00 pm

**Hopkinton
NH 03229**

Saturday, January 31, 2015

6:00 pm

**Hadley
MA 01053**

Saturday, February 7, 2015

3:00 pm

**Bethesda
MD 20816-3325**

Sunday, February 8, 2015

1:00 pm

**Drexel Hill
PA 19026**

Sunday, February 22, 2015

1:00 pm

**Bellevue
WA 98005**

Sunday, March 1, 2015

2:30 pm

**Boxborough
MA 01719**

Saturday, March 7, 2015

2:00 pm

**New York
NY 10017**

Saturday, March 21, 2015

1:00 pm

**Temagami
ON P0H 1C0**

Summer 2014 Candida!!!





Do we have your email address???

Want to connect with other Wabun folks? Hear about exciting news? Know when Wabun is coming to your town? Please share your email address with us so that we can stay connected with you. Contact us at info@wabun.com and we hope to see you at an Open House this year.

Address Service Requested

Camp Wabun Ltd.
460 Jewett Road
Hopkinton, NH 03229





CAMP WABUN



Note from Director, Dick Lewis

“What is the greatest benefit for kids from a Wabun experience?” It is a question that I get often from families interested in a summer up with us. And while the rewards are certainly camper-specific, what I often tell them is that Wabun provides opportunities to develop internal reserves that not only serve the *camper* . . . but will be carried forward to serve the *student*, the *athlete*, the *artist*, and the *individual*. Sometimes it is called “character” – it’s certainly what my mother used to tell me – but it goes so much deeper than that. In this newsletter you will read Jessica Lewis’s perspective on how a summer at Wabun shapes kids’ attitudes and approaches to not only life between the gunwales, but to experiences at home and at school.

I’m now currently on Garden Island and enjoying Wabun in its winter-wonderland state. While it looks quite a bit different with the ballfield blanketed in snow and the dining room housing the hibernating canoes – there is still that special ‘camp feeling’ that pervades the island. This feeling only increases my excitement about the summer of 2014.

INSIDE THE NEWLETTER

NUMBERS FROM THE ROAD

**Wabun away
from Wabun**

IT’S A MATTER OF . . .

CHARACTER!

2013 Section Photos

Summer 2014 at Wabun!!!

Note from Director, cont . . .

continue on next page . . .



Dick Lewis (right) with two of Wabun's '13 long trip campers.

We are thrilled at the number of campers from last year who have signed up for this summer, as well as welcoming a host of first-time campers who will enrich not only their sections, but the camp as a whole. I love the fact that a new cadre of kids will experience the magical sunsets, the deliciousness of fresh blueberry bannocks, the belly-laughs that take place around the fire at night, and the camaraderie that comes from work and fun as a section. It is truly amazing how profoundly powerful the relationships are when

there are: shared goals, group-centered approaches, and commitments to focus on the journey and not solely on the destination.

These sentiments are echoed by alums from this and previous generations at our Open Houses. The impact that Wabun has had on the personal and professional lives of our campers is felt for years and years after getting out of the canoe.

We still have availability in terms of our enrollment, so please do not hesitate to reach out to me or share my email (rpl@wabun.com) if you know of someone who would benefit from a summer at Wabun.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dick Lewis".

Numbers from the Road

19 Total number of Wabun Open Houses in 2013-14

13 Number of states visited (all time zones were covered)

8 Decades represented by Wabun alumni/ae - from 1940s through 2010s

75 Attendees at the largest Open House this year . . . Columbus, Ohio

YOU CAN TAKE THE PERSON OUT OF WABUN . . .

. . . BUT YOU CAN'T TAKE WABUN OUT OF THE PERSON.

Stories from campers, staff, and alums that have gone on their own adventures this year.

Spring Break in . . . Churchill?!?!?!?



Emma (foreground) in a snow pit.

During March vacation Pete Gwyn (current staff) and his daughter Emma (current camper) are taking part in an incredible opportunity. They are traveling to Churchill Manitoba with 10 other members of the Loomis Chaffee School community to study and explore this year's school theme - Climate Change. Accompanied by a team of research scientists from Earthwatch, an international non-profit organization dedicated to engaging people in scientific field research and education to promote a sustainable environment, they are conducting field and lab research, immersing themselves in the local culture, and examining the effects of climate change on the Arctic and the world.



Pete dressed for success.

Woodcrew!!!



Kate Fotos was a member of our girls' long trips in both 2012 and 2013, and as anyone who has been at Wabun knows . . . wood crew is an integral part of the experience. Well, Kate was not only a master in her sections, but she has brought these talents with her to Colby College where she is a student. When not hitting the books, Kate is a member of the Colby Woodmen team and has already been in competitions at

the University of New Brunswick, the University of New Hampshire, and University of Maine Orono. There is more in common between Wabun and the Colby Woodsmen's team than the need to rapidly build a fire.



FROM KATE: For those who have not been turned on to the wonderful sport of lumberjacking, woodsmen competitions are a lot like track meets, but you wear Carhartts, steel-toed boots, and lots of flannel and wield very sharp objects. We compete in singles events, doubles events, sometimes triples events, and team events. The events I have competed in include vertical chop, horizontal (underhand) chop, chainsaw disc-stack, split-to-fit, super swede, and axe throw. The team events are crosscut, log roll, swede saw, pulping, and sometimes a fire-build relay.

Wabun prepared me for splitting and fire-building of course, but it also gave me the boldness to walk into such a tight knit team. The Woodsmen's team is like a family, there are nicknames, matching jackets, and everybody knows everyone else's parents. I spent my first summer at Wabun in 2012 on a bay trip. I walked into a group of girls who were on their second long trip together and had been together for many summers before. I was incredibly intimidated by the group, yet within the first week I felt like I had known them for ages. This experience with such an accepting group helped me to be more out-going in the first few weeks of college. I was not afraid of rejection or exclusion. I now have wonderful tight-knit groups of teammates and trip-mates, whom I would not have if it were not for Wabun.

From Canoe to Kayak . . .

by Ursula Kilbridge

I grew up in small town [Temagami] where old growth forests and pristine waters were in my backyard. My dad's canoe shop and our access to Lake Temagami sparked in me a love for adventure and wild places at a young age. When I was nine-years-old, I stepped onto Garden Island for my first season at Wabun. Despite being quite homesick that summer, I was hooked. I spent the next eight summers exploring Northern Ontario with some of the most amazing young women I will ever meet. When I wasn't paddling with my Wabun sisters, I was wishing I was. Those weeks at camp were what I looked forward to every fall, winter, and spring.



After graduating high school I spent a year traveling and eventually settled into what I thought would be a 4- year Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Guelph. I felt very lost and it quickly became apparent that I wished to pursue a more practical form of experiential education. I began looking into a program that would better fit my desired lifestyle and came across the Adventure Guide Program at Thompson Rivers University in British Columbia. I applied to the program and was accepted for the fall of 2012 and since then have been on the journey of a lifetime.

When I wasn't paddling with my Wabun sisters, I was wishing I was. Those weeks at camp were what I looked forward to every fall, winter, and spring.



I've been immersed in the rivers, oceans and the mountains, and have had the pleasure of calling these wild places my classroom. During the last 2 years I've discovered a new passion for whitewater and have chosen to invest a lot of my time and energy into swiftwater rescue courses, whitewater kayak and raft courses, and am currently working on becoming a whitewater kayak instructor. In the last 2 years I have had the amazing opportunities to meet countless kindred spirits, climb mountains, paddle next to

whales and sea lions, and explore rivers in Canada, the US and Ecuador. My time at Wabun has been a huge influence in my life. I fell in love with adventure through my summers canoe tripping and that has shaped me in ways that I appreciate with every fiber of my being. Without it, I'm fairly certain I wouldn't be where I am now. And where I am now feels exactly where I am meant to be.



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Do we have your email address???

We'd love to let you know about Wabun Open Houses, Reunions, and other special events that might be taking place in your area. If you would like to learn about these, please send your email address to Marg Lewis at mrl@wabun.com. If you are an alum, please include the year(s) and section(s) when you attended Wabun.

IT'S A MATTER OF CHARACTER – by Jessica Lewis

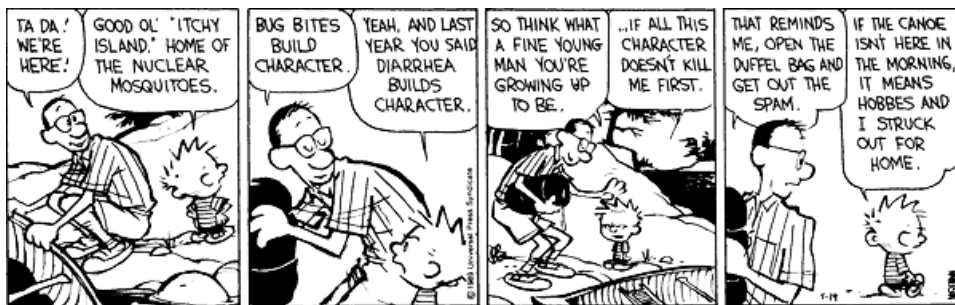
“I would put Wabun ahead of a school choice,” says Libby Moore, mother of two campers and one current staff. “What the kids carry away in them is more integral to them in their life than an academic record.”

For so many of us, staff, alumni and parents, Libby’s words strike a chord. We see the shine in the eyes of campers who jump out of their canoes on August 7th; they are different than they were when they first stepped onto that same beach just weeks before. Is it improved self-confidence? Is it increased self esteem? Just what do Wabun campers, as Libby says, “carry away in them” when they leave Garden Island and head back into their lives at home and at school?

As a career teacher, I believe in academic records. I know that the time, effort, and energy that students pour into their academic work results in a foundation of knowledge and skills that will serve them well in the wider world. Like Libby, I also believe that beyond academic acumen, there is something else that fortifies children to persevere in the present and flourish in the future.

Journalist Paul Tough calls that something “character”. In his book How Children Succeed, Tough asserts that character is a more powerful predictor of a child’s success in college and beyond than SAT’s, an IQ score, or even an academic record. Character is the stuff inside us that pulls us through hard times and pushes us to do better. Though much of our character is established in our first few years of life, given the right environment and guidance, it can be developed, or built.

Now that sounds familiar. *It builds character.* For me, the phrase conjures up visions of myself as a child eating spoonfuls of unwanted peas, or shoveling our snowy Minnesota driveway. Apparently it carries that same connotation for Bill Waterson:



Turns out Calvin’s dad might actually be on to something here. According to Tough, encountering a moderate amount of adversity (read mosquitos), does help develop grit, which is one of the seven components, or traits, of

character that he contends contribute to a child’s success. All seven: curiosity, self-control, social intelligence, zest, optimism, grit, and gratitude.

Tough profiles schools implementing a character curriculum, and a teacher using chess to share the value of learning from failure. While schools are adopting character programming to supplement an academic focus, it seems to me that camp is a natural fit for the kind of character development Tough sees as integral to children’s success. It appears Tough agrees.

In a 2013 interview with the American Camping Association, Tough responded to the following question. *Camp provides the opportunity for both autonomy and support, which is often not provided at home. What are your thoughts on the need for both as crucial in building character?* Tough: I think this is exactly

what makes the camp experience so positive for so many kids. Kids need a combination of autonomy and support, and it's often difficult for them to get this at home or at school. It's a hard balance to strike for any parent or any teacher. Parents are sometimes so wrapped up in the emotional lives of our kids that it's hard for us to pull back and let them have the autonomy they need. Or we go too far in the other direction and don't give them the kind of love and support they need. I think when camps are able to get it right and convey to kids that they're supported and they're safe, but also that they can do things they never dreamed they could do, it becomes a transformative experience. Camp is a place where kids can finally get that important message.

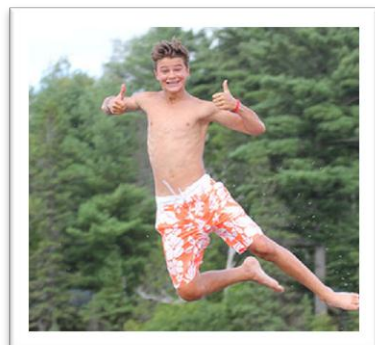
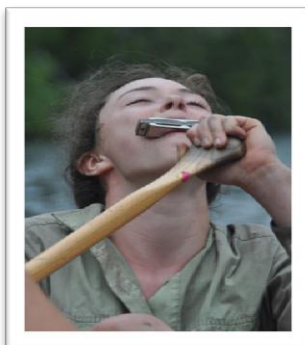
As I look at Tough's list of the traits of character, my understanding of the word as a synonym for stoicism, fortitude, or strong and silent resolution fades away. In its place a new definition glows. In the light of this glow I conjure new visions, situated in a wilderness context and stemming from the lived experiences of Wabun campers.

Curiosity: A camper sits on a rock by the water, her head tilted, listening for the sound... KRRSLAPP!! She scans the shoreline and fixes her eyes on a circle of ripples spreading outward. She waits again... KRRSLAPP!! Her eyes light up as she sees the fat furry body with a broad tail swimming towards shore. She runs up the rocks to her friend pointing. "I thought it was someone throwing a big rock, or trees falling, but it's a beaver slapping its tail on the water!"

Self-control: "It would be fun to shoot, and the "V" on river left is good, but the rock in the center at the bottom looks tricky to get around," she says pointing at the base of the rapid with her paddle. "I want to shoot it, and I think we could do it, but it's getting late and we've had a long day." She points over her shoulder to the staff who have taught her how to scout rapids and says to her section-mate, "Let's check with them and see if we can camp at the top and maybe shoot down the left side in the morning after a couple of meals and a good night's sleep."

Social Intelligence: "Kyle's been pretty homesick for the past few days. Remember last summer when I was homesick?" he asks his tent mate as they stake out the corners. "Yeah, for like the whole first trip," the tent mate recalled. "Then you got over it. Pass me the stake bag." He tossed the stake bag over the tent "Being homesick is hard," he said and headed down the path towards the kitchen fly. "What's your job tonight?" his tent mate called to him. "I'm cooking," he called back, "Kyle's favorite bannock is mint chocolate chip, right?"

Zest:



Need I say more?

Optimism: The boy in the blue shirt unties the loose knot of the leather strap that has slipped away from the canvas duffel, then extends a hand to the boy in the yellow shirt sitting in the brush on the side of the trail. "This is the third time I've re-tumped today," moans the boy in yellow as he takes the offered hand, stands, and walks over to the packs. "It just takes practice," says the boy in blue. He leans down and picks up one end of the tump strap that has come loose from the canvas duffel bag. "My canoe tump is way too short, and I've already re-tumped it like three times. I think it's going to take me a couple more summers, but I'll get the hang of it. So will you. Do you remember the trick?" he asks the boy in yellow. "Over, under, around, and back down through," the boy in yellow says as he cinches the knot.

Grit: A section paddles away from one campsite and towards another. Rain comes and pelts them as they pull up their hoods and keep paddling. They portage through some muskeg, helping one another along. They get back in their canoes and continue paddling on towards their campsite. The rain dies down. Someone starts singing, and soon everyone joins in. Their voices fade and they continue paddling to the campsite. They unload on a slippery rock; everyone pitches in making a wannigan train up to the fly area. They split some wood, eat Ham Lo Mein, and sit by the fire sharing cocoa and the satisfaction of shared success. They know what they need to do, and they do it. Paddle, portage, persevere.

Gratitude: For this last one I sent out a quick Facebook message to current and former campers asking for thoughts on gratitude at Wabun. Within a couple of hours I received the following reflections:

I'm grateful for being given the occasion to say thank you on trip. If someone has taken the extra energy in their day to make my life easier, it's something I find special!

Something I'm grateful for out on trip; always being able to rely upon the fact that every night, I will go to sleep dry and with a warm meal in my stomach. It makes sitting through lightening drills, paddles in the rain, hard portages, etc... way easier, and even sometimes fun!

I'm grateful for the long-lasting friendships that you create while facing ups and downs as an entire section.

I'm grateful to be able to enjoy a book rather than be distracted by electronics.

I am grateful for my section mates. Out on trip you become a family; we're no longer friends, we're sisters, and you always have a connection with them. Through the good and the bad you are each other's support system. I love how you always know at the end of the day it's just you and your section and no matter how hard the day was you can still laugh and be a family.

I'm grateful for dry clothes on trip.

I'm grateful for the delicious food we make each meal! I love how after working hard every day, I'm able to make a delicious meal (and eat as much as I can) and share it with my best friends.

I'm most grateful for the simplicity of it all.

What I believe what campers "carry away in them" is growth, and grit, and change and character built with their own two hands. I believe campers experience failure in a supportive environment, be it a slipped tump, a burnt bannock, or a tumble on a trail, learn that it is part of growth, and move forward better prepared to deal with setbacks. I believe that campers develop an awareness of their competence and capability, and learn the thrill that comes with challenge. I believe Paul Tough and Libby Moore; send your kids to Wabun. It will build character.

Thank you - **To all those who contributed to this issue of the newsletter!**

& There's still time!

While sections are filling up, there are still some spaces left. If you know of someone who is interested in an amazing, unique, fun, and meaningful summer experience, please invite them to Wabun.com or contact us as info@wabun.com. The final page of this newsletter can also be distributed to those who would enjoy a Wabun summer.



CAMP

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2013



THE OPPORTUNITIES ARE RARE ... BUT STILL EXIST.



CAMP WABUN

~ A WILDERNESS WAY SINCE 1933 ~

Providing unparalleled canoe-tripping experiences for children
ages 10 to 18 in the world famous Temagami region.

Looking for an incredible experience for your child? Wabun provides the opportunity for kids to travel in uncomplicated ways in undisturbed areas. Campers develop confidence born of competence as they become proficient in canoe-tripping skills, and enjoy a wonderful growth in maturity, responsibility, and self-reliance through their experiences. Campers and staff work together to create a fun, and meaningful summer experience.

SCAN QR



MORE INFORMATION, PHOTOS, AND VIDEOS AT:

WWW.WABUN.COM AND INFO@WABUN.COM



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