



The TATTLER

Established 1893

Fall 2019

From the Director

On August 7, 2019, a women's adult trip and a coed trip(!) paddled in from their five night excursions. After their cheers and traditional unloading, the stories poured out. And laughter, lots and lots of laughter. But what was most striking for those of us in the audience was the bliss. "Blissed Out," I think is the term. It was palpable and I thought to my slightly jealous self: "Everyone should go on a canoe trip." Doctors, lawyers, educators, yoga instructors and, of course, kids. At Keewaydin this summer the ages ranged from nine to 73 and all emerged from trip in a state of bliss. Now, a nine-year-old demonstrates bliss in different ways than a 49-year-old, but that is for another story.

So, what's the deal with the Bliss? Now that I review what I just wrote I find the word to be falling short; too many connotations, references and associations. Synonyms: ecstasy, blessedness, heaven, paradise, happiness, delight, pleasure, harmony. Nice words but fall short of describing the state of mind a successful canoe trip can put one in.

Digging back to A.S. Gregg Clarke and the zeitgeist from which the camping movement evolved it is easy to find good old Ralph Waldo Emerson and his pal Henry David

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Amelia, Sarah, Nathalie and Bruce Ingersoll on the Main Dock after the season

Bruce Ingersoll Steps Down After 14 Years

After serving as Director of Keewaydin Temagami for 14 years, Bruce Ingersoll has decided to step down. It is difficult to overstate the success Keewaydin Temagami has experienced under his leadership. Bruce has overseen perhaps the strongest enrollment of any time in the camp's history, the transformation of the facilities and infrastructure of the camp, the expansion into new tripping territory, and the development of a staff training program that sets the standard in the canoe tripping industry. As a result, the retention rate of campers and staff is historically high, and the camp is flourishing.

Perhaps most importantly, Bruce established an ethos at camp that places the safety standards and the development of young men and women at the same high level of quality as the tripping adventure itself. He has attained excellence for Keewaydin Temagami, and he will be missed.

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From the Director
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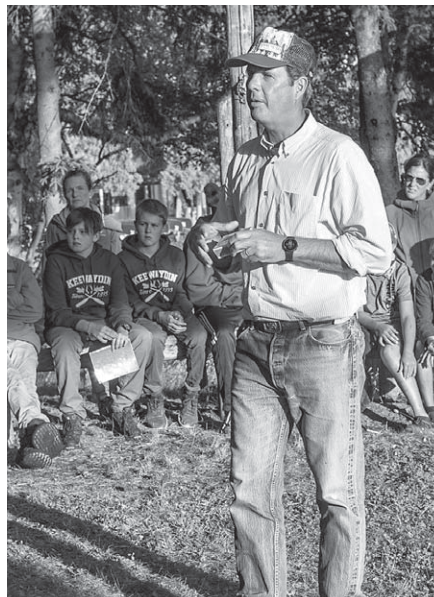
and their ideas about transcendentalism, humans and nature and the belief that nature can help us improve spiritually and help us connect to the rest of the world. Writing at the heart of the Industrial Revolution, they were certainly reacting to a world where humans were feeling disconnected because of technology. Hence the urgency and flowering of the camping movement. It is what we needed. Still need. Emerging from a tech free week or seven weeks, is truly heavenly!

Wendell Berry developed this notion a bit further. Actually, he nailed it:

THE PEACE OF WILD THINGS

*When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.*

All those people who emerged last August from canoe trips carried with them that sense of "For a time" having rested "in the grace of the world", and they were free. Hence the laughter, ecstasy, composure, pleasure, happiness and delight. It just confirms the thought, that "everyone ought to go on a canoe trip!"



Director Bruce Ingersoll at the "Final Campfire"

Bruce Ingersoll
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Bruce intends to remain fulltime at Keewaydin until the end of December. The search process for the new Director has begun. If you know of anyone who might be interested or whom we should contact as a resource, please contact me at pete@keewaydin.org.

Please find Bruce's letter to the Keewaydin community on the next page.

Keewaydinly, Pete

Dear Keewaydin Families,

After a fabulous season of canoe trips and wilderness adventures and wonderful Endseason storytelling and celebration we are all home and settling into our lives in the “other world.” After arriving home, I announced to the Keewaydin staff that after 14 years working at Keewaydin as Director, I am going to step aside and let another person have the opportunity to lead the world’s oldest, and best, wilderness canoe trip camp. I feel as if I have moved “the rock” up the hill as far as I can and want to pass it off to the next person, before I let it slip. My whole family has been deeply involved in Keewaydin (with a few gaps) since my brother arrived in 1972. More recently, Sarah, Nathalie, and Amelia have been able to experience the mystical beauty of all Keewaydin entails. I am grateful it has been so positive. This change brings a mix of emotions, mainly sad ones, as my family and I reflect on what we will miss: the people and the crazy, crazy stories they tell about their adventures and how those events impacted their lives.

The future for our family is fairly clear, Sarah will continue working at our local elementary school and I will pick up further coaching duties at Middlebury College with the cross-country running team and indoor and outdoor track and field teams. Of course, I hope Nathalie and Amelia will continue leading trips deep into the future.

The future for Keewaydin Temagami leadership is also bright. I will stay on as long as I am needed to support the change of leadership but will be certain to step out of the way of the new director when he or she is ready. I have spoken at great length with Pete Hare, Keewaydin Foundation Executive Director, about the process and he is preparing to conduct a national search for the new leader. It is important to be thorough. Ideally the new director will be named in December of 2019. In the meantime, Emily Schoelzel and I will be working hard wrapping up the details of the summer of 2019 and getting ready for the 2020 season (the 2020 application is online and spots are already filling up!).

Finally, I want to thank you all for trusting us with the well-being and education of your child. It has always been a trust we take very seriously. We believe that every child who attends Keewaydin even for one three-week session is forever positively impacted by their experience. It has been a fabulous time rolling the rock and I am confident the next leader is going to find a new high point for Keewaydin.

Thank you,

Bruce



Ojibway Family Lodge

A Place Untouched. An Experience Apart.



Stay in a cabin, in a private room in the Lodge, or in a lakeside tent. Savor three delectable meals a day served family style in the dining room overlooking the lake. Settle in by the fire, hangout on the dock and socialize, take a dip, cast a fishing line, or explore the lake by canoe, kayak or paddleboard. Hike through the old growth forest. Or, simply relax on the porch with a good book.

To learn more about an Ojibway stay on Lake Temagami visit Ojibwayfamilylodge.com or e-mail tanya@keewaydin.org.

The Birch Bark Canoe Survives!

At Midseason this summer, Demi Mathias, former camper and staff (she led the 2017 Bay Trip) traveled up from her home on Bear Island with the birchbark canoe she built as part of her master's thesis. Demi spent the summer of 2018 harvesting the materials for and building the canoe and then paddling it on the Missinaibi River.

In 2019, Demi, member of the Bear Island First Nation, came and presented the canoe at Midseason and discussed her relationship to the canoe, how she built it, where she found the materials in the Lake Temagami region and how she relates to the lands around Temagami. She also answered a ton of questions!



Demi Mathias '10 with her canoe talking to the camp at Midseason.



A close up of the bow of Demi's birch bark canoe.



Beyond the Bay: An all-girl, canoe- tripping documentary

This summer, filmmaker Hannah Maia experienced first-hand the challenges and joys of Keewaydin canoe tripping, as she tumped and tripped alongside a group of 11 young women on Keewaydin Temagami's Section 2 trip on the Eastmain River of Quebec. Weaving together the specific happenings which arose on trip, infused with the larger questions of what it is to be a teenager today - and more specifically a girl--she is making a documentary of the experience called Beyond The Bay.

In the documentary, she encounters herself, a sisterhood, and strong role models in the backdrop of an

expansive natural world. Maia expects the film to premiere in the spring 2020. For more details go to www.beyondthebayfilm.com, <https://maiamedia.co.uk>.



Producer Max(ine) Christopher P'14 and filmmaker Hannah Maia '18, in production on Devil's Island, Summer 2019.



**Required switch for all
Canadian bush planes**



2020 ADULT TRIPS



The details for 2020 Adult Trips are still forming, but the current plan is to offer at least a Men's Flatwater Trip, a Co-ed Flatwater Trip and a Women's Flatwater Trip in the Temagami region from July 31-August 8.

We are considering a more ambitious trip in Quebec to Richmond Gulf via the Clearwater River with July 21-August 8 as tentative dates. There are details and logistics to be sorted out on that trip before we are able to confirm the costs and viability. This trip to Richmond Gulf will be rigorous.



**If you are interested in any of these trips,
email bruce@keewaydin.org or call (802) 352-4709.**

Capital Projects

Spring and summer were very productive on Devil's Island in terms of capital projects. Mojag Cabin, on Paul's Island, was stained, sided, plumbed, floored and finished in time for guest arrivals in July. It is beautiful! Other projects were not as glamorous, but very important: a new roof on Keewaydin Kitchen and the Chill House, and two new platform tents were built at Ojibway.

The end of summer was also productive with the Manitou Director's cabin getting a new roof and foundation, the Outfitting Center floor getting a couple of coats of fresh paint and the map room floor getting a careful sanding and refinishing. Work continues this fall on upgrading the Ojibway septic systems and increasing the capacity of the Ojibway solar panels to provide a bit more power to service Ojibway's needs. The Keewaydin Kitchen will receive an upgrade on its septic system.



Manitou Wigwam Directors cabin with a new roof and a fresh foundation

No one was able to discover how old it is when it started to fail this summer.

At the summer Keewaydin Board of Director's meeting it was resolved to form a long term site planning master planning committee composed of both day-to-day users of Devil's Island and folks with a broad view of master planning to consider the questions: How is the island functioning now, how would we like to see it function in the future and how can the infrastructure best support the mission of the camp?

It will be a good process and the outcome will help guide future improvements and changes on Devil's Island.



Map Room floor ready to be sanded and resealed after 14 seasons of traffic



Exterior shot of Mojag cabin



Mojag Porch with captain chairs bearing the names Alloe and Alan Enos who stayed in the original cabin for over 50 summers

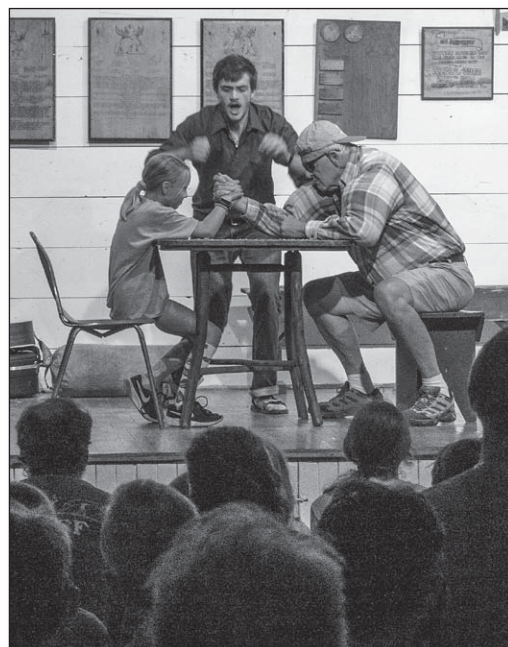


Magnificent Mojag Bedroom!



Great Mojag living room!

Mid-Season!



Evelyn Schoelzel '19 (left) vanquishes the mighty Bruce Bishop '52 (again) while John Bourdelais '09 referees.



Wells Blaxter '83 and son Henry '18 at the Peerade

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Mid-Season

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2017 gives their Peerade cheer!



A Midseason skit...



Makobe presents their meal for the Cooking Contest.



Danny Carpenter '61 (left) and John Applegate '76 (right) judge the Abibiti wannigan tump job.



Waubeno X wins the Camping Contest.



Everyone Kowtows!



Sandino Ferjuste '19 and William White '17 chop for the Cooking Contest.



Peerade!!!!



John Bourdelais '09 and Gabe Haddad '09 at the Midseason Show, where the music always sounds sweet!

~ News ~



Leo Jordan Tanz Muhlschlegel, born July 4, 2019 to Katie Tanz '99 and George Muhlschlegel



Oliver Randolph Smith born June 20, 2019 to Abigail Fontaine '99 and Steven Smith



Endseason ~ 2019 ~



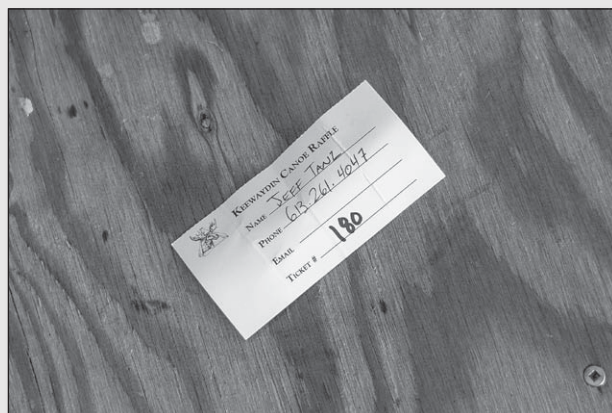
What a clean camp! Award winners of the "Swim Every Day" challenge.



Campers with their Keewaydin Flags, presented for recruiting a friend or relation to be a camper in 2019.



Presenting the Gunn Canoe trophy to 2019 winner Aidan Shepardon '14. Pictured are past winners who were on hand for the ceremony: Bruce Ingersoll '77 (not a winner, but gets to be in the picture!) Demi Mathias '09, Angus Parton '10, Aidan Shepardon, Jordan Miller '13, Gabe Haddad '09 and Max Corkran '11.



Jeff Tanz '94 won the Roy Waters Scholarship Fund Raffle Canoe! Displayed is the winning ticket!



July 14, Section A unloads their re-outfit from the big yellow Otter on Lac Loiseau, Quebec

KEEWAYDIN ANNUAL FUND



Keewaydin is fortunate to receive gifts from variety of funding sources which help us deliver the **excellent camp programs that you expect from us**. Tuition cannot cover the real cost of funding our campers' experience.

This is where the Annual Fund comes in. Every gift is meaningful, from the \$10 dollar gift from a new summer staff member to the \$5,000 stock gift from a camper who attended camp in the 40s.



The **Annual Fund** is an unrestricted fund that allows the Keewaydin Foundation the most flexibility in its use. This fund supports the entire organization – including Dunmore, Temagami, and Songadeewin, or KEEC – as well as immediate needs that might arise.

Please make a gift today at Keewaydin.org/give!

Thank you for supporting the Keewaydin Annual Fund!

Psssst! Spread the Word!



How do Keewaydin and Songadeewin find new campers? From you—our current families and alumni! There is no better advertising than word of mouth—especially from a trusted friend. So spread the word!

If you do have leads, please send their contact information to bruce@keewaydin.org. Thank you!

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Temagami



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