



The KICKER

Established 1910

Summer 2020

Keeping the Keewaydin Spirit Alive

It wasn't too long ago when we still had visions of frolicking on Dunmore dancing in our heads. By the end of February, the camp was nearly full and the staff nearly all hired. Then Covid-19 got in the way. At first it didn't seem possible that the virus would close camp. Keewaydin Dunmore, after all, hasn't missed a summer since its first summer in 1910! Spanish Flu, World War One, World War Two? No problem! But by mid-May, it was clear: both the State of Vermont and common sense told us Keewaydin could not open safely for its 111th summer.

Tragic as this might be, we are dealing with it. We are making the best of the hand that we have been dealt and we are keeping the Keewaydin Spirit alive! How so? Let us count the ways!

On Opening Day, June 28, all campers received a package containing an outline of the program we would run this summer and a t-shirt which says "Keewaydin" on the front and "Faithful and True" on the back.

Campers are still able to earn their Coup K from home! Of course, the requirements are a bit more flexible than normal, given that most campers do not have access to everything we have at camp, but the emphasis



We'll keep the Keewaydin Spirit alive till we meet again in 2021

is to be active and creative, to get outdoors and to have a well-rounded summer. To make sure they are being good community members at home and "leaving their campsite better than they found it," they have to earn an "Inspection" coup by making their bed and straightening their room daily, and a "Walloping" coup by washing the dishes a minimum of three times per week!

Campers and staff are submitting short videos which we are using to create Friday Frolics, Kicker Campfires and "The Thought for the Day." These are posted on our website for all campers and parents to see. Staff and campers are making videos of themselves preparing meals for a Keewaydin Iron Chef! We are keeping campers and staff connected through interactive events on Zoom such as campfires and activity periods.

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How Keewaydin Helped Me Adapt During a Global Pandemic

The following comes from a letter written by Johnny Clore to Pete Hare in April.

Recently, I was exchanging text messages with former Keewaydin

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Keewaydin Spirit

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For those who miss hearing some of the iconic sounds of camp, we have posted "Sounds of Keewaydin" on the Dunmore Summer 2020 site featuring The Goodnight Song and taps, Formation (including the cannon), the Gong, and more!

But most of all, we are keeping the Keewaydin Spirit alive by keeping it in our thoughts and in our dreams and by carrying it in our hearts. Wherever we go, Keewaydin will be with us. The sound of the birds waking us at first light, the refreshing sensation when we jump into Dunmore's cool waters, the crackle of the campfire, the boisterous and soulful singing in the dining hall, the laughter in the Multi-House, the camaraderie with our friends during free time, the excitement of Navy Seals, the adventures on our trips—all of this we will remember and carry with us. It will keep us strong and give us sustenance till we gather again next summer!



Pandemic

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staffman Ash Phillips as we shared updates about our experiences in social isolation for COVID-19. To get his exercise, Ash mentioned that he's been introducing his roommates to the workout routine we used to do at camp for Wiantinaug fitness club. Pushups, situps, squats, no equipment required. His adaptation of this regimen got me thinking about how well camp has actually prepared me for dealing with the current global health crisis. In ways large and small, Keewaydin teaches its campers

and staff to prepare carefully, adapt quickly, and live joyously in whatever circumstances may arise.

An early lesson in this philosophy came for me in 2002 when I was a camper on a Wilderness trip to the Rupert River. A little under two weeks into the trip, after leaving Lake Mistassini and running parts of the Marten River on our way to the Rupert, we became aware that large forest fires were blazing across northern Quebec. If the smoke-blackened sky and fire-red sun were not clues enough, Sam Cooncum, our Cree guide, was prepared with a radio and managed to uncoil long wire antennae to communicate a signal back to the fire department in Mistassani Post. They confirmed the dangerous situation and immediately began driving to evacuate us. We paddled to the nearest road and waited. When the "calvary" arrived, they were flying down a dirt road in a fire truck, blasting Britney Spears as they sent dust flying in their wake. We loaded our canoes in a precarious heap on top of the rescue vehicle, piled into the back, and enjoyed the music on a very bumpy, very dusty ride to Mistassani. Once there, we slept in Sam's basement, enjoyed a feast of Canada goose, and waited for Seth Gibson to arrive.

The next day, when we saw the familiar Keewaydin van and trailer, we loaded it with great alacrity and hopped on board. The next leg of our journey featured Seth's classic books on tape instead of the fire department's pop, but nevertheless, we enjoyed the ride west, out of the fires and onto the Missanabi River, where we would conclude our trip by paddling into Moosonee on the James Bay. This wasn't the river we'd planned to paddle or the trip we'd



Johnny Clore teaching a camper the finer points of paddling

expected to have. But Keewaydin never gave us a moment to dwell on what was lost; instead, our leaders encouraged us to embrace what lay ahead and revel in the unique experiences the journey would afford us. A decade later, when I revisited Moosonee as a member of Expedition 2012, it occurred to me that the unexpected elements of my wilderness trip prepared me for future challenges and opportunities in unforeseen ways; it's hard to predict where life will lead us, but if we listen, the bumpy, winding road we've walked has a way of teaching us the skills and dispositions that we need to continue walking wherever that road may lead.

In a smaller way, these lessons resurfaced in the summer of 2008, when it seemed to rain every day at camp. It rained so much that the Wiantinaug OD shelter became an island. The docks had to be weighted down with ABS canoes filled with water. Despite Owen's best efforts to monitor the weather radar, our activities constantly needed adjusting. Afternoon activity periods originally

scheduled for rock climbing at the Falls of Lana quickly became games in the Lodge. Tennis became stories with Eddie Dobson. Basketball became dam building in the streams that poured off the side of Mount Moosalamoo. Carefully planned out activities had to be scrapped just about every day. In their place, new activities sprung to life and brought joy to everyone in even the dampest of days. We paddled the flooded White River. We taught rock-paper-scissors strategy (including the now infamous "Claw" move which features an ambiguous and adjustable hand configuration). We hosted finger jousting tournaments and I pioneered a still undefeated "backstroke swoop" technique, which revolutionized finger jousting across the world (or at least in Wiantinaug). Chris Nevin also seized on this activity to make one of the greatest activity circle puns of all time when he asserted that these hand games were entirely fitting of "today's digital age." Despite the rainy weather, the summer of 2008 was one of my most memorable and most fun summers ever; we planned for each day, adjusted when the weather

changed, and reveled in the fun we found amidst the flood.

As I sit around the house, waiting out the coronavirus, I'm reminded of these moments from camp and I'm inspired to adapt and enjoy the "new normal" just as we did on those rainy days in the lodge. Learning to teach via "distance learning" platforms will likely help me to improve my pedagogy in general. Minimizing trips to the grocery store will help me to develop better habits around eating my leftovers. Being cooped up at home has helped me to get in a routine of calling friends and family on a daily basis. Everyone is facing different challenges in this trying time. Some are undoubtedly facing more dire straits and more uncertain futures than I. Nevertheless, I know that for me, Keewaydin has built a set of dispositions that will carry me through this and any challenges that lie ahead.



The Low Down on the Hi-Jinks

By Pete Hare '59

The amount of planning put into the normal Keewaydin summer is always enormous—activities, trips, Frolics, evening activities, campfires, the Carnival. The list could go on and on. But the event that undoubtedly demands the most time, ingenuity and creativity is the Hi-Jinks on Old Timers Day. Think about it—a campus-wide game involving every camper and staff—and it's a new

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Hi-Jinks

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theme and game every year! We've seen just about everything—horse races, gladiators, *Pokemon*, *Star Wars*, *Lord of the Rings*, Elvis Presley, Roman Legions, Harry Potter, an elephant and much, much more! How did this all start and how has it evolved?



Ben Jacoff as Yoda in Star Wars (2007)

The Hi-Jinks, of course, is part of Old Timers Day—a day of celebration for the “Papoosiwogs” that culminates with the papooses being inducted into the Old Timers Club. The Hi-Jinks, a word defined as “boisterous fun, often disruptive and rowdy,” began in the 1950s as a messy affair—almost more of a college hazing ritual, involving the slinging of different food products (think peanut butter, jelly, fluff and



Jay Dater as “Darth Dater” in Star Wars (2007)

eggs) at the papooses. Eventually, it became clear that while the Hi-Jinks were, indeed, “boisterous, disruptive and rowdy,” they were not much “fun” for the papooses!

So, in 1970, tired of calls from parents complaining about their sons returning home with peanut butter in their ear canals, the Directors decided it was time to change the concept of the Hi-Jinks. The first post-food fight Hi-Jinks featured a “feat of daring



Angus Barstow leads the Pirate Ship in the Gold Rush (2017)

and strength”—shimmying across a thick braided rope from one side of the lagoon to the other. If the participants didn’t fall into the lagoon (face it, on the scale of gross and scary things that can happen to you, falling into the lagoon rates very high), they invariably suffered rope burns on their ankles and thighs. For some, they fell into the lagoon and had rope burns! By the end of the day, there were calls for a return to the good ol’ quaint food fight days!



The Cyclops in The Odyssey (2011)

The following summer, the Hi-Jinks set off in a direction nobody could have predicted—and, in fact, nobody had planned for until the last minute. While it may not have set a precedent



Charlie Sotir is a very convincing Zombie (2013).

for future Hi-Jinks with regards to form and theme, it did change the vibe from “rowdy, but not fun” to “just plain fun.” Apparently, a small traveling circus was passing through Vermont and some staff had caught wind of this. Intrigued, Abby Fenn and Lil Brewster tracked down the wayfaring performers and persuaded their ringmaster to bring the show to



Max Sdvjikov leads the Roman Legion (2015).

camp. A couple of days later, a few trucks and trailers rolled in and the circus took place on the Wiantinaug ballfield. No one interviewed for this article remembers much about what took place, with one very notable exception: the elephant! That's right! There once was an elephant on the Wiantinaug ballfield! It was only there for one afternoon and it did not do any kind of tricks or astonishing displays of dexterity—it pretty much just stood there and walked around a bit. But for the campers and staff present, the mere fact that there was an elephant at camp was spectacle enough!

Gradually, the Hi-Jinks took the form of a game, usually involving only the papooses and some old timers. But by the late 1970s and early 1980s the productions were getting larger and more inventive. The architect

TIME TO GET SOME KEEWAYDIN SWAG!

Looking for a Keewaydin T-Shirt? How about a baseball cap, or a sweat shirt, or a neck tie? Maybe a Keewaydin banner! It's time to go shopping at the Keewaydin Store!

There's so much you can find there! Go to our website (www.keewaydin.org) and look for the “Camp Store.”



Keewaydin Long-Sleeved T



Keewaydin Short-Sleeved T



Keewaydin Banner
35" x 17" Felt, with brass grommets for hanging



Keewaydin
Trucker Cap

Visit our website at www.keewaydin.org, and click on Camp Store! Or click here!



Hi-Jinks

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behind some of the early large scale campus wide games was Greg White, a Wiantinaug staffman whose sense of drama, production and fun was unmatched in those years.



Ben Smith bringin' it in Top Gunnel (2010)

One summer, he engineered an “Election” theme. Everyone at camp was a member of a party, the “Great Auk” party or the “Bull Moose” party. The two presidential candidates were papoosiwogs. Staged mostly on the Wiantinaug ballfield, the spectacle involved delegates, placards, balloons and buttons, windbag speeches filled with outrageous promises (“No more inspection!”... “Ice cream and glick at every meal!”), caucuses, backroom dealing, and chicanery of all variety.

The early 1990s witnessed a wave of memorable Hi-Jinks productions,

primarily the work of a group of Waramaug staff collectively nicknamed the “Goodtime Boys” by then director Russ MacDonald. The group included John Sheehan, Will Gluck, David “Moose” Rettinger, Ben McGraw, Pete Hedlund, Fred Sgro, Colin Tindall, and Aaron Lewis, with Laurie Hare on art direction, props and costume design. In the early days of the 1990 season, led by Mashkicks Sheehan and McGraw, they hatched the idea of a “Keewaydin Derby” and worked on it all summer. No details were overlooked. Costumes went into production three weeks in advance—horse features, jockey uniforms, fancy attire for those in the “grandstands” (the Moos bleachers, lugged up to the Wiantinaug ballfield from the multi-house). They printed Keewaydin currency with Waboos Hare’s photo and the inscription “In Waboos We Trust.” Papooses were horses and old timers were jockeys, while the rest of the camp placed their bets using the “racing form” to read up on which horses (e.g., “Paddle Dipper,” “Coup Chaser,” “War Canoe,” etc.) were best “on soft track at a mile and a quarter.” Colin Tindall, dressed in red, played “First Call” on the bugle



Jake Pirkkanen and Jeff Chandler in the Oregon Trail (2012)

before each race. “Mint Juleps” (a.k.a lemon glick) were served. As a pack of kids in “the infield” ran along with the horses, waving their betting slips and urging on their picks, Sheehan remembers Waboos telling him and McGraw, “Now that’s a Hi-Jinks!” It was mayhem and it was marvelous!

The “Goodtime Boys” took the reins again in ‘92, this time led by “Moose” Rettinger. The concept—“The Stock Market”—was even more ambitious. Numerous corporations were established such as “Waboos Hare Care,” Aaron Lewis “Free Range Twinkies” and “Fredit” (Fred Sgro-issued credit



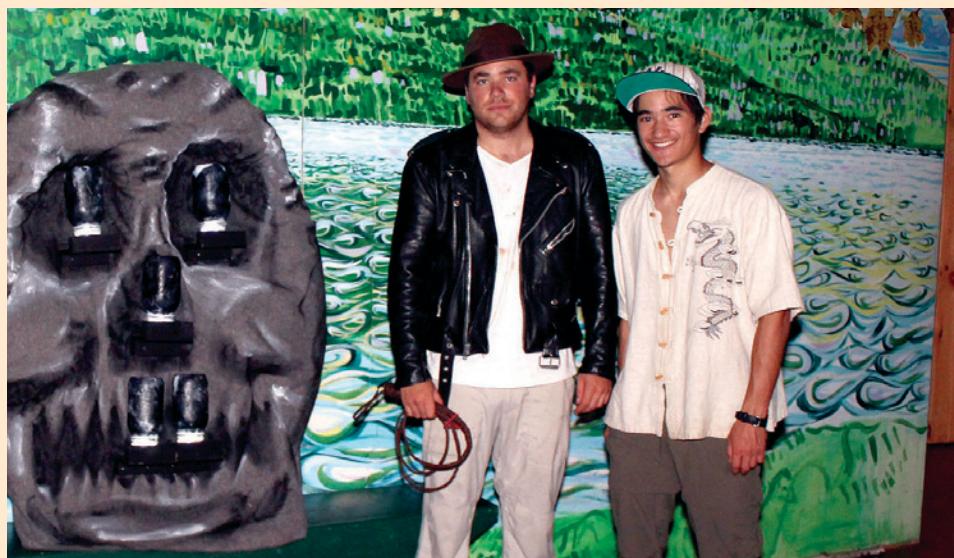
Newscasters Sam Broda and Aaron Salzman break the bad news in Super Heroes (2019)



Epic naval battle in Top Gunnel (2010)

cards... “for credit, it’s Fredit, so get it!”). Large, colorful billboards were designed by Laurie Hare and Nessim Watson (with Vermont approving a temporary waiver on the state ban for the afternoon). Old timers were company owners and merchants and papoosiwogs were stockbrokers in cardboard business suits. The rest of the camp wandered happily around the ballfield buying and selling stocks from the brokers, watching prices rise and fall on the “Big Board” and listening to Will Gluck’s periodic newscasts—“This just in . . . a harsh winter has affected global harvests, driving up the price of premium baked goods such as Ding Dongs, Devil Dogs, Snowballs, and...Twinkies! Hint, hint...”. Campers could also sample company products (e.g., get yourself a Peanut Butter Pompadour hairdo) and enjoy several other sideshows: jumpstart your portfolio with an MBA from Nessim’s business school; watch Sam McGraw and his SEC team take shady dealers into custody; or sit in Addison County judge Warren King’s kangaroo court as he hears cases involving accusation of fraud or malfeasance. (FYI, he threw the book at everyone!)

No outside talent had been recruited for the Hi-Jinks since the elephant in 1971—until Elvis came to camp for the “Viva Las Vegas” Hi-Jinks in 2002. Michael Sotir and Will Connell were the Mashkicks for this extravaganza, though, truth be told, Carolyn Sotir was the brains behind the scenes. Sunset Arena was repurposed as a nightclub stage. The big show began with showgirls (Keewaydin staffmen), a gangster skit involving Sotir, Connell and Waboos, and a show-stopping performance by Tom Vorenberg singing “Luck Be a Lady Tonight” while channeling his inner Frank Sinatra and sporting a



Ash Phillips and Tomo Okamoto in Raiders of the Lost Ark (2014)

light blue polyester suit. The headline performer, however, was an Elvis Presley impersonator who arrived in a pink Cadillac that drove right up to the stage! No one knows for sure the name of this Elvis impersonator—he apparently lived in Salisbury and actually had “Elvis” on his mailbox. He entertained the crowd with a few songs and hip gyrating moves



John Rhodes pulls a chariot with Jorge Toro aboard (2015).

and then departed as mysteriously as he had arrived. The story behind how this talent was discovered and recruited will be left for another Kicker, or perhaps is best left alone.

The 2007 theme of *Star Wars* featured some of the most creative stations yet to be seen in a Hi-Jinks. Jay Dater (co-Mashkick along with Ben Jacoff) appeared during lunch announcements, seized the microphone and pronounced himself the Supreme Ruler of Keewaydin. The papooses were divided into four groups and had to pass through four stations in order to then confront and conquer Darth “Dater.” Annwi was an Ewok Village. Yoda, played by Ben Jacoff, presented riddles, the solutions for which allowed the papooses to cross a “ferry” over the lagoon. But the highlight was the laundry transformed into a futuristic tavern with a menagerie of space creatures, including Tyler Smith in his career defining moment as Jabba the Hutt.

In 2010, Ben Smith and James Hogan brought us “Top Gunnel”—a takeoff on the Tom Cruise classic,

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Hi-Jinks

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Top Gun. Smith and Hogan presented an elaborate backstory to the papooses—complete with power point—in the Multi-House, followed by flight school. The climax was an epic “dogfight” engineered by Max Sdvijkov on the lake involving all the papooses, most of the old timers and just about every canoe and kayak in the fleet. The “dogfight” was really more of a naval battle with missiles (tennis balls) thrown from one team’s boats to the other’s, which would “sink” the vessels. A crack squad of kayakers blitzed to the scene from their hiding place in the lagoon. No one quite remembers what role they played—other than add to the general chaos. The papooses emerged victorious when papoose Henry Primeaux seized the battle flag and planted it on the Waramaug float.

Max Sdvijkov has been the creator and director of the ballfield game portion of the Hi-Jinks for many years. All of his productions have been stunning in creativity, scope and organization, as well as chaos, mayhem and unbridled fun. But his master work was undoubtedly “Gladiators” in 2015—a theme that played to all of Max’s strengths: a passion for history,



L to R: Elliott Rauh, Mike Moritz, Spencer Reynolds, Justin McKendry and Cam MacDonald in the Gold Rush (2017)

a lust for battle, and an obsession with the glory of Rome. This Hi-Jinks had it all: The Directors as consuls and senators, papooses as gladiators, old timers as the Roman Legion, chariots, naval battles, fire and a siege. With the help of many staff, Max made elaborate costumes, including helmets and shields for the Legion. Angus Barstow carved several short swords for the warriors. During the course of the afternoon, the papooses went to gladiator school to learn the art of warfare, faced an attack from spear wielding soldiers in chariots, fought a naval battle (in the war canoe), endured a siege on the big ballfield, and, finally, engaged and defeated the Roman Legion.

Given the extremely high bar established by so many Hi-Jinks past, it becomes increasingly difficult to come up with new ideas that meet the standards! Somehow, every year the Mashkicks rise to the occasion. The 2019 “Super Heroes” theme clearly made the grade! It kicked off with a video news flash with anchormen Sam Broda and Aaron Salzman delivering the devastating

news that the four Soul Medallions of the Four Winds had been stolen from the Hermit’s cave. They called on the Keewaydin Avengers, with the help of the papoosiwogs, to find the outlaws behind the theft, retrieve the medallions and save the world from annihilation! Spiderman (Peter Lindholm), Ironman (Angus Barstow), Wonder Woman (Matt Bialosky), the Hulk (Dave Flight) and Captain America (Owen Hildreth) along with the papooses engaged in an epic heroes’ journey to vanquish the villains—Walloping Walrus (Schuyler MacDonald), Hive Man (Carlos Spigel), Wangan Rat (Alex Smith-Bove), Kampersville Squirrel (Cam MacDonald), Dehydrated Hermit (Elliot Rauh) and Milfoil Man (Jack Waterman). After each victorious encounter, the papooses received magic potion which gradually transformed them into Super Heroes themselves. By the end, they recovered the medallions, banished Milfoil Man and saved Keewaydin and, indeed, the world!

Though there have been a few staff who have had repeat performances



Griffin Must leads (L to R) Quadir Rayfield, Dan Hart and Nick Sullivan in Pokemon (2016).

as a Mashkickwinini—Greg White, John Sheehan, Davey Flight, and Ben Jacoff come to mind—typically, this is a “one and done” honor. There are a few noteworthy behind-the-scenes staff who have played indispensable roles in the Hi-Jinks over many years. From the 1970s-1990s, no Mashkick could do without the assistance of Laurie Hare. And, indeed, she continues to play a role in the 21st century. Laurie knows more about fashioning togas and garlands than most women from ancient Rome. The quantity of golden nuggets she has painted for various wild west themes qualifies her as a modern Midas. She single-handedly tried to bring back to life the great auk with the hundreds of auk eggs she painted and planted all around the campus one summer. From 2000 to the present, there has been at least one Sack sister involved, if not two or three, in every Hi-Jinks. Whether it be spider eggs, ring pieces and elf ears for *Lord of the Rings*, or the giant boulder and skull for Indiana Jones, or the epic armor in Gladiator, or makeup for every Hi-Jinks, Stephanie, Roni and Lauren Sack have created costumes and props that brought life and magic to the Hi-Jinks.



Milfoil Man being banished from camp in Super Heroes (2019)

What will the next Hi-Jinks theme be? No one knows for sure, but it's not too soon to start planning! Let Pete know if you want to be the Mashkick!

Great Hi-Jinks Memories

- The gigantic Game of Life board in 1983
- The Beauty Contest in 1989, featuring Miss Auk, Miss Wangan Room, Miss Glick, etc.
- Matt Halk and Julian Campbell as show girls in the 2002's Viva Las Vegas



Peter White guards the bridge during the Gold Rush (2017).

- Ben Jacoff as Gollum, hanging from the dining hall rafters and grabbing the ring from Gandalf (Mike Ritter) during the lunch time announcement of *The Lord of the Rings* theme in 2003
- Fuller Tarlton dressed as a Roman Consul in the 2005 Spartacus event
- The trial in the Multi-House to conclude the Murder Mystery in 2008
- *The Odyssey* theme in 2011 with the Battle of Troy, the Land of the Lotus Eaters, Ken Woodard as Poseidon and an enormous Cyclops head!
- The lunch time announcement for the 2013 Zombie theme—it was 50-50 whether you thought the zombies were real or staff in costume
- Ash Phillips as Indiana Jones in 2014 running down the bridge stairs as an enormous papier-mâché “boulder” bore down on him
- Cannon Moltz as saloon proprietor playing rag-time tunes in the Multi-House-turned-saloon and Peter White as a troll in 2017 Gold Rush theme
- Handing out individually made wands and personal letters to each papoosiwog in the *Harry Potter* Hi-Jinks of 2018



~ Beside the Lake ~



How many stars do you think there are?

I could count them,
but how could I account
for the sparks snapping off the fire,
or the moonlight echoing across the lake?

I can't see the lake but I can feel it.
A cool, clear submersion, starting at my toes
and soon consuming me. All I need
is my head above it, and I can see for miles.

Hope always feels like water.
And birch trees—taller in the dark—
are its keepers, gentle guardians preserving our lake
(or our hope) and all of its excess stars.

Listen, can you hear that?

It might be faint,
and it might even be in your head,
But the sound of the loons, the call of the lake
is with you, wherever you see the moonlight
write its stories out of shadows.

And the long, long road ends at the lake,
and upon the lake is where we camp.

Peter Lindholm ~ April 1, 2020

Alumni News

John Hammock '53 attended a formal dinner and award ceremony at Buckingham Palace where, on behalf of Sophia Oxford, he accepted the Queen's Anniversary Prize for the organization's work on reducing poverty. Sophia Oxford is an Oxford University organization set up to provide the private sector with a way of measuring and responding to the social poverty of its employees and their families, using a business Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI). John is the Co-Founder and Board Chair of Sophia Oxford.

Dick Strifert '57 and his wife Sue, longtime residents of Vermont, recently moved to a retirement community in Exeter, NH. Their first week there they met another couple who invited them to dinner. When the conversation at cocktail hour turned to Vermont, the two couples discovered they had something very important in common: Keewaydin! The couple who had invited Dick and Sue to dinner was none other than **Jamie '43** and **Sarah Donnelly**! Jim was a camper from Annwi through Wiantinaug in the 1940s, then went on to spend five summers at Temagami. Their son, **Brooks '75**, was a Dunmore camper and staff for many years! When it comes to Keewaydin, the world is, indeed, small!

Evan Lewis '81 and his wife, Aud Melas, have been in Norway for the last 15 years. They have built up several businesses, including a hotel, restaurants and two breweries. The beer side of the business is Evan's focus, and they own Norway's 4th largest craft brewery. Anyone visiting the fjord region of Norway should definitely drop by! www.aegirbrewery.com

Dr. Matthew Koff '82 is an anesthesiologist in Lebanon, New Hampshire and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area, including Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center and the White River Junction Veterans Affairs Medical Center. He also serves with the US Army Reserves. Here is a photo from his recent deployment. His son's 6th grade class recently sent him a care package, complete with Kee-waydin hat and sticker. He is wearing his Keewaydin swag with pride over in Nangarhar province Afghanistan!



Matt Koff

Breck Knauft '82, Executive Director of the Vermont Youth Conservation Corp, and **Benjy Adler '90**, founder of the Skinny Pancake restaurants, are collaborating on a creative hunger relief project in Vermont called ShiftMeals.

Tim Hill '87 lives in Singapore with his wife and two daughters. He does research advisory, providing market sizing, forecast data, competitive intelligence, etc. to companies in Southeast Asia. He looks forward to returning to Keewaydin one day. He has many great memories of his years on staff in the 1980s.

Sam Stern '90 joined the Board of Trustees for Hobart & William Smith Colleges.

Gaspar Epstein '90 continues to teach Spanish and coach three varsity sports at Riverdale County.

Johnny Clore '00 is planning a canoe trip of Lawrenceville School (NJ) faculty through the White Cliffs of the Missouri Breaks in Montana, through which the Lewis and Clark Expedition passed in 1805. The trip is a part of an effort to bring Lawrenceville's Lewis and Clark course to life and experience the land and rivers as they experienced them. As part of the Lewis and Clark course, Johnny is building a canoe with his students! The overall trip will be 12 days, engaging on Tribal Lands and various historical centers; the canoe trip portion is four days. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the trip is on hold for the time being.

Bennett Werner '00 married Ariel Jutras on September 14, 2019 in Los Angeles, CA. Fellow Keewaydineesi **Mikey Ursu '00**, **Nathan Rasmussen '09** and **Michael Tessler '05** attended. Tessler, in fact, officiated the wedding! Of the many songs they danced to during the reception, one stood out: "Keewaydineesi."



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Alumni News

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L to R: Alan Werner, Nathan Rasmussen, Bennett Werner, Michael Tessler and Mike Ursu

David Watson '01 is completing a Ph.D. in philosophy and internet studies at Oxford University.

Jeff Chandler '01 has enrolled in the University of Washington's Master of Education for Environment and Community program in partnership. Jeff reports that the program's philosophy seems very aligned with that of KEEC (Keewaydin Environmental Education Center).

Aaron Salzman '06 will begin a three year MFA program at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks. One of his areas of concentration will be First Nation societies.

Dylan Kuhns '07 is an Ensign in the United States Navy. He is currently in Pensacola, FL training to be a flight officer.

Owen Elrifi '09 was a field organizer on the Elizabeth Warren campaign, responsible for identifying and recruiting voters and volunteers by making phone calls, knocking on doors, sending emails, etc. He also trained volunteers, planned and coordinated events, and produced digital and deliverable content for the campaign.

Rick Hopkins '07 is the coach of the Williamsville High School girls varsity ice hockey team. After winning the Girls High School Championship in New York in 2019, Hopkins' team won the Western New York Section VI title this season and made it all the way back to the state championship game! Although they lost 1-0 in the championship game, this has been an incredible run for coach Hopkins and his team!



In February, **Michael Deschenes '10** and **James Day '11** had a reunion when their basketball teams squared off in southern California! The two Keewaydin alumni have faced each other many times on the K Court, but this was the first time they met in a high school game. Michael's Pasadena Polytechnic School emerged victorious over James's Thatcher School in a well-fought game. Both Michael and James were planning on joining the Keewaydin staff in 2020!



James Day and Michael Deschenes

Jalen Berger '11, a student at Don Bosco Prep in northern New Jersey,

is one of the top high school running backs in the US. In December, he indicated his intent to attend the University of Wisconsin in the fall. **Ben Kenney '09**, a junior at Wisconsin, and **Phil Coyle '03**, also attending Wisconsin as a Ph.D. candidate in math, look forward to watching Jalen carry the pigskin for the Badgers in the future!

Stanley Stilwell '13 married Austin Shaw on August 31, 2019. They are now Mr. and Mrs. Stilwell-Shaw! Both work for Deloitte Consulting, and live in Manhattan.

Stephen Peters-Collaer '14 is beginning a Ph.D. program in biology at the University of Vermont in the fall.

Dennis Schut '14 will be continuing his studies to become a Physician's Assistant at the University of Vermont in the fall.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Walt Conard '51 died on January 4 at age 74. The son of Chuck and Betty Conard, he was a camper for many years and went on the famous 50th anniversary canoe trip in 1959 that traveled down to Hudson River all the way to New York City. In recent years, he has been a regular attendee along with his son, Charles, at the John Watson Work Weekend.

Wendell Smith '55 passed away on January 26, 2020 at the Jewish Home of Rochester at the age of 88.



Wendell Smith in Wyoming's Wind River Mountain at about 72 years old

Together with his wife, Mimi, Wendell instilled in his four children the value of hard work, honesty, integrity, individualism, appreciation for the arts, the outdoors and love of family. His heart was full when his family was all in one place.

Dave Hogenauer '61, a mainstay on the Waramaug staff in the 1970s and 1980s, passed away on April 3 at the age of 86. An avid hiker, he motivated scores of campers to explore the trails on Mt. Moosalamoo, and his five-day hiking trip to Crawfords Notch in the White Mountains was one of the most sought after trips in Waramaug.

A world-class song leader, he brought to camp one of the most iconic campfire songs of all time—"I Say Have You Heard About Harry." Many a camper (and not a few staff) poked himself in the eye or pulled his hair too hard trying to keep up with Dave as he sped through the song and motions. He was also a skilled musician who frequently played his flute at Sunday Circle.

Those who attended the 100th Anniversary of Dunmore in 2009 will remember the beautiful medley of Keewaydin songs he performed. ([Click here to listen to a recording of Dave playing this medley](#)).

He shared his love for camp with his family—his wife, Claire; daughters, Becky and Heather; and son, Ken; all of whom spent many summers on Dunmore. Patient, kind, friendly and fun, Dave was beloved by campers and staff. He will be missed!

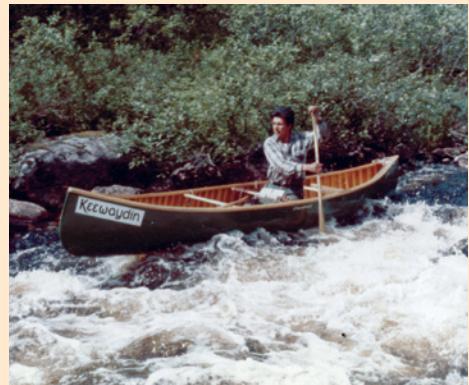


Dave Hogenauer at Sunday Circle

Charlot Gunner '68 passed away on June 22, 2020 at the age of 90 at his home in Mistissini, Quebec. From 1968 to 1997 he guided thirty-one wilderness trips for Keewaydin, paddling over 8,000 miles.

He showed us how to live comfortably in the wilderness. Over the years as our guide he shared his knowledge with dozens of trip leaders and hundreds of trippers. His magnificent canoeing skills in running rapids downstream or poling upstream were great lessons, and his ability to portage large loads was legendary. He was a wonderful teacher. His sense of humor could carry us over the long portages, and through rainy days. He instilled in us a sense of the Cree culture, and for many years he made hand carved paddles for the trippers.

Charlot Gunner was a mainstay of Keewaydin's Wilderness Trips for many years, and he will be missed by us all.



Charlot Gunner shows his mastery on the canoe, 1968

Camilo Duque '16 died on June 27 at the age of 34. Camilo joined the Wiantinaug staff in 2016 and clicked with Keewaydin from the start. His passion for outdoor sports, sense of adventure, and kindness towards all made him a beloved staffman. A superb wood worker, he shared knowledge of his craft with campers and staff. He was a skilled kayaker, rock climber and he loved tripping. Most of all, he was a great friend to all who knew him.



Camilo Duque
BIRTHS

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Alumni News

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Ren Gates '00 and his wife Jenna, welcomed their son Hudson to the world on January 9, 2019. They were thrilled to bring him to the sunny-shores of Lake Dunmore last fall!



Elliott Rauh '97 and his wife, Britt Olsen Ecker, had their first child on December 23, 2019. Jackson Elliott Rauh squiggled into the world at 7 lbs. 13ozs.



Nathan Rasmussen '09 and his wife, Cathy, are pleased to announce the arrival of their son, Luke. Luke was born on February 12, weighing in at 6 lbs 3 oz.

Ben Jacoff '96 and Emma Tessler

'15 welcomed Eli Pine Jacoff into the world on April 11, 2020. Older sister, Alice, is thrilled to have a little brother!



19. Older brother, Ellis, is happy to have a sister to play with!



Samantha Fraser and her husband, Jason, had their second child, a boy, Luca Charles Chryssicas. He was born on June 4. With his arrival, Stu and Elise Fraser now have five grandchildren!



A proud Grandpa—Stu Fraser with grandson Luca Charles Chryssicas

Oskar Cordero was born on June 7! His parents, **Ben Cordero '93** and Margery are thrilled to have their first child!

Peter Wright '96 and **Mandy Paulson '12** had their second child, a daughter named Amelia Laura Wright, on June

KICKER ARCHIVES

Did you know that back issues of *The Kicker*, as well as our other newsletters and issues of *The Northwest Wind*, are available to download and read in our Publications and Photo Archives?

Perusing the archives is a great way to relive those lazy, hazy, crazy days of years past.



[Click here to get started!](#)

— THE KEEWAYDIN ANNUAL FUND —

Closing camp this summer due to Covid-19 has resulted in unprecedented financial losses.

We need the support of all Keewaydin alumni, families and friends
to help us stay strong to do what we do best:
provide life-changing camping experiences for kids!

Now more than ever we need you to "Help the Other Fellow!"



Please, be as generous as you can in supporting
the 2020* Annual Fund! Thank You.

Keewaydin.org/give

*fiscal year ending October 31, 2020

We'll Be Back! Spread the Word!



The only feeling stronger than our disappointment over missing camp this summer is our excitement about getting back to Keewaydin next summer! We expect a full camp in 2021, but we need your help to get there. We count on you to “spread the word” about Keewaydin. Let your friends and family know what you value so much about our camps. Because of your first hand experience, there are no better advocates for us than you, the parents of our campers and the alumni.

With Covid-19 likely to curtail our normal fall recruiting events around the country, your assistance in recruiting new campers is more important than ever! Please email us names and contact information of any families you think would be interested in Keewaydin to pete@keewaydin.org.

Thank You!

