



The KICKER

Established 1910

Fall 2022

The Summer of 2022

By Peter Hare '59

At the end of the summer of 2021, when we took down the large event-style tent we had used for dining, we thought the worst of Covid-19 was behind us and 2022 would be clear sailing! Wrong! Up went the tent again in 2022 and with it many of the same precautions that we had to have in place. Whereas Covid never penetrated camp in 2021, we had over 20 cases this summer—the Omicron variant proving much more adept at sneaking in! Though having campers and staff in isolation was an inconvenience (minimum of five days), it didn't stop our fun! Most campers and staff who caught Covid felt fine within a few days and were able to do activities such as swimming, paddle boarding, kayaking and canoeing—albeit at a safe distance from others. The last positive test was July 18, and the rest of the summer was all “glick and sunshine, nothing but good times, here on Lake Dunmore!”

A highlight of the first week of camp was the debut of the Friendship Fire Ceremony, which replaced the Four Winds Ceremony. The new ceremony followed a similar structure to its predecessor with four visitors bearing messages both instructive and inspiring, and the Hermit beckoning

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A great Keewaydin tradition: The Verendrye trippers paddling out from the Waramaug shore!

Keewaydin, Appreciation

The following is an excerpt from a presentation by Cameron MacDonald '83 to the staff during pre-season staff training week.

In a commencement speech by David Foster Wallace titled, “This is Water,” the acclaimed author referenced a parable that describes to a “T” how I experience the Keewaydin spirit. In the story, two fish are swimming and another older, grizzled-looking fish swims past them in the opposite direction and asks them, “How’s the water?” To which they reply, “What the heck’s water?”

When I am at Keewaydin, I am reminded of what Wallace refers to as the “water,” of the essentials

and simple pleasures of life that can go unnoticed in our modern world. Each summer, camp gives me the opportunity to step back from the routines of life, not as a complete escape, but to become more grounded, self-informed, and better able to exist in my world outside of camp.

At Keewaydin, I am reminded of what I have. Outside of camp, social media and the tone of our constant stream of news can lure us into feeling

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Summer
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the visitors into our midst. Written in beautiful verse, accenting the past, present, and future of Keewaydin, it was shrouded in sufficient mystery and solemnity to have the desired effect: eyes wide open and pin-dropping silence.

Warm weather, sunny skies, and infrequent (and well timed) rain allowed for maximum enjoyment of outdoor activities. James Hare, Steve Patch and Gustavo Toro ran the opening week “Canoe and Kayak Demonstration,” which set the tone for paddling enthusiasm and excellence all summer long. A supremely talented rock climbing staff, led by four-year staffman Santiago Zuluaga, and ably assisted by fellow Colombians Sebastian Perez and Nico Echeverrey, as well as Julian Gagnier and Alex Simons, meant that more campers than ever were able to enjoy the adrenalin-charged challenges of this altitude-conquering sport. Dodging around Covid first month, every trip was successfully launched—Keewaydin canoers and hikers spanning from Vermont to New York, New Hampshire, Maine, Quebec and Ontario! Moosalamoo added a new trip to the Penobscot River in Maine, an itinerary they discovered in 2021 when border restrictions forced the Moos senior trips to Maine instead of the Verendrye Park in Quebec.

Speaking of trips, Moos trips and Wilderness returned to Canada. Sam Brakeley and Schuyler MacDonald blazed new territory on the Montagnes Blanches trip, and Alexander Smith-Bove and Luke Woodard teamed up to lead a crew on the Opinaca trip. There were four senior trips to Verendrye this summer,

led by James Hare and Owen Reed (the Lyme Loiterers), Will Lewis and Ben Bryant (the Tangerine Titans), Alex Simons and Michael Deschenes (the Royal Rangers), and Jack Waterman and Ernesto Toro (the Blue Bandidos).

An enthusiasm for dramatics was on display all summer, never more overwhelmingly than during the two-plus-hour final show (note to Camp Director: start the show earlier next summer)! Though the tub full of water that cracked and flooded the stage nearly stole the show, what will stand out were the stellar performances of many campers, none more so than that of the winner of the Tarr Trophy for Dramatics, Max Hawkins-Lipman. Skits that were particularly hilarious were Annwi’s “Mafia” and “I Will Survive,” Waramaug’s “Clean Our Tents” and “Keewaydin Night Live,” Wiantinaug’s “Love Souser” and “Cabin 2 Talk Show,” and Moos’s “Dancing with the Staff!”

Of course the summer had many other memorable moments. The Colombian-themed Carnival, run by Carnival Heads, Jorge Toro and Sergio Acosta, had many of the staples such as “Plinko,” “Red’s Auction,” “Worm Races” and the “Tube Pull,” but new concessions like Moos’s “Advertising Booth,” Wiantinaug’s “Sponge Paint Warriors,” Waramaug’s “Croc Painting,” and Annwi’s “Face Masks” were popular innovations. The “Minions/Despicable Me” movies were a theme all summer, not only for the mid-season and end-of-season movies, but as the inspiration for the waiters at the Banquet, headed by Griffin Must and Matthew Harkness. Old Timers’ Day had a wing-dinger of a Hi-Jinks with a Mario Party theme, masterminded by Nik Elrifi and Cole Clark. For the second summer in a row, Moosalamoo camper Pip Booth

won the Tallman canoe competition and took home the Eisner trophy. The tennis finals featured a rematch of Sebastian Mouille-Berteaux versus Graham Fenn, and perhaps the finest tennis ever played at camp. The quality of their play was matched only by their excellent sportsmanship.

At the Banquet, we honored a record number of staff—Angus Barstow, Pete Cahn, Peter Lindholm, and Roni McLean received their 10-year green jackets; Tim Anderson, Lee Randlett and Tom Vorenberg, their 20-year canoes; and Paul Jacobs and Ben McGraw, their 25-year chairs. Staff loyalty—the lifeblood of Keewaydin!

The Candlelight Ceremony, always moving, was a bit more poignant than most, given that it marked the first time in three years that parents were on campus for the event. When we blew out our candles, we were all certain that we would keep “Keewaydin’s friendship strong and deep” until we met again on Lake Dunmore’s shores next summer.



Appreciation

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insufficient. At camp, I can reflect and see my world from a different perspective. This space, between our tech-driven world and our existence at camp, actually increases my appreciation for the marvels of modernity; with distance the heart grows fonder, and because of camp, I become more grateful.

Lasting gratitude takes intentionality, and at Keewaydin, I have the time and space to orient my focus to feelings that are so easy to take for granted during the rest of my year: the



Cameron MacDonald '83 with his campers in 2021

sensations of walking over rooty, rocky earth, the refreshing and exhilarating texture of water, and that smell of pine. I am made more aware of our connection to our surroundings, that we are made of the same cells as plants, animals, and the stars, and that every breath, each movement, is a gift that in our proud and egoic self, we did not create.

Given my appreciation for the simple pleasures of camp and nature, my choice of a home the rest of the year may seem puzzling (I live in sprawl that is northern Virginia). My response is that for me, the Keewaydin spirit is a gift that lives within and does not end when we leave here; it manifests when I work with students and colleagues at my school and bring a perspective of thoughtfulness, or when I take a moment to look at the moon, or when I take in and appreciate the miracle of a deep breath. In these moments, I once again become aware of what I think Wallace meant by “the water”; and in those instances, wherever I am, I am transported back here, home, to Keewaydin.

Cameron MacDonald is the first half Director of Waramaug. He has been on staff for 21 summers.

THE KEEWAYDIN STORE!

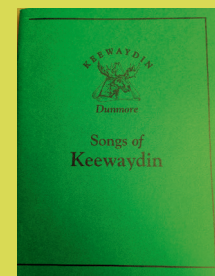
Looking for a great Keewaydin gift for the holidays? Look no further than the Keewaydin Store! We have a great selection of apparel for all members of the family— t-shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants, flannels, winter hats—you name it! Buy a songbook so you can sing at home!



New Gray Fleece



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[Visit our website at www.keewaydin.org](http://www.keewaydin.org)
and click on Camp Store!

~ THE KEEWAYDIN ANNUAL FUND ~

There are countless reasons the summer of 2022 was a great success—the support of our Keewaydin alumni, families, and friends is one of them. Your gifts helped make this summer possible!



Your gifts to Keewaydin's Annual Fund make it possible for campers to experience a Keewaydin summer—there is nothing quite like it! Your donation supports scholarships for campers and salaries of our talented staff, helps cover costs for the upkeep of our fleet of canoes, and maintain our camp facilities on Lake Dunmore.

Please give today at www.keewaydin.org/give



Thank you!

Why I come to Keewaydin

By Reed Sikowitz '16

On one of the last days of school, my class and I took a trip to the beach. While on the bus back to school, some friends and I talked about our plans for summer break. A few of them attend camps of their own, and they told us happily all about the jet skiing, tubing, and tricked out cabins they'll be enjoying....It all sounded like an absolute blast! When asked about what my favorite part of my camp was, I said something like "we do these really cool trips, those are my favorite." I was asked about what we do on these trips, so I delved into the most loved and hated part of trips: portages. Looking back on my answer, maybe I could have picked something different to tell them about. I described portaging as "walking far with either a 70ish-pound canoe balanced on the back of your neck, or lugging a big wooden box, like some sort of oxen on the Oregon trail." This got a very funny reaction from my friends. After a little while, one of my

classmates asked "Reed, why do you go to Keewaydin?" I said something like "Oh it's hard to explain. It's very fun! You just have to go yourself to see what it's all about." But after I said this, I knew that it was not my real answer, it was just what I had said for the time being. So, a few days later, I hopped on a plane from LAX to JFK, stayed with some cousins in Brooklyn for the weekend, and then I took the New York bus headed to Vermont. And yes, my sneakers did indeed hit the ground, and I did hear the gong and cannon sound... But I was still pondering the question my friend had asked me: Why do I go to Keewaydin?

I have found my answer, and I would like to share it. It's the same reason some of the staff dedicate their lives to this camp. It's because this camp pushes you to achieve things you once thought were unachievable. To an Anwiite, Verendrye seems absolutely absurdly difficult. And yet, the crews leaving in a few days have kids who were once those Anwiites. While we are out pushing ourselves and each other to our limits, we gain this unmatched feeling of achievement that is extremely rare to find anywhere else. That is why I come to camp.

The Friendship Fire

Change generally comes slowly and methodically at Keewaydin, as it should with a successful organization whose mission, traditions and values have stood the test of time. But change is important; in fact, the willingness to change is as important a tradition as any other we have at camp!

After many years of discussion, the directors decided to replace the Four Winds ceremony with an entirely new ceremony called the Friendship Fire. Even though the main characters had already been changed several years prior from Native Americans to amorphous ancient people and edits had been made to speeches, the script still contained references to Native American culture that were inappropriate for Keewaydin to use. Rather than edit the script again with another "band-aid," the directors decided it made sense to come up with a whole new ceremony, one that was inspired by what Keewaydin is and what we value.

Director Pete Hare '59 came up with an overall concept for a new ceremony. After getting feedback from several staff and the directors, he approached three long-time staff with a gift for writing and asked if they might be interested in crafting a whole new ceremony based on the concept. Johnny Clore '00, Ben Jacoff '96, and Bill Souser '96 embraced the idea and accepted the challenge. Over the next three months, they met, wrote and edited, and by the time camp started the script of the Friendship Fire was finished.

Reed Sikowitz was a Wiantinaug camper in 2022. He has been a camper since 2016.



Wiantinaug friends—Left to Right: Rocco Buhler '21, Reed Sikowitz '16, Frisco Feuerstein '16 and Leo Margolis '17

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Friendship Fire

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New script in hand, the director of camp ceremonial productions, Diane Hare '83, went to work. Red Dows '71 helped provide many of the costumes chosen from his voluminous estate sale collections, housed in his own private warehouse (a.k.a. his garage). Tim Tadlock '97, no stranger to fire, handled all pyrotechnic logistics. The cast, consisting of Nik Elrifi '11, Mig Oppenheimer '67, Andrew Bialosky '09, Jack Waterman '12, and Sam Scibetta '06, rehearsed through staff training week and the first few days of camp.

The new ceremony still has the character of the Hermit who acts as a master of ceremonies of sorts. It also has four torch carrying visitors bearing messages. Two arrive by canoe, two on foot. The first messenger, the Traveler, dressed in mid-19th century attire, pays homage to the original inhabitants of the land—the Abenaki. The second, the Trailblazer, clothed as an early 20th-century woodsman, recognizes the wisdom, courage and initiative of the founders and early leaders of Keewaydin. The third, the Faithful Friend, speaks of the enduring values of the camp and the commitment to exploring the wilderness by canoe or foot. The final torch bearer, the Keeper of the Fire, dressed in typical 21st-century trip wear, urges campers and staff to commit themselves to continue the good work of Keewaydin and its founders for decades to come. Each messenger has his own torch and small fire. At the end they all come forward to light the Friendship Fire in the center of the circle. Campers and staff are all part of the ceremony, as each contribute a stick to the Friendship Fire itself.

The new ceremony made its debut the first Wednesday of the camp season to universally enthusiastic reviews! An artistic triumph that moved the audience with the beauty and meaning of the verse and held them spellbound with

the theatre of torches, canoe arrivals, costumes and fire. The Four Winds was a beautiful ceremony, looked forward to for decades by campers and staff. But it had run its course and it was time to create a new one. The Friendship Fire—full of magic, mystery and meaning—is a worthy replacement, one that will surely be savored by all for decades to come.



The fire bearers come together to light the Friendship Fire

Many thanks to Johnny Clore, Ben Jacoff and Bill Souser for writing the script for the Friendship Fire. They poured their hearts and souls into the effort and delivered a masterpiece. If there were a Pulitzer Prize for camp ceremony scripts, they would win, hands down!



Keewaydin Club - Adult Canoe Trips for 2023



**JOIN US FOR A CANOE TRIP NEXT
SUMMER—YOU WILL NOT REGRET IT!**

Keewaydin Club is open to Keewaydin alum, parents, Ojibway guests, and anyone ready to experience a Keewaydin canoe trip.

Contact
emily@keewaydin.org
to learn more.

The Hermit Speaks



The following is part of the Hermit's opening speech in the Friendship Fire ceremony. The Hermit's speech was written by Johnny Clore '00.



The Hermit beckons the fire bearers to visit Keewaydin's campfire

*High on the mountain
Where hemlock trees grow
And the wind feels cold and cruel when it snows
And the peregrines soar over hikers below
Is the cave of Keewaydin's Hermit.*

*And deep in this refuge where I spend my days
I kindle a fire and peer through the haze
Of the lingering cloud
Where its smoke still enshrouds
The woods where the porcupine plays.*

*So why build the fire?
And suffer the smoke?
And why do I stay though I cough and I choke
As the fire smolders on and the autumn wind blows?
Let me tell you my friends,
Your old Hermit, he knows.*

*You see, my young campers,
The fire has power
To warm this old hermit who often feels dour.
And who, in his cave, where he spends the whole year
Hearing white-throated sparrows,
Whistle songs, high and clear,
Still longs for this evening down here by the lake.*

*When you come together
And start something new
And light your first fire inside this stone ring
And then, once it's burning,
You all start to sing.*

*For this is the warmth
Of which friendship is made,
Right here in the oaks' and the maples' cool shade
Generations of boys just like you have long played.*

*So tonight as you watch
The flames rise in the air
And think of the others
Who once sat right there,*

*We will call on the past,
the recent, the distant,
The beautiful present
That's gone in an instant.*

*And we'll call on a future that you'll help create
For all of our actions will shape this world's fate.
Then the strengths and the blessings for good tripping days
Will soon be ignited in this cheery blaze.*

Alumni News

Peter Ross Borden '46 and his wife are now full time residents of Vermont. They live in a small cabin on the shore of Breese Pond in Hubbardton. They still enjoy canoeing and kayaking. **Jed Herrmann '87** and Meg Sullivan (in back) and kids (Sara, Zoe, Jack, Kate, Alex—left to right) took a post-camp safari to Kenya. They saw lots of animals, including the zebras in the picture!



Jed Herrmann and Family

Nick Friedman '91 stopped by camp for a tour this summer, reliving his glory days from '91-'95, and sharing stories of camp with his wife and four kids. **Bennett Werner '00** came by to visit camp with his wife, Ariel, and daughter, Finch, this summer.



Bennett and Finch

Phil Coyle '03 has been enjoying his time in Wisconsin and is taking sailing lessons. He was able to come back to camp and help out this summer. **Leo Parini '03** and Phoebe Lewis were married in Cornwall on July 16 with a cadre of Keewaydineesi in attendance.



Back, left to right: Cameron MacDonald '84, Oliver Parini '97, Will Parini '91, Peter Lindholm '15, Zack White '04, James Hare '95, Stephen Peters-Collaer '14, Jake Landis '14; Front row, left to right: Peter White '04, Erin Van Gessel '22, Leo Parini '03, and Tommy Hyde '03

Cole Clark '04 and **Danny Hart '11** hiked the Long Trail in September.

After finishing one sector, they spent a night with the Johnston Bellino family in Manchester, VT.



Front, left to right: Danny Hart '11, Jax Johnston '18, Cole Clark '04 and Davis Johnston '19; Back: Mack Johnston '21

Sam Scibetta '06 is in Singapore working on an MBA. In the winter, he will do the second semester of the program in Paris, France! **John (JD) Belin '08** has just moved from Boston to NYC to work as a Client Associate at Rockefeller Capital Management in their NY Family Office. **James Day '11** is spending the semester studying economics in Cambridge, England. On a recent weekend he traveled to



Relax here.

LAKE TEMAGAMI, ONTARIO

Contact Tanya McCubbin tanya@keewaydin.org

Valencia, Spain to visit **Cris '22** and **Roberto '17 Font**. The Font brothers treated James to the family specialty: paella!



Left to right: Roberto Font, James Day and Cris Font

BIRTHS

Alex Wilde '01 and his wife Samantha had a baby girl, Sylvia Law Wilde, on April 3, 2022.



Alex and Samantha Wilde with baby Sylvia

Britt Olsen-Ecker and **Elliott Rauh '97** had their second child, a boy named Bradley Ecker-Rauh, on July 12, 2022. Here they are pictured along with proud older brother, Jackson!



Left to right, Britt, Jackson, Bradley and Elliott

Jeff Chandler '01 and **Asya Snejevski '11** welcomed Alexander into the family on March 27! Everyone is happy, healthy, and looking forward to future summers at camp!



Left to right: Jeff, Alexander, and Asya

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Ralph C. "Robin" Porter '43, a Dunmore camper in 1943 and 44, died on May 17, 2022 in Middlebury. His grandfather was Leon Adams' cousin and Commodore Clark's step-son and among the first Temagami campers. Robin's three sons, two granddaughters and a nephew followed him at Dunmore. He attended many family camps in his later years where he delighted in mixing with other devoted Keewaydineesi, singing after dinner, and paddling his canoe in the lake he loved so well.



Robin Porter at Keewaydin Dunmore's 100th Reunion

Bill Foley '46, passed away at the age of 70 on September 7, 2022. Bill was a camper in the 1960s and Wiantinaug staff in the 1970s. Charismatic and fun loving, he was part of a legendary Wiantinaug staff under the leadership of Clare Curtin. Campers and staff from that era will attest that there probably never was another staffman that could more easily make you laugh than Bill. He will forever be remembered for his role in the staff band "Billy Blow and the Hurricanes" that performed to hoots and hollers at the Frolics. Most importantly, he will be remembered as a staffman who loved to share his joy for camp and life with the campers and staff of Keewaydin.



Wiantinaug staff mojo for 1971, left to right: Tom Kokos, Bill Gladstone, Bill Foley and Bill Robert



~ Spread the Word! ~

The camper recruiting season is in full swing and lots of applications are coming in for the 2023 summer! Current families, alumni and staff are our best recruiters; please spread the word about our great camp! Contact us if you know of families whose children would love to become campers at Keewaydin or Songadeewin. If you send us their names and contact information, we will follow up. For Dunmore contact pete@keewaydin.org; Songadeewin, lauren@keewaydin.org; and Temagami, emily@keewaydin.org.



Keewaydin Dunmore/Songadeewin Open Houses 2022-2023

LOCATION	DATE
New York City	Sunday, October 23, 3:00-4:30 p.m.
Greenwich, CT	Wednesday, October 26, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Washington, D.C.	Sunday, November 13, 3:00-4:30 p.m.
Los Angeles, CA	Sunday, December 4, 3:00-4:30 p.m.
Zoom	Thursday, December 15, 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Villanova, PA	Sunday, January 8, 3:00-4:30 p.m.
Manchester, VT	Sunday, January 15, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Zoom	Thursday, February 9, 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Zoom	Thursday, March 9, 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Brooklyn, NY	TBD

ALUMNI FAMILY WEEKEND!

~ August 24-27, 2023 ~

Live the dream! Relive your camper days and introduce your children to Keewaydin and Songa—Swimming, canoeing, kayaking, hiking, campfires, singing! Beautiful Lake Dunmore and majestic Mt. Moosalamoo beckon!



For more information contact info@keewaydin.org

JOHN WATSON WORK WEEKEND

~ June 2-4, 2023 ~



Mark your calendars! Help open up the campuses for the summer and enjoy some great Keewaydin and Songadeewin cheer! John Watson Work Weekend is a great way to help out camp and reconnect with the camps you love!

For more information contact info@keewaydin.org

~ Keewaydin Foundation 2023 Calendar ~

April 3	Board of Trustees Meeting & Young Alumni Reception, NYC
April 24 - June 2	KEEC Spring Season
June 2 - 4	John Watson Work Weekend in Vermont
June 20 - August 11	130th Season for Keewaydin Temagami
June 23 - 27	Ojibway Family Lodge Work Party
June 25 - August 19	114th Season for Keewaydin Dunmore
June 25 - August 19	25th Season for Songadeewin on Lake Dunmore
June 30 - August 28	100th Season for Ojibway Family Lodge
July 6 - 10	25th Anniversary of girls' program at Keewaydin Temagami & Alumni Family Weekend on Lake Temagami
July 16 - 19	Midseason at Keewaydin Temagami
July 22 - 23	Midseason at Keewaydin Dunmore and Songadeewin
July 28 - 30	Board of Trustees Meeting on Lake Temagami
August 5	Islander Potluck Dinner at Ojibway Family Lodge
August 9	Paddle-In at Keewaydin Temagami
August 12 - 15	1950s & 1960s Alumni Reunion on Lake Temagami
August 24 - 27	Alumni Family Weekend on Lake Dunmore
August 25 - 27	Songadeewin's 25th Anniversary Alumnae Reunion
September 4 - October 13	KEEC Fall Season
October 23	Board of Trustees Meeting and Alumni Reception, NYC

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