



The TATTLER

Established 1893

Spring 2023

From the Director

We are preparing to head into the woods again, and boy, does that feel good.

The jittery and buzzing energy you feel as the days inch closer to the start of camp is intoxicating. Nerves and anticipation for the adventures ahead are brewing, and as the school year winds to an end, there is a magical place our campers and staff will be coming to. As we look around and possibly talk with other families about summer plans, we know our campers will be participating in an incredibly unique, fun, independence-building adventure! Winter gives way to spring, the ice melts away from lakes and rivers, and our 130th season will begin. Layers of Keewaydin stitch together a welcomed pattern of preparation, organization, planning, and action.

Our excitement is spilling over; reviewing the list of trip staff returning is thrilling. What a solid crew we have, and it is fantastic to have so many 2022 Bay trippers joining us on the team this year. Our enrollment of campers is terrific, we have kids coming from far and wide, and we love how Keewaydin brings kids together from across the US, Canada, and internationally. Where else can you make friends with someone from British Columbia, California, New York, and Louisiana?!

Ojibway is filling up with families

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Prepped and ready!

Long Trips 2023

Exploration ahead for Section A, Section B, and Section 2

As winter recedes, spring emerges - slowly. Thoughts of summer have been cycling through the long trip staff's minds as they dig into itineraries and trip notes; the paddling season ahead drums up grand ideas and desires for the lakes and rivers of Canada. Routes and rivers are always different; even when you've been there before, you are not the same person you were then. Our long-trip campers will explore and discover Quebec and Labrador's raw and rough beauty. They will also grow and change, immersed in the way of moving and living that strips away the many layers accumulated from

the previous ten months at home. They will become strong and clear-minded and feel lifted by each other's company. Those of you who have had the chance to paddle for weeks at a time, in green canoes, with a Keewaydin section can understand the immeasurable value of this experience.

We have well-tested teams preparing to lead campers to wondrous places

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*Where kids become gutsy,
courageous, self-assured
& learn to take risks.*

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From the Director

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for Midseason and Endseason, an exceptional time to enjoy the lake, witness their camper thriving, and gain a bit of understanding of Keewaydin's impact and wonderful community. I especially enjoy meeting first-time visitors and those alumni returning after many summers away.

As I dig into updating documents and reviewing end-of-summer reflections, I found a few gems to share with you. Parents continue to be awestruck by their child's experiences. Reading them builds up my enthusiasm for camp and what campers bring home. Our traditions, values, and canoe trips may be more meaningful today than ever. Still, when I hear from alumni, Keewaydin's influences and experiences are the invisible and powerful cape we wear throughout our lives!

The summer of 2022 was gratifying and inspiring. Check out these reflections from last August.

WOW - as soon as he got in the car, the stories started flowing and wouldn't stop! (And Max is not a big talker). Not only did he have fun, but he also loved it! He tells his stories with such pride and a sense of wonderment that he accomplished so much. And, of course, it is the most challenging bits of the trip that he relishes the most. From being hungry, sinking in muskeg, 10-hour portage through the burn... (We have yet to hear all the stories!) And the physical transformation - he is all muscle! Not to mention the slight swagger in his step.

After a few hours at home, Max asked Am I going back to Keewaydin next year? YAY!!!!



Learning to tump, Day 1

And, another.

My staff! I loved them so much... their energy, positive attitude, they acted like they actually cared... Honest & truthful ... like a mother to us... so cool... so strong... push you to your limits, but understand if you can't do something, and they do it with you!

Reuniting with friends, making new friends, meeting your trip staff, noticing the sounds of the lake and the smell of the pine needles on the ground – what could be better? We cannot wait to greet staff and campers this summer, dig into a FUN summer of canoe tripping and relish the special bond Keewaydin provides through overcoming challenges, gaining grit and resilience, and seeking out sunsets.



Long Trips 2023

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this summer. Peter Dutko '03 and Hunter Craighill '11 will lead Section A. They have paired up again and have much to build from after their successful travel down the Great Whale River in 2022. They are thoughtful, funny, well-organized leaders and teachers—great role models for this experienced crew of campers. This crew of campers has



Photo: Nicole Howe '11

Sun setting on a Section 1 campsite

known each other since Manitou and Waubeno. With their previous summer exploring Labrador under their belts, these campers understand what is ahead. They are choosing to return and finish out their camper years with our most exciting final trip. Section A will begin with a few days of driving north to start the unhurried but steady pursuit of Hudson Bay. This last trip for a group of young men will be remarkable, secure deep friendships, and shape their core as individuals.

Kera Zegar '07 and Kyra McClean '11 will be leading Section 2. Section 2 is a summer in which these young women will come to rely upon themselves and each other like never before. It will be their first foray into Quebec, and the variety in the landscape and terrain will

help them become stronger and more adept canoe trippers. A mix of upriver and downriver travel will increase their capacity to read and navigate moving water. Their previous summer spent on the Albany River will surely be in contrast to the adventure ahead this summer. We know the trip leaders will bring an incredible canoe trip with their poise, strength, organization, character, and humility - excellent role models for these young women and a perfect setup for Section 1 in 2024!

Section B has a great combo of leadership, with John Goodpasture '10 and Quinlan Mulcahy '16 working together. Both leaders are passionate about Keewaydin and love Section B!

The young men joining Section B explored western Ontario and met and overcame immense challenges in portage trails laced with downed trees. This July, they will see more open terrain and wider rivers; travel on the eastern side of Hudson Bay will look very different. Mossy trails, rainy days, and upriver and downriver travel will expand this crew's skill set and will be perfect preparation for their 2024 Hudson Bay trip! We know the enthusiasm, care, and eagerness of John and Quinlan to teach will make for an epic Section B summer!

Keewaydin Camp's long trips are a unique blend of adjectives and superlatives, joyful, demanding, inspiring, challenging, fun, and life-changing. We cannot wait to hear from these campers in August about how it changed them.

Ojibway - There is a lot to celebrate!

Ojibway Family Lodge keeps its paddles dipped in the past and the present. With its 100th summer ahead, the traditions they hold and maintain help guide this family lodge into the future. Rustic, charming, and comfortable accommodations have been thoughtfully updated over the last ten years. Guests enjoy a low-tech setting, with propane lighting, wood stoves, no electricity in the cabins, and limited Wi-Fi internet at the Kishkadeena lodge. No matter the weather in northern



Ojibway's main dock. Do you recognize the changes?

Ontario, everyone can feel refreshed with a hot shower or cooling dips in the lake. The solar panels installed on the dining hall roof in 2016 mean we are off the grid, and guests can genuinely hear the loon's call!

Family-style dining has stayed the same for 100 years, but the cooked-from-scratch meals and new dedication to local farmers and goods give our Keewaydin families and guests a taste of northern Ontario. The fleet of canoes and watercraft housed in the Canoe Barn bridges the past with new lightweight options. It is fantastic to see alumni visiting for Mid-or-End season, enjoying the wood canoes and paddle boards, and reconnecting with Lake Temagami's nooks and bays surrounding Devil's Island.

Many of you know that Ojibway began in 1923 as a family gathering place for the staff of Keewaydin Camp. Originally Ojibway was called The Keewaydin Club; the cabins, lodge, and dining room were built to provide comfort and access to the incredible Temagami region. Keewaydin families fished and day-tripped, spending weeks in Lake Temagami's pristine land and water. Ojibway has always maintained its connection to Keewaydin Camp. Our previous managers were as invested in the summer camp as we are today. Keewaydin families continue to visit in July and August to share the camp traditions, build friendships with other parents, and celebrate their campers' time at summer camp.

Devil's Island continues to be a place to explore, with trails crisscrossing the 47-acre island, allowing folks to bird, walk or trail run and discover our diverse tree and plant diversity. The beautiful, quirky cedar shake lodge provides reference books for the curious-minded or a great summer read for an afternoon on the dock.

Over the summer, Ojibway will mark the occasion by posting old photos for all to see, cooking up some favorite old-time recipes, hosting the 25th anniversary weekend of Keewaydin's girl's program, and a 1950-60s alumni reunion! One hundred years in, those who stay at Ojibway this summer will enjoy stepping into the past. When your parents and grandparents say "this is where I stayed," you know you are sitting on the same porch, taking in a similar sunset, making new memories. Keewaydin will celebrate this historic occasion; we'll shout out three hearty Quay, Quay, Quays this summer for Ojibway's 100th season!

July 6-10 · 25th Anniversary of Keewaydin's Girl's Program
August 12-15 · 1950s-60s Keewaydin Alumni Reunion

Classic Camp Meal: Northwoods Tacos

(Serves a section of 8-10 happy hungry campers)

Let this recipe inspire you to cook over an open fire this summer! Your nose will love the smell of wood smoke while toasting some handmade tortillas and simple beans. Feel free to mix it up, add onions and garlic, and dice up some summertime tomatoes. Reconnecting with the slow and enjoyable practice of cooking over an open fire will bring you right back to the good ole' days of Keewaydin tripping.

INGREDIENTS

2-3 cans beans (black or red)	2-3 inches cheese, grated
any kind of meat	1½ pann rice
1-2 cans refried beans	chili powder
1-2 tortillas per person	cayenne pepper
	salsa

This meal uses several pots, so plan it out in advance so you use the right pots for the right thing. If you have to make your own tortillas, get that started first, since everything else is pretty quick. Refer to p. 76 of the cookbook for the tortilla recipe.

Pre-made packaged tortillas are easier and faster, but homemade ones are absolutely delicious!



Kalia sautéing it up!

Pot 1) Mix your salsa. 1 can diced tomatoes, minced 1/2 onion, garlic, seasoning. Set aside.

Pot 2) Cook rice.

Pot 3) Rinse beans and put into a pot with a little bacon grease or olive oil. Add chili powder, a little cayenne, and some Tabasco to taste. Heat it up slowly, mush them up if you want, but do not burn (the bean pot is good for this).

Pot 4) Cook any sort of meat (even fresh fish!). If using canned meat, smash it up with a spoon until it looks shredded and there are no big chunks left. Add chili powder, Tabasco, and cayenne pepper to taste. Heat slowly, adding a bit of water, oil, or fat if necessary to keep in from burning.

Pot 5) Shred the cheese.

Time it so that everything is ready at once. Tortillas, cheese, rice, meat, beans, salsa, BREAD LINE! Let everyone go down the line and make themselves a taco or two. A little bit of everything adds up to a lot of food.

Veggie Variation: Just leave out the meat, and you still get a complete protein from the beans and rice, or fry up some tofu with olive oil and spices.

Bring forth Tabasco or Frank's for some extra heat. Email us to order a Cook Book! \$15





Historian's Corner: First River We Paddled

Keewaydin's green canoes have been paddled up and down many illustrious rivers of all sizes. What Canadian river do you think Keewaydin paddled first? Was it the Ottawa, or the Montreal, or the Matabichuan?

Take a guess, but maybe you already know, then look for the answer.

Map view of the Trip In, map from The Keewaydin Way

ANSWER: During the legendary 1902 Trip In, Gregg Clarke, campers, 3 guides, Frank LeClair, Peter Brown, and Joe Livigne and 3 bark canoes paddled and portaged up the Matabichuan River.

Winter on Lake Temagami was slow to arrive

The ice arrived very late, and we hope, very quickly, will depart. The ice took weeks longer than usual to form on Lake Temagami, and the snow totals were also less than average. This impacts the lake community and our Director of Maintenance, Hudson McCubbin, who rely on solid, thick ice to travel and bring supplies. Despite the delays, the beauty of a cold and white Lake Temagami does not disappoint. The sun is always welcomed, and the snow crystals glisten, particularly in the morning and evening. During the winter, snow loads are shoveled off buildings, trees



Keewaydin's fire circle is waiting for stories and songs of 2023

can be taken down, and summer project planning fills the days. As he lapped the island on snowshoes

Hudson took this photo of Keewaydin's fire circle, the sun setting in the west, with benches blanketed in snow.

Alumni Updates and News

RECRUITING TRAVELS

November 2022, January, and February 2023 had us holding recruiting visits in San Francisco, CA; Lake Bluff, IL, Denver, CO; New Orleans, LA; Atlanta, GA; and Washington, DC. We even had a “local” open house in Middlebury, VT. Thank you to the Keewaydin parents and families who hosted Keewaydin and helped us connect with many current campers, new families, and supportive alumni. A big shout out to Yvonne and Wells ’83 Blaxter, Elizabeth and Craig Sparks, Schenley and Andy Walker, Beth and Matt ’90 Busenhart, Sarah Robbins ’14 and Matt Robbins ’14, Gionne and Murat Celebi, Carrie and Jeffrey ’88 Glover, and Piper Gould (Fogg) and Jonathan Gould for hosting the open houses.

We also saw many wonderful Keewaydin alumni bridging connections and reconnecting folks to meaningful camp memories. Thank you for taking the time to join us:



Families and alumni gathered together to watch the camp video in DC.

Rob Ottley ’76, Matt Johnson ’07, Zeke Ragsdale ’93, Abby Hazen ’05, Robbie ’00 and Alice ’10 Tesar, Paula ’15 and Jim ’18 Preschlack, Peter Dutko ’03, Wendy Springgate ’07, Brian Lechner ’86, Meredith Sackett ’22, Hunter Craighill ’11, Krya McClean ’11, Bruce ’76 and Sarah ’12 Ingersoll, Mike Hussey ’16, Dorothea Mulcahy ’17, Max Corkran ’11, Ken Remsen ’62, Larkin Kenny ’18, Andy Wittich ’84, Matthew Dean ’03, Charlie Munford ’95, Kat Olivarius ’02, Charlie Warren ’00, Eric Deeds ’87, Peter Phelger ’18, Laird Reed ’81, Bear Witherspoon ’93, Hailey Nulsen ’11, Katya Ogden-Lord ’12, Cy Prothro ’89, Mike Davison ’73, John Carpenter ’79, Gabe Otridge ’18, Doug ’19 and Jack ’19 Calhoun.

We’ll be looking for hosts for the fall and winter, reach out if you are interested.

BIRTHS



Sarah Dean ’01 and her husband Brian Giera welcomed future Mattawa camper Felix Giera-Dean on New Year’s Eve. So far, he loves staring at trees and listening to “The Trip In.”

Felix, Mattawa camper 2034!

Frederick Reimers ’82 and his wife, Eve, welcomed Leif Orin Reimers, on November at 5 AM, 7lb, 14 oz. All is well for Eve, Orin, and Frederick.

ALUMNI NEWS

On March 10, family, friends, and Keewaydin pals Charlie Warren ’00, Leti and Chris Boots ’01, Maggie Bower ’06, Sarah Dean ’01, Kat Olivarius ’02, Bright Dickson ’00, Alice Tesar ’10 and Robbie Tesar ’00 celebrated the marriage of Caroline Closmore ’07 and Zach Johnson in Minneapolis, MN. Caroline shared, “We had a boisterous Keewaydin table in attendance, and the Keewaydin cheer was heard



Atlanta Open house with Doug, Jack, & Mary Calhoun, Emily Schoelzel, & Matt Johnson



Bride and groom up front with the post-wedding ice fishing crew!

loud and clear. The day following the ceremony, we spent a snowy afternoon ice fishing on a frozen lake, and the Keewaydin crew dominated."

Tony Way '55 wiped out his knee at the beginning of a 2-week white-water canoe trip in the Yukon. Due to age and parts breaking faster than they can repair, he decided this was his last big canoe trip. God willing and the creek don't rise, Tony will make the 1950s-60s reunion this summer!

Jac Crowell '16 is sailing across the Atlantic during his gap year.

Mac McNease '76 and Jimena are sailing their Valiant 42 Antoinette in the Sea of Cortez.

John Manuel '64 is still canoeing at age 72. He completed a run of the Middle Fork of the Salmon in 2021.

Unfortunately, **Ray '62** and **Martha Banghart** lost their roof in Sanibel during Hurricane Ian. Ray is rebuilding. Tragic devastation.

Richard "Brad" Fertig '95 retires! He's had a successful 20-year career in the US Coast Guard,



Brad Fertig (center)

specializing in search and rescue, aviation maintenance technician, and quality assurance.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

On Tuesday, November 14, 2022, **Richard Virdin Evans, Jr. '81** passed away suddenly at age 55. His heart proved to be too big for this world. Rich spent many memorable summers at his beloved island retreat in

Temagami, Ontario. He loved sharing music with others and his love of books.

Rick Schmile '69 shared the following regarding his longtime Keewaydin friend... **John "Tinker" Milner '68**, a staff manager in 1968, 1969, and one other year, made his transition in September of 2011 in Port Macquarie, NSW, Australia where he had lived since the 70s.

Projects on the Horizon

Kishkadeena, Ojibway's Lodge, new roof and chimney repair

The soundest way to protect a building is to keep its roof in good shape. This May, Kishkadeena, Ojibway's lodge, will have new shingles and a stone mason brought on-site to tend to the chimney.

Addition to the Trip Equipment Building

One of Keewaydin's most significant investments in organizing and maintaining our trip equipment is the addition of the Trip Equipment Building and canoe shop. This summer, we'll be adding more storage space to the building.



Maintenance

Painting, fixing porches, repairing screens, and responding to the regular wear and tear of winter and the environment is a normal part of the summer's day-to-day work. We love our handy staff and fantastic volunteers. If you're a handy person and you've been missing Lake Temagami, we'd love to see you join our Ojibway work party. The dates are June 23-27. Contact Tanya McCubbin at tanya@keewaydin.org to learn more and sign up!



Staff housing – New Dog House

We are fortunate to have fabulous staff return to the island and help support the canoe trips, help with maintenance projects, and provide lots of well-earned wisdom to the community. A new dog house will add to our options for these staff to sleep well, even in a tiny 10 x 12 humble abode!



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Things We Carry

Temagami Submissions

Assistant Director John Frazier '96 sent a request this past year to Keewaydin alum and current campers to reflect on their days on a Keewaydin canoe trip and recall a unique item they carried. Some submissions went to print in this spring's Northwest Wind; here are a few more.

Daniel Allende '99 "Section A 2006: We spent many a wind-bound day fashioning kites out of tattered ground cloth, branches, and paracord. Much to Doozer's dismay, we rolled them with our bed rolls, took them with us, and broke them out anytime the wind started howling. We would adorn them with fighter plane war paint and dial in the bridle and the bracing spar among the black spruce of the lichen woodland. It was a great way to stay warm and keep yourself entertained. Mine was called 'Cloudchaser'."



Daniel's sail



Wells Preston '95 "On my Section A trip, the first week on trip, I found an amazing caribou rack of antlers that I carried, for the next two weeks, hoping to pay our resupply pilot to ship it out for me. The day before our resupply, we capsized in some rapids, and it was lost. The day after resupply, I found another rack and two more while gathering firewood. I carried these for the rest of the season, their sharp points digging into me on every portage, snagging on branches and bramble, until a few days before the end of trip when again, lining a tough set of rapids on the Little Whale, our canoe capsized, and they were lost as well. I never got to bring home a caribou rack."

Wendy Springgate '07 "I carried a package of Starbursts in my day pack. On a particularly rainy day, or a muskeg-infested portage in the middle of the summer, I would hand 2-3 sweets out to section mates as they passed with heavy loads. To this day, some of my core memories are friends' faces with a new light in their eyes on a dreary day."

Harrison Seeley '13 "A beaver tail from a piece of wood I chopped at Outpost! It made it to the Bay!"

Malcolm McCubbin '06 "When I was eleven years old, my section found a brown baseball hat with a maple leaf on it. As the only Canadian in the section, it was gifted to me. I wore it every summer until I finished Section A. I know I rolled it with the tent some mornings, and I'm sure I went back to retrieve it on numerous portages, but I managed to never lose my Canada hat. When I was no longer a camper, my hat was retired for fear of it disintegrating when exposed to the elements. After six summers on trip, it's sun-bleached almost white, the metal button on top is completely exposed, and the fabric of the brim is torn. It's not much of a decoration, but I keep it on a shelf at home. It was a gift, and it came on so many adventures that I can't imagine getting rid of it."



Malcolm's maple leaf hat

2023 Schedule - Keewaydin Camp's 130th Season

June 20	Section A arrives
June 27	Regular Season commences
June 30	Ojibway opens, 100th season
July 6-10	Ojibway Alumni/Family Weekend 25 th anniversary of Keewaydin's girl's program
July 16	Midseason
July 22	Second Session Welcome Campfire 8:00 pm
July 28-30	Keewaydin Board of Trustees meeting
July 29	Islander Potluck Dinner
July 30	Keewaydin Club Temagami trippers arrive
August 9	Endseason
August 12-15	Keewaydin's 1950s-60s reunion
August 28	Ojibway closes for the season

For more information about any of these events please
email info@keewaydin.org or go to www.keewaydin.org

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