



The KICKER

Established 1910

Spring 2025

Live from Lake Dunmore, It's Summer at Keewaydin 2025!

By Pete Hare '59

By the time this edition of *The Kicker* arrives in mailboxes across the country, it will be a matter of days before the summer of 2025 kicks off! With nearly 340 campers signed up and some 90 staff onboard, this summer is shaping up to be another whopper!

Eagerly anticipated for this summer will be the official unveiling of two buildings—the new Office and the new Wangan Room. Given the iconic status of both edifices, the greatest care was taken to create buildings that retained the character of the originals, while addressing functional needs. To that end, building design expert Victoria Gutfreund was enlisted to draw plans for both buildings. For two summers, she worked closely with many, including Office Manager Daria Carden, Wangan Room Head Pete Cahn, and Director of Facilities Ken Troumbley to come up with the best ideas. Trustee and architect Tom Gluck played an instrumental role in the final plans for both buildings. We can't wait to see the results this summer!

continued on page 2



"I love to go a hiking, on trails of Moosalamoo!"

Majestic Moosalamoo

By Pete Hare '59

Rattlesnake Point, Ethan Allen's Cave, the Falls of Lana, Cleopatra's Couch, Eagle's Eyre, the names ignite the imagination! But where do they come from? Are they from some 19th century exotic adventure novel, an Indiana Jones movie, or the locations from a season of *Survivor*? Not at all. All of these evocative locations can be found on our very own Mt. Moosalamoo. Since Keewaydin's first summer in 1910, campers have been drawn to these storied landmarks, and many more, on "majestic Moosalamoo!"

Keewaydin owns approximately 450 acres on the mountain. If you were to stand on the Wiantinaug dock

and look directly at the mountain and draw a line horizontally north to south right about in the middle between the base of the mountain and the ridge, the lower half is what Keewaydin owns. The property line, after mostly running north to south, turns eastward to encompass

continued on page 3

IN THIS ISSUE

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| What We Learn at Camp | 4 |
| Alumni News | 6 |
| 2025 Calendar | 12 |

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Summer at Keewaydin 2025

continued from page 1



A new Office will welcome campers and staff this summer! Ken Troumbley, Director of Facilities, and Patrick Chloheesy, builder, proudly pose in front of the new building.

Another exciting new feature of camp this summer will be two pickleball courts! This fast growing sport is no longer the exclusive realm of senior citizens. It is widely played among youth all over the country, and now at Keewaydin! The pickleball courts will replace one of the camp's four tennis courts.

Most of last summer's staff is returning, including Grove Directors Owen Gutfreund, Ben Jacoff, Cam MacDonald, Bill Souser, Carlos Spigel and Tim Tadlock. New to the director team this summer is Rick Hopkins, a veteran Waramaug staff, who will take the reins of that Grove during the second half of the summer. Keewaydin is not a place you can stay away from for long and many staff return after some summers away. This year there are quite a few who will find their way back to Dunmore's

shores—Oliver Bijur, Marc Elosua, Noah Mendelsohn, Nadji Ngbokoli, Chis Packs, Leo Parini, Nathan Shemwell, Jorge Toro Jr., and Hayden Yearout.

While we look forward to reuniting with old friends and immersing ourselves in the routine and traditions of camp, we are equally excited about so much that is yet to be known—what new friends will I make, who will my staffman be, what trip adventures will I have, what will the Hi-Jinks theme be? Every summer is different, every summer is new—a promise of friendship, fun, adventure and challenge.

Bring on the summer of 2025!



Majestic Moosalamoo

continued from page 1

the western cliff of Rattlesnake Point. The camp first acquired the land in the 1920s, purchasing the area from the base of the mountain all the way up to the ridge from a Bristol, VT lumber company called Johnston Lumber. In the 1930s, the camp sold the upper half to the U.S. government, which eventually made it part of the Green Mountain National Forest.

In the early days, campers and staff would mostly explore the mountain via the many logging roads crisscrossing the woods. The first hiking trails were cut by Jeff Smith, a forester who served on the staff in the 1920s-30s. Many of those early trails are still with us today—Deer, Cave, Crag, Undercliff, Overcliff and others. Some of these trails were cut to take the shortest distance from the base of the mountain to the ridge, which resulted, naturally, in some very steep trails! Moosalamoo is a steep mountain to begin with. Looking at it from the shores of the Keewaydin campus, it is striking how it appears to leap straight up. As a result, it has many beautiful vistas. Rattlesnake Point (particularly the western cliffs, once called Sid's Lookout) is considered the most spectacular, with Wiantinaug Lookout a close second. Ironically, the summit, not visible from the campus, does not have one of the best views. Getting to any of these lookouts is a workout. The Deer trail to Rattlesnake, the Cave and Roger Fenn to Eagles Eyre, the Cave to Overcliff to Wiantinaug Lookout, and Summit Road to the Keewaydin Trail to the summit of

the mountain are rigorous, challenging hikes.

The lower part of the mountain offers numerous easy to moderate hikes well suited for Annwi and Waramaug campers. Less than a mile from camp, mostly on a flat trail, a hike to Ethan Allen's Cave is a favorite. And why not? The cave is large enough to accommodate six or seven campers at once. The story of how it was occupied during the Revolutionary War by Ethan Allen and Green Mountain Boys is a grand adventure. A loop from the Iroquois Trail to Cold Spring to Bear Pond Avenue and finishing on the lower end on Summit Road can be done in an activity period. Bear Pond, a vernal pool, sometimes full of water, sometimes dry, is a highlight. After a heavy rain, simply frolicking in the roaring stream running alongside the Iroquois Trail is always great fun. On a hot day, a quick trip up Iroquois Trail and Pat's Pad Trail leads to a waterfall and a small pool, ideal for cooling off with your head under the falls or romping around in the pond.

Of course, the best destination for a swim is the magnificent Falls of Lana, approximately a 45-60 minute hike from camp, mostly flat. A large, deep pool lies between two picturesque waterfalls and is a perfect spot for a quick dip in the mountain-cold stream (Sucker Brook) or, for the more brave, a swim from one side to the other, a scramble up the shoulder of the falls and a leap back into the pool.

Pat Partridge followed Jeff Smith from the 1940s-70s as Keewaydin's head naturalist and hiker. The

nature program, taking place primarily on Mt. Moosalamoo, thrived under his leadership, with green and white coups representing knowledge of trees, ferns, moss, rocks, reptiles and amphibians, and the stars covering coup boards. Pat also inspired the construction of a lean-to uphill from the Cold Spring trail, close to a stream and with a wonderful view, for overnight excursions. His grandson, Doug Partridge, oversaw the building project in 1970. It has been a destination for overnights ever since. He encouraged campers to explore the wonders of Moosalamoo and started the "All Trails Club," admittance into which required hiking all 30 trails of the mountain over two summers. The first member of the All Trails Club was Fred Fay, who completed the task in 1958. Popularity of attaining "All Trails" has grown over the years, with 339 managing the feat, along with six dogs. A few intrepid souls have completed the challenge in one day. The first to do this was Schuyler Thompson on August 12, 1974. The most recent to complete this challenge was Will Hanson in 2024. It is believed that the fastest recorded time to complete all 30 trails in one day was accomplished by Jesse MacDonald and Hayden Laster in 2023—nine hours and five minutes!

Over the past 25 years, Steve Patch has been Moosalamoo's chief caretaker. There isn't a trail on the mountain that hasn't seen a chainsaw, a lopper, or a crowbar wielded by Steve. Building rock staircases, re-routing trails, cutting new trails, installing waterbars,

continued on page 4

continued from page 3

Steve has kept the trails in remarkably great shape. In 2009, Keewaydin honored Steve with the renaming of the “Hawkins Bridle Path” to “Steve’s Trail.”

The songs we sing in the dining hall celebrate our fondness for

Mt. Moosalamoo. The songbook is replete with references to the mountain from songs titled “I Love to Go a-Hiking,” and “Lake, Sky and Moosalamoo,” and lyrics extolling “majestic Moosalamoo” and being “agape with the view.” There are few summer camps blessed with a more perfect location—

on the shores of a beautiful lake and in the shadow of a great mountain. With summer right around the corner, campers and staff will soon be lacing up their boots and heading up the mountain in search of adventure, challenge and the wonder of nature!

What We Learn at Camp

By Hayden Laster '14

The following is from a Sunday Circle talk by Hayden in the summer of 2024.

What do you learn at camp? This past week I asked many Wiantinaug campers this question and got many responses. I had to shorten the question to “What is one thing you learn at camp” for a lot of people since they would start listing off activity after activity. Some of the responses were: canoeing, kayaking, climbing, knot tying and belaying for climbing, mixing ketchup and mayo makes a really great dipping sauce, basketball, riflery, and the list goes on and on. But one camper gave me a different answer. They said: “hmmm, I don’t know, to be a better person, I guess.” This answer, while it is not an activity or a sport, is completely true. We all learn to be better people while at camp, or at least I think we do, and the songbook agrees with me. We have Song Number 32: *It Made Me What I Am* which is about camp making you into a better person. There are all the Verendrye songs where they sing of growing up and becoming men thanks to camp and their Verendrye trip. The opening



Hayden Laster (R) playing tetherball in Wiantinaug with Frisco Feuerstein '16 (L)

of *Lake, Sky and Moosalamoo* is, “To be a better man, I need my camp by the lake.” Later in the song we sing, “playing the games that make of us men,” and in *I’ll Not Grow Too Old to Dream*, we also sing, “the games that make of us men.”

This last line is exactly how we learn to be better people here, by playing our games, going on our trips, and living together as a community. Somehow, in the process of improving our K-Stroke, our three-point shot or free throw, and riflery score, our character improves too. I’ll talk about how this happens later, but first, some of the attributes we develop are: enthusiasm, kindness, and friendship. On Friday night, at Candlelight, we will hear more about these principles and the rest of the twelve character traits that Keewaydin

attempts to instill in all of you, but right now I want to focus on two virtues that aren’t included in those 12 that I think camp helped instill in me: discipline and patience.

Discipline is like motivation, but whereas the motivation to complete a task might come and go from one day to the next, if you are disciplined about something you will always get it done. Discipline is truly shown when you get work done that you need to do, even if you don’t want to do it. At camp, we all learn discipline in situations like the one I just described. Everyone is here to do activities, but first, you need to get through inspection. Everyone wants to have dessert on trip, but first you need to wallop and get the campsite packed up. And the biggest training for discipline is portaging. It is hard and painful, and everyone would

rather be shooting whitewater sets, but you are forced to get all your stuff to the other side of this portage to continue your trip.

Portaging has also helped me learn to be patient. A good friend recently told me, “I am astounded by what seems to be your infinite patience.” Well, this friend has never done the two-mile portage on DuPost, or any portages for that matter. On a portage, there is nothing you can do to speed it up (other than run on your way back, I guess), and when you finish, you must patiently wait for the rest of your trip to get to the end too. Other aspects of tripping also teach patience—the long drives to the trip and the long paddles you must complete. In these moments, you have no choice but to be patient, and wait, and paddle, until you get to your campsite. Trips force us to practice these traits, which makes you better at them in other situations, making you into a better person.

But it isn't only trips, because the activities we do at camp improve our character as well. We learn

soccer, basketball, canoeing, kayaking, and all the activities at camp, and while we do, we practice our sportsmanship, determination, perseverance, our ability to work as a team and more. But why does it work here at Keewaydin? There are tons of sports camps out there that teach baseball, soccer, climbing, (the sport doesn't matter), but people aren't going to those camps and singing songs about how they became the man they want to be thanks to playing sports all week long.

But somehow, that is exactly what we do here, as we “play the games that make of us men.” So why is Keewaydin special? While I could just say Keewaydin Magic and call it at that, some more tangible reasons are that we live together for 4 or 8 weeks and live like a family for the summer, we work on conflict resolution and how to heal this community if things go wrong, and we have high expectations for how everyone should act and hold people to these expectations. But the most important reason is that we are intentional about improving as people. We try to become better

people here. We have our camp mottos, “Help the Other Fellow” and “Leave Your Campsite Better Than You Found It,” and we follow “The Golden Rule.” Every day we get gentle reminders about these mottos as we go about our daily life. While our focus might be activities or free time games, we are always intentionally practicing our camp mottos, because we are here at camp, which makes us into better people.

Intentionality about improving as a person is all it takes, and so we become better people each summer at Keewaydin. But if a little bit of attention to being a good person is all that we need, then that isn't unique to Keewaydin. It is obviously a part of Keewaydin, but you can do this anywhere. One week from today we will be out in our own parts of the world, leaving the Keewaydin campus behind until next summer, but I encourage you to bring the Keewaydin Spirit of working to be a better person along with you wherever you go.



2025 ALUMNI EVENTS - SAVE THE DATES!

| | |
|---------------|--|
| May 30–June 1 | John Watson Work Weekend, Lake Dunmore |
| June 20–24 | Ojibway Family Lodge Work Party, Lake Temagami |
| July 10–13 | Alumni Family Weekend at Lake Temagami |
| August 21–24 | Alumni Family Weekend at Lake Dunmore |
| October 20 | Alumni Reception, NYC |

For more information about any of these events please email
info@keewaydin.org or go to [Keewaydin.org/Alumni](https://www.Keewaydin.org/Alumni)

Alumni News



Tim Ritter

Tim Ritter '58 recently toured the south and southwest of the U.S., spending five weeks in Florida then visiting such sites as the Barringer Meteorite Crater in Arizona, the Grand Canyon and the Mojave Desert as well as visiting **Frank '77** and **Drue Reigelman** in west Texas.



Cindy and Larry Jones

Larry '62 and **Cindy '15 Jones** have been traveling around the country since the fall. In this photo, Cindy, Larry and their two dogs, Indiana and Simba, are in White Sands National Park in New Mexico near Alamogordo—an amazing place! The sand is obsidian, not granite like beach

sand, and it is cool to the touch, even on hot days. The time, from the shadows, is obviously near sunset, and that is perhaps the most magical time. They plan to return to Vermont in August.

Mig '67 and **Elise Oppenheimer '19** spent three weeks after camp on safari in Kenya, Tanzania, and The Seychelles! They had the opportunity to feed giraffes at a place that raises giraffes for introduction into the wild in Nairobi.

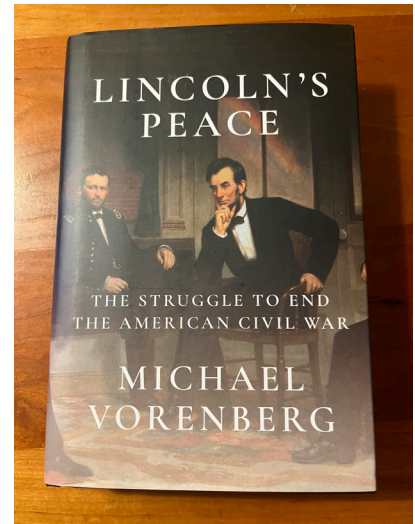


Mig and Elise Oppenheimer

Tom Vorenberg '71 is an EMT Patient Care Tech in the Emergency Department of the Nantucket Cottage Hospital. His wife, Amy, has taken a job as Head of School at the Nantucket New School.

Mike Vorenberg '72, author of *Faithful and True, 100 Years of Keewaydin on Dunmore, 1910-2009*, is back with a new book! *Lincoln's Peace: The Struggle to End the American Civil War*, a fascinating study of the complexities of truly

bringing the Civil War to an end, went on sale in March.



Lincoln's Peace

Breck Knauff '82 went to surf camp in Costa Rica and is now considering quitting his job and going pro. Or at least he's dreaming of this. He regularly sees Keewaydin friends **Matt Bijur '80** and **Anne Adler 'P87**. Anne is on the board of Vermont Youth Conservation Corps, the organization Breck runs. Breck and his wife, Margaret, are enjoying empty nesting. Their two daughters, **Ada '16** and **Frances**, are doing well in college. Ada will be on staff this summer at Songa!



Breck Knauff

ALUMNI FAMILY WEEKEND

August 21-24, 2025

Come to Lake Dunmore!

Join us for activities, hikes, social hours, singing, paddling, campfires and more!

It is a great time to introduce your family to Keewaydin
and all your favorite traditions. It is a blast!

We look forward to seeing you there!



Learn more and register Keewaydin.org/Dunmore-Reunion

Register by MAY 31 for 10% OFF!



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Jesse Mostoller with his wife Steph and daughter, Georgia

Jesse Mostoller '96, his wife, Steph, and their daughter, Georgia, live in Monkton, VT. Jesse is one of the chief residents in Pathology at the University of Vermont Medical Center. He has one year of residency left and will then embark on a year-long fellowship in Forensic Pathology, starting in the summer of 2026. Steph teaches dance at a number of studios in Vergennes, Burlington and Waterbury. Georgie is t-minus 6 years from Songa. They have another future Keewaydin/Songa tripper due in August!



Rich Morgan and Drew Althage

Rich Morgan '01 has had an interesting year, so far! In January, he traveled to Japan to ski with **Drew Althage '04**! They spent a week in an RV chasing snow and eating noodles. Upon return, he landed a new job, Director of Enterprise Sales at Absorb Software.

Clark Derbes '02, the artist who painted the backdrop scene on the stage of the Eisner Multi-House and constructed the paddle mobile, had a show of his work in Vergennes, VT this fall. One of the paintings he exhibited was inspired by the Keewaydin waterfront.



Clark Derbes art

Cam Nevin '02 will be biking the north coast of Spain this summer. Once he finishes that, he will join forces with **Ben Beck '96** to attempt the Piffner Traverse, a high alpine route through Rocky Mountain



Leo Nieto

National Park!

Almost two years ago, **Leo Nieto '04** decided to go fully independent and founded his own company: Place Branders Consultants (www.PlaceBranders.com). It specializes in the promotion of destinations and

place branding strategies, helping cities, regions, and countries develop and communicate their identity to attract tourism,



Sam Scibetta and Bill Souser

talent, and investment. Sam Scibetta '06 and Bill Souser '98 met in Taiwan over spring break and summited the high point of the island (Yu Shan, 3952m)!

March was a big birthday month for the **Hildreths**. **Christopher '06** turned thirty and **Stephen '80** turned 60! Here's a photo of **Dennis '07**, **Owen '07**, **Christopher** and **Grace '06**—former campers and staff at Keewaydin and Songadeewin.



Dennis, Owen, Christopher and Grace Hildreth

Matt Gibson '09 lives in Los Angeles working in various sectors and jobs within the film industry. Recently, he has settled pretty firmly into production. He reports



Matt Gibson

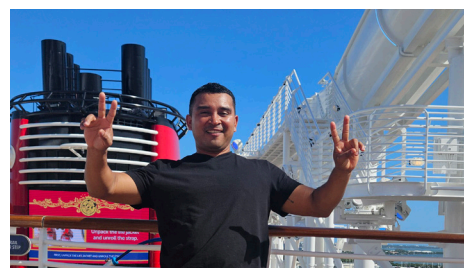
that “something about it is similar to tripping at camp.” He is working with Keewaydin alumnus **Max Zimmer** '11, a cinematographer.



Jakob Adler and Cannon Moltz

Jakob Adler '12 recently went on a month-long tour performing music. His travels took him to Nashville, TN where he connected with **Cannon Moltz** '01, who has been performing live music

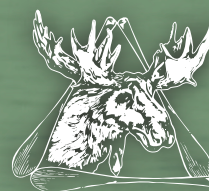
for several years. Jakob plans to release an album this summer.



Isel Noyola

Isel Noyola '13 is working on a cruise ship in the Caribbean as a youth activities director from April through August.

A gift to the **ANNUAL FUND** is a gift to the *PADDLING FORWARD* Campaign.



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Please make your gift today at Keewaydin.org/Give

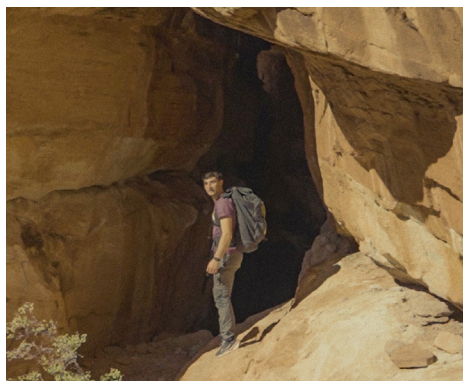


Watch the *Paddling Forward* video at Keewaydin.org/campaign



Finn Ahrens

Finn Ahrens '16 spent the fall semester abroad in Amsterdam. In between classes, traveling and the multitude of cultural opportunities, he trained and competed in a marathon from Nice to Cannes in France!



Caleb Blaustein

Caleb Blaustein '16 went on a 3-day backpacking trip in Arches National Park in the fall, seeing a total of 16 arches and many petroglyphs along the way!

Thomas Mondelli '17 will be stationed in Hawaii with the Marines Corps for the next 3½ years.

Langley Van Alen '17 will be closer to Keewaydin than ever, when he leaves South Carolina next fall to start school in Burlington at Champlain College.



Harry Politzer-Lemire, Rocco Buhler, George Politzer-Lemire and Max Lawrence

Harry Politzer-Lemire '17, Rocco Buhler '21, George Politzer-Lemire '17 and Max Lawrence '17 met up in Brooklyn this fall. All four will be going on wilderness trips this summer.



Henry Petrow, Eli Batchelor, and Tommy Belin

Henry Petrow '22, Eli Batchelor '21 and Tommy Belin '21 got together for some basketball this winter.

Sam Cunningham '21 will begin studies at Providence College in fall 2025.



When Wiantinaug camper **Aaron Young '22** won Best Swimmer in Wiantinaug in 2024, he joined his great-grandfather, **Ed Young '38**, on the Best Swimmer Board in the dining hall.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Dan Jones '58 was a Moosalamoo camper for one summer and then on the Wiantinaug staff in '61 and '62. He instructed canoeing and sailing and general camp-craft and was known for his laugh and his love of good times. **Jonathan '59 and Larry '62**, his two brothers, followed him to camp, and eventually so did his son **Danny '93**. Dan passed away on March 31, 2025 at the age of 81 in Alexandria, Virginia.

Carter "Buzz" Craigie '61 passed away in August, 2024. Through his service at the camp as a young man he gained outdoor skills that he enjoyed using and teaching to others for the rest of his life.

BIRTHS

Bennett Werner '00 shared some exciting news, a new baby boy: **Theodore Bailey Werner** arrived February 17.



Bennet Werner with Theodore Bailey

Jeff Chandler '01 and Asya Snejevski S'11 have a new baby boy! **Luka Chandler** was born

on April 25. Older brother Sasha is very excited to have a little brother!



Jeff Chandler with Luka

Elliot '16 and Cristi Franklin welcomed daughter, Sybil Ninette Franklin (named after her Mimi, Foundation office

manager **Annette Franklin '14**) on March 29, 2025. Sybil proved to have a flair for the dramatic with her speedy arrival in the back of an ambulance! Sybil joins her sister, Everly, at home in Hinesburg, VT.

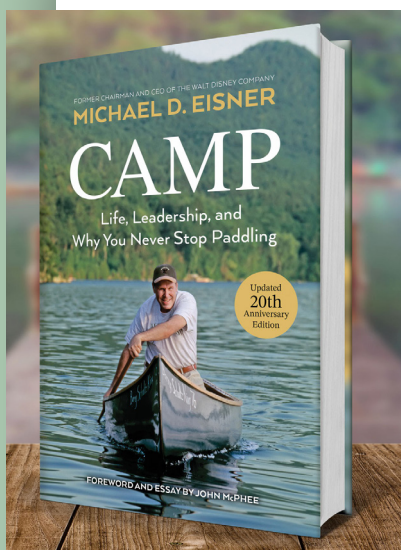


Elliot, Everly, Cristi and Sybil Ninette Franklin



Santi Zuluaga with Rio

Rio Zuluaga was born on December 4, 2024. His parents, **Santi Zuluaga '18**, and **Naty Hernandez '23**, look forward to introducing him to Keewaydin and Songa! Those who know Santi and Naty well wonder if Rio will be climbing before he's walking!



NEW EDITION OF CAMP!

The second edition of **CAMP**, by **Michael Eisner '50**, hits the bookstores in April! Eisner has updated his book about Keewaydin in which he reflects on the value of camp, his experience as camper

and staff, the experience of two scholarship campers the Eisner Foundation sponsored, and the legendary director, **Waboos Hare '23**. The new edition includes an epilogue where he tells of reuniting with his Waramaug staffman from 1952, **Eddie Dobson '46**.



Michael Eisner and Eddie Dobson, summer 2024



Waramaug Tent 12, 1952. Front row, second from left, Michael Eisner; third from left John Thomas; Back row, left to right, Russ MacDonald and Eddie Dobson

Keewaydin Foundation 2025 Calendar

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| April 14 - May 30 | KEEC Spring Season |
| May 30 - June 1 | John Watson Work Weekend in Vermont |
| June 21 - August 12 | 132 nd Season for Keewaydin Temagami |
| June 20 - 24 | Ojibway Family Lodge Work Party |
| June 22 - August 16 | 116 th Season for Keewaydin Dunmore |
| June 22 - August 16 | 27 th Season for Songadeewin on Lake Dunmore |
| June 27 - August 25 | 102 nd Season for Ojibway Family Lodge |
| July 10 - 13 | Alumni Family Weekend on Lake Temagami |
| July 17 - 20 | Midseason at Keewaydin Temagami |
| July 19 - 20 | Midseason at Keewaydin Dunmore & Songadeewin |
| July 26 - 27 | Board of Trustees Meeting on Lake Temagami |
| August 3 | Islander Potluck Dinner at Ojibway Family Lodge |
| August 10 | Paddle-In at Keewaydin Temagami |
| August 21 - 24 | Alumni Family Weekend on Lake Dunmore |
| September 1 - October 10 | KEEC Fall Season |
| October 20 | Board of Trustees Meeting & Alumni Reception, NYC |

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