



# The TATTLER

Established 1893

Fall 2024

## From the Director

Keewaydin finished as strong as ever. Our approach to canoe tripping remains consistent, helping stretch and push our campers into more complex versions of themselves. I reflect on our ways, this Keewaydin way, and see that the process and the patience needed are deeply integral to a successful season.



*Proud parents and proud campers*

Throughout the summer, we navigate the stages of classic group development. We watch the campers bloom, like spring flowers, eagerly and tentatively reaching for the sun. Our campers arrive budding with feelings. Winter months have inched by, the anticipation of the canoe trip and the unknown inserted into their minds with each item from their packing list organized on their bedroom floor. Fortunately, arriving at Keewaydin's dock brings relief, and the initial

*continued on page 2*



*Soft morning light as Section 3 prepares for the day*

## Long trips, reports from the summer

### Section 1, Katie Paine '06, Staff

What a summer! The canoe trip alongside these inspiring young women was truly memorable, with the group already skilled in the ways of Keewaydin. In the first three weeks, we paddled through large lakes and small rivers, battling strong winds and charging over numerous portages daily. The transition from the Kannaupscow River to more significant lake crossings, like Lac Nutamawanis and Lac Bienville, tested our endurance. Despite wind challenges, the group remained upbeat and embraced the beauty of changing landscapes. By the time we reached Lac Goselier, we were treated to a much-needed pause, admiring the surrounding hills.

Our next trip section took us along the Rellot River, where the group's adaptability was truly impressive.

They excelled at tackling rapids and portages, supporting each other through tough terrain, rock hopping, and battling alder trees. Their teamwork and camaraderie shone as they helped each other through difficult moments. The section's ability to navigate whitewater confidently made the journey smoother. The larger lakes we crossed afterward, including Lac Rellot and Lac Lenormand, posed their challenges, mainly the

*continued on page 3*

### In This Issue

Midseason	8
Alumni Updates	11
Summer - Photo Highlights	18

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

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**From the Director**

*continued from page 1*

greetings and welcoming smiles are a good start. At the core of a Keewaydin camper is their desire to be there on Lake Temagami, and it bubbles up to the surface, day by day, week by week.

The first days of camp are busy. Sections form, and friendships begin to grow. You'll notice the hustle as the long-trip staff and campers complete their final checks while also forging the first of many conversations as a section. Walking through the camp, you can see the eagerness in the younger campers' eyes and hear their chatter and laughter as they settle in. This sense of community and camaraderie makes the Keewaydin experience so special, and it's what our campers remember most fondly when they look back on their time here.

The younger campers, experienced or not, navigate the first few days with bright and noisy energy or shy and cautious steps. New campers consider how fun this will be while getting into the hands-on learning that builds into preparation for the first canoe trip. This typical beginning of camp remains the same: the consistency of our routines and steps of preparation allows for stage 1 of group development to happen quickly. On our first trips, campers enter stage 2, the realm of the storm; as personalities emerge, homesickness creeps in, finding discomfort at every turn. This stormy stage can be challenging for a section to come through; it takes routine, great staff with leadership and empathy skills



*Campers standing proud and tall*

to help shepherd their campers into their second, more extended canoe trip. Knowing it does get easier, the physical and technical skills improve, and trip staff continue to dig into the fun and help their campers find their rhythm. We know that the rest falls into place when you find your rhythm. In group development, the sprouting of a camper happens every day. For the Keewaydin section, trip staff lead them to move into stage 3, and the section discovers they have goals to meet and new goals to create; their competency and performance are real and evident. Each camper sees and feels the abundance of their strengths, the deeper friendships forming, and their team becoming stronger. The portages become enjoyable, the discomfort is milder, and the connection to more positive feelings is more consistent.

Our campers rejoice, brimming with pride, and have blossomed into the hardest of kids. I can picture the final paddle-ins, the confident steps taken, and their heads held high. When summer is over, campers take home more than a tumpline and a duffle bag. They bring home the internal knowing of their inner strength and a deep appreciation for the team that helped them grow and succeed. This transformation is not just for the summer but for a lifetime.



## Trip Reports

*continued from page 1*

ever-present northwest winds, but we made adjustments and pressed forward.

As we neared Hudson Bay, the landscape shifted again. The Little Whale River and Boutin River offered breathtaking scenery, from cascading waterfalls to misty mornings. The section's skills grew, and by this point, they were working efficiently, easily handling difficult portages and paddling through challenging waters. The Boutin surprised and wowed us with dramatic water features and more demanding portages, but the group handled it with a sense of adventure. The mountain portage was a particularly grueling but rewarding journey, with the group pausing to take in the stunning views of mountains and questas as they inched closer to their destination.

Our final days were magical. From navigating the last river rapids to camping on the northern shore of the Little Whale River at its outlet into Hudson Bay with seals and belugas nearby, they filled us with a sense of appreciation. Though the coastal weather delayed us, spirits remained high, and the ladies made the most of the final days. Ultimately, a boat brought us to Kuujuarapik, and we ended the trip with gratitude for the experience and the friendships formed. Section 1 2024, was made all the more remarkable by the hard work and determination of everyone involved.



*Section 1 taking stock of what's ahead*

### Section A, Peter Dutko '03, Staff

When you plan a bay trip, building time into an itinerary, whether it is used up by low water levels or rough weather, is essential to a well-planned route. Understanding when to move, push, and rest over 40+ days can leave you a rest day to enjoy or a rapid to fish. Sometimes, the weather cooperates, and the sun shines in Quebec. This summer, Section A experienced all types of weather, embracing the days when a t-shirt was sufficient and glad for the proper layers when it wasn't. Our travels brought us down one of Quebec's most beautiful rivers, but the way to get there is where significant work occurs. This year's crew of campers was ready to work, eager to set a solid pace, paddle, line, and portage their way from our Lac Neret put-in through Lac Bienville and D'Iberville to Little Seal.

As the halfway mark of a trip approaches, the section personalities are known, their energy feels predictable, and they begin thinking about the big water ahead. The end, and what that means to each of us, is feeling much closer. To make our way to the Clearwater River, we popped onto the Nastapoka for a short stint. This was a little taste of a big, fast-dropping river Keewaydin has traversed in years past, and it's fun to say we also touched the Nastapoka. Quickly, we were back to big lake water on Big Seal. We knew the Clearwater was just ahead. The vistas shifted, the water moved purposefully, and so did we. Section A campers maintained their wonder and appreciation and still found the crazy ability to swim every day! The Clearwater River provides this unique traveling crew with massive waterfalls and frequent campsites along deep churning rapids. We had the ever-present mountain portage in our minds to test our aptitude for portaging and our ability to make a more permanent home in the woods. As coastal weather brought forth cold, rain, and strong, steady winds, we knew remaining tucked in the shelter of the mountain was far better than a coastal beach site. Sitting tight for a few days teaches you a lot. Your time needs to be managed differently; the section effectively hits the pause button, and our focus becomes the basic needs of the canoe party. Shelter, water, food, photography, journal writing, trip notes, card games, dumb games,

*continued on page 4*

continued from page 3

and occasional communication with Keewaydin HQ. Waiting for the weather to shift can be tricky, especially when you have a self-prescribed deadline and the larger community of Keewaydin expecting and hoping you are on schedule. To our relief and delight, the winds did begin to reduce, and instead of a dramatic paddle along the coast to Umiujaq, we were met by motor boats that bounced us up the ocean to the town. Sometimes, that's how it goes. But, when you are lucky enough to be on Section A, let alone leading it with a great friend like Hunter Craighill '11, the end is just one part of the whole story. Section A 2024: great campers and a great summer.

### **Section B, John Goodpasture '10, Staff**

Section B 2024 was an exceptional summer.

The book I have read most often on trip by a mile is *The Hobbit*: I read it every year as a camper and have read it twice in the summers since. *The Hobbit* is a perfect camp book because its moral recognizes the value of a circular journey—Bilbo leaves the Shire in the first chapter

and returns to it in the last, and not much has changed, yet it is evident that he has gained something from his journey. The greatest gift that Keewaydin canoe trips can give is the freedom of an adventure,



*River work for Section B*

the feeling of waking up every day to not just the possibility but the certainty that something extraordinary will happen. Sometimes, the extraordinary thing is relaxing and meditative—sitting in the mist next to a waterfall and watching the pouring water spout up as the waves overlap. Or perhaps it is the feeling of euphoria from overcoming a great challenge—my favorite of these is often paddling straight into the wind for kilometers on end in a final push for the campsite and finally arriving and stretching my legs for the first time in what feels like weeks. Or the extraordinary moment can be something that sucks—like getting

over a huge tree in the middle of a portage just to stumble into a thigh-deep hole of muskeg. There are parallels to all these moments in the typical adventure: Relaxation and respite, overcoming

great obstacles, and, of course, running into antagonists (the main “bad guy” in our story is simply the combination of every little pain and annoyance that canoe trips can dish out.)

One of the privileges of being the Staffman of a long trip is that not only do I get to go on my adventure and create my little scenes and

conflicts, but I can see precisely how the eight campers create and deal with their adventures. Sometimes, they deal with things exactly like I do; sometimes, they deal with things like I did when I was sixteen and in section B, and sometimes, they find completely new ways to deal with these little issues. Sometimes, I caught myself thinking—well that's not how I would do it—but often, the ways the boys approached things were creative and improved how I did things. Watching the boys develop strategies and ideas to put up the fly or line down a rapid is a proud feeling.

This trip had everything you could



*Perfect day for a Section A reoutfit flight*

ever want, but maybe too much—wildlife, beautiful waterfalls, huge lakes, every type of imaginable creek, and more. Returning Section B to some old Pipestone and Winisk River stomping grounds was a good decision. Moreover, navigating across huge lakes such as the Attawapiskat and Wunnummen, followed by some pointedly challenging travel days on our “short-cut” to the south, made the Opichuan River a rather sweet upriver push to our finish. While Quinlan and I were disappointed that we couldn’t go to Quebec at the beginning of the summer, we were incredibly grateful for all the factors that pushed us towards the Pipestone and this classic old trip.

### **Section 3, Kera Zegar '07, Staff**

This summer’s Section 3 canoe trip took us further west than these campers, or I, have ever been on a Keewaydin canoe trip. After three long days in the car, we put

in at Slate Falls along the Cat River. The Cat River was the only upstream section of our summer, which provided some challenging days to whip us back into canoe-tripping shape! We made our way to the headwaters of the Berens River by doing some lake-hopping west. We found lots of difficult portaging that had us clambering over many deadfalls (a theme throughout our trip). Eventually, the river grew from the size of a creek to a wide and languorous river. In this section, we had the privilege of viewing many scenic cascades and swirling falls. We re-outfitted at an Ojibwe First Nation called Pikangikum then paddled the last of the upper Berens until it forked with the Pigeon River. We anticipated this destination all summer.

Our research on the Pigeon River provided feelings of anticipation. The Pigeon River was last run by a Keewaydin section in 1995, so we did not know what to expect.

The whitewater on this section of the trip was some of the best I’ve ever experienced at Keewaydin! It was big, splashy, and provided the girls with many learning opportunities. Center V’s, large eddies, and rolling wave trains increased the ladies’ whitewater prowess. In addition, the campsites were picturesque, classic, EXCELLENT sites with rock outcrops, spacious, and had lots of room for your tents and kitchen area. We enjoyed this aspect of open camping on the rock faces of the Canadian Shield. Though we enjoyed the swiftness of the Pigeon, it brought us to Lake Winnipeg and the end of our trip far too quickly! We finished our Section 3 summer, staring across the immense and horizonless expanse of Lake Winnipeg, our hearts full and minds already dreaming of Section 2.



# Notable Awards and Competitions

Midseason events were a huge success! Canoes churned toward the finish line as paddlers eagerly pulled through the water, showcasing their newfound strength and paddling skills. Swimmers were cheered on by their fans while judges were impressed with the campers' growing mastery of camping techniques. The sections also wowed everyone with teamwork, creating hearty, tasty meals and highlighting their cooking skills and collaboration.

### Overall Winners Swim races:

- Dmitry Doronichev '23
- Jake Silveira '23
- Asher McCoul '23

### Overall Winners Canoe races:

- Peter Wu '24
- Logan Busenhart '23
- Isaac Woodworth '24

### Cooking Contest:

Kipawa and Section Z

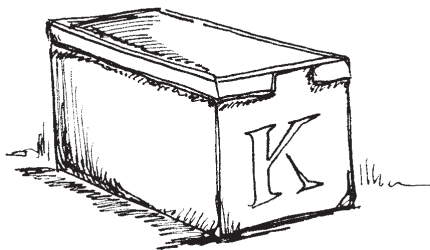
### Camping Contest:

Metach and Winisk Q

### Cooking & Camping

#### Overall Winner:

Section Z with 461.5/500 points



*Gunn Canoe: Henry Blaxter receives a hearty Keewaydin cheer!*

Congratulations to the Director of Ojibway Family Lodge, **Tanya McCubbin '95**, for receiving the Chivers Award. **Sandy Chivers '54** shared Tanya's story and her 20+ year dedication to the Keewaydin Way with our camp community. From her time as head cook at Keewaydin, summer office manager, and Director of Ojibway, Tanya's attention to detail, guest experience, and love of Lake Temagami were fully displayed this summer. She is a kind, friendly, and hard-working member of our camp community. Congratulations Tanya!



*Tanya with Sandy in the Ridgeway Lodge*

**Henry Blaxter '18** of Section B won the Gunn Canoe Trophy! The weather was perfect for a day of competition. Participants from Section A, Section 1, and Section B were eligible to compete. The paddlers were competent, smooth, and focused, showing our judges their well-honed skills. It was a spirited occasion, with section mates cheering and supporting each other while an attentive audience watched from the shore. Congratulations, Henry!



*Keewaydin Service Award: Emily Schoelzel with Bruce Bishop and John Frazier*

### Keewaydin Service Award

**Bruce Bishop '52** was presented with the Keewaydin Service Award this October at the NYC Alumni Reception. Many local Keewaydin alumni attended to honor Bruce. Bruce's generous and story-filled service to Keewaydin has exemplified the motto "Help the Other Fellow!" Congratulations Bish!





*Drummers from Bear Island & North Bay, ON*

## Midseason

Keewaydin hosted an incredible group of parents and family members for our Midseason events. Ojibway cabins and tents were full of eager folks ready to catch a glimpse of their camper and spend a little time enjoying Lake Temagami. Our kitchens made wonderful food, and campers enjoyed a delicious afternoon cookout. The weather was fantastic, and everyone had tons of time to enjoy the lake's cool waters with a swim or a paddle.

We had 11 basecamp sections paddle in from their second canoe trips. It was evident how much the campers had grown in their confidence and abilities. The trip staff were pleased with everyone's progress, especially the youngest campers, who proudly carried their tumped double packs.

The days were filled with our events and contests. Each of our judges was eager to see what each Keewaydin camper had learned in their three weeks at camp. They looked to see and taste how well the meal was prepared,

or they leaned in to observe the focus as a camper worked to tie the tumpline onto the center thwart of their canoe. And when the day was nearly done, we'd host our evening campfires, which were funny and poetic, as each camper shared a story from the trip.

Additional highlights from this summer's Midseason were the return of singers from Temagami First Nation, Bear Island, and their

friends. Our camp enjoyed learning more about Indigenous stories and the life lessons they carry. Ridgeway Lodge was filled with beautiful and positive energy. We closed out Midseason with our Midseason show! Smart and funny skits from each section caught the audience's attention, and the music from many Keewaydin staff members rounded out a wonderful few days. We appreciate all our volunteer judges' attention and effort to help our Midseason events succeed. Thank you!



*Campfire stories can be hilarious*



*The Parade with visiting alumni*





*Kipawa ready to go!*



*Kathy is ready for the judges*



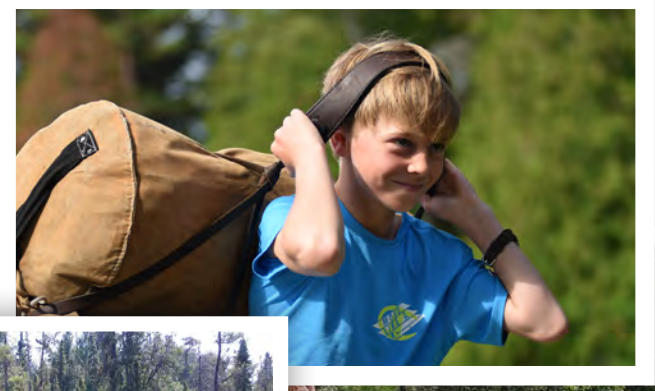
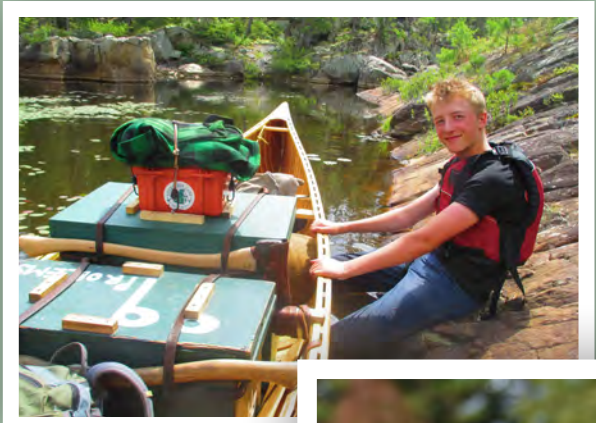
*Two Gunwhale hoppers!*



*Proud mom!*



*Swim racers ready to push off!*



# SPREAD THE WORD!

JOIN US! We are excited to connect with many Keewaydin friends. Bring a friend to the open house, and you'll receive a sweet custom Keewaydin pin!

Current and new campers will be awarded a flag when they bring a sibling or friend to camp!

## KEEWAYDIN TEMAGAMI Open House Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
January 7	Zoom 7:00-8 p.m.
January 9	Seattle, WA 6:30-8 p.m.
January 29	St. Simons Island, GA 6:30-8 p.m.
January 31	Atlanta, GA 6:30-8 p.m.
February 2	New Orleans, LA 10:30-12 p.m.
February 3	Huntsville, TX 6:30-8 p.m.
February 27	Zoom 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Registration link found on our homepage or scan the QR code with your phone camera:



## Alumni News

**Sam Morris '06** and his partner Emma Hodge welcomed Isla Adelaide Hodge-Morris to the world this past summer. Sam happily reports, "She's excellent."



*Sweet Isla Hodge-Morris*

**James Donnelly '52** returned to Keewaydin for a trip down memory lane.



*James with his family, John Frazier and Emily Schoelzel*

**Cliff Mallory '97** returned to NY in 2016 after a near decade stint in Singapore/Jakarta/Seoul engaging and extensively

training in the shipping industry. He is currently engaged in hospitality in the east coast as well as making connections within shipping and the Asian art world.

**Charles Luke '16** is currently a student at Brown University and interned at the Georgetown Center for Contemporary Arab Studies with NCUSAR this summer. He doesn't canoe anymore but is a passionate runner.

### **GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN**

**M. Gile Chivers**

October 12, 1955 – May 19, 2024

Lebanon, NH., Gile passed away peacefully on May 19, 2024, with his sister at his side. He was born on October 12, 1955, in Hanover, NH, to Janie (Gile) and Howie Chivers, who were also born in Hanover.



*Gile Chivers*

Gile graduated from Hanover High School and went on to get a degree in culinary arts at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, NY in the late 1970's. He left for Vail, CO in 1980 on a road trip with his sister,

Sandy, and began a long career in the restaurant business. In the early 1990's he moved to Denver where he would live for 20 years. Gile returned to Hanover in 2013, where he lived close to Sandy, until he became a resident of Genesis Lebanon Center in July of 2022. Gile and his family spent every summer on Lake Temagami in Ontario, where his parents



*Gile observing the Aubrey Cousins*

owned and operated Keewaydin Camp and Ojibway Family Lodge. Days were filled with swimming, picnicking, paddling, playing hide and seek everywhere on the 50-acre island. Gile, along with guests at Ojibway, enjoyed evening paddles and marshmallow roasts while watching gorgeous sunsets. The camps are located on what is known as Devil's Island. Devil's Island was Gile and his sister's very favorite place in the world.

He didn't take to skiing or other sports, rather enjoying a quieter,

*continued on page 12*



Gile, '88 or '89

low-paced life style. He had the kindest heart and always, always had a quick wit and sense of humor. A dear friend said of Gile: "Here was a person who never was dealt any great cards, never a winning hand yet he radiated a kindness and quick smile and gentle way that eludes most people." He enjoyed a good joke, a better prank and even though life hadn't dealt him a winning hand, he was certainly dealt them when playing cribbage, his favorite card game. Each person who knew Gile will have their own memory of him, his gentle manner and always a twinkle in his eye.

Gile was predeceased by his parents and his sister Carol. He is survived by his sister Sandy, niece Catherine Chivers of Hanover, NH, and numerous Chivers and Gile cousins.

At this time there is no service planned.

Sandy would like to express her gratitude to the nursing team and aides at Genesis Lebanon Center for their appreciation of Gile's wit and mischievous humor as well as the role they played in keeping him comfortable and content while a resident there.

Donations may be made in Gile's memory to the

**Howard "Chief" Chivers Scholarship Fund**  
c/o The Keewaydin Foundation  
500 Rustic Lane  
Salisbury, VT 05769

[keewaydin.org/keewaydin-foundation/give/](http://keewaydin.org/keewaydin-foundation/give/)



Eric paddling in

**Eric Calder Michel '15**

We regret to share the very sad news that our son, Eric Michel, a third-year guide at Keewaydin Temagami, died in a car accident, returning home on August 14, 2024.

He had spent a beautiful summer guiding 5, 10, and 20-day trips for Section Y alongside James Kuhns. Before the season began this year, Eric also had an opportunity to take a group of high school students, new to camping and canoeing, out on Lake Temagami and share the lessons he's learned. Our family could fill this entire issue of the Tattler describing our son's adventures and love of Keewaydin, but perhaps his own words say it best. This is what he shared with his Section-A cohort at the end-season campfire in 2018.

***"What does this place mean to me?"***

*The spirit of adventure, the frontier long thought dead, and the power of man and his wits against the elements are all still here. Maybe it's the relative ease of the dishwashers, cars, and supermarkets that made us forget. Maybe it's just a little too distant from the lives we now lead. But as John Muir said, "The best adventures start with a bag of flour, a pinch of salt, and a jump over the back fence."*

*Maybe it had me too penned up to realize this life we lead, but all I needed was that little push and a hard reset courtesy of the paddle and the trees, the black flies, and the rain. Maybe I just had to push a bit through the romantic, courageous, frontier hardship we can all find, if we look, to realize that what we miss at home and find up here is that spirit, that pride in your work, that*



Eric (left) with 2018 Bay trip pals

determination, that self-sufficiency that defines Keewaydin and the voyages of old, to know that the frontier is alive and well. These rough places, off the beaten path, awaken the fire once more because it is a necessary survival tool here.

That is what I found in myself amidst the singing of the birds and the sounds of the woods. Something we all have, we simply must dig to find. Something easily lost, but that can, with difficulty, be brought with us. If I learned anything from my Section A year, from the Nastapoka, from the Bay, it wasn't how to paddle hard, to tump well, to portage fast. It was the source of all

that. The wind blows behind the rain. That makes those here that I have so admired do it with such gumption, care, and skill.

Above all I simply wish I can remove the divide between this life and the off-season that I've always had. That I can take these invaluable lessons on living simply, and well, and instead of living

in that manner only here in these woods we all love, on the rivers that showed it to me, I may carry something of it, and this place, with me always.

In conclusion, I thank you all, the staff, friends, and family that showed me the light, the brothers I have found here, and thanks especially to this land, to the loon, and the great white bear. To the Bay and onward."

The Michel Family has established the:

### Eric C. Michel Memorial Scholarship Fund

with the Keewaydin Foundation to help children in need experience the magic of canoe tripping which so enriched Eric's life. Preference will be given to campers attending Keewaydin Temagami, with a focus on children from First Nations families.



Keewaydin staff, parents, and campers celebrating Eric in Mill Valley, CA

# THE KEEWAYDIN ANNUAL FUND

It is the support of our community that makes  
each summer a great success!



Your gifts to the Annual Fund support scholarships for campers, salaries for top-notch staff, upkeep of our canoe fleet, maintenance of our facilities on Lake Temagami, and much more.

Thank you for doing your part to keep the traditions alive  
and the program strong!



Please make your gift today at  
[Keewaydin.org/Give](https://Keewaydin.org/Give)



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## Looking ahead to 2025

### Keewaydin Camp's 132<sup>nd</sup> season begins

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June 21	Section A arrives
June 22	Section A departs
June 27	Ojibway Family Lodge opens
June 28	Regular Season commences at Keewaydin Long trip and basecamp campers arrive
June 29	Section 2, B, D, and OutPost campers depart
June 30	Welcome Campfire
July 1	Basecamp sections paddle out, first trips
July 10-13	Alumni & Family Weekend
July 16	Families arrive for Midseason
July 17	Midseason commences
July 20	First three-weekers depart a.m.
July 21	Second three-weekers arrive p.m. Waubeno & Winisk paddle out for 21-day trips
July 23	Welcome Campfire
July 24	Second session campers paddle out, first trip
July 26-27	Board of Trustees Meeting
August 3	Islander Pot-Luck Dinner @ Ojibway
August 9	Families arrive for Endseason
August 10	Final Paddle-in Day and Campfires
August 11	Final Competitions and Campfires
August 12	Campers depart
August 14	Basecamp trip staff depart
August 15	Long trip staff depart
August 15-18	Late Crew
August 18	Keewaydin closed for the season
August 25	Ojibway closed for the season

## Men's Six-Day Trip 2024

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*By Bevan Stanley '66*

We called ourselves Section Gray. I was the most gray, being twelve years older than the next eldest. For me this trip was the fulfillment of a long-held dream. I had experienced Keewaydin in my youth with three years as a camper, including Section A with Heb Evans, and one more year as a guide. The impact on my life of those four seasons had been immeasurable, and I always wanted to return. Fifty-four years later I was back.

Our section was supposed to have consisted of six campers, a staffman, and a guide. However, shortly before the trip one member had to cancel. An assistant staffman was added to make four canoes. We were a miscellaneous group. One of us was from Toronto and provided trivia questions for evening entertainment. One was familiar with Dunmore and Songadeewin. There was the artist from Houston, who was the most stylish dresser. One was a member of the board of Keewaydin and wanted to experience this kind of wilderness canoeing for himself.

Our staff were fabulous. John Frazier was the veteran of leading eight Section A trips. Matt Dean was our current staffman and professor of philosophy at Tulane. The youngest was Ben Maschler, a sophomore at Duke who offered us an evening of readings of Haiku. They all were skilled woodsmen and fine leaders.

After arriving for supper the night before, we spent the next day getting

*continued on page 16*

continued from page 15

to know each other, packing, learning or refreshing our skills at tumping wannigans and double packs, and picking up loads and canoes. A short paddle around the island and a walk over the island to Ojibway and back completed the day.

Our route was the classic Obabika circuit. It was hot, muggy, and calm as we made our cheer and pointed our bows north toward Sharp Rock inlet. The joy of feeling water under me and the movement of the canoe, the pull of the muscles and the rhythm of the strokes all returned. The weather remained warm and still for the next few days. We swam pretty much every time we got out of the boats—portage, lunch stop, camp. We chose tent mates the first evening. Paddling partnerships varied through the trip, different partners and different positions in bow and stern.

The food was as delicious as ever, though the menu had changed a little since I had been there before. We only made one bannock during



Jeff Howe P'11 with Bevan Stanley'66

the trip. We did enjoy a blueberry pie, huge yeast risen calzones, spicy pasta, and other more international cuisine. And what happened to the industrial sized teabags?

Along our route we explored a small waterfall and an abandoned logging camp.

The fourth day was supposed to be a rest day on Obabika with a side trip to site of native worship. We started out with the traditional pancakes, but then one of our group turned up lame with a great pain in his knee. After discussion, we broke camp and made the carry from Obabika into Temagami where a powerboat met us to take our injured comrade to medical care. He was replaced by another young assistant staff, who kept insisting that he really did respect Ben. This meant we now had a one to one camper to staff ratio.

We spent the last night on campsite across the lake from Devil's Island that had very angular rocks, which

## KEEWAYDIN CLUB



## Camping, Canoeing, and Fishing in the Canadian Woods

“Keewaydin Club” adult trips are open to everyone: Keewaydin and Songadeewin alumni, parents, Ojibway guests, or anyone interested in going on a Keewaydin-style trip.

### 5-NIGHT TEMAGAMI REGION TRIP

Three nights at Keewaydin Temagami's basecamp and five days exploring the beauty of Lake Temagami and surrounding lakes. For experienced or “new to canoe” trippers. Dates TBA

Email [emily@keewaydin.org](mailto:emily@keewaydin.org) to express interest and learn more.



our artist from Houston made into sculptures around the kitchen. The next morning, we paddled in, and our brief adventure was over.

So what makes a Keewaydin canoe trip special? Everyone will have a different answer. There is the physical experience of exercise, the pull of paddle against water, and the carrying of heavy loads on portages. There is the use of skills in paddling,

handling an axe, setting up tents, and cooking. There is the comradery of people coming to know and respect one another, and the stories, jokes, and interests shared. There is the community formed by sharing burdens and helping when there is need. There is the beauty of the boreal forests and the Canadian shield, the clean water, rocky points, and sandy beaches. As I write this at my desk back home, my eyes

moisten with longing and love for all that these trips mean and how they shape us all young and old, Section A or Section Gray.



## A Mother's Poem

By Marimargaret Lucarelli-Ries P'19

I was told all along of this place my boy would go. Crystal clear water, emerald trees of green, and scents he had yet to know.

Life lessons to be had, in a classroom could never be taught. Where emotions and tears, at first, will surely be fought.

Many go as a boy, and some already a man, but its been told to me, that almost all will come away, as a lifelong fan.

They will pine for home and for all that they know, but what lies ahead, oh how it will make their soul grow.

I fought it at first, the separation I could not bear, but than a whisper I heard, his experience with this far outweighs your fear.

No news is good news is what I was told, But what if he's hungry? What is he's hurt? What if he's too cold?

Distance from our child, as of late we've been taught, it is to be feared, keep them tethered, no battles they ought fought.



Liam Ries, Section E, clearly happy to be on trip

But how selfish of me, to all of the mothers before, who've been separated from their boy, to search for food, or to go to war.

As the time draws near for us to reunite, for this I've been dreaming, and wanting with all my might.

And on the horizon, I finally see, a fleet of green canoes, gliding right towards me. In the bow or the stern, I wonder his place?

And then I see it, my boy's beautiful face.

Out of the canoe he finally stepped, his posture proud, glistened in raindrops and sweat.

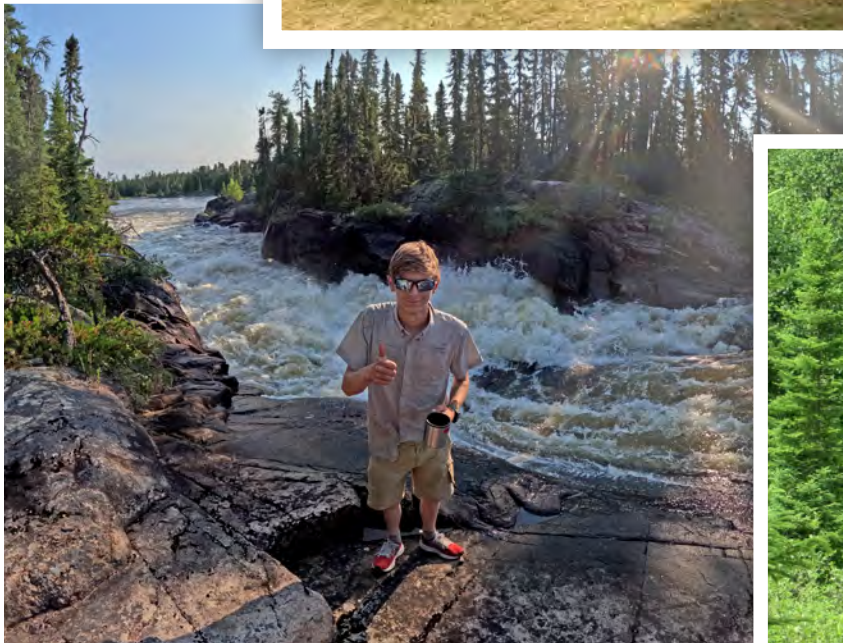
He smelled of the land, the water, and his labor, and to you mother nature, I owe a great favor.

So with a quay, quay, quay and a ka key kay, this I now know, as the Keewaydin Way.

# Highlights of



# the 2024 Season





# KEEWAYDIN CAMP LAKE TEMAGAMI

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Early July discount!

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