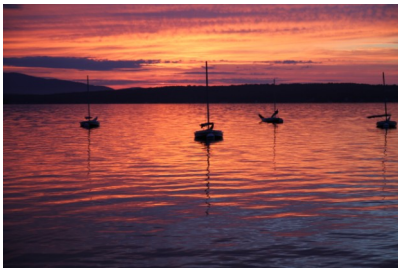




Camp Lawrence Chatter

October 2011



NOTES from the ASSISTANT CAMP DIRECTOR... I am sitting on my porch as I write this on a seemingly picture perfect day. The sky is a perfect clear and clean blue, dotted with white puffy clouds that are slowly dancing their way from one end of the lake to the other. The lake is calm, quiet and peaceful, not a boat to be seen or even heard. Now if only it was as warm as it was during the summer, it would truly be perfect!!! Fall no doubt has come to the island and also to many of you, but this past camping season is still fresh in my mind, as I am sure it is in yours.

Our first session was highlighted by a visit from who we thought were our “friends” from another planet. These alien visitors turned out to be less than friendly (who can forget the look on **Sean Reckert’s** face when his beloved guitar was sent flying?) but we were able to band together and keep camp safe and celebrate in fine fashion.

Orange and Grey was as eventful as ever. Grey’s band of buccaneers pitted against the noble Orange Knights produced a wonderfully competitive competition as always. For four days the contests raged back and forth with the lead between teams changing hands several times. Ultimately though, Grey’s Pirates played to their strengths in the water and were able to best Orange in the Omnibus to take the 2011 edition of Orange and Grey. It was indeed “Grey all the way,” this year...but don’t be surprised to see the “Orange Crush,” come back in full force for 2012.

Hunting for treasure seemed to dominate 3rd Session and what a hunt it was! The excitement, enthusiasm and energy that was exhibited by all seemed even greater than what we all saw the year before. It seemed as though the competition between the Riot, Secret Agents, Bone Thugs and Lumberjacks was as spirited as ever (complete with occasional reminders to all in the dining hall that meals were time for eating as well as chanting). The craziness and chaos of it all came to a close when the Lumberjacks unearthed the treasure just off the main dock. What could be in store for hunting for treasure in the summer of 2012? You’ll have to come to find out...

As per tradition we saw the Camp Olympics highlight our final two weeks. Countries from around the world, represented by their colors and led by senior campers made camp truly light up and bring out the best of every team and individual. In the end, the overall triumph and gold medal went to Australia led by **Alex Simon**. Congratulations not only go out to them but to everyone who competed in the games.

New to us this year at camp was the introduction of Gaga, Drama, and Fishing. The Gaga pit on the junior ball field seemed every filled and ever busy and was a great topic of conversation once boys camp came to a close. It was quite fun fielding questions about what the new contraption on the junior ball field was designed for...the most amusing guess to cross my path was a small riding area for horses! But what a fun addition it was to camp and will be for years to come.

Fishing found its way back to camp this summer as well. What better way to spend part of a summer afternoon relaxing and talking with friends while casting into lovely Winnepesaukee? We also saw plenty of Drama this summer as well...the good kind of drama though. Throughout the summer we found ourselves entertained by their theatrics, be it at Vespers, or awards ceremonies or even once providing entertainment for the Mailboat, the Sophie-C. It was truly a wonderful addition to camp that will surely provide us with entertainment and new and unique challenges to campers and staff alike for summers to come.

We saw the introduction of a one week program for junior campers this summer as well. It was a unique and fun way to show some of our younger audience all that camp had to offer. Nearly forty of you took advantage of this opportunity and next summer we hope to see you all back for two weeks.

All competition and craziness aside, there is much more to us as a camp community and what we do. At the end of every summer I have to pinch myself to truly believe that I encountered all the fantastic campers and staff members I interacted with over the summer and that it was not a dream. I consider myself fortunate and blessed to have the chance to work with and get to know so many of you.

Part of what makes me feel so good about camp and good about what we do is to see campers who embody our four core values of the YMCA. Each session we recognize a camper who exemplifies each of the values and I would like to take some time here to further recognize those campers who shone through as examples of these values. Caring – **Ryan Sullivan, Jason Chadwick, John Lee Cortes-Ruiz, James Keith**. Honesty – **AJ Hano, Sam Huntress, Robert Favuzza, Alex Ciccia**. Respect – **Michael Cole, Chris Knauss, Padric Curran, Eben Parker**. Responsibility – **Cory Lang, Robert Yuan, Peter Vander-Wilden, Alex Simon**. Camp is much more than the activities we take and the friends we make along the way. It is a way for you to grow and learn and better yourself and discover who you are. Thank you for taking the time to make these steps with us.

I hope to see you all again here next summer; it will be here sooner than you think. I would encourage you all to register sooner than later to make sure you can join us for the 2012 camping season. Many of you have already done so, and I look forward to seeing you for the coming summer. A special shout out to **Bobby Peterson** who was our first camper to register for the summer of 2012!!! (Continued on the back...)

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(...Continued from the front) I wish you all nothing but the best for the coming year. When the winter seems at it coldest and most harsh let your mind recall the warmth and joy you experienced at camp....the summer is closer than you think. All the best everyone, until we chatter again.

 (Matthew Corsetti)

DON'T FORGET:

Registration for the 2012 summer began on September 15, 2011.
Sessions are filling up, so call the Camp Office before it's too late!



SEND YOUR PHOTOS

To csoohoo@mvymca.org

Yours may be selected to be on the Camp Lawrence 2012 Calendar