

The Weekly Pineneedle



Week 6 At A Glance

By: Owen Shaw

Week 5's busy schedule transitions into an even busier Week 6, filled with a variety of trips and exciting events.

This week, all Mohawk campers embarked on their Mohawk B and Mohawk A madness trips. Mohawk A campers traveled to Camp Chi for a competition and then went on a ten-mile canoe trip.

We also experienced the majority of our final "typical" days at camp, interspersed with team practices for all age groups in preparation for our upcoming competition against Camp Menominee.

Both our Sioux A and Sioux B groups went on camping trips to Clear Lake and Baker Lake, engaging in hiking, canoeing and further connecting with the Great Outdoors.

With the Summer 2024 Olympics currently taking place in France, our program director, Malcolm Newmark, has been keeping campers informed over the PA system.

As the summer winds down, campers are eager to make the most of their final two weeks on the shores.

Campers of the Week

Guiding Principle: Fellowship

By Week 6, campers have fully embraced the camp experience and deepened their connections, fostering lasting bonds. It is in this spirit of camaraderie that we have chosen the concept of fellowship to symbolize the enduring friendships forged on these shores.



Chippewa
Oliver
Mirar



Sioux
Jonas
Hirschfeld



Mohawk
Ryan
McDowell



Oneida
Nick Frey

Week 6 Special Feature: Excerpt From Unit Head Sean Gooze

Fellowship and 'The Great Out Doors'

While Camp Kawaga has many sayings, one in particular has continued to resonate with me as I've grown older. Displayed on the fireplace mantle in the mess hall, it reads:

"As God gave us the fire, so gave he us the warmth of friendship."

Coined by Kawaga's founder, Bernard Ehrenreicht (Doc E as we call him), this phrase intrigues me for two reasons. One, it brilliantly encapsulates the essence of fellowship, one of our four core values. Just as a fire radiates warmth to everyone around it, so does the feeling of strong friendship. As my relationships evolve in my post-graduate life, the value of a good friend continues to grow. From the first day campers arrive to the last day they depart as staff, campers work to discover what it truly means to be a good friend. Doc E and his son Lou often said, "The best way to have a friend is to be one," and at Kawaga, you learn how to do just that. Good friends listen attentively, share their vulnerabilities, and encourage each other to grow. Most importantly, they understand the incredible value of a strong friendship. At Kawaga, being a good friend is one of the most revered character traits. Like the inviting heat of a fire, the warmth of fellowship is a comforting, powerful, and unifying force.

I am equally intrigued by this expression because of the way Doc E attributes fire to God. Before founding Camp Kawaga, Doc E worked as a Rabbi in Montgomery, Alabama, so his strong religious faith is unsurprising. In the early 20th century, he was deeply involved in efforts to improve educational opportunities for African Americans and advocate for reform of the juvenile justice system. During these challenging times, Doc E would take groups of boys on camping trips. He recognized that exposing young boys to the outdoors not only distracted them from their troubles but also could be used a means to build character. The camping trips and the profound impact they had on the boys inspired Doc E and his wife Irma to purchase 160 acres of land on a peninsula in Lake Kawagesaga, which would eventually become Camp Kawaga.

Continued from Page 2

Doc E wrote that God was short for “The Great Outdoors.” As someone who doesn’t consider themselves very religious, I find that the closest entity to a higher power in my own life is “The Great Outdoors.” Similarly, the native tribes from which Doc E drew much inspiration for his camp also recognized a higher power in the natural world, Mother Earth and Father Sky. It is evident that Doc E honored nature as a means to enrich young boys' lives and awaken their minds. His vision is still clear 110 years later, seen in the bald eagles flying overhead, the blue waters of Lake Kawaguesaga, and the magnificent sunsets off Sunset Dock. In the same way that Doc E attributed fire to a higher power, so too does he attribute friendship, exemplifying just how profound he found fellowship to be.

The enduring wisdom of Doc E's words, “As God gave us the fire, so gave he us the warmth of friendship,” continues to inspire and guide community at Camp Kawaga. At Kawaga, the journey to becoming a good friend begins the moment campers arrive and lasts a lifetime. Doc E's legacy, rooted in his faith and his dedication to improving the lives of others, lives on every day at Kawaga. His belief in the transformative power of nature, remains a cornerstone of the Kawaga experience. Just as a fire provides warmth and light, so does the spirit of friendship and community at Kawaga, enriching the lives of all who are part of it.

If you are interested in learning more about Camp Kawaga's founder, Doc E, click [here](#).



Sean Gooze has been an integral member of Kawaga staff for the past seven years, following his experience as a camper for the previous seven years. He recently graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and will pursue a Master's degree in psychology next year. Last year, Sean received the Fisher Family "Be Kawaga" Cup, recognizing his significant contributions to both the staff and camp as a whole.

Week 6 Highlight: Camper Pineneedles

For Week 6, we wanted to highlight some of the excellent work that campers have been doing writing pineneedles about various events around camp. Over the next few pages, we have four of what we believe to be the best examples of camper writing.

Group 1 Camping Trip

By: Alex McGrath

It started off as any other trip does, with the group 1s being told to stay after a meal. There was excitement in the air as we were all given instructions and packing lists for the upcoming trip. Unfortunately, we were all very tired by the time we had to go. The group 1s were bust with big and little brother pizza the previous night and early morning skiing with "Ski-4-Scope"! After a long 3.5 hour drive the group 1s arrived at Devils Lake State Park and set up our tents at the group camping site. Once things were set up, we hung out on the bench at the beach. Dinner was rice and beans, so we made sure to keep it away from Caleb Rosenfeld. After we slept, we quickly packed for Noah's Ark and ate granola bars. Noah's Ark was incredible and many braves went on the Scorpion's Tail, a terrifying ride that drops you into a loop. After Noah's Ark we ate food at a restaurant in town. We went back to the site after and slept, then packed up quickly in the morning. On the way back we stopped to eat and play paintball. A great time was had by all.



Counselor Profile

By: Caleb Rosenfeld

Tommy McSweeney is a 23 year old from Crystal Lake, IL. This is Tommy's second year at Kawaga with him starting on staff in the summer of 2023. Tommy enjoys watching frisbee golf, his favorite player is James Conrad. Tommy's main job at camp is to drive campers skiing, wakeboarding, surfing, etc. When he has free time he loves to go skiing, wakeboarding and barefooting. One of Tommy's most impressive tricks while wakeboarding is the backflip. He has many great memories of him doing cool tricks in the water, but out of the water his favorite memories consists of Corey Guthman winning the wakeboarding cup. Out of camp Tommy is studying at the University of Missouri and getting his masters in Psychology and a minor in business and sociology. Tommy in his free time in the off-season likes to hike and travel. In the future Tommy would like to create his own business when he is out of college. Tommy is very interested in becoming a coach and mentor but he also wants to leave a legacy behind in his family. Tommy is a very inspiring person, one of his favorite quotes is: "No matter where life takes me, you can find me with a smile on my face." Tommy shows this everywhere no matter the morale of others. He also finds inspiration to the word "Kaizen", the meaning of this is to have self improvement instead of doing something once and not doing it again. Tommy has exemplified this book at home when learning how to do a backflip, no matter how hard he falls he would always try the next day to get better. Lastly I asked Tommy "Why are you here?" He said that the reason is he cares is because when he was a Freshman in highschool he was dealing with a rough time in his life and he wants to make an impact on campers with how he dealt with it.



Camper Pineneedles Cont.

Oneida Soccer Game

By: John Menfi

After a scorcher of a picture day, campers were surprised to learn they would be playing a block of leagues Sunday morning. Simon Shapiro's and Jonah Satyr's teams headed out to D2 for a game of soccer. After a little warm up the game got underway. Simon's team came out fast with a pretty quick goal from Will Garibaldi to make the score 1-0. However, Satyr's team answered back with 2 beautiful goals from Gabe Rosen to make the score 2-1 going into the half. The second half was just as tight as the first. For Simon's team, Paul Cascade played a great game in net. Josh Feig had some beautiful passes and a couple of nice assists. Luke Winshall plated solid defense and was hustling all over the field. For Satyr's team, Cooper Aronoff played unreal at center back stopping a lot of close chances. Corey Guthman was making plays on both sides of the field and Santiago had some great ball skills. Pretty quickly into the second half, Jonah's team scored again to go up 3-1. While it seemed like the game may have been over, Will scored once more to make it 3-2. For the remaining five minutes the game stayed suspenseful, as Shapiro's team had a bunch of opportunities. However they couldn't convert and the game ended. Both teams shook hands and headed to lunch, it was a good game and a great time had by all.

Oneida Hockey Game

By: Aaron Levey

It was a hot Wednesday as Jack Decker's team faced Nathan Delmans team in a game of hockey. The game started off slow with no score for the first five minutes. Sam Adelman broke the silence with a rip past Hayden Flater. The scoring did not stop as Aaron Levey had 2 great goals and Sam Adelman capitalized once again. The second period started with Jack Decker's team up 4-0. Delmans team was not rattled at all as they came out firing as Will Garibaldi and Eli Goodman both scored a goal to start the second period off. Aaron Levey responded with a goal but Eli Goodman kept their momentum going with another goal for Delmans team making the score 5-5 going into the third period. The start of the third was a goaltending battle with Gavin Batt making saves left and right. Hayden Flater on the other end was a brick wall. The last five minutes of the game approached with all out hustle from Caleb Rosenfeld and Ezra Cohen. The game was getting very, very intense, but to break the silence came a half-court laser of a shot through traffic. Aaron Levey scored 2 more to end the game 8-5 with Deckers team taking the W.



League Standings

Chip Blue/Gold

Team Name

J. Alexander + J. Villalobos:
N. Brouder + A. Jimenez:
S. Simon
J. Bellentani + L. Tsoelipe

Win	Loss
2	2
3	1
3	1
0	4

Chip Breakfast

Team Name

B. Boymel:
S. Kwartowitz:
N. Youdarian + M. Tshabalala:
C. Sakadeles:

Win	Loss
3	0
1	2
2	1
0	3

Sioux Blue/Gold League

Team Name

J. Levitan:
T. McSweeney:
T. Ocelli:
T. Busch:
E. Gold:
C. Watson:

Win	Loss
3	0
0	3
2	1
1	2
2	1
1	2

Meat League

Team Name

J. Daube:
E. Metz:
L. Stein:
J. Swift:
A. Brandenstein:
G. Lowell:
O. Guttman:
E. Kaufmann:

Win	Loss
2	2
3	1
2	2
4	0
2	2
0	4
1	3
2	2

League Standings

Mohawk Blue/Gold League

Team Name

J. Haines:

M. Rosenthal:

T. Adelman:

J. Messe:

Win

Loss

0

3

2

1

2

1

2

1

Fish League

Team Name

H. Sennott:

J. Friedman:

F. Kaplan:

E. Levine:

J. Gottlieb:

C. Kosner:

Win

Loss

3

1

2

2

1

3

3

1

1

3

2

2

Oneida Blue/Gold League

Team Name

S. Shapiro:

O. Schneider

J. Zirin:

N. Delman:

L. Flater:

J. Satyr:

Win

Loss

1

1

2

0

0

2

1

1

1

1

1

1

Cheese League

Team Name

J. Jacobs:

O. Shaw:

A. Fenster:

J. Levitan:

M. Newmark + D. Lapins:

ID. Dyner:

B. Gnehm:

J. Decker:

Win

Loss

0

2

1

1

1

1

1

1

1

1

1

1

1

1

2

0

Because of League playoffs records have not changed, next week there will be our special "Playoff Update" section though

CIT Fashion Show

One of our longstanding traditions at Kawaga is the CITs' final Club of the year, known as the "CIT Mystery Club." Each day features a different random activity. On this particular day the CITs had the opportunity to stop in the local thrift shop for some fresh new clothes. Afterward, the CITs put on a fashion show during lunch, showcasing their finds to the entire camp. Their outfits are on full display below:





Jonah Satyr's Saturday Sermon

Saturday, July 27th, 2024

Shabbat Shalom,

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Jonah Satyr. This is my 9th year up here at Camp Kawaga and this is my 4th year on staff. It is a bit bewildering to say that this is my 9th year because I remember every year I have been here in such vivid detail. I remember the first day of camp, getting my Big Brother Zach Cohen. Zach was probably the best Big Brother I could have asked for. Zach had intent with everything he went about. He loved camp, loved to have fun, and would always be there for me and the rest of our CIT age group, but would also let you know when he expected more out of you. Zach was an expert when it came to tough love. Tough love from Zach was important in my development not only as a camper, but as a person. This is because tough love combats complacency, the conscious decision to give anything less than your best effort.

I also remember when I was a CIT getting my little brother Paul. To now have the opportunity to be Paul's counselor and have him be the captain of a Spectacular team I coached is truly full circle and a rare occasion here at camp, something I don't take for granted.

That's been my focus this summer, not taking anything for granted. If I had to guess right now, 95% of you guys in this room are taking this place for granted. I feel this way because I was once in your position. There were so many days at this place where I just went through the motions without a second thought, when I should have been soaking everything in. The first time I coached a Leagues game, I remember almost tearing up coming to the realization that I would never get to participate in another one myself ever again. There were many different times when I had that realization, whether it was Menominee Competition, playing in a Spectacular, achieving a running contract, creating an art project, and I could go on for days.

I say this because most of you guys in front of me do have the opportunity to continue to do these things, and some of you for many more years to come. Don't take any day you have here for granted. There are so many things I wish I did here as a camper. I barely ever went down to Miracle dock and I might leave camp only having my 2-ski miracle. I almost never went sailing. I never attempted to go for Double Sachem. There are tons of areas around camp that I had the opportunity to become well-versed in, but chose to stick to the areas of camp where I felt most comfortable. I urge all of you to leave your comfort zone and not stay within your box of familiarity.

With that being said, don't linger on the past too much. Be the person who you want to be, not the person who you were because you behaved that way in the past. This is also a call to be yourself. So many times in life we act in a way that we want other people to perceive us in, as opposed to being authentic. If you want people to respect you then be your authentic self, not a fake version of yourself. Camp Kawaga is the best place to do that. People accept you here for who you are. When we are back at home we can get caught up in superficial scenarios where we worry about popularity, struggle to find our place, and deal with real problems. I don't know about you guys, but I would rather be pissed off that I lost a league game rather than being pissed off that I have a test the next day.

Camp helped me find my place back at home as well. Growing up I struggled with confidence, public speaking, and always cared about what people thought of me. It wasn't until camp, and being lucky enough to be a part of the 2020 CIT age group, where I learned that I could be accepted for the person that I was more than the person I was trying to be.

Speaking of taking things for granted, don't take it for granted that you get to live with your best friends for one or two months straight. I am not like my high school friends in the sense that I can say some of my best friends in life are from Mexico and Durango, Colorado. Because of this place I was given the opportunity to make friends with people from so many different backgrounds and see first hand that no matter where you are from, we all have so much in common.

After an introspective year, I've gained clarity about my life and the reasons why I have certain tendencies. I've always said that the reason I come back to camp year-after-year is because I want to give campers the same experience that counselors like Zach Cohen and Jackson Gruber gave to me and that made my childhood so great. There is no lie in my previous statement, but I would be lying to say that I don't also come back to camp for myself. When dealing with struggle and hardship, or even happiness and elation, I use Kawaga as something to lean on and look forward to.

For the first time in my 9 years here, I don't know what the future holds for me at this place. That thought is scarier than I ever would have thought because it wasn't something on my mind until the start of this summer. Because I don't know what the future holds, I am trying my best this summer to cherish every moment, go out of my comfort zone, and hopefully leave this place a little better with my footprints. I should not have waited until this summer to soak everything in, I should have started in the position that all you guys are sitting in right now.

So if you take nothing else from this sermon, take this. Give 100% into everything that you do here and treat every year like it might be your last year. If you do that you will leave this place fulfilled, and if you don't you will have the lingering feeling that you could have done more during your time on the best place on earth. If you see one of your friends not giving it their all, then give them tough love. It might be hard to call a friend out for that, but know that you would be a better friend for doing so.

To my 2020s, even if the frequency in which we see each other decreases as time goes on, nothing will ever change and I'll love you guys forever. To all my campers past or present, I hope I've been able to teach you guys some lessons over the last few years and that you guys all do your best to come back every year and become amazing staff members some day. As I said, I don't know what the future holds, but whatever is in it I am prepared because of Camp Kawaga.

Thank you.

Notable Achievements

Birthdays

Alex Alimi (11)
Jarett Goldblatt (16)

Basic Sailor

Jacob Schwartz
Cj Serbinski
Sawyer Alexander
Gabe Kaufmann
Noah Holton

Miracles

Brody Benowitz (D)
Wesley Saber (D)
Jedi Fishman (2S)
Marvin Sundick (D)
Aiden Peck (2s)
Jack Brown (2s)
Julian Abbas (s)
Hudson Stotten (2s)
Liam Bremmer (2s)
Ben Cohen (2s)
Andrew Colianni
(Deep-water start
barefoot, cleared spray)
Vinny Colianni
(Deep-water start
barefoot, cleared spray)

First Bullseye

Eli Goodman
Jacob Rice

Note: For the miracle portion, 2S denotes a 2-ski miracle, D denotes a drop-ski miracle, and S denotes a Slalom miracle.

A Look Into Next Week

At the beginning of week 7 we will be competing against the men of the East, Camp Menominee. This carries on our annual tradition of competition. You can feel the spirit and anticipation in the air as competition nears.

CK Leisure Corner

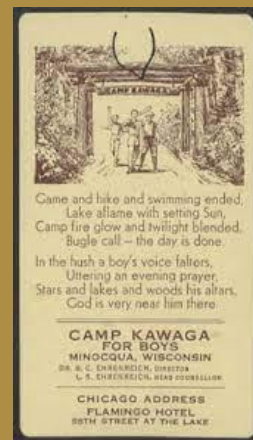
Funny Photos This Week



Paper Fortune Teller



Kawaga History Blurb



Newspaper ad for Kawaga, year unknown

Weekly Forecast

Mon 29	79°/60°		Thunderstorms
Tue 30	85°/63°		Mostly Sunny
Wed 31	84°/63°		Partly Cloudy
Thu 01	84°/61°		Isolated Thunderstorms
Fri 02	83°/59°		AM Showers

Editor-In-Chief: Owen Shaw
Assistant Editors: Sam Simon