



Pineneedle Jr.

FELLOWSHIP



TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE 3

**TY'S TAKE ON
FELLOWSHIP**

PAGE 4

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

PAGE 5

**INTRO TO BEYOND
THE SHORES**

PAGE 6

**SCHOOL
2 LIFE**

PAGE 7

**QUINN'S
Q&A'S**

PAGE 8

**BRI'S
BREAKDOWN**

PAGE 9

**SAVE THE DATE -
OFF THE SHORES**

PAGE 10

**FALL POP-UP
NOW OPEN**

PAGE 11

**WHISPERING
PINES**





TY'S TAKE

At Camp Kawaga, fellowship just happens. You can see it everywhere: in a high-five after a game, cheering each other on a ball field, at the waterfront, or singing together in the mess hall. It's easy to notice kindness, support, and brotherhood at camp because it's part of who we are and how we live together. When we head back home, though, it can feel different. Life gets busy, and the world can seem uncertain and complicated. Finding those same moments of connection and support can take a little more effort. But that's when the Kawaga spirit matters most; when we make time to lift each other up, show patience, and bring that sense of fellowship into our homes, schools, and communities. If only the arms

WHY FELLOWSHIP DURING THE SUMMER AND IN THE OFFSEASON IS SO CRUCIAL

of Kawaga could stretch around all of us year-round! In a way, that is part of our goal this year. To see more of you, to hear from more of you, and to give you opportunities to *feel* Kawaga. So, enjoy this copy of the Pineneedle Jr. and remember there is so much to be excited about with being a part of the Kawaga Nation. We are deep in planning for 2026 and are looking to outdo ourselves again this coming summer. New



programs, so many new improvements to the facility, and a staff that looks to be experienced and some new faces too! But first, the reunion tour! (Atlanta, Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, Detroit, Chicago, LA, we'll

see you soon!). Finally, as Thanksgiving approaches, it's the perfect time to pause and appreciate the people who make our lives special: family, friends, and those we share our hearts with. We hope this season brings your family peace, gratitude, and time together to reflect on all that truly matters. From all of us at Camp Kawaga, we're thankful for each of you and the fellowship that keeps our Kawaga family strong.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 8th - Atlanta Reunion

- TopGolf Midtown
- 1600 Ellsworth Industrial Blvd NW
- 3 PM

Nov. 13th - Cleveland Reunion

- Pinstripes
- 111 Park Avenue
- 5:30 PM

Nov. 14th - Columbus Reunion

- Location and Time TBD

Nov. 15th - Cincinnati Reunion

- TopGolf West Chester
- 9568 Water Front Dr
- 2 PM

Nov. 20th - Alumni Reunion (TNF)

- The Reveler Chicago
- 3403 N Damen Ave
- 6 PM to 9 PM



Nov. 22nd - Chicago Reunion

- North Shore Sports Center
- 1900 Old Willow Road
- 2 PM to 4 PM

Nov 28th - Detroit Reunion

- Bowlero Lanes & Lounge
- 4209 Coolidge Hwy
- 3 PM

Dec. 6th - Los Angeles Reunion

- Location and Time TBD

Other Dates to Know

- Nov. 22nd: Fall Pop Up Store Closes
- Jan. 1st: Beyond the Shores Submission Deadline
- Mar. 13th, 2026: Off the Shores - A Benefit for SCOPE



BEYOND THE SHORES



INTRODUCING OUR NEW CAMPER LED WRITING EXERCISE

One of the most common sights during the summer is campers with a pen and paper in hand, writing what we call a Pineneedle—Kawaga’s camper-written news articles that cover everything from Evening Programs and camping trips to counselor profiles. As part of our ongoing effort to keep campers engaged during the offseason and to promote meaningful, unplugged activities, we’re launching a new initiative called Beyond the Shores. Through this program, campers will have the chance

to respond to a creative prompt, with selected submissions featured in the next Pineneedle Jr.—and winners receiving exclusive Kawaga merch! Our goal with Beyond the Shores is to provide campers a creative outlet to express what Kawaga means to them—something



that’s often hard to put into words when simply talking about camp. Encouraging reflection, creativity, and connection to Kawaga in the offseason is at the heart of this initiative. This edition’s prompt ties into both the theme of this Pineneedle Jr. issue and one of our core pillars: Fellowship. While Kawaga’s mission has remained the same

for more than 110 years, its lessons and impact are unique to each camper. Participants are encouraged to respond to the prompt in any format they choose, and one or more standout submissions will be featured on its own page in the next Pineneedle Jr. Ultimately, our goal is to nurture an environment where boys learn to be reflective and thoughtful—skills that can be hard to practice in a world dominated by screens and social media. We hope Beyond the Shores inspires campers to take time away from TikTok and think deeply about what camp means to them, even when they’re far from the shores of Lake Kawaguesaga. We can’t wait to read your reflections and see your creativity shine! Submit your entry by **January 1st** for a chance to be featured in the next Pineneedle Jr. and we can’t wait to see what you guys write!

THIS EDITION’S PROMPT:

WHAT DOES FELLOWSHIP MEAN TO ME AND WHAT HAVE I LEARNED ABOUT IT AT CAMP THAT I HAVE TAKEN INTO THE REST OF MY LIFE?

SUBMIT ENTRIES HERE



SCHOOL2LIFE



school2life
WorkForward.™



Susan founded school2life after recognizing that many students were expected to develop essential professional skills—such as writing resumes, responding to interview questions, and crafting college essays—without proper guidance or preparation. Since its founding, school2life has expanded to offer a wide range of services, including professional curriculum design, interview practice tools, guided coaching sessions, and more. We are thrilled to bring Susan’s expertise to our staff. She will be leading five interactive sessions and offering multiple dedicated office-hour opportunities, all accessible to every member of our team. These programs are designed to help staff strengthen their professional readiness and effectively communicate their experiences as counselors and leaders at Kawaga. Susan has previously worked one-on-one with members of our staff, helping them translate their camp roles into impactful resume language and meaningful interview stories. Her ability to draw out the transferable value of the Kawaga experience has

KAWAGA’S SCHOOL2LIFE PROGRAM WITH SUSAN NEWMAN

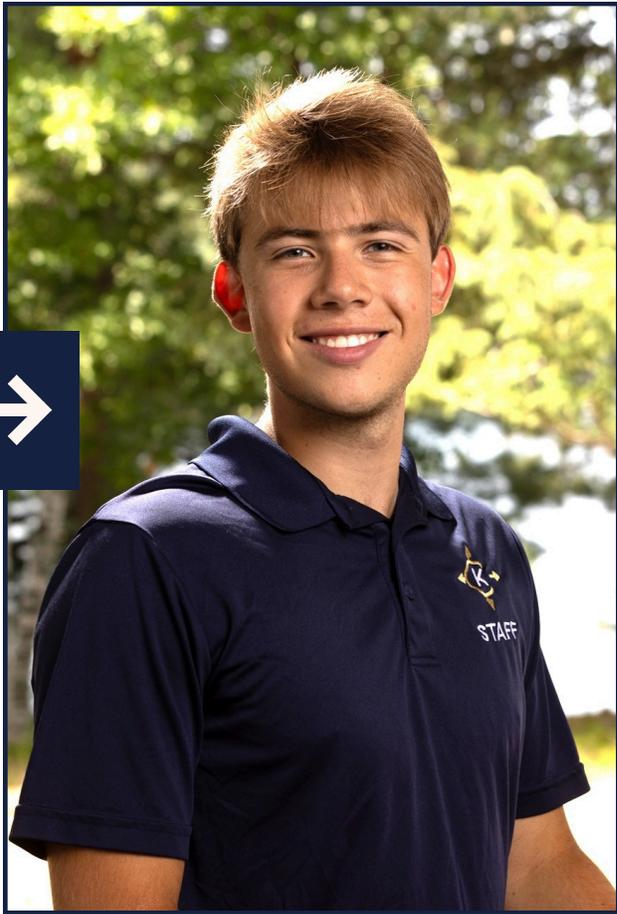
At Camp Kawaga, we believe our responsibility to our staff extends far beyond the summer. The lessons learned at Kawaga—leadership, collaboration, problem-solving, and empathy—are powerful, real-world skills. Yet, one of the greatest challenges our counselors face is translating those experiences into professional language that resonates on resumes, in interviews, and in future careers. To intentionally bridge that gap, Kawaga has partnered with **Susan Newman, Career Consultant and Co-Founder of school2life**, an organization devoted to helping young adults confidently market their experiences, identify career opportunities, and build meaningful professional networks. Through this partnership, Kawaga will offer a series of career development workshops, seminars, and one-on-one office hours—all free of charge to our staff. This initiative reflects our long-term commitment to investing in the success of our counselors, empowering them not only to excel at camp but also to thrive as emerging professionals. Our goal is simple but profound: to ensure every Kawaga counselor leaves with more than great memories—they leave prepared, confident, and equipped to take the next step in their journey.



already made a difference—and this partnership allows us to extend that opportunity to all. Our staff are the heart of what makes Kawaga so special, and this initiative reflects our deep commitment to supporting their personal and professional growth. By investing in our counselors’ long-term success, we reinforce what Kawaga has always stood for: developing men of character, leadership, and purpose, ready to make a lasting impact far beyond the summer. To learn more about Susan and school2life, visit school2life.com or connect with her on LinkedIn: **Susan Newman, Founder & Executive Director of school2life**.

QUINN'S Q&A'S

WITH JORDI BELTRAN →



GET TO KNOW OUR NEW MOHAWK/ONEIDA UNIT HEAD

Hailing from Mexico City, Jordi's Kawaga journey began in 2016 as a Mohawk B. He has since returned for nine summers and will be entering his tenth in the role of Unit Head alongside Quinn Korach. Jordi currently attends Tecnológico de Monterrey, where he studies Industrial Engineering. He has previously served as Chief of the Sioux, Head of Leagues, and, most recently held the role of Chief of the Oneida.

Q What has been your driving factor to continue returning to camp?

The community, without question. Even last summer, when none of my age group returned, I still felt surrounded by people who made Kawaga feel like home. We always say “the people are what make us come back,” and that couldn't be more true. Another big reason is the growth that Kawaga offers. Each summer, I've had the chance to take on new challenges because Kawaga gives young people leadership opportunities and responsibilities that are rare to find elsewhere. My motivation now is to pay it forward — to help younger campers and counselors grow in the same ways I did.

Q In your eyes, what is the legacy or lasting purpose of Camp Kawaga?

Kawaga's legacy is in the people it shapes. The lessons, friendships, and growth that happen here last a lifetime. I often say Kawaga is my “second university” because of how much it's taught me about leadership, resilience, gratitude, and appreciating the little moments. The community built here endures well beyond the summer; it's a network of people who will always be there for one another. For campers especially, the personal growth they experience at Kawaga is something you can't find anywhere else.

Q What are you most excited for coming into the Unit Head role?

I'd say I'm most excited for the one-on-one coaching sessions with counselors. Last summer, the goal-setting and reflection meetings with the CITs were some of my favorite moments and coaching sessions have always felt similar to those. The chance to connect deeply, to help staff grow and find their own leadership style, is something I really value. I'm also especially looking forward to seeing last year's CIT's, my campers, make that transition from camper to counselor. Being able to support them through that journey will definitely be a full circle moment for me.

BRI'S BREAKDOWN

At Kawaga, fellowship is more than friendship. It's the bond that ties generations of Kawaga Braves together. It's the feeling that you belong, that you're known, and that someone always has your back. It's the reason a group of boys from different cities, backgrounds, and ages can feel instantly connected the moment they arrive at camp. It's the cheers in the mess hall, the encouragement shouted from the sidelines, and the quiet support when someone needs it most. Fellowship is built in the small moments: helping a cabinmate through a tough day, celebrating a teammate's success, or simply sitting side by side around a fire. It's how we remind each other that we belong; that we're part of something bigger



WHY FELLOWSHIP IS SUCH A CRUCIAL PART OF KAWAGA'S MISSION AND CULTURE



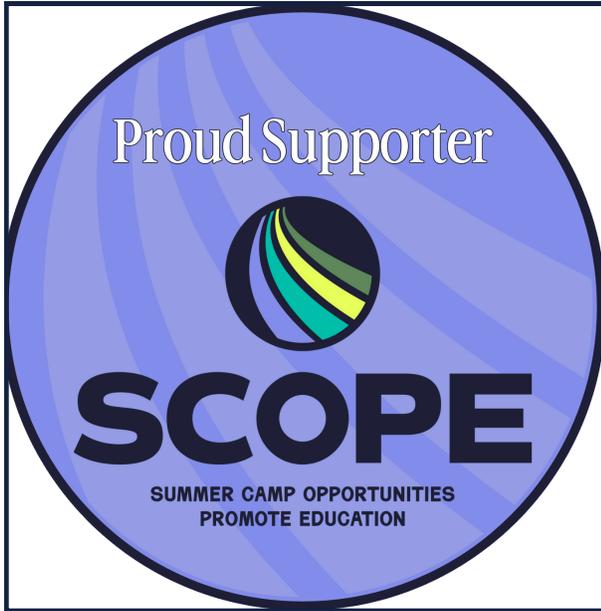
than ourselves. Our founder once said, "As God gave us the fire, so gave He us the warmth of friendship." That warmth still guides us. It's what keeps the Kawaga spirit alive long after summer ends, reminding us to carry that same sense of

friendship, kindness, and connection into everything we do. Fellowship is the foundation of our community, and is what transforms Kawaga from a summer camp to a place like home. As we move into the season ahead, we invite our Kawaga community - campers, alumni, staff, and families - to reflect on what fellowship means to you. How do you practice it beyond camp? Who are the people who bring warmth to your life, and how can you pass that on?

This fall's camper writing prompts will explore those very questions, sharing stories, memories, and lessons that show how Kawaga's fellowship lives year-round.



SAVE THE DATE



OFF THE SHORES: A BENEFIT FOR SCOPE - MARCH 13TH, 2026

We are thrilled to invite you to a meaningful and memorable night for our Kawaga community: the 4th Annual *Kawaga: Off The Shores — A Benefit for SCOPE* (Summer Camp Opportunities Promote Education), taking place on **Friday, March 13, 2026**. This annual gathering has quickly become one of our most special traditions—bringing together alumni, parents, staff, and friends of Kawaga for an evening that celebrates the power of camp while giving back to a cause that reflects our deepest values. Over the past several years, Kawaga has proudly partnered with SCOPE, an incredible nonprofit organization dedicated to giving children from under-resourced

communities the opportunity to attend accredited overnight summer camps. SCOPE’s mission extends far beyond a week in the woods—it creates a pathway from camp to the classroom, higher education, and future careers. By opening the doors to camp, SCOPE opens the doors to confidence, responsibility, empathy, and growth for kids. Thanks to the generosity of our Kawaga families, alumni, and friends—along with initiatives like our camper-led Ski 4 SCOPE event in recent summers—we have been able to help send



nearly 200 deserving boys and girls to camp. These children gain the same life-changing benefits Kawaga campers do: independence, leadership, lifelong friendships, and the belief that they are capable of more than they imagined. Every donation, ticket, and act of support has translated into real experiences and real lives forever changed. This year’s Off The Shores promises to be our biggest and most meaningful yet. And once again, we’re thrilled to announce a live performance from **Highway J**, featuring Kawaga Alum and current parent **Joey Shaewitz** (’92 CIT) and fellow Alum **Ian Rubenstein** (’95 CIT). We hope you can join us for an unforgettable evening of fun, connection, and purpose as we rally behind this cause and help make a meaningful difference.

The Details:

- Date:** Friday, March 13, 2026 - 8pm
- Where:** 28 Miles Distillery, Highwood IL
- Who:** Kawaga Families, Alumni, Friends
- What:** Community gathering with live music, open bar, food, raffle prizes
- Why:** Supporting SCOPE’s mission and helping them “turn summer camp into a launchpad for success”

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFO



KAWAGA FALL POP-UP

KAWAGA'S FALL POP-UP STORE IS NOW OPEN!

The holiday season is right around the corner—and there's no better time to launch our newest Kawaga Pop-Up Store! This drop is packed with one-of-a-kind merch you won't want to miss. We know many of you have been trying to get your hands on the shirts from this summer's Menominee competition...so we brought that fan-favorite logo back! You'll find it on new lightweight athletic hoodies, beanies, and five-panel caps. Because everything old becomes new again, we've also reintroduced our vintage Kawaga Tree logo, now featured on a heather-grey golf shirt and a high-neck Nike sweatshirt. And of course, no Kawaga merch release would be complete without some classic compass designs. This drop includes low-neck quarter-zips, a women's cropped hoodie, and more. Finally, to make this release extra special, we turned a beautiful photo of our waterfront into a hand-drawn sketch—printed on the back of a beige t-shirt (available in both adult and youth sizes). The Pop-Up closes **November 22nd**, so don't wait—place your orders now and order while you can!



DON'T MISS OUT ON THESE EXCLUSIVE ITEMS!

STORE CLOSING NOVEMBER 22ND!

WHISPERING PINES



CHEF MEMO'S CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE RECIPE (MAKES 20 COOKIES)

Ingredients:

- 1 1/4 cup Brown Sugar
- 1 1/4 cup Granulated White Sugar
- 1.5 cups Butter, room temperature
- 1 tsp Salt
- 4 cups All Purpose Flour
- 1 tsp Baking Soda
- 4 tsp Vanilla Pure Extract
- 2 Large Eggs
- 1.5 cups Milk Chocolate Chips
- 1.5 cups White Chocolate Chips

Instructions:

1. In a medium bowl put together brown sugar, granulated white sugar, butter, salt and pure vanilla extract. Mix until creamy. Add 2 large eggs. Mix until eggs incorporate into the mix.
2. Sift all purpose flour and baking soda. Add the mix until well mixed. Add the two types of chocolate chips and fold into the mix. Scoop onto cookie sheets.
3. Preheat oven to 300 degrees and bake for 9 minutes.
4. Let them cool down and enjoy.

KAWAGA WORD SEARCH

D	O	O	N	A	M	L	B	U	R	G	E	R	S
A	S	G	A	H	I	N	D	I	G	O	D	S	U
F	G	S	O	S	P	E	C	K	Y	M	T	M	B
I	E	D	T	A	W	H	A	R	F	E	E	I	A
S	S	S	N	S	P	A	F	E	S	F	S	R	D
E	I	O	E	E	A	K	E	C	E	F	N	A	S
S	T	F	R	H	D	E	L	T	T	I	U	C	I
L	S	T	S	S	D	C	L	S	E	S	S	L	M
E	K	B	L	Y	L	Y	O	F	G	H	S	E	P
A	A	A	Y	P	E	N	W	I	G	E	A	E	S
G	W	L	E	B	A	D	S	S	U	R	C	S	O
U	A	L	O	M	N	I	H	L	R	F	H	O	N
E	G	O	E	R	M	A	I	E	D	S	E	W	R
S	A	A	S	S	T	S	P	L	U	H	M	E	A

FELLOWSHIP

- SPECKY
- WHARF
- SUNSET
- BURGERS
- MIRACLE
- SIMPSON
- PADDLE
- SOFTBALL
- LEAGUES
- SACHEM
- FISHER
- INDIGO
- KAWAGA
- OMNI





*AS GOD GAVE US THE FIRE
SO GAVE HE US THE WARMTH OF FRIENDSHIP*

