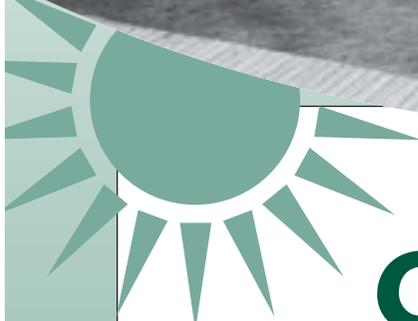




FALL 2003

THE CHEWONKI FOUNDATION CHRONICLE

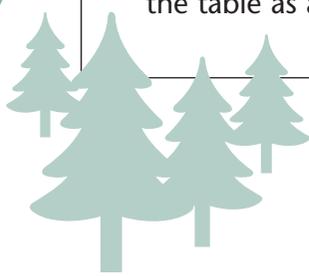


The Green Campus Consortium of Maine

It was founded to improve sustainability on Maine's campuses—and gradually, it's succeeding.

Looking at a member list of the two-year-old Green Campus Consortium of Maine, one could be forgiven, at least briefly, for pausing over its inclusion of the Chewonki Foundation. After all, of the consortium's ten full members, Chewonki is the only one that is not a university or college. What's more, our campus is hardly comparable to what's usually found in higher education. Our "dorms" are one-room cabins, our "field house" is a 200-year-old barn, our "student union" consists of a few well-worn sofas outside the dining hall, and our "natatorium" (i.e., Monstweag Bay) flats out every 12 hours—and oh yes, freezes over in the winter! So how is it that Chewonki is a charter member of a group founded to improve sustainability on Maine's university and college campuses, sitting at the table as a peer with the folks in higher ed?

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PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Looking out my window on a spectacular fall day, I see few problems so intractable or daunting that I can't imagine at least a partial solution to them. The winds of war blow far from this space, and I am not naïve enough to think we might contribute something substantial and immediate to their end. There are a few simple lessons we repeat here on a daily basis, however, that I believe could contribute to a more peaceful world. Like so much at Chewonki, they ride on two simple realities: that every day we strive to do more with less, and that our work is stretched far beyond these doors by active collaboration with friends and colleagues who share common goals for conservation and education.

Consider energy. We consume energy to do work. We consume energy to heat our buildings in the winter and to draw water from three wells. We consume it to propel our vehicles to the far corners of Maine and to cook three meals a day nearly every day of the year. We consumed energy to prepare this *Chronicle* and to get it into your hands. We burn a light in the barn during the wee hours of lambing season, drawing a little electricity to keep a watchful eye on laboring ewes. Energy is an essential com-

modity of our lives, something we cannot do without.

Our energy consumption over the past 90 years has also contributed to climate change, as has that of every community in Maine and the country. Now we are challenged to find ways to do equivalent work with fewer resources—with *less energy*.

We have harvested the low-hanging fruit in the orchard of energy conservation. Our buildings are extremely well insulated, saving energy for heat. One fifth of our community and living space is heated by wood, saving fuel oil. Our buildings,



especially the new ones, take advantage of daylight and thus save energy for lighting. Six of our vehicles burn biodiesel made at our own shop from oil discarded by three area restaurants, saving petroleum diesel. We purchase electricity from renewable sources to power our largest building, the Center for Environmental Education. Each of these strategies reduces our demand for non-renewable energy and reduces the amount of CO₂ from non-renewable sources that we dump into the atmosphere.

We search every day for ways to save even more energy. So it is that we seek the help of friends and colleagues in organizations such as the Green Campus Consortium of Maine. Little sparks of ingenuity and creativity grow rapidly, multiplying from campus to campus in short order. We have been able to share our own successes with renewable fuels and with "green" design for new buildings. From others we have learned new ways to save water and electricity in the laundry and new ways to help students manage their use of electricity. We have demonstrated the educational value, economy, and energy efficiency of producing food on our own farm, while Bates and Bowdoin Colleges have shown us new ways to support the local agricultural economy and thus save even more.

This month we announced a new collaboration with the Hydrogen Energy Center in Portland, Maine, to install an electrolyzer and a fuel cell in the Center for Environmental Education. The electrolyzer will be powered by the 48 photovoltaic panels on the roof and will extract hydrogen from the well water. The hydrogen will be stored until needed some stormy night when the power goes out. The fuel cell will then start up automatically, fueled by the hydrogen, to provide electricity to the building.

Some may think we are hopelessly optimistic, especially in the face of monumental global environmental problems. We don't believe our optimism is unfounded, however. We believe that good work starts close to home and that help from friends and colleagues nearly always produces synergistic results—greater than the sum of our individual parts. ■

W. DONALD HUDSON, JR.

Sustainable Energy Conference Expands!

**WHEN: Friday, April 16, 2004, 8 A.M.–4 P.M., Student Conference
Saturday, April 17, 2004, 8 A.M.–4 P.M., Adult Conference**

WHERE: Chewonki's Center for Environmental Education, Wiscasset, Maine

After filling our Sustainable Energy Conference to capacity for five straight years, we have decided to expand it into a two-day event. Renewable Energy Pathways Coordinator Peter Arnold says the growing interest in climate change and sustainable energy has people looking for opportunities to learn and to share ideas. The annual conference at Chewonki has become a place where they can do just that.

"An understanding of how serious the climate change problem is and how it is connected to our use of fossil fuels appears to be motivating Mainers to learn about sustainable solutions," says Peter. "For 2004, we're very excited to be including students in the conference."

On April 16 and 17, the Center for Environmental Education will open its doors to middle-school students and renewable energy enthusiasts and experts from across New England in a new conference format. The first day will be dedicated to providing middle-school students with a basic understanding of sustainable energy and climate change. Workshops for the student conference will be run by high-school teams, college mentors, and professional energy educators. "We're looking at this day of the conference to serve as a national model," says Peter, "as there is no other place yet where students can come together to learn about renewable energy and sustainability."

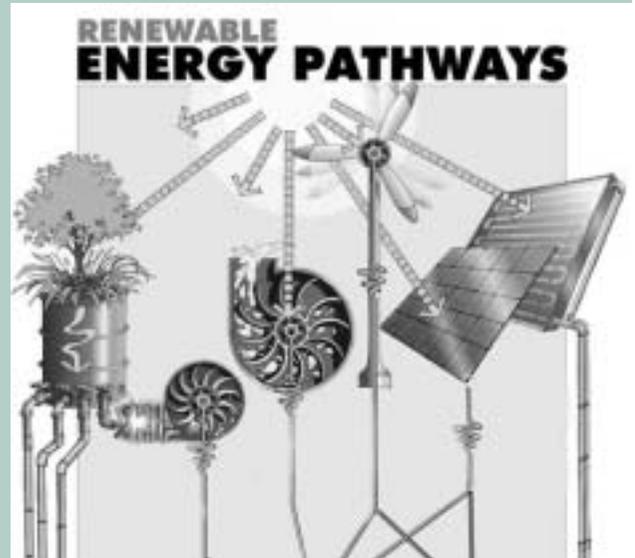
Day two of the conference will build on past years, focusing on adult education with practical sustainable-energy workshops and a great opportunity for meeting others who are passionate about renewable energy.

The cost for the adult conference is \$58 (\$48 for early registrants). Fees include all workshops, a hearty lunch, and healthy snacks throughout the day. Registration materials and information are available on line at www.chewonki.org.

Colleges, high schools, and middle schools wishing to participate in the student conference should contact Logan Perkins at logan@planet-save.com, tel. 207-882-7323.

Those interested in presenting at the adult conference should contact Peter Arnold at parnold@chewonki.org, tel. 207-882-7323.

Chewonki welcomes individual, foundation, and corporate support for the Sustainable Energy Conference. If you are interested in helping fund this event, please contact Peter Arnold.



C. MICHAEL LEWIS

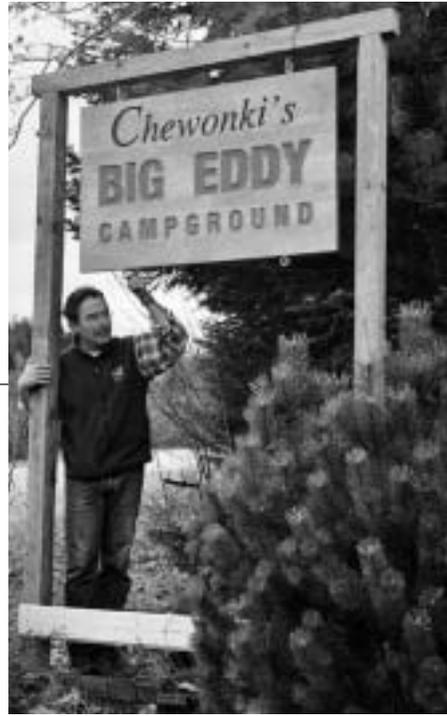


Big Eddy: No Longer a Dream

The rafters have gone, several trailers and an old school bus have been removed, sturdy new outhouses are in place, and a conservation seed mix of clover and other ground covers has taken root along the riverbank. Big Eddy Campground, which came under the ownership of the Chewonki Foundation in May 2002, is slowly transforming, from what was once a regular stopover for the whitewater rafting community to a quieter place where fishing and hiking enthusiasts can also enjoy the natural beauty of the West Branch region.

Along with the physical changes taking place at Big Eddy are some new programmatic uses for the campground. Penobscot Whitewater, a kayaking program based at the campground, got off the ground this past summer, with eight participants and two leaders in both sessions of camp. Paddlers ventured into Class III and IV whitewater and eventually learned to contend with the infamous Ripogenus Gorge and the Cribworks Rapid, a Class V drop. "Water levels were excellent this year," said Ryan Linehan, assistant director of Wilderness Programs. "Everyone came home smiling!"

The campground is managed by Hauns Basset (Camp, EE, and Outreach Staffs '00-'03) and Kimberly Pelletier, who have lived at Big Eddy for two summers now. This past summer Hauns and Kimberly initiated a series of evening programs, including a search and rescue dog demonstration by Michelle Belanger, whitewater enforcement warden for the West Branch Region; "The Ecological Wonders of the Moosehead Lake



DON HUDSON INSTALLS THE NEW SIGN HE MADE BACK AT CHEWONKI'S WOOD SHOP IN WISCASSET.

Region" with Maine State fish biologist Paul Johnson; and a Chewonki Predators program.

Chewonki is currently drafting a long-range plan for Big Eddy. Don Hudson is working with program directors to develop creative uses for the site by campers, trippers, Maine Coast Semester students, and Environmental Education programs. He will also be working with the Development Office to launch a capital campaign to raise money for improvements and developments at Big Eddy, including a small family lodge.

Standing at the campground on a beautiful September day overlooking a small rapid cascading into the Eddy, Don grinned from ear to ear and said: "I still have to pinch myself that this really happened, that we really own this place."

The campground is open from April 1 to October 15. To make a reservation, go to www.bigeddy.org; or call 207-882-7323.

Farewell, Reactor

On a rainy day last May, Don Hudson and several others with a certain ardent curiosity in the matter trudged down the muddy paths of nearby Westport Island to watch an enormous barge being towed down the Sheepscot River and out to sea. This was not just any barge. Cradled, welded, and cemented on deck was the 900-ton reactor that had powered the Maine Yankee Nuclear Power Plant since 1972. The barge was exiting Chewonki environs, parting Maine waters, and heading to a disposal facility in South Carolina.

"This was the single biggest piece of the plant to go," says Don, who is vice chair of the Community Advisory Panel on Decommissioning Maine Yankee. The decommissioning, now in its sixth year, is nearly complete, with only one final dilemma to resolve: the fate of 64 canisters of spent radioactive fuel.

The departure of the nuclear reactor was more than symbolic. "We lived with the risk for 24 years," says Don. "Thankfully, the plant was run safely, with discharges remaining within regulatory limits. The decommissioning means that discharges have been continually reduced and will soon be zero."



PHOTO COURTESY OF MAINE YANKEE



MCS FACULTY (CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT):
PAGE McCLEAN, NANCY HAGSTROM, AND DAEGAN MILLER.
BELOW: FARM INTERN FORREST FLEISCHMAN

New Faces on Campus

When the Maine Coast Semester opened the doors on its 31st semester this fall, there were three bright new faces among the faculty: Page McClean, Nancy Hagstrom, and Daegan Miller. They moved onto Chewonki Neck in mid-August, filling faculty positions in Spanish, American History, and Environmental Issues. Joining them was Forrest Fleischman, who is filling a one-year position as farm intern. Although not involved in the classroom, Forrest does plenty of hands-on teaching and also serves as a student advisor.

Page, originally from Oyster Bay, New York, first came to Chewonki as an MCS student in 1996 (MCS 17) and says it offered her one of the best academic experiences of her life. "It was here that I began to be really excited about education. I even thought about starting my own school at one time," she recalls. Page has a B.A. in Hispanic Studies and Social Anthropology from Harvard University and has spent a significant amount of time in Central and South America, where she taught English as a Second Language (ESL). She is thrilled to be sharing her Spanish position at Chewonki with Nancy Hagstrom. "Ever

since I came to MCS," says Page, "I thought Chewonki would be an amazing place to work."

Nancy grew up in Yarmouth, Maine, and became familiar with Chewonki when she attended Environmental Education programs both in the 6th grade and again in high school. She majored in Spanish at Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania. In her "spare" time there she taught ESL to a Mexican family, tutored Latino youth, and worked for Project Gettysburg/León, a grassroots organization that promotes development projects in Gettysburg's sister city of León, Nicaragua. Nancy also lived with a family in Seville, Spain, for five months. She is an enthusiastic lover of the outdoors and is certified as a Wilderness First Responder.

Daegan has taken on multiple roles at Chewonki—teaching both American History and Environmental Issues as well as coordinating the work program. A recent graduate of Middlebury College with a double

major in History and Film, Daegan believes that history—"something that happened to real people like my students"—deserves to be taught with a sense of urgency. He also believes in the rewards of hard work. "I dug ditches every summer through college," he says. "There is a lot to be learned from hard labor—not in an academic sense, but in a personal sense." Daegan had never heard of Chewonki before applying for the position here, but once he began talking it up with friends at Middlebury, he discovered many who knew it well. "It really excites me to be in a place where heat is not generated from a dial on the wall and where the food doesn't all come from the grocery store," he says.

Forrest is a recent graduate of Stanford University, where he earned a B.S. and an M.A. in Earth Systems. He has a long history with Chewonki, as a camper, MCS 18 student, and most recently (2001) camp counselor. "It's good to be back," he says with a smile. Farm Manager Mark Albee agrees: "He's great. We love him!" Forrest is helping with all of the various tasks associated with running a small diversified farm, including fixing equipment, raising vegetables, livestock husbandry, and winter work in the woodlot—as well as advising two MCS students. Forrest reduces it all down to one common denominator: "I'm here as a student of Mark and Brad [the assistant farm manager] and to learn what they have to teach me," he says.

Last year's farm intern, William Abbott, recently departed Chewonki to begin the Field Naturalist Program at the University of Vermont in Burlington. We wish him all the best.





Three Cheers for Outreach!

Environmental Education Director Dot Lamson was delighted to receive an e-mail last spring from someone who saw Lynne Flaccus and Kate Ziminsky present a Chewonki Outreach program in Scotland in 1998. The two Chewonki

staffers had gone to Scotland at the invitation of Bonnie Maggio (EE Staff '90), who was working for the Scottish National Heritage, a government conservation agency. Little did they know that five years later someone would remember their visit!



Hi Chewonki,

I attended a workshop by Chewonki staff at Scottish Natural Heritage HQ at Battleby, Perth, in Scotland around five years ago. I was quite inspired by some of the methods you employed, especially the bird suit, and discussing with children the different parts of the bird, and how each had developed and its role, etc. For the last three years I have worked for a conservation charity in Cumbria, in the north of England, running alone an environmental education project across half the county that includes many disadvantaged and rural communities. My programme of workshops for 4-11 yr olds started with a Mini-beast Roadshow but will consist of 11 self-contained workshops by the end of the year. Initially, I created a mini-beast costume, later a bird, bat, tree, wildflower, and it now includes a compost heap, biodiversity ark, and peat bog outfit too, as well as pond and seashore floor mats. A puppet show for small children on habitat loss is in the making. I have led activities with probably thousands of children, all of whom and their teachers remember the experience and which will live with them longer than just "a talk."

I just wanted to let you know, the work at Chewonki, combined with other influences, has inspired me to seek new and innovative ways of reaching out to young people, and allowing them to participate in the learning process, not just be lectured to, in a fun way. Please pass on my thanks to everyone.

IAN AMATT
Conservation Awareness Officer
Cumbria Wildlife Trust

We've corresponded with Ian since and learned that in addition to his "roadshows" he also gives advice on school wildlife areas, promotes composting in schools, leads guided walks, assists at community events, and works with teenagers. "It's all contained in an umbrella project called The Greenscheme," he writes. You can learn more about Ian's work and the Cumbria Wildlife Trust (part of a national network of wildlife conservation charities throughout the U.K.) at

www.cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk.

And in case you're wondering about the wonderful costumes: they're made by Ian's wife, artist Gill Amatt.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF IAN AMATT/
CUMBRIA WILDLIFE TRUST



A Dinner to Celebrate a Legacy

On the evening of July 26, 2003, long tables were set in Chapin Hall, fresh flowers decorated the room, and a beautiful catered dinner was served to 30 very important people. Those gathered were here to celebrate a special commitment to Chewonki, though it's one that won't be recognized until after their deaths.

The Osprey Society, with a current membership of 96, is an association of individuals who have chosen to make a planned gift to Chewonki. The summer dinner—which began with a natural-history presentation on owls by Assistant Outreach Director Chris Coleman and ended with Chewonki's traditional campfire—was held as a way to thank the families and individuals who have chosen to support Chewonki into the future.

"The Osprey Dinner is an opportunity to appreciate those individuals whose commitment to Chewonki runs long and deep," says Development Director Lucy Hull. It's also a chance for Society members to get to know each other, to share their stories and their enthusiasm for Chewonki, and to return to the Neck while camp is in session.



Founded in 1986, the Osprey Society is a valuable way to help secure Chewonki's financial future. Gifts to the Society have been made in the form of bequests: by will, by life insurance policy, and by real estate, securities, appreciated stock, and charitable gift annuities. The Osprey Society and other programs like it are viewed by many donors as a helpful tool for minimizing the federal estate tax.

Last May, the Maine Planned Giving Council published a newspaper insert in 11 newspapers across Maine and New Hampshire. On the back cover was a story about two "stingy environmentalists" who have chosen to make a planned gift to Chewonki. George and Sue Sergeant of Brunswick, Maine, both former science teachers and now full-time farmers, told the story of why—of all the organizations they care about—they selected Chewonki for their gift.

"I have a theory that if everyone would spend a week at Chewonki, the world would be a much better place," said George Sergeant. The generosity of people like the Sergeants means that more people will be able to do just that. ■

BETTA STOTHART

For more information about the Osprey Society, contact Lucy Hull at lhull@chewonki.org or at 207-882-7323, ext. 20.

"I have a theory that if everyone would spend a week at Chewonki, the world would be a much better place."

—GEORGE SERGEANT,
OSPREY SOCIETY MEMBER



The Green Campus Consortium of Maine

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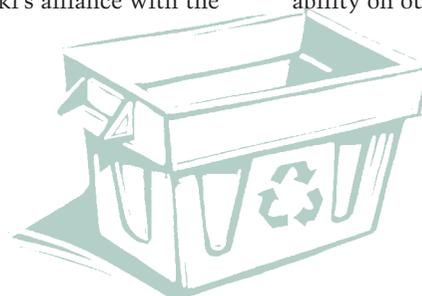
DUDLEY GREELEY, USM'S ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR, INSTITUTED A CLEAN LIGHTS PROGRAM ON CAMPUS LAST FALL, AIMING TO REPLACE INCANDESCENT BULBS WITH COMPACT FLUORESCENT BULBS WHEREVER BULBS ARE USED MORE THAN TWO HOURS A DAY. HE ESTIMATES THAT THE \$225 HE SPENT ON NEW BULBS WILL SAVE MORE THAN \$3,000 IN ELECTRICITY COSTS.

The answer, like the question, lies precisely in all that makes Chewonki different. Unlike any institute of higher learning in the state, Chewonki has a 90-year history of practicing and teaching environmental stewardship. It also has a 35-year history of modeling sustainable living practices. Thus, when the GCC was formed in 2001, its bylaws specifically allowed for the full membership of Maine colleges and universities as well as for Chewonki. "It just made sense to include Chewonki," says Marquita Hill, a chemical engineer at the University of Maine in Orono who was instrumental in establishing the GCC and is now its president. "The rest of us in the group were stepping into uncharted waters, but we knew Chewonki wasn't. Chewonki was already doing many of the things we were interested in doing."

Chewonki President Don Hudson was pleased at the invitation to join the group, and he has been an active participant since its inception. Like Marquita, Don sees Chewonki's alliance with the

larger campuses as a practical one. "On a very small scale," says Don, "we deal every day at Chewonki with many of the same issues that are common to campuses of any size. I think we help the larger institutions see the value of managing their campuses as if natural resources are in finite supply. And I think we help them see that it is possible to walk the talk." Don also points out that the "balance of trade" is a very good one for Chewonki. "The GCC certainly enriches and stimulates us as well," he says. "We've learned a lot about new building materials, new kinds of small-scale power generation, quite a lot more about green design, and on it goes. This is by all means a give and take relationship for us."

The Green Campus Consortium of Maine had its genesis in the spring of 2000, when Marquita Hill and colleague Ted Koffman, a state representative and administrator at College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, struck up a casual conversation at a pollution prevention conference. "We realized we shared a lot of frustrations about environmental sustainability on our respective campuses," Marquita



“Institutions can meet all the environmental goals in the world, but if they don’t graduate environmentally literate students, they have failed.”

—DUDLEY GREELEY, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE



recalls, “and we figured if institutions as different as COA and UMO shared them, they must be common to all campuses.” By the end of the conversation, Marquita and Ted had decided to contact colleagues at other Maine campuses and to plan a “greening the campus” conference. With the help of other key organizers, The 21st Century Campus Conference was held in Bar Harbor on April 6, 2001. Supported by several colleges, state agencies, and private corporations, the event explored opportunities for sustainable use of resources and energy on Maine campuses and inspired many people to seek ways to reduce their institution’s footprint on the planet. “It was a stunning success,” Don Hudson reported afterwards. It also marked the first major event of a grassroots organization that in another few months would officially be known as the GCC.

Barely two years old this fall, the GCC has its feet on the ground and is making a difference. Recognizing that campus environments can be both teaching tools and models—and that this is true not only for students but for surrounding communities—the group is developing a statewide network to

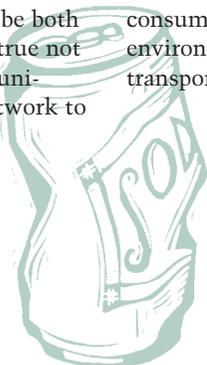
promote renewable and sustainable means of growth, development, and management for Maine’s campuses. Although they currently focus on college and university campuses, members hope to expand their focus in the future to other campus-based institutions, such as corporations, hospitals, retirement homes, and K–12 schools.

The scope of the consortium’s interests is impressive, and indeed seems almost overwhelming. Thirty years ago, “sustainability” on college campuses pretty much began and ended with turning off the lights and turning down the heat. Today, though, the movement has a far broader reach. Keisha Payson, formerly an Environmental Educator at Chewonki, is the Sustainability Coordinator at Bowdoin College. As you might well guess, she does indeed worry about lights and thermostats. But like others in the GCC, she also deals with such issues as waste reduction, water consumption, pollution and environmental health, environmentally preferable purchasing, alternative transportation, and campus ecology.

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TOP LEFT: AS PART OF A “TRASH AUDIT,” STUDENTS IN BOWDOIN’S ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES 101 CLASS CARRIED THEIR TRASH AROUND WITH THEM FOR A WEEK AND THEN SORTED RECYCLABLES FROM NON-RECYCLABLES.

TOP RIGHT: OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW; BOWDOIN’S NEW FRONT-LOADING WASHERS WILL REDUCE ANNUAL CO₂ EMISSIONS BY 12.2 TONS PER YEAR.





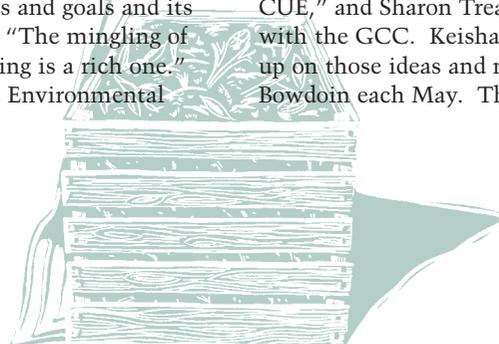
CHEWONKI'S LOW-TECH COMPOSTING SYSTEM (ABOVE) PRODUCES 8 TO 10 TONS OF FINISHED COMPOST EACH YEAR, ALL OF WHICH IS USED TO FERTILIZE THE FIELDS OF SALT MARSH FARM. MORE AND MORE COLLEGES ARE COMPOSTING THE WASTE FROM THEIR DINING HALLS IN A HIGHER TECH "EARTH TUB" (ABOVE RIGHT).

A look at the GCC's workshop topics alone illustrates the point. Already the group has conducted workshops on green building, sustainable dining services, alternative fuels, green power, and sustainable landscaping. Future topics are likely to include greenhouse gas inventories, carbon dioxide controls, green purchasing, alternative vehicles, composting, organic turf maintenance, environmentally preferable cleaners, integrated pest management, vendor and appliance contracts, and how to finance sustainability. That last item, by the way, is what one member calls "code for how to convince management that even though sustainability costs more up front, in the long run it saves money."

As valuable as the workshops are, Don Hudson notes that probably the most important thing members get out of the GCC is simply the opportunity to exchange ideas and practical experiences. "This group represents a wide diversity of campuses, each of which has different challenges and goals and its own modus operandi," he says. "The mingling of ideas discussed at any one meeting is a rich one." Sharon Treat, coordinator of the Environmental

Studies Program at Colby College (and Majority Leader of the Maine Senate) concurs. "It's a great way to get information that's particularly useful to a college campus," she says. "We all learn from each other. What's happening on other campuses? What's working, and just as importantly, what isn't working?"

The results of such exchanges are evident—and growing. A case in point. At one of the GCC's first meetings, Jason Wentworth, environmental coordinator at Bates College, told the group about Bates's "Clean Sweep," a giant yard sale of the possessions left by departing students each May. The proceeds are donated to local non-profits, and Jason described the event as "a great way for Bates to strengthen its relationship with the community and at the same time keep tons of perfectly useful goods from going to the landfill." Colby had started a similar program about the same time, called "Colby RES-CUE," and Sharon Treat shared Colby's experience with the GCC. Keisha Payson at Bowdoin picked up on those ideas and now runs a giant yard sale at Bowdoin each May. The University of Maine at





“We all learn from each other. What’s happening on other campuses? What’s working, and just as importantly, what isn’t working?”

—SHARON TREAT, COLBY COLLEGE



BOWDOIN’S 2003 “DUMP & RUN” DIVERTED SEVERAL TONS FROM THE BRUNSWICK LANDFILL (INCLUDING 15 MINI-FRIDGES AND 25 COMPUTER PRINTERS) AND DONATED MORE THAN \$18,000 TO CHARITY.



Farmington is also looking into starting the annual tradition. If it sounds a bit silly, think again: Bowdoin’s 2003 “Dump & Run” diverted several tons from the Brunswick landfill (including 15 mini-fridges and 25 computer printers) and donated more than \$18,000 to charity.

A less labor-intensive idea that has spread among members is the installation of vending misers on vending machines. This simple device has a motion sensor that turns off a vending machine’s lights and powers down the cooling element when no one is nearby, saving as much as \$200 per year in electric costs. That may not sound significant—until you multiply it by the number of vending machines on a typical campus. The University of Southern Maine went a step farther and simply took the lights out of its vending machines. “We expect to save about \$7,000 in the first year,” says Dudley Greeley, the university’s economic and environmental sustainability coordinator. Dudley believes it is steps like this that will eventually “change the culture” on university and college campuses. “We want to turn the state’s campuses into classrooms that model

environmentally responsible behaviors,” he says. “Institutions can meet all the environmental goals in the world, but if they don’t graduate environmentally literate students, they have failed.”

Fortunately, the sustainability movement that’s afoot on Maine’s campuses is part of a larger trend. Across the U.S. and Canada, other campuses—large and small, public and private—are also “getting greener,” despite myriad internal and external challenges. A report issued last July by the National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE) noted that “there are many barriers to education for sustainability, from narrow thinking to narrow budgets.” Those barriers must be breached, however—and sooner rather than later. “Schools, businesses, agencies and other organizations must become leaders in ‘practicing what we preach,’” says the NCSE report. In presenting an educational agenda for the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, slated to begin in 2005, the report concludes that “a new approach to education is essential to...protect the environment

Continued on page 12

ABOVE: BATES COLLEGE’S DINING SERVICE REDUCES WASTE AND COSTS, BUYS CROPS FROM LOCAL FARMERS, AND DONATES EXCESS FOOD TO AREA SOUP KITCHENS. AS A RESULT, IT HAS A NEARLY 100% TURNAROUND RATE FOR RECYCLABLES.



ABOVE: DR. JOHN LOGAN, MARKETING DIRECTOR OF WATER ENERGY DISTRIBUTORS, INC. IN NEW HAMPSHIRE AND A DIRECTOR OF THE HYDROGEN ENERGY CENTER, PROMOTED RENEWABLE HYDROGEN POWER AT MAINE'S COMMON GROUND FAIR IN SEPTEMBER.

ABOVE RIGHT: BOWDOIN'S COMPOST COMMITTEE WAS ONE OF MANY PARTICIPANTS IN THE SUSTAINABLE DESIGN FAIR THE COLLEGE HOSTED ON EARTH DAY '03.

and provide for economic and personal well-being, which together form the foundation for human and global security."

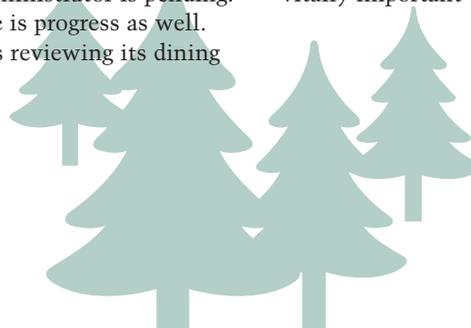
On ten campuses in the Pine Tree State, the Green Campus Consortium of Maine already is part of this new approach to education. The consortium has no office, no paid staff, and no permanent source of funding, but it is slowly effecting change. Among the group's near-term goals are to encourage every Maine college and university to join the GCC; to draft a Memorandum of Understanding, with targeted goals, for all members to sign; to get more students and faculty members involved in the group; and to explore ways to help member institutions be more supportive of the GCC. In the long-term, the GCC also hopes to play a role in curriculum issues, recognizing that ultimately sustainability must be integrated across all levels of an institution.

Meanwhile, progress continues. The GCC's website came on line in late August; its new brochure will be available this fall (and will be sent to all university and college presidents in Maine); and a grant application for a part-time administrator is pending. On individual campuses there is progress as well. Colby College, for example, is reviewing its dining

menu with an eye to making it more sustainable and has already made significant changes in its seafood purchasing. Bowdoin College replaced all of its top-loading washing machines this past summer with high-efficiency front loaders, saving an estimated 12.2 tons of CO₂ emissions per year. And at the University of Maine in Farmington, a new education center will be rising that is certified by the green building rating system known as LEED (Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design).

As anyone involved in the GCC knows, a tremendous amount of work remains to make Maine's campuses more sustainable. The effort has begun, however, and it is on very solid ground. "Maine was one of the first states in the country to form an organizing entity that enables individual campuses to share sustainability information directly," says Don Hudson. "New Jersey beat us to the punch, but Maine was second, and that in itself is quite an accomplishment." As an organization that has long been "practicing what we preach," Chewonki is proud to be part of this exciting—and vitally important—collaboration. ■

ELIZABETH PIERSON





Interested in finding out more about sustainability for campus-based organizations? Here are a few good websites to visit.

CLEAN AIR COOL PLANET: www.cleanair-coolplanet.org

ENERGY STAR: www.energystar.gov

EFFICIENCY MAINE: www.energystar.gov

HARVARD UNIVERSITY: www.greencampus.harvard.edu

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION CAMPUS ECOLOGY PROGRAM: www.nwf.org/campusecology

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT BUFFALO: wings.buffalo.edu/ubgreen

SIERRA YOUTH COALITION OF CANADA: www.sierrayouthcoalition.org

TUFTS UNIVERSITY: www.tufts.edu/energyaffairs

The Green Campus Consortium of Maine **“Bringing Ideas about Environmental Sustainability to Maine’s Campuses”**

Bates College
Bowdoin College
The Chewonki Foundation
Colby College
College of the Atlantic
Maine Maritime Academy
St. Joseph’s College
University of Maine at Farmington
University of New England
University of Southern Maine

Affiliate members:
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Maine Green Power Connection
Maine State Planning Office

The GCC meets every four to six weeks throughout the year, providing a forum for members to share ideas and practical experiences. It also

acts as a clearinghouse for information, maintains an active list serve, and sponsors quarterly workshops which are open to the public. In the future it also hopes to sponsor an annual conference, each year addressing a range of topics relevant to campus administrators, financial officers, physical plant managers, and faculty and students.

Full membership is open to all Maine-based academic institutions (and to Chewonki), associate membership to non-academic institutions, businesses, and agencies; and student and individual membership to interested individuals.

For more information on the GCC, visit www.MEGreenCampus.com or contact Fred Padula at alpadula@aol.com or at 207-772-5214.

PLATO: An MCS ritual as fluid as it is traditional

It is lunchtime in the dining room. Chewonki staff and Maine Coast Semester students squeeze by one another, searching out an open chair at one of the round, green tables. A butter knife chimes against a glass, and a student rises, announcing: "I am Plato today, and I want to share these words with you." The dining hall hushes.

This simple ritual is repeated day in and day out during MCS, as an assigned student or faculty member takes on Plato's duties: chairing morning meeting and opening lunch and dinner for the community. At its most basic, Plato is the *bon appetito* of this particular pine-studded peninsula in Maine, a moment of quiet pause and thankfulness for an abundant meal. But beyond this, Plato's message, like the food on the table, feeds the community's thoughts and conversations throughout the day.

Listening to Plato's words is like the delight and surprise of reading a fortune cookie at every meal. Unlike fortune cookies, however, which are stamped in red ink and packaged at some distant factory, each Plato is carefully chosen by the person who presents it. All semester, Platos reveal us as individuals: our most authentic ways of seeing the world, our particular wisdom and joy.

"What I like about Plato," says Paul Arthur, MCS director of admissions and English teacher, "is that it doesn't always focus on powerful quotations from dead white men. One day it might be a song—anything from 'Simple Gifts' to 'Zip-A-Dee-Doo Dah' [a favorite of MCS Director Scott Andrews]. Another day it's a visualization or a poem." He also notes that no one tells Plato what he or she can and cannot do, or how to make the presentation. As Plato, students and faculty alike have complete freedom to share what they wish.

It is no surprise, then, that Plato is tremendously varied. During MCS 27, the semester of 9/11, Platos took on a deep and serious tone that lasted throughout the semester. Many semesters are characterized by a much lighter tone, however. Whatever Plato is, it usually says something about the person who presents it, says Betta Stothart, director of community relations. "As a person who's relatively new to the Chewonki staff," she says, "I always look forward to the lunchtime Plato as an entry into a personal landscape. Plato breaks the flow of casual conversation, allowing people to say and hear something deliberate."

Plato's message is sometimes a demonstration of courage. As the first Plato of MCS 30, Roshe Anderson shared an excerpt from Nilene Foxworth's poem "Yes, I Am an African Woman." Later in the semester, as the U.S. debated military action in Iraq, Emily Schechtman shared a Howard Zinn piece protesting American imperialism. Sometimes Plato is a performance of talent and beauty. Students quieted like a Carnegie Hall audience when a trio played "Ashokan's Farewell." Allison Klein worked magic one day, bringing forth a melodic symphony from the cranky old Chewonki piano. Plato is also a celebration of the spirit and joy of the MCS community. Last fall Danielle Horowitz had folks tap dancing around their tables before sitting down to supper. And Dan West and Tommy Otey made everyone giggle with their "Wednesday Leftover Lunch" tune.

Plato had its origins at Chewonki well before MCS began, says Paul Arthur. "We've been doing graces before meals on wilderness trips and in camp forever," he notes. Particularizing the tradition and naming it "Plato," however, was the work of Don Hudson. "It used to be called 'Salmagundi,'" recalls Don, "which means 'a mixture or medley,' but that word usually refers to a salad. 'Plato' seemed simpler, more fitting." The name debate continues, however. "I'd actually prefer to call it 'Aristotle,'" says Paul, who earned his Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of Colorado and points out that Aristotle was clearly a superior thinker to his elder teacher. When pushed, though, Paul allows that "Plato" may be fitting enough, since the name does evoke the Greek philosopher's particular interest in living the right life, "the moral life," explains Paul, "revolving around a balance of the right set of virtues."

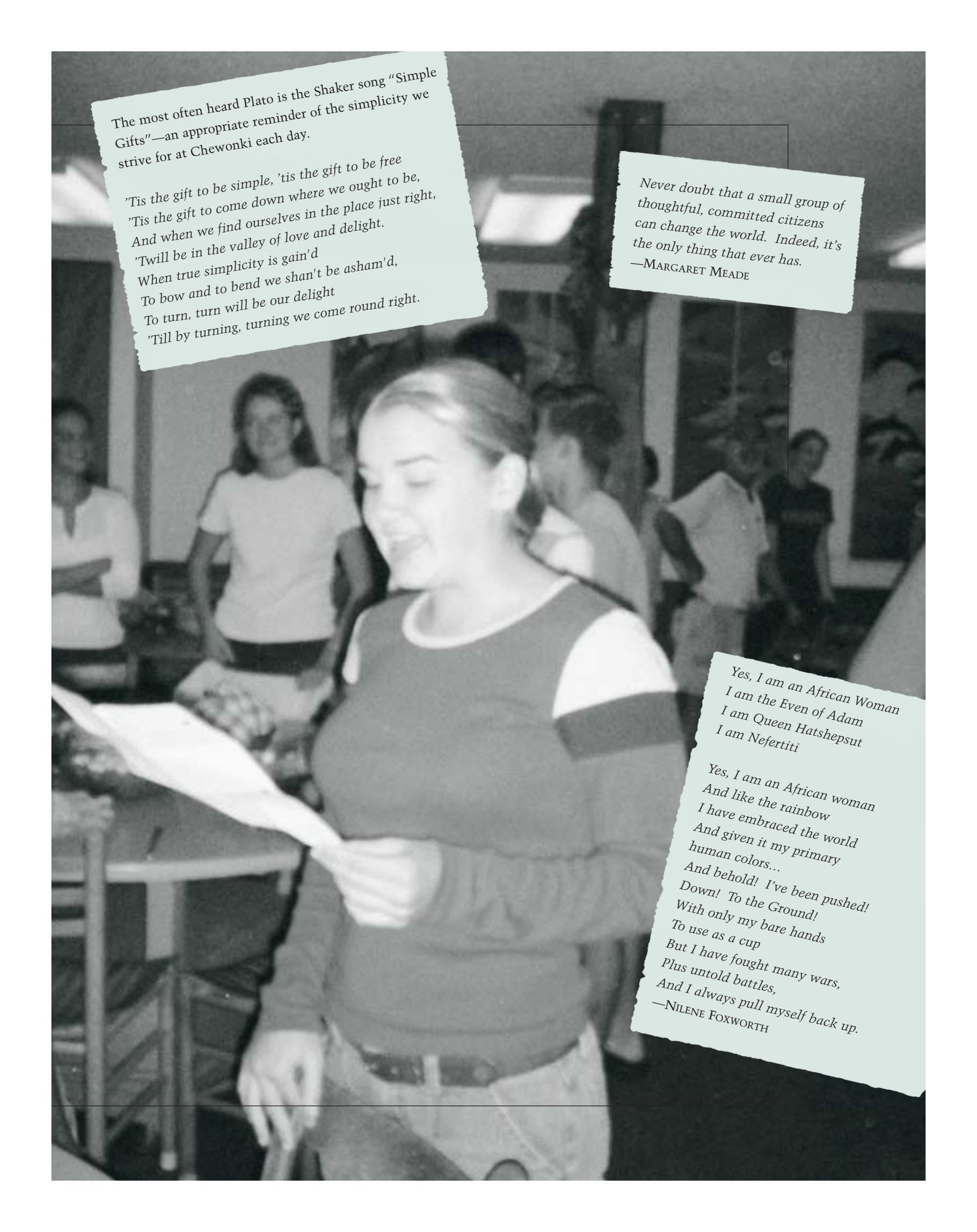
Whatever the history behind the name, one thing is certain—Plato has a place at Chewonki and is an integral part of the fabric woven by each Maine Coast Semester. ■

MELINA SHANNON-DIPIETRO

Melina Shannon-DiPietro taught American History and Environmental Issues at MCS last year. She is now associate director of Yale University's Sustainable Food Project, which connects Yale students to the pleasure of growing, cooking, and sharing food. Melina can be reached at melina.shannon-dipietro@yale.edu.

I like nonsense, it wakes up the brain cells. Fantasy is a necessary ingredient in living, it's a way of looking at life through the wrong end of a telescope. Which is what I do, and that enables you to laugh at life's realities.

—THEODOR GEISEL, AKA DR. SEUSS



The most often heard Plato is the Shaker song "Simple Gifts"—an appropriate reminder of the simplicity we strive for at Chewonki each day.

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free
'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gain'd
To bow and to bend we shan't be asham'd,
To turn, turn will be our delight
'Till by turning, turning we come round right.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.
—MARGARET MEADE

Yes, I am an African Woman
I am the Even of Adam
I am Queen Hatshepsut
I am Nefertiti

Yes, I am an African woman
And like the rainbow
I have embraced the world
And given it my primary
human colors...
And behold! I've been pushed!
Down! To the Ground!
With only my bare hands
To use as a cup
But I have fought many wars,
Plus untold battles,
And I always pull myself back up.
—NILENE FOXWORTH

“Inspector! Inspector’s coming!”

Eight heads bob and weave behind the screen windows as 16 pairs of hands furiously tuck away shoes, tennis rackets, and dirty underwear. The dustpan is emptied one last time in the trashcan, and the corners on one final wool blanket are tucked beneath the mattress.

The inspector strolls leisurely past the outside of the cabin, looking for stray socks and Frisbees, running his fingers along the hanging towels to see if the dry ones have been brought inside. As he steps in the

door, he politely requests, “By your bunks, gentlemen,” and the boys snap to attention. Seven boys stand proudly by their bedpost, smiling and greeting the honored guest. One last straggler shoves something looking suspiciously like a shirt beneath his pillow and then jumps to join his cabin mates.

In a few moments the inspector will pace slowly around the cabin, running his hands along the blankets and comforters, peering approvingly or disapprovingly at the shelves, sneaking a glance underneath the beds and into nooks and corners. But the first thing he does is look at the boys themselves and their counselors and guides. Are they smiling? Does the cabin have an air of cooperation and community? Are the counselors looking proudly at their charges? Do these boys seem to be coming together as a team?

We clean the cabins daily, primarily because 10 boys and their young adult guardians have an extraordinary capacity to generate chaos in the cycle of a typical camp day. But we are every bit as concerned with the process as with the product. Forget the Barn Climb, the Tire Traverse, and the Peanut Butter River; few group challenges are as real and



meaningful as the cabin clean-up. The job is not inherently fun, and people come to the task with different standards of success, but the boys are expected to complete the entire task by themselves. Through the daily chore of cleaning the cabin, the boys learn how to work together in tasks that really need to get done, and they learn the skills needed to keep a clean room as they move along in life.



The reward for a consistently clean cabin is the Inspection Plaque. A spade-shaped piece of wood with a carved and painted "I" adorns the outside of those cabins that have cleaned their cabin well, worked together while doing so, and labored without excessive guidance and nit-picking from their counselors. Essentially, the boys have proved they can do the task on their own, and the Inspection Plaque signifies to the inspectors that the cabin no longer needs daily perusal. But the inspectors, mostly senior staff, poke their heads in every once in a while anyway, to make sure the cabin is keeping up its end of the bargain. The reward for a clean cabin is an additional level of trust and responsibility.

The central tension of the whole affair is this: 15 minutes after the inspection bell rings, the first activity period will begin. When the screen door slams behind the departing inspector, we hope the campers will head out onto Chewonki Neck to find the full flowering of themselves. They will flip off diving boards, roll kayaks, make puppets, print photos, build fires, feed pigs, and construct boats. We

want them to be who they are, in all the quirky uniqueness that entails. But for cabin inspection, we want them to be like everyone else: standing by their bunk with their bed sharply made, their shelves neatly arranged, and their clothes clean. We want them to see the special joy of being part of something bigger than one person, and we want them to take pride in their cabin, both its appearance and its tenor.

Each Sunday, we read a message by Harry Emerson Fosdick proclaiming that religion "shines wherever people in their daily lives are keeping clean and find their inward friendship with the Great Spirit and their outward friendship with their fellows." For the rest of the week we try to live those words. ■

JUSTIN REICH

Justin Reich is an assistant camp director, sea-kayak guide, and pinch hitter extraordinaire. This is the third in his occasional series of articles about the unsung moments of summer camp.

Forget the Barn Climb, the Tire Traverse, and the Peanut Butter River; few group challenges are as real and meaningful as the cabin clean-up.

Canoe Expedition for Maine Girls

Only in its second year, the program shows tangible



On a hot and sunny July 19, after 21 days and 176 miles of paddling, poling, and portaging along the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, 9 Maine girls strode confidently across Chewonki's upper lawn, hauling a loaded canoe in their arms and singing "We can be what we want to be." The girls were finally home, and they were greeted by family, friends, and supporters, all commemorating the successful return of the second annual Canoe Expedition for Maine Girls and a new era in the girls' lives.

The Canoe Expedition for Maine Girls is a unique part of Chewonki's wilderness programs. Although similar in many ways to our other extended wilderness trips, this trip does not begin or end with the summer journey. It is a year-long commitment, not only for the girls but for the mentors who support them along the way. Intended to inspire participants to pursue their dreams and to make healthy choices in a troubled world, the trip is offered only to Maine girls ages 14 to 17, many of whom would not have such an opportunity otherwise. The journey begins in April when the chosen girls and mentors gather at Chewonki for a paddle-making weekend; proceeds into June, when the girls embark on their trip; and culminates in



signs of success

December, when the girls and mentors gather for a reunion and a public slide show recounting their experiences.

Although only in its second year, the program already shows tangible signs of success. A participant on last year's expedition, Meredith Podgurski of Farmington, found the trip so life changing that she asked to return this year as an assistant trip leader. Her request was granted, and 18-year-old Meredith proved to be an outstanding leader. When the group ran across Allagash Wilderness Waterway Director Marilyn Tourtelotte on the river in July, she was so taken by Meredith's commitment to the Waterway and to the wilderness experience that she offered her a job as an assistant ranger. Meredith accepted the offer, completed her Chewonki trip on July 19, and one day later returned north to a full-time job!

The Canoe Expedition for Maine Girls has been supported in its first two years by generous donations from foundations, businesses, and individuals. Now, recognizing the program's success and tremendous potential, Chewonki is turning its focus to long-term sustainability. "The beauty of a program like this," says Development Director Lucy Hull, "is that it offers a truly life-changing opportunity for these girls. And these changes are supported and solidified through the mentoring program." This year's funding provided scholarship support for all nine girls, most of whom could not have participated otherwise. "Our goal is to create an endowment to make that possible every year," says Lucy.

The trip was skillfully led this year and last by wilderness guide and environmental educator Kirstin George, who designed the program while in graduate school. She was assisted this year by Anja Whittington, a New Hampshire native who is currently working on a doctorate in education at the University of Maine in Orono, and of course by Meredith Podgurski, who as of this writing was enjoying her new job on the Allagash Wilderness Waterway. ■

BETTA STOTHART

Girls' Programs Continue to Expand!

Responding to a growing interest in Camp among girls, Chewonki continues to strengthen and expand offerings for girls ages 12 to 17.

NEW! for summer 2004 is a three-week program called *Explorers for Girls* that combines canoeing and hiking. Open to girls ages 13 to 15, this excursion will begin with an 8-day hike along the Appalachian Trail. The girls will then exchange their packs for canoes and will paddle down either the St. Croix River or West Branch of the Penobscot River, journeying through the heart of the North Maine Woods. The trip will be offered in both Session I (June 22–July 14) and Session II (July 18–August 9) of camp. Each trip will have 8 participants and 2 female trip leaders.

Next summer will also mark the fifth year of our program for girls ages 12 to 14 at our outpost camp on Big Wood Pond in Attean Township, near Jackman, Maine. *Wood Cove* offers the opportunity to hone boating, hiking, wilderness, and leadership skills as well as arts and crafts, music, paddle-making, and other traditional camp activities. Girls may attend either Session I or Session II.

The third annual *Canoe Expedition for Maine Girls* is scheduled for June 25 to July 17, 2004. The paddle-making weekend that precedes the trip will be April 23 to 25 at Chewonki.

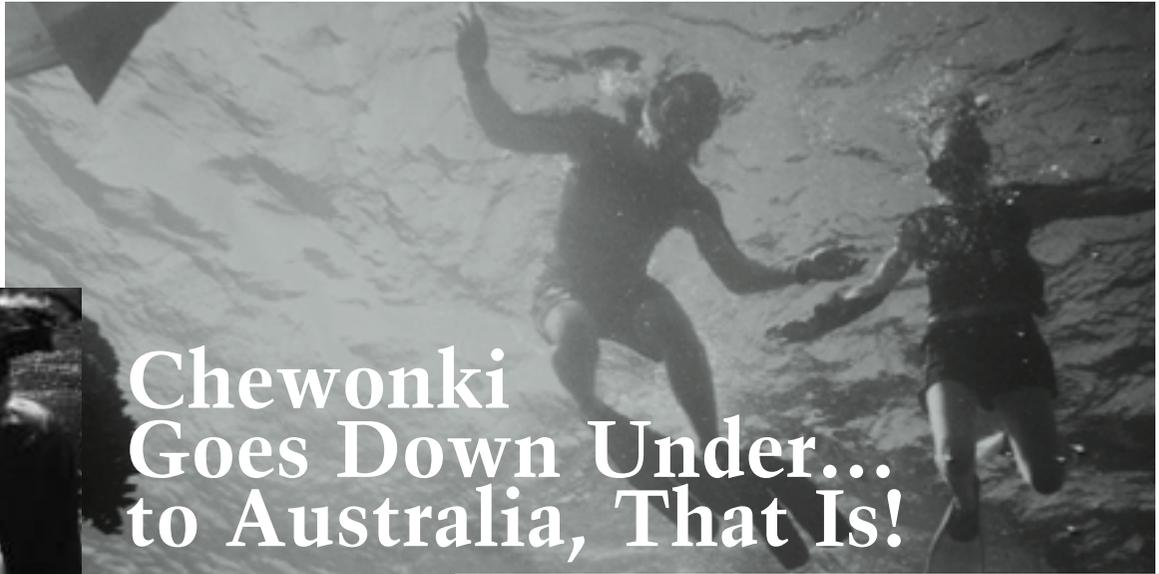
There are also, of course, many opportunities for girls in Chewonki's well-established and popular co-ed summer programs.



Enrollment is now open for all 2004 camp programs.

For detailed information, visit www.chewonki.org and click on "Camp";

or contact The Chewonki Foundation, 485 Chewonki Neck Road, Wiscasset, ME 04578-4822, tel. 207-882-7323, e-mail camp@chewonki.org.



Chewonki Goes Down Under... to Australia, That Is!

WE WENT SNORKELING AT THE GREAT BARRIER REEF, WHICH WAS PROBABLY THE MOST WONDERFUL, INCREDIBLE, HEAVENLY EXPERIENCE I'VE EVER HAD IN MY LIFE." —NATHAN

"AUSTRALIA IS UNBELIEVABLE! ... THE ACCENTS, THE SCENERY, TEMPERATURE, AND ROADS ARE A CHANGE FROM THE USUAL—AND I LOVE IT! CAN'T WAIT TO GO PADDLING IN THE CLEAR BLUE WARM WATER!" —ANNA

"I'M STILL IN SHOCK THAT WE'RE ACTUALLY ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD! EVERYTHING HERE IS BEAUTIFUL IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, ESPECIALLY THE PEOPLE." —SIMONE

Before the group returned from Sydney, the journal entries posted on the website were the most watertight proof that it had actually happened—that eight young Chewonki trippers had flown halfway across the world, traveled through three distinct ecosystems, snorkeled the legendary Great Barrier Reef, hiked Mount Bartle Frere (the highest peak in Queensland), kayaked along miles of verdant coastline, and basically had gotten a mouthful, a headful, and a heartfelt of the Down Under "Land of OZ."

A July 10 journal entry paints the vivid scene: "We have seen kangaroos, ring-tailed possums, kookaburras, magpies, brush-turkeys, peacocks, parrots, willy-wagtails, lots of cool insects, gum trees, pandanus trees, Moreton Bay fig trees, hoop pines, mango trees, kiwi fruit trees, mozzies [mosquitoes]....The rain started a few hours after we crossed the Tropic of Capricorn."

After several years of planning, dreaming, and more planning, trip leaders Michelle and Michael Morgenstern had realized their vision for a Chewonki Wilderness Trip to Australia. The five-week journey began on July 3 and consisted of an extensive trek over three distinct ecosystems—temperate, subtropical, and tropical—along the Eastern Highlands. Sea kayaking around the Whitsunday Islands was the dominant feature of the journey, but the itinerary included more than time on the water. Community service projects, natural history lessons, hiking, snorkeling, and cultural explorations were also woven into the experience, exposing trippers to the diversity of Australia and to the unique way of life Down Under.

Aside from its obvious geographical reach, Chewonki Australia differs from the standard Chewonki wilderness experience in others ways as well: there is a written application and screening process for the trip, it is led by two Chewonki lead-



ers plus an Australian leader who greets the group on location; and time is spent in cities and towns, on farms, and even at a small resort.

"This is an amazing way for young trippers to see another culture," says Michelle "Mish" Morgenstern, co-designer of Chewonki Australia with her husband, Michael, and also Chewonki's Environmental Education program director. "They all came home saying how much they loved the people and the landscape of Australia." Mish, who is a native of Australia, noted the personal transformations that occurred on the trip as well. "Every single kid matured, and the group really came together. They talked about themselves as a family and took care of each other."

With the first Chewonki Australia successfully realized, Mish and Michael are looking ahead to next year and expect "many more applicants." Prospective trippers must complete a questionnaire and write an essay on why they want to go to Australia and what they hope to gain from the journey. The leaders hope to discover some compelling arguments, and they expect a difficult process of elimination. There are eight spaces on the trip, which is open to boys and girls ages 14 to 18. The tentative dates for the trip are June 27 to July 30.

Chewonki Australia is a partnership with Ecokayak, founded by the Morgensterns in 2000. For more information, visit www.chewonki.org and click on the "Chewonki Australia" Quick Link, or visit www.ecokayak.com. ■

BETTA STOTHART

2004 Wilderness Trips & Programs for Adults & Families

The Chewonki Foundation has been offering workshops and wilderness expeditions for adults, families, and senior citizens since 1970. We regularly canoe the rivers of Maine, Quebec, and Labrador and through the arctic tundra of the Soper River Valley on Baffin Island. We sea kayak the coastal waters of the Everglades and Maine. In winter, we lead cross-country ski trips and enjoy wood-heated lodging at several of our outpost facilities.

All Chewonki wilderness trips combine aspects of adventure and challenge with a pace set to enhance exploration and appreciation of the natural world. For most trips, we require no previous experience and assume participants are willing to pitch in to help set up tents and prepare meals. Our trips are not endurance tests, and we make sure participants are as comfortable as possible. *Children 16 and under must be accompanied by an adult.*

In addition to the trips listed here, we regularly plan and lead custom trips for individuals and groups. Please call us for details on how to organize your own trip for a group of friends or family. Here is our calendar for 2004. Enrollment is limited.

For more information and a brochure describing each trip, contact Wilderness Programs Director Greg Shute at The Chewonki Foundation, 485 Chewonki Neck Road, Wiscasset, ME 04578, 207-882-7323, e-mail gshute@chewonki.org; or click on "Wilderness Trips" at www.chewonki.org.

*Trips led by Two Roads Maine and accompanied by Chewonki trip leaders. (Two Roads Maine, P.O. Box 415, Freeport, ME 04032, 207-865-4517, tworoads@maine.rr.com, www.tworoadsmaine.org.)

**Trips organized by Elderhostel and led by Chewonki trip leaders. Minimum age 55. (Elderhostel, 75 Federal Street, Boston, MA 02110-1941, 877-426-8056, www.elderhostel.org.)

JANUARY

Wilderness First Responder Course at Chewonki	January 2-10
Wilderness First-Aid Course at Chewonki	January 17-18
Cross-Country Skiing in Attean Township*	January 8-11

FEBRUARY

Cross-Country Skiing in Attean Township	February 14-16
Backcountry Skiing, Parc de la Gaspésie, Quebec	February 14-22
Florida Everglades Sea Kayak Trip	February 16-22

MARCH

Cumberland Island, Georgia, Trip*	March 13-18
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MAY

Lake Memphramagog, Quebec, Trip*	May 8-11
St. John River Canoe Trip**	May 9-17
St. John River Canoe Trip	May 9-15
Wilderness First Responder Course at Chewonki	May 26-June 3
Lake Umbagog Canoe Trip*	May 27-30

JUNE

Maine Guide Training Course	Dates TBA
Wilderness First-Aid Course at Chewonki	June 12-13

JULY

George River, Quebec, Canoe Trip	July 19-August 6
Baffin Island Soper River Canoe Trip	July 20-30

AUGUST

Allagash Canoe Trip	August 15-22
West Branch Penobscot Canoe Trip	August 15-20
Coastal Sea Kayaking in Maine	August 15-18
Intro to Canoe Camping for Families	August 15-20
St. Croix River Canoe Trip	August 15-20
Harbor Island Sea Kayaking Trip*	August 19-22

SEPTEMBER

Harbor Island Sea Kayak Trip*	September 9-12
Allagash Canoe Trip**	September 5-15
Allagash Canoe Trip**	September 12-22
Wood Pond Canoe Trip*	September 30-October 3

Horse Power

Come Thanksgiving, it will be two years since Nell died. In the aftermath of her death, I came to realize she was a much better horse than I was a horseman. When we got Nell in the summer of 1996, she was eight years old and she knew voice and rein commands. She was fairly responsive, but she was lazy! Work was all it took to make her a great horse, though, and she became that. Anyone who worked with her fell in love with her. Amy Purdie of MCS 4 returned to the farm for an internship in the spring of 1998, and I think she captured Nell best by calling her a “dream.”



In the winter of 2001, five-year-old Sal took Nell's place. Like Nell, Sal is a Belgian mare. Unlike Nell, however, Sal has required a lot more of Brad Johnson and me to train her, and to train ourselves. Unlike a piece of machinery, a horse is relational. Through consistency, routine, sensitivity, and lots of work, you build a trust that ultimately leads to a true partnership between horse and horseman. Are we there yet, Sal? We still have a ways to go, but in two years we have made great strides and are able to do all the things with Sal that we did with Nell. MCS students

have always taken care of Sal as part of their morning farm chores, but increasingly they are also taking the reins and doing the driving. People likely view the use of a horse to work this farm as quaint. In many ways, though, this horse stuff is the epitome of progress. Sal is perfectly solar powered. I can recycle her waste products right here, returning them to the land that grows



our vegetables and her pasture and hay. She is low-impact but has all the power and energy we need on this small farm and woodlot. She is living, relational, and fully decomposable. She becomes a better horse to the degree that we become better humans.

This fall we move into our tenth year of horse-powered farming and work at Chewonki. All is well when Brad and a student are working with Sal. They have Sal in a fore-cart, pulling a trailer. The voice commands are few and barely audible. The hands moving reins are subtle. Horse, fore-cart, and wagon halt, and Brad and the student load leaves for mulch or a pile of manure. Sal is standing, resting, waiting with stooped head. She senses no pressure on the bit and knows no one has the reins. The loading is finished. Brad and the student step back on the cart. Sal's head comes up, and Brad draws the perfect tension on the reins and follows with a soft, kissing sound. Sal eases into the collar and, with no noise of exhaust, they move forward. ■

MARK ALBEE

Mark Albee is Chewonki's farm and woodlot manager. He is assisted by Brad Johnson—and of course by Sal too.

“In many ways...this horse stuff is the epitome of progress.”

IN MEMORIAM

In the span of only four days this September, we received word of the death of three longtime members of the extended Chewonki community. We extend our heartfelt sympathies to each of their families.

C. ROBERTSON TROWBRIDGE

Chewonki lost a good friend on September 8, when trustee Rob Trowbridge died at the age of 71 in Peterborough, New Hampshire. A graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School, he was chairman and publisher emeritus of Yankee Publishing, Inc. and a former New Hampshire state representative and senator. Rob's connection to Chewonki began as a camper in 1944 and was solidified by a stint as a counselor and later as a camp parent, of sons Jamie (Camp '72-'73) and Phil (Camp '81-'82, '85).

Gordy Hall, Chairman of Chewonki's Board of Trustees, attended the Rivers School in Massachusetts with Rob (where Clarence Allen was headmaster), and the two remained lifelong friends. "He was generous, full of humor and original ideas," Gordy said a few days after Rob's death. "He was good trustee material, with imagination, experience, and an understanding of academic undertakings." Like many others, Gordy recalled that one of Rob's great delights was performing Gilbert and Sullivan. "While a camper at Chewonki," remembers Gordy, "he was a beguiling 'Buttercup' in *Pinafore*, and he continued with G&S productions almost to the time of his sadly untimely death."

Rob is survived by his four children, his former wife, three sisters, and eight grandchildren.

CHARLES C. CABOT, JR.

Charlie Cabot, a camper in 1940, died of cancer on September 9 at age 73 in Dover, Massachusetts. He was a graduate of Harvard University and Harvard Law School, a partner of Sullivan and Worcester Law Firm in Boston, and Chairman of the Board of the Conservation Law Foundation, a leading environmental advocacy organization with offices in five states. Charlie also served as a selectman in the town of Dover for many years.

Charlie served on the Conservation Law Foundation board with Gordy Hall, and they knew each other well. "Charlie was *most* enthusiastic about his time at Chewonki as a boy," says Gordy, "and he was equally enthusiastic that his granddaughter, Olivia Dooley, was attending the Maine Coast Semester this fall."

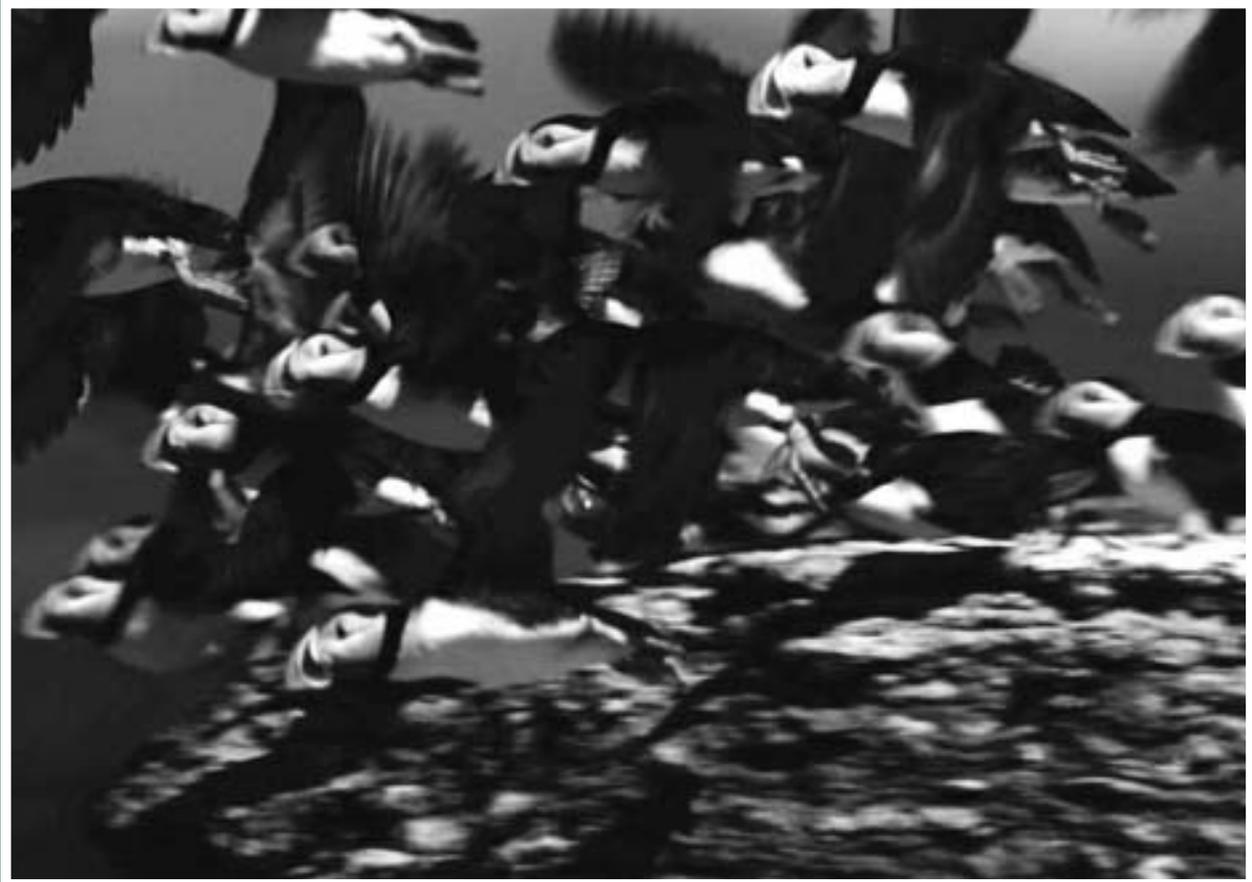
In addition to his many friends and admirers, Charlie is survived by his wife and three children, a brother, and eight grandchildren.

HARRIET HART SAYRE

Harriet Sayre, wife of honorary trustee the Rev. Francis "Frank" B. Sayre, Jr. (Camp '26, '28-'29, Camp Staff '36-'37, '42), died of cancer on September 6 at the age of 82, at the home of her daughter in Durham, North Carolina. Harriet and Frank honeymooned at Chewonki and then lived in Washington, D.C., for nearly 30 years, where Frank was Dean of Washington National Cathedral. They retired to Vineyard Haven, Massachusetts, in 1980.

After graduating from Vassar College, Harriet lived for a year in China and served as a researcher with the Office of Strategic Services in Washington during World War II. She was on the board of the YMCA in Washington and volunteered at Washington National Cathedral and for several nonprofit organizations.

Harriet is survived by her husband of 57 years, four children, two sisters, and eight grandchildren.



"Puffins in Flight, North Shore, Mingin Island, Gulf of St. Lawrence, August 2001," by photographer Will Richard of Georgetown, Maine. Richard was the Environmental Studies Mellon Fellow at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, in Fall 2002 and was instrumental in organizing the recent Arctic Symposium co-sponsored by Bates and Chewonki from September 26 to October 1. Richard's exhibit of 61 photographic images, titled "The Far Northeast: Window on a Landscape," will hang in Chewonki's Center for Environmental Education until December 21, 2003. The gallery is open weekdays from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

On November 7 at 7:00 P.M., Richard will present his slide show "The Natural Landscape" in the CEE at Chewonki. The public is invited to attend, free of charge.



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