CHEWONKI

FALL 2013





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PROGRAMS

Semester School Camp for Boys Camp for Girls Wilderness Trips for Teens Wilderness Vacations for Adults & Families Outdoor Classroom for Schools Traveling Natural History Programs Sustainability Office

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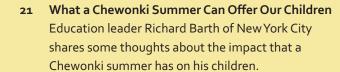
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"It's the ultimate statement of how much I value and care about Chewonki," says trustee Charlie Gordy.











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Cover: The scenic background is Brownfield Bog in southwestern Maine. Wilderness leader Nate Smith, whose family lives just down the road, was examining some bog critters when his sister, Shaelin Shields, snapped this image.

Chewonki inspires transformative growth, teaches appreciation and stewardship of the natural world, and challenges people to build thriving, sustainable communities throughout their lives.



Leaders Make the Difference

recently turned seven, and our bedtime conversations have new dimensions, including more indepth questions about my childhood. One night she asked me to name all my teachers and tell stories about them. Then we went through my camp counselors, and it occurred to me that I remember more about my summer leaders than I do about most of my school-year teachers.

y daughter Sierra

We often hear that Chewonki is special because of the people who choose to be here, and it really starts with our leaders, who are wonderful

role models for our campers and students. In this issue of the *Chronicle* you can read about ten of our stellar leaders who have collectively led trips for Boys Camp, Girls Camp, our extended trip program, Semester School, and our school programs. They have impressive and diverse backgrounds, but they all share a belief that trip leading can unlock the potential of a child through transformative growth. I taught two of the ten as semester students, taught *with* another in the classroom, have led in the field with two more, and have had the good fortune to know the rest from working together on campus. From those experiences I know Sierra will be in good hands for her first Chewonki trip a few years from now!

Boys Camp parent Richard Barth feels the same confidence in Chewonki. In this issue you can read about his perspective on Chewonki as a parent of three campers and a leader in education reform. He describes how each of his boys has a unique experience each session and grows in different ways year after year. For one boy the Master Naturalist award is the goal, while another is thinking about a three-week trip in 2014.

All of them will be part of our 100th summer as we kick off our centennial year, which will culminate in August 2015. A music recording is in production now, thanks to a group of devoted alumni, and a centennial book will be published in Fall 2014, among other



exciting projects. With Semester School's 25th anniversary still a vibrant memory, we are pleased to have these exciting milestones in our near future.

As we celebrate the leaders who make Chewonki a force for positive change in the lives of our campers, students, and their families, we also want to thank you for supporting Chewonki. Our 2013 Annual Fund included more donors than ever (1,447), set a new high mark for semester alumni participation (30 percent), and raised more dollars than ever before—more than \$777,000!

Thanks to you and your

Chewonki friends, we are able to support a remarkable staff, improve our aging facilities, fund a robust financial aid program, and invest in program innovation that honors the best of our tradition. We need your help again this year as we prepare for our second century of connecting children with nature for life.

We are looking for camp and semester alumni volunteers to help organize their peers, spread the word about the Annual Fund, and prepare for our centennial. If you are interested, please email or call me; I would love to hear from you.

As the *Chronicle* goes to press, Chewonki staff are hitting the road to connect with future semester students and campers for 2014. In early fall we enrolled our 100th camper for the 100th summer, and we are excited about welcoming the hundreds more on the way. Please spread the word about Chewonki to families you know, and join us for an event in your area. The sooner we fill our summer programs, the more time we can spend on making our programs even better. Our leaders are getting ready.

With warm regards,

Willard Morgan

Fill'er Up-with Green Electricity!

Chewonki has installed one of the first electric car charging stations in midcoast Maine. The unit, installed in July by sustainability officer Tom Twist, facilities manager Carob Arnold, and technician Jamie Kane, sits in a handsome new post-and-beam kiosk that was custom-built for this purpose outside the Center for Environmental Education. The charger has solar panels and is powered by 100 percent green energy.

"We're pretty excited about this first for Chewonki," said Tom. The station is the latest in a host of cutting-edge renewable energy systems unveiled at Chewonki in the last several decades, including a biodiesel production facility, wind turbine, photovoltaic systems, geothermal system, and even a first-of-its-kind-in-the-nation renewable hydrogen system. The dual 70-amp car charger, made by Eaton, provides a standard hookup for both battery electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids such as Prius.

The expected cost for filling up the battery bank of an electric car is about \$1 for a 100-mile trip. The charging station is available to all Chewonki staff and guests free of charge.

Adding to the excitement, Chewonki recently bought its very own plug-in electric vehicle, a 2011 Chevy Volt. "The car is plugged into our new charging station right now! Have fun and get excited!" enthused Carob Arnold in an all-staff email a few weeks ago.

A handful of passionate Chewonki trustees spearheaded the project. "We are appreciative of the gifts that funded the installation of a charging station," said Board chair John Warren. "It is important for Chewonki to lead by example, demonstrate its commitment to supporting alternative sources of energy, and continually offer means for reducing its carbon footprint."

The kiosk includes room for educational signage and two additional chargers, which can be added over time.



Facilities manager Carob Arnold, technician Jamie Kane, and sustainability officer Tom Twist (L-R) show off Chewonki's new electric car charging station.

Thank You to Our Annual Fund Contributors!

A whopping 1,447 people, including 468 first-time donors, contributed more than \$777,000 to Chewonki's 2013 Annual Fund. "It was our most successful annual fund ever," said a very pleased Lucy Hull, director of development. "Thanks to this enthusiastic support, we exceeded our goal *and* received more gifts than in any previous year. We are so grateful to every one of our donors for their loyalty and generosity."

Two "mini-campaigns" within the Annual Fund contributed to its success. The Spring Into Action campaign came into being

when trustee Gordy Hall proposed creating a pool of funds with which Chewonki could match donations for a certain period of time. Specifically, contributions were matched \$2 for \$1 if a donor made a first donation, gave this year after not giving last year, or gave more this year than last year. Gordy put down his money, and 26 other donors joined in the effort. Over three months, 244

people contributed nearly \$92,000 in new and

increased gifts to Chewonki.

Equally successful was Raise the Roof, a special challenge for Semester School (formerly Maine Coast Semester) alumni from the Hal and John Smith Family Foundation of Atlanta. Two of the foundation's board members, Clay Smith and Hayden Smith Temin, attended MCS 20 and 12,

respectively. They arranged for the foundation to grant Chewonki \$25,000 if semester alumni raised their level of annual giving participation to 25 percent by August 25—the end of Semester School's 25th anniversary weekend. When that goal was met in midsummer, the foundation promised to add another \$1,000 for every additional percentage point of participation, up to \$50,000. By its close, Raise the Roof had increased semester alumni giving participation to 30 percent. Of particular note is that Semester 50, our youngest alumni (now high-school seniors), reached 100 percent participation. What's more, the Smith Family Foundation was so impressed by the commitment of Chewonki's alumni that it decided to pledge a full \$50,000! The money received from the foundation will literally raise the roof: it will be used to help construct a new "green" cabin at Chewonki, to be named for the Smith Family. Construction of the new cabin could start as early as 2014, and as is customary at Chewonki, members of the student body, faculty,

and staff will help build it.

"It was amazing to see how people responded to these two challenges," said Lucy Hull. "We are tremendously inspired by the generosity of those who provided the matching funds for them. Constituent support from the wonderfully diverse Chewonki community is what sustains the strength and quality of all our programs. Every gift our donors make, whether small or large, really does make a difference."

Chewonki Gets National Spotlight

We were especially delighted to open the mail on August 1, when the new issue of *Ranger Rick* magazine arrived. Inside was a six-page spread about Chewonki,

featuring a dynamic and fun-to-read story about our one-week summer Solar Sail for teens ages 13 to 16. In a few engaging paragraphs written for young audiences, the story highlighted the human and solar energy used to propel the sailboat, the fishing and swimming that are part of the experience, the visit to Salt Marsh Farm made by the trippers featured in the story, cooking over the open fire, the friendships made, and more.

"We had been waiting in great anticipation for this article to be published," said communications director Betta Stothart, who worked with Ranger Rick editor Susan McElhinney to land the national publicity. "I knew the story would be big when we were contacted by Ranger Rick and National Geographic photographer Joanna Pinneo, asking if she could join us for four days," said Betta. "It's not every day that Chewonki gets this kind of national attention."

Ranger Rick is a children's nature magazine published by the National Wildlife Federation. The magazine has a circulation of 525,000 readers, and its primary intention, much like Chewonki's, is to instill a passion for nature in kids and promote outdoor activity. First published in 1967, Ranger Rick is the nation's oldest and biggest children's nature magazine.

On another front, host Amie E. Marzen of the weekly local Fox News feature *Your Hometown* spent a full day on campus with two cameramen to create a five-minute documentary about Chewonki. Willard Morgan, Outdoor Classroom educator Sarah Mortati, and



semester alumna Matea Mills-Andruk were featured in the segment which includes beautiful footage and photographs from Chewonki Neck, including the farm, waterfront, and campsites.

The first two airings of the show occurred in Maine on July 15 and 18, and from there it was added to the random rotation of the show. The documentary can also be viewed on Chewonki's website, at chewonki.org/about.



Your Hometown host Amie E. Marzen interviewing Matea Mills-Andruk on the Chewonki campus.

Garth Altenburg Completes Four-Year Term as Maine Summer Camps President

Maine Summer Camps said farewell and thank you to Chewonki Camp for Boys director Garth Altenburg, who ended his two-term presidency of MSC at its July annual meeting at Camp Cedar in Casco.

"I've been honored to serve this vibrant organization over the past four years," said Garth. "We've accomplished a lot: a new website, marketing campaign, educational sessions for staff and counselors, sustainability practices, business member networking event, and a concerted membership outreach initiative." Garth said he looked forward to staying involved with MSC and to supporting the new president, his good friend Andy Lilienthal, director of Camp Winnebago in Fayette.

MSC (also known as the Maine Youth Camping Foundation) has been in existence since the 1920s and is a membership organization of more than 100 Maine summer camps and adventure programs. The organization's goal is to promote Maine camps and the value of youth camping, and to engage in activities that maintain and improve the quality of the camp experience.

Mary Ellen Deschenes, program consultant for MSC, praised Garth for his excellent leadership. "Garth brought great patience and vision to his role as president, and he laid some very important groundwork for our organization's future. His collaborative style was a highlight of his presidency," she said.

Garth was the third MSC president to hail



Garth Altenburg (left) in July, with incoming MSC president Andy Lilienthal.

from Chewonki, having been preceded by Dick Thomas (1997–1999) and Tim Ellis (1989–1991).

Did you know the *Chronicle* is available online too? Visit chewonki.org and look for the link on the left, under "Popular Pages." It's a snap to share Chewonki stories with family and friends who may not get the magazine.

News from the Neck



Our new faculty (L–R): James Kary, Lilly Betke-Brunswick, Michal Rosenoer, Flora Weeks, and Chris Percy.

Semester School Welcomes Five New Faculty Members

Semester 51 opened on August 29 with 42 students and 5 new faculty members. The new faculty include three classroom teachers and two one-year teaching fellows.

"The Chewonki faculty is the school's greatest asset, as each individual plays so many roles in creating the magic of the program," said head of school Ann Carson. "We're thrilled about our new additions. Not only do they have the 'right stuff' in their work experience and education, but they seamlessly stepped in and helped facilitate a smooth opening for the semester thanks to their understanding of teenagers and experiential education. Their diverse talents and interests will no doubt create exciting shifts and new possibilities for the program. I look forward to seeing what this year brings!"

Lilly Betke-Brunswick was already a familiar face, having attended Maine Coast Semester 35. After studying math and geology at Carleton College, Lilly worked at Coastal Studies for Girls in Freeport, Maine, and taught math at Phillips Exeter Academy. She has spent seven summers at Chewonki, farming and leading wilderness trips.

James Kary—married to Esther Kary, Chewonki's French teacher—is co-teaching Natural History of the Maine Coast with Peter Sniffen. Relatively new to Maine, James is thrilled to be exploring new habitats such as the rocky intertidal and fulfilling a longtime dream of building a wooden boat. James studied biology at Wheaton College and earned a master's in secondary science education at Kutztown University in Pennsylvania. He has spent the past decade teaching science in Colorado.

Spanish teacher **Chris Percy** earned a degree in Hispanic studies with a concentration in education at Connecticut College and then spent four years teaching Spanish near his hometown in Toms River, New Jersey. He also traveled extensively in Latin America, including spending two months at an orphanage in the Dominican Republic. A passion for humanitarian work led Chris to serve four years with The Village Mountain Mission Project in the Dominican Republic, where he lived with the economically poor and helped build more than 30 houses with youth from the U.S.

This year's teaching fellows are another "stellar" pair, said Ann. Michal Rosenoer, the sustainability fellow, grew up in California and received an undergraduate degree in environmental policy with a focus on agriculture and a minor in global poverty from the University of California, Berkeley. She served as a resident wilderness educator at another semester program, the Outdoor Academy in North Carolina, last year, and has worked in Washington, D.C., on energy policy. Math fellow Flora Weeks grew up in the Pacific Northwest and earned an environmental geology degree from Middlebury College. Last year she was a teaching intern at the Woolman Semester, a program for high-school students in the Sierra foothills.

In addition to our new teachers and fellows, **Mattias Lanas**, our 2012–2013 art fellow, is stepping in for Sue West, who is on sabbatical this year. Mattias graduated from Stanford University with a BS in Earth Systems. His fabulous artwork was featured in the last *Chronicle*, including the intricately illustrated "25" logo for the semester celebration that appeared on the cover.

Second Camper Earns Master Naturalist Certification

Congratulations to Sam Sullivan (Boys Camp '09–'13), of Garland, Texas, who earned Chewonki's Master Naturalist Certification this summer—and is only the second camper to do so. The presentation was made at the Session II awards ceremony. Shown here with Sam are Fred Cichocki, who directs the nature program at Boys Camp, and Griffin Gingrich (Boys Camp '07–'10, '12–'13), of South Portland, Maine, who earned Master Naturalist Certification in 2010.

"Doc Fred" started the program in 2009. Certification requires participating in regular nature activities, keeping a nature journal, and developing a well-rounded knowledge of Maine's birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and fishes, insects, plants, fungi, marine and freshwater life, and even geology and ecology.

"The requirements are challenging but certainly well within a boy's grasp," said Fred. He added, "I'm very proud of both Sam and Griffin. They are maturing into fine naturalists." Three other campers are about three-quarters done with their requirements, and Fred expects at least one of them to earn certification next summer.

"Becoming a Chewonki Master Naturalist is a major life achievement and something of which a camper can be justly proud," said Fred. The handsome award plaque was made by Fred and hangs in the Nature Museum.



Doc Fred with Chewonki's first two Master Naturalists, Griffin Gingrich (center) and Sam Sullivan.



Performers on the CD (L-R) include Garth Altenburg, Paul Arthur, Sam Pelgrift, Sue West, Scott Andrews, Dick Thomas, Aaron Ritzenberg, Amy Rogers, Tim Ellis, and Matt Weeks.

Sing Along with Us! A CD in the Works for Chewonki

CHEWONKI

When a group of Chewonki friends, board members, and staff started dreaming up special activities for the upcoming centennial, one loyal and enthusiastic board member suggested a music CD. "The songs we sang at Chewonki when I was a camper still resonate so vividly," said Scott Beebe, now a camp dad and board member. Scott single-handedly spearheaded the effort to get a Chewonki CD off the ground, and last summer a group of singers and musicians spanning multiple generations came to the Neck for two days of recording with a professional sound mixer.

Among the musicians was Tim Ellis, who beamed with joy during the two days of recording. "This is just so magical to be singing the Chewonki favorites with a group of people who know and love these songs so well," he said.

Lucy Hull, whose office is located upstairs in the Allen Center, said she was brought to tears several times over the course of the rehearsals and recording.

"The power of those songs, the memories they evoke—it was just moving beyond words," she said.

Now that the songs have been recorded, former camp counselors and music professionals Sam Pelgrift and Aaron Ritzenberg are working on mixing the best takes of each song, and a final CD—which will include a recording of the bell, 14 songs, and the Chewonki Cheer—will be burned later this winter. We plan to release the CD in the spring and will make it available for purchase on our website.

"Our hope is that our large family of alumni will want to hear these songs and relive the memories of their enchanting time at Chewonki," said Scott. The list of songs that will definitely appear on the CD includes "I Knew This Place," "River," "Yellow Convertible," "Willy's Song,"

"Caledonia," "Hold Back the Days," "Waltzing with Bears," "If I Had a Boat," "Simple Gifts," "Peace," "Come by the Hills," "Isle Au Haut," "In My Time," and "Sand Dollar."

Dreaming *BIG* for the Next 100 Years

The Chewonki Centennial Committee celebrated two years of existence last month at the beautiful home of advisor Scott Beebe and his wife, Laura, in Milton, Massachusetts. "We've been planning and dreaming about our 100-year birthday for two years, with another two to go before our big celebration," said committee chair Roseanne Saalfield. "It sounds like a long time to plan, but we can use every bit of it to chart a course for the kind of momentous occasion that Chewonki envisions."

In the works for the centennial are a collection of essays and images for a 100-year history book, a CD of memorable songs (see above), commemorative canoes and kayaks (handmade by Lincoln Canoe and Kayak), and of course our BIG event, the celebration weekend, which will take place August 14–16, 2015 on Chewonki Neck. Mark your calendars now. This is an occasion no one will want to miss!

We'll continue to report our centennial progress in the pages of this magazine. If anyone would like to join our efforts as we dream big for Chewonki's next 100 years, please contact alumni@chewonki.org.



Centennial Committee members (clockwise from left) Molly Eberle, Peg Willauer-Tobey, Scott Beebe, Betta Stothart, Terry Marsh, Lucy Hull, and Roseanne Saalfield gathered in Milton for a daylong planning session.

Help Us Stay in Touch!

There's a lot of fun in store for Chewonki alumni and friends that we don't want them to miss! Especially as we plan for our centennial celebration in 2015, we need to know how to reach our alumni and friends so we can notify them of regional celebrations.

If you are getting the *Chronicle*, we obviously know that alumni parents or friends of Chewonki live at this address. However, if you know of anyone who now lives elsewhere, please let us know! If you haven't already done so, please update mailing and email information at alumni@chewonki.org. *Thank you!*

News from the Neck

Elmore Fund Helps Two Alumni Travel to Norway and Asia

Thanks in part to Chewonki's Elmore Fund, two alumni were able to participate in special experiences this year. Former counselor and trip leader Jesse Dukes traveled to Norway in May to attend the world-renowned International Features Conference for radio documentary makers. He was one of two Americans present and the only American to present a documentary feature. A few months later, former wilderness tripper Alexander "Zander" Martin spent two months paddling across central Asia—the third and final leg is his grand quest to paddle (and occasionally pedal) around the globe.

Established in 2009 by honorary trustee Bob Elmore and his family, the Elmore Fund awards small grants of up to \$1,000 to individuals who embrace the Chewonki spirit and ideals—and who are willing to give the funds back to society if they are ever able. Any member of the Chewonki community can submit a proposal for assistance with an endeavor that will further his or her learning and personal growth. In some cases alumni are invited to apply based on their interests and pursuits. Because the fund's resources are limited, evaluation of proposals is competitive.

"Both Zander and Jesse submitted very compelling applications for unique opportunities," said Chewonki president Willard Morgan. "We were thrilled that we could award funds to them."

Based in Charlottesville, Virginia, Jesse is an independent journalist. (Chewonki friends may know the history booklet he wrote, *Chewonki: Celebrating 9o Years.*) His passion is producing long-form radio documentaries, which are common in Europe but receive little support in the U.S. When his documentary "The Soul of Guatemala," about the impact of evangelical Christianity in Guatemala, was accepted for presentation at this year's 39th International Features Conference in Bergen, Norway, Jesse knew he had to find a way to attend. "As a freelancer, I have no funds set aside for professional development. And Norway is a very expensive place to visit. I am very grateful for the opportunity provided by Chewonki," he said.

Zander Martin is a self-described "teacher, writer, and explorer." His latest project was the Asia Rivers Expedition: an attempt to cross Mongolia, Siberia, and the Russian Far East by canoe, and to tell the story to as wide an audience as possible. His journey began in late June on Mongolia's Chuluut River and ended two months later in the Sea of Okhotskr. Before he left, Zander said the goal of the trip was "to move across the land in the best style possible, gathering stories as we go to share with those unable to visit this last, best place, and perhaps inspire them to further river conservation there and at home." The expedition was funded in part by an IndieGoGo fundraising campaign. "Key in helping us pass the mark was a contribution from the Elmore Fund," said Zander.

A Chewonki Elmore Fund grant is a special opportunity, and we look forward to supporting more recipients with unique opportunities and innovative ideas. "We're very grateful to Bob and his family for creating this opportunity," said Willard. "Together with the Elmores, I hope that each award we make will inspire gifts that 'pay it forward,' either to Chewonki, our extended community, or others in need, wherever they are."

Welcome to Erin Miller

Chewonki was both pleased and more than a little relieved to welcome Erin Miller to campus this fall as our new information technology help desk associate. Erin was born in Round Pond, Maine, and spent her first three years on Monhegan Island, where her father was the teacher in the one-room schoolhouse. Most recently, Erin was the office



manger for Free Flow Power Corporation in Boston, where she was responsible for purchasing, installing, and maintaining equipment and software as well as providing IT support for all employees. Erin shares Chewonki's passion for the outdoors: she spent a semester in Mexico with the National Outdoor Leadership School. She is also a painter, with a degree in studio art from Skidmore College. After spending more than a decade outside her home state, Erin is delighted to return to Maine with her husband and two small children.

Fond Farewells & Thank You to ...

REBECCA GRAHAM

IT manager Rebecca Graham announced last spring that after nine years at Chewonki she would be leaving to pursue a dream. "I have been offered a place in the Human Rights Law program at the Transitional Justice Institute at University of Ulster, " she wrote in a letter to staff. In her one-year program, Rebecca will earn an LLM (master of laws), an internationally recognized degree that is typically pursued to gain expertise in a specialized field of law.

During her tenure at Chewonki, Rebecca transformed the institution's relationship with technology from one of oft' mild contempt to one of acceptance. She was also an outspoken voice for equality and for furthering Chewonki to think more broadly about its role in serving increased diversity. She hosted guests from the war-torn nation of Chechnya—including a delegation from the Parliament itself—to Chewonki for cross-cultural discussions. "We will miss Rebecca's brilliant mind and multidimensional abilities," said communications director Betta Stothart. Rebecca moved to Belfast in September and said the welcome mat is always out for Chewonki visitors.

SUSAN AND MARK ADAMS

This summer marked the end of an era at Big Eddy Campground. Susan and Mark Adams bid us farewell to take on a new adventure with Elliotsville Plantation, a conservation area situated south of Greenville, Maine. Susan and Mark managed Big Eddy for a decade. Prior to that they lived and worked at Big Eddy as river guides and photographers for many years. The Big Eddy Campground has been their home for the past 25 years.

We are deeply grateful for Susan and Mark's many years of thoughtful management. In their tenure the campground has been transformed into a facility where thousands have visited and stayed. "They are leaving Big Eddy immeasurably better than when they started," said director of operations Don Lamson. "Everywhere you look you can see their impact. Trees have been planted, riverbanks re-vegetated, sticky buns, muffins, and coffee are always on hand, and the campground is a clean, welcoming, well-run destination."

Don Lamson took over as interim campground manager in 2013 and will continue full-time in 2014.

LISA FERREL

After five years and countless meals, our beloved cook Lisa Ferrel announced her retirement from the Chewonki kitchen in August. Lisa came to Chewonki in 2008 with an enormous love of food and community, and she shared her talents with students and staff with great enthusiasm.

At a lunchtime announcement in early September, science teacher Peter Sniffen paid tribute to Lisa with a moving story. "Lisa had this unique gift that she shared with almost every semester since her arrival here at Chewonki," recounted Peter. "At some point during each semester, Lisa would stop by our morning meeting and encourage students to think of work as an expression of love." Peter went on to explain that while many faculty and staff members consider our work to be a labor of love, Lisa was the only one he knew who expressed it so directly. "She is a truly genuine person," said Peter. We all agree. We miss Lisa and wish her all the best.

Former semester fellow and MCS 27 alumna Laura Hartz has joined our full-time kitchen staff.



An A+ Team A large and devoted team supported Chewonki's 99th summer. Here's the whole gang—representing Boys Camp, Girls Camp, Wilderness Trips for Teens, and support staff—on Chewonki Neck in mid-August. While many of them are well-known faces, others work behind the scenes to ensure that all of our summer programs and trips run smoothly. Many thanks to each and every one!

Ten Summers—and Counting!—at Boys Camp Six members of our 2013 Boys Camp staff had spent 10 or more summers at Chewonki, including their years as campers (L-R): Evan Feinberg, program director Andy Richardson, Papa Owl Will Korzennik, director Garth Altenburg, Papa Puffin Bryce Leary, and head counselor Matt Weeks.

The Heart of Girls Camp The tight-knit staff at Fourth Debsoneag Lake this summer numbered an impressive 17! Back Row (L-R): Brooke Lukensmeyer, Naomi Heindel, Eloise Schultz, Abby Burbank, Kat Amano, Caitlin Camilliere, Mar Fibish, Jennifer Adams, Haley Greenberg, Kerri Les, and Sarah Burgess. Front Row (L-R): Holly Whitney, Scout Costello, Isi Llarena, Abby Lukensmeyer, Ayla Shaw, Kelly Lecko, Emma Christensen.







ilderness trips have always been a centerpiece of the Chewonki experience. One might argue that the ultimate Chewonki teachings take place on trail, where the power of nature, community, and personal growth coalesce in a wild setting to create the ultimate stage for learning. What one might *not* stop to consider is the many skills that are needed to pull off a great trip: route planning, food packing, judgment, group dynamics, and risk management are just a few of them. Wilderness leaders assume a highly complex role of parent, educator, nurse, cook, mentor, and much more.

"There is a magical formula we look for because we know that every great trip begins with a great leader," says Summer Wilderness Programs director Ryan Linehan. He and Girls Camp director Abby Burbank oversee a leadership staff that typically numbers about 40. Many of these leaders return year after year, beloved by Chewonki participants and staff alike.

We take tremendous pride in our wilderness leaders. They're well educated, articulate, passionate about their work, and outstanding role models. They have remarkable technical skills but are equally skilled at running a safe and fun trip.

"Our leaders *love* leading and working with kids in small groups," says Ryan. "They come to Chewonki because they're attracted to our mission. We get incredibly qualified people who are completely dedicated to the responsibilities that trip leading involves. They're not just looking for a summer job. They're looking for a career path."

All Chewonki wilderness leaders hold certifications as Wilderness First Responders (which includes CPR and First Aid) and Maine State Trip Leaders, and are also trained in Leave No Trace. Many have training that goes well beyond this. Several are Lifeguards or Registered Maine Guides, for example, and some are EMTs. Others are certified in Swiftwater Rescue or as American Canoe Association instructors. All leaders participate in two weeks of Chewonki-specific training at the start of each summer.

"Beyond the certifications and training," says Abby, "the trip leaders also bring valuable personal experience to our trips. These outside experiences elevate the level of knowledge for all of the staff and help keep our programs evolving and exciting for participants."

We hope you'll enjoy reading about some of the remarkable people who make up our wilderness leadership team. This list is far from comprehensive, but these ten profiles represent a cross section of the talent and passion that make a Chewonki summer possible.

Chewonki is seeking experienced wilderness leaders for 2014. Visit chewonki org and click on "Jobs" for more information.

Jane Brooks Koopman

HOMETOWN: San Francisco, California

COLLEGE: Bowdoin College, BA in Environmental Studies and Geology

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Outreach coordinator, Teens to Trails, Ski Patrol, Sugarloaf,

Chewonki trip leader, gear reviewer at Blister Gear Reviews

CHEWONKITRIPS LED: Multiple whitewater kayaking trips, Boys Camp cabin trips, Girls Camp wilderness trips, canoe trips, Semester School wilderness trips, kayaking workshops at Big Eddy, sea kayaking trip

CERTIFICATIONS: Wilderness First Responder, Maine State Trip Leader, Outdoor Emergency Care Technician, American Canoe Association level 4 kayaking instructor, Lifeguard, Swiftwater Rescue, Leave No Trace

Why do you lead? I enjoy sharing something with others that I love to do so much. The river is a special place for me, not only because it is where I paddle and have so many great memories with my favorite people, but because it is such a beautiful and dynamic place that is important for so many different reasons to all kinds of people and other creatures alike. One of the huge rewards in teaching paddling is to watch the expressions on kids' faces as they come down a rapid. A look of terror can turn into sheer exhilaration as they complete the rapid or as they hit a huge wave and make it through successfully. Kayaking demands a willingness to challenge oneself while also knowing your limits, and I love sharing this kind of drive with the participants.

It is also important to me to see more girls on the water. Whitewater can be a super mental sport, and students can gain a lot in skill as they gain confidence. In some cases, it can take girls a little longer to gain this confidence, as they sometimes learn differently than boys and don't necessarily throw themselves into adrenaline sports in the same way. They often face a higher amount of fear, whereas boys tend to be a little more reckless. This is where we can lose some girls from the sport. It makes me sad that I was the only female whitewater kayaking trip leader at Chewonki this summer, and so it is important to me to foster the younger, especially female, paddlers, not only to bring more women into the sport, but so there is a future in girls whitewater paddling at Chewonki!

Describe a transformative trip-leading experience: One summer I had a girl from Russia who didn't fully understand what she was



getting herself into when she came to Chewonki. She did not fully understand the English language and was really scared. She was totally out of her element and came on the trip with a portable mirror and a cosmetic kit. This was an awesome though challenging exercise in teaching. Because of the language barrier, my co-leader and I had to show rather than tell her how to make progress on the river. We watched her go from not being able to wet exit—fully terrified of flipping a boat-to being able to paddle through rapids. In the end, this girl had a fantastic time on the river, and she definitely came out of her shell.



Jason Millis Chandler

HOMETOWN: Phippsburg, Maine

COLLEGE: Vassar College, BA in Philosophy **CURRENT OCCUPATION:** Naturalist/anthropologist

CHEWONKITRIPS LED: Osprey backpacking trips, West Branch Explorers, Guides

2010, George River, Boatbuilders, Thoreau Wilderness Trip

CERTIFICATIONS: Wilderness First Responder, Maine State Trip Leader, Maine

Master Naturalist

Why do you lead? It is the best way I know to share natural history and develop leadership in young people.

Describe a transformative trip-leading experience: One participant this summer came into the Thoreau Wilderness Trip homesick and nervous about the woods, his wilderness skills, and being away from people for so long. He developed great confidence and closeness with his peers and leaders over 7

weeks, becoming a strong leadership voice and a fully embraced member of the group. By week 4, he was, on his own, consistently analyzing our routes, campsites, rapids, and group decisions. We also saw significant improvements in his navigation, canoeing, whitewater, fire building, and woodworking skills. Where this experience will lead him, I do not know, but I am sure it has been a huge development in his confidence and leadership skills. And he has plans to lead his family into the woods as well.



Why do you lead? I lead wilderness trips because I get to see people grow in leaps and bounds, in subtle and abrupt ways. When you see someone's confidence swell as they master a new skill, or when they compassionately offer to help someone else with a task, it brings tremendous satisfaction to all trip leaders because you know you helped facilitate

Kelly Jo Lecko

HOMETOWN: La Mesa, California

COLLEGE: University of Redlands, BS in Environmental Science

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Farm apprentice at Chewonki

CHEWONKITRIPS LED: Numerous Girls Camp canoe and backpacking trips, day hike to Gulf Hagas, Tumbledown Dick trail camping trip, Lobster Lake canoe trip CERTIFICATIONS: Wilderness First Responder, Maine State Trip Leader, Lifeguard

positive growth for that individual. I also love to lead because I am able to foster connections to the natural world. I believe that building love for nature, like building community and self-esteem, has rippling positive effects on the world.

Describe a transformative trip-leading experience: One time I had a group of inner-city middleschoolers for a 4-day program. On day 1, it was difficult to capture their attention because they were preoccupied with finding a seat that wouldn't get them dirty, and swatting away invisible bugs. The hiking was like pulling teeth, because they were very disinterested. On day 2, I decided to give the group a map and the route and let them figure it out, while I hiked in the rear. While in the back of the line, I found some bedstraw (a Velcro-like plant that sticks very easily to clothing). I told the girls who were in the back with me, "Watch this!" I threw the bedstraw at the boy in front of us. Well,

of course the girls started giggling and looking for more bedstraw. In the meantime, the boy turned around to see what was so funny. I told him the same thing while I threw more bedstraw at the person in front of him. Eventually the whole group was engaged in finding bedstraw, learning how to avoid poison ivy, and having a blast sticking bedstraw to each other. After this icebreaker, the group was interested in learning what other cool things they could learn about plants. I was able to cover the ecology lesson I had not gotten to the previous day, have some highly intelligent environmental problem-solving discussions, and teach plant identification all in one afternoon. This group of kids, who started out with no connection to or care for nature, left that Friday with a bank of knowledge to pull from and a reason to love the world we live in. Many of them told me they wanted to start composting, and that made my heart just sing!

Matthew Stark Went

HOMETOWN: Meriden, Connecticut

COLLEGE: University of Connecticut, BA in General Studies

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Experiential educator

CHEWONKITRIPS LED: Umbagog Whitewater, Maine AT Backpack CERTIFICATIONS: Wilderness First Responder, Maine State Trip Leader,

Leave No Trace Master Educator, NOLS Patagonia Year

Why do you lead? I think the true paths to transformative experiences are ones that are learned and felt through the outdoors. Nature has a way of stripping away all distractions. It allows an individual to grow and develop in an intense and significant way. With this in mind, the outdoors is the perfect classroom for an experiential educator because life becomes a teachable subject.

Describe a transformative trip-leading experience: The last Umbagog trip I did involved 10 boys who all were former campers. At the beginning of the trip, everyone's tolerance for adversity and uncertainty was incredibly low and the boys did not know how to communicate in the group setting in a healthy way. By the end of the trip, each had grown in strength and tolerance. Each participant became more mature and able to work out his own group problems with little to no assistance from the instructor team. To see this amount of personal growth in 3 short weeks was both astounding and gratifying. It is good to know that learning and development can happen just by living and working outside.



Emma Mabel Carlson

HOMETOWN: Farmington, Maine **COLLEGE:** Colby College, BA in Environmental Education

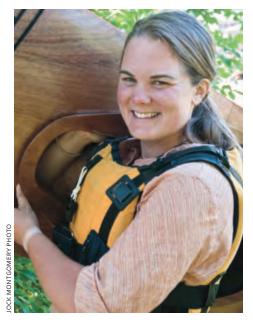
CURRENT OCCUPATION: Assistant director, Adirondack Semester, St.

Lawrence University

CHEWONKITRIPS LED: Maine Coast Kayak, Boatbuilders, Wilderness Leadership Expedition

CERTIFICATIONS: Wilderness First Responder, Maine State Trip Leader, Leave No Trace Master Educator, NOLS instructor course

Why do you lead? I lead wilderness trips because the out-of-doors serves as the best classroom for me to teach what I am most passionate about. I help students acquire the skills and confidence necessary to adventure in the out-of-doors. Having students understand that almost everything learned on a course is transferable to life after the expedition is something I strive for. I feel fortunate to have a job where I am inspired to be a better person while learning and growing alongside my



students. Plus, adventuring outside with adolescents is fun!

Describe a transformative trip-leading experience: This past spring a friend and I thru-paddled the 740-mile Northern Forest Canoe Trail. The experience is still fresh, and I'm continuing to understand the impact it has

had on me. For 40 days I was consistently reminded of why I've pursued a professional path in outdoor education. I feel truly alive when I am outside and am aware that the environment has so much to teach me. From hitting lakes before ice-out to encountering swollen rivers with unexpected whitewater to gliding across glassy ponds in the early morning, we couldn't ignore our surroundings; we were one with the place. The concept of time faded as my paddling partner and I found our rhythm. We were on our own schedule, meeting life as it unfolded. With distractions minimized, we were able to go far beyond the surface chatter in our conversations and also embrace the power of silence. I felt a restored faith in humanity as we interacted with locals in some of the 45 towns we passed through. Because we were truly living in the present, we were available to share in some intimate moments of strangers' lives—the most memorable being a long conversation with two brothers who had just spread their father's ashes. For those 40 days I lived the way I want to live. So now I challenge myself to transfer this way of being to life after the journey, to the part of my life where I'm not on a wilderness trip.

James Michael Overton

HOMETOWN: Minneapolis, Minnesota—Land of 10,000 Lakes!

COLLEGE: University of Minnesota, BS in Recreation, Park, and Leisure Studies; John F. Kennedy Special Western Center.

John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Chewonki Outdoor Classroom enrichment and support coordinator, Wilderness Trips program assistant

CHEWONKI TRIPS LED: Boys Camp saltwater canoe trip, wilderness trip staff training on the St. Croix, Guides trip on Webster Brook to the East Branch of the Penobscot and then summiting Katahdin, Semester School winter trip to Holbrook Pond, Moose River, Flagstaff Lake, West and East branches of the Penobscot

CERTIFICATIONS: Wilderness First Responder, Maine State Trip Leader, CPR, Lifeguard

Why do you lead? I lead because I love it. I enjoy teaching others to thrive in challenging situations. I think we are all capable of pushing ourselves harder than we know. Often what at first appears to be a physical challenge is really more mental than anything. I love leading wilderness trips because it allows me to use many of the skills and trainings I learned while in the military in a new context. I often find many parallels between my military leadership and outdoor education; many of the lessons I learned about resiliency and tolerance to adversity can just as easily be taught in a

wilderness setting. Leading wilderness trips is teaching life skills—things that go beyond the classroom and I hope will follow participants on future adventures.

Describe a transformative trip-leading experience: This year's Guides trip was a truly transformative experience for everyone involved, participants and leaders. The water levels were very high in Webster Brook and on the East Branch, which created a need for many portages and constant vigilance on the river. We had really long days that were often both physically and mentally



exhausting, but the energy and transformation I saw from the participants was really moving. I could see them developing into future Chewonki leaders and taking lessons from our trip and applying them to other situations. They all felt it was probably the hardest trip they had ever done, but the most rewarding because of it.



DANIEL CASADO PHOTO

Noah Nestor Kleiner

HOMETOWN: Union, Maine **COLLEGE:** College of the Atlantic,

BS in Human Ecology

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Outdoor

educator

CHEWONKITRIPS LED: Maine Coast Kayak, North Woods Canoe CERTIFICATIONS: Wilderness First Responder, Maine State Trip Leader

Why do you lead? I lead to see the growth and change in others. Having the opportunity to spend a long time with youth in the wilderness is dynamic. The outdoors has been a part of my life since I was young, and it is a part of me. Being able to share my passion and experience with others and to watch them grow is tremendous. Having kids who have never been in the outdoors before and showing them how to survive on their own is enriching.

Describe a transformative trip-leading experience: When

I was 16, I was given a scholarship to go on an Outward Bound trip. From that point on I knew I wanted to be a leader. Whether it was leading in the school setting or out in the field, it was what I wanted to do. The point at which our group was knee-deep in a bog and the trip leader turned to me and asked if I was going to help lead was the turning point when I knew my opinion was valued. We are all looking to share what we know, but the wilderness gives us the opportunity to show it.



Naomi Chaves Heindel

HOMETOWN: North Ferrisburgh, Vermont

COLLEGE: Dartmouth College, BA in Environmental Earth Science; Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Masters of Environmental Science CURRENT OCCUPATION: Assistant director, Chewonki Camp for Girls CHEWONKITRIPS LED: Staff training trip on the St. Croix. I also enjoyed spending time on the trail with several of our trips this past summer. I got to spend the night out several times, teach lessons, and bake treats for the trips.

CERTIFICATIONS: Wilderness First Responder, Maine State Trip Leader

Why do you lead? I had amazing trip leaders as a camper at Darrow Camp, and I've loved passing that love of the outdoors and of outdoor travel on to others. As a trip leader, participant victories (first canoe portaged, first set of rapids in the stern, first loaf of bread baked in a reflector oven) become my victories. On the long Canadian trips I've led, I love how they allow participants to grow into themselves, to have that "we can do anything!" feeling that only comes from long, hard canoe trips, and to find the elegance and simplicity hidden behind all the portaging and paddling and camping details. Now, I continue to lead trip leaders so that they can experience this feeling, so that their participants come to love the natural world, come to feel comfortable working hard, and come to feel that incredible boost of self-confidence. Plus, it's an

amazing luxury to continue to spend my summers on northern lakes and rivers and trails.

Describe a transformative trip-leading experience: I had

the honor of having the same participants on trip after trip, year after year, and watching them grow. Some of them started so young, without the power to paddle very far, without the attention span to stern, without the gusto to portage. Two participants, in particular, come to mind. Both are now competent, confident trip leaders with several years trip leading under their belts. I can think of defining moments for each one of our northern trips that were transformative for me, too, as I watched these youngsters do far more than either thought they were capable of. It's people like them who make me trust in what good trip leading can enable.

Nathan Thomas Smith

HOMETOWN: Hiram, Maine

COLLEGE: University of Southern Maine, BA in Classical Languages and Philosophy **CURRENT OCCUPATION:** Part-time environmental educator and wilderness trip leader—looking for a full-time

position!

CHEWONKITRIPS LED: Boys Camp cabin trips: Saddleback, Appalachian Trail backpacking, Mahoosuc Notch backpacking, Penobscot Upper West Branch canoe, Hungry Island saltwater canoe

CERTIFICATIONS: Registered Maine Guide, Wilderness First Responder, Maine State Trip Leader, Leave No Trace Master Educator

Why do you lead? I enjoy trips for myriad reasons, but two stand out prominently. One is that I find the woods to be beautiful and useful in themselves, and I enjoy exploring and broadening my understanding of them and showing others how they can as well; I think there is something very important in being comfortable in the woods and not feeling like an astronaut on our own planet, and the first step is getting out there! I also appreciate the microcosm created when a group goes into the woods together and

things become condensed and simplified. Relationships form quickly, consequences transparently follow actions, group needs trump personal wants in ways that make sense and are easy to understand, and one experiences the rewards and challenges of life with others in a very positive way.

Describe a transformative trip-leading experience: In the summer of 2010 I led small-scale hiking and paddling trips in the White Mountains of New Hampshire for a coed camp in western Maine. The trips were short, usually 3 or 4 days, but it was often the participants' first time in the woods, and witnessing their initial exposure to the outdoors made a lasting impact on me. In mid-August of that year I was at Evan's Notch with a group of young boys (most were 7 and 8 years old). During the Perseid meteor shower it was a perfect night-warm and clear, and the moon was not too bright—so I decided to hike the group a short way down the trail to cook dessert by a pond after the sun had set. We sat on the shoreline as the stars came out, counting meteors with the mountains and stars perfectly mirrored in the still pond; each meteor brought the long exclamations of "Whooaah!" that young boys can't help making when something really cool is going on. It was very impressive, but what made a greater impact on me was discovering that two boys had never seen



stars before. They had never left New York City, and were astounded at what the sky looked like; they could not believe that there were so many stars, and that the sky glows a bit at night, and you can "kind of" see without a flashlight. Their excitement and joy at discovering the night sky for the first time was so intense that it made a lasting impression on me, and it still serves as a reminder of how rewarding trip leading can be.

Annika Kate Alexander-Ozinskas

HOMETOWN: Dayton, Maryland

COLLEGE: Stanford University, BS in Earth Systems, working on MS in Earth Systems **CURRENT OCCUPATION:** I want to work on a farm or alternative school with a strong sense of community and environmental ethics, so I am pausing my career as a graduate student to go exploring and learn what's out there.

CHEWONKITRIPS LED: West Branch Explorers, Maine AT Backpack, Sustainable Ocean Studies, Friends of Baxter hiking trip

CERTIFICATIONS: Lifeguard, Wilderness First Responder, Maine State Trip Leader

Why do you lead? I love being in nature, and I want to introduce others to that experience. I also love connecting with others, learning about the natural world, and overcoming challenges in the space that wilderness provides, away from distractions and conveniences.

Describe a transformative trip-leading experience: Every trip has been transformative. Our Session I Maine AT trip last summer is what first comes to mind, though. I was with a new co-leader, Andy Woods, who is now a

dear friend, and we had a phenomenal group of trippers. A couple of them had never been away from cities, and witnessing their reactions to the new environment gave me renewed awe for what was around us. We had to overcome some serious challenges on that trip, like high rivers and mountain storms, and at other times we were incredibly goofy, establishing traditions, inventing ceremonies, playing games, and singing songs. That group gelled so much that we really did consider ourselves a family.



Made by Hand, by Chewonki Campers

► The seven-week Ospreys (ages 13–15) made some beautiful canoe paddles at Boys Camp this summer. That's Oliver Diamond in the foreground, showing off his varnishing skills. Working with Boatshop manager Scott Peterson and activity head Forest Tabor, each boy marked a white ash "blank" with reference lines and then began the long, focused process of shaping it with a block plane and spoke shave. The next steps were sanding and varnishing—and then, of course, paddling! The design is one that Scott drew up: a Maine Guide-style handle with a Penobscot Indian-style blade. Younger campers at both Boys Camp and Girls Camp also made paddles—about 100 of them in total. "The poplar paddles I mill out for beginners are an Algonquin Indian design and more forgiving to carve," says Scott. "The ash paddles the Ospreys made are more advanced and require more attention to detail."





CHRIS RILEY PHOTO

The canoe-building program that Girls Camp director Abby Burbank launched last summer is thriving. The boat being portaged here—by Nicole O'ware, with Lilly O'Donnell (left) and assistant director Naomi Heindel (right)—is among five that campers have now built. Renowned canoe builder Schuyler Thomson returned to camp for three weeks, to share his expertise with Chewonki's young boatbuilders. Girls took three wilderness trips with Chewonki-built canoes this summer—and paddled them with wooden paddles they carved themselves! "The wood-andcanvas canoes are acting as a great catalyst for us to migrate to a more traditional camping model," Abby said recently. "This summer we traveled with wanigans, leather tumps, and felt tump pads instead of plastic pickle barrels, and we often traveled without stoves, relying instead on cooking completely by fire. All groups baked their own bread on the trail using reflector ovens."

Chewonki Celebrates 40-Plus Years of the Thoreau Wilderness Trip

espite trends in the outdoor industry for shorter wilderness experiences, Chewonki is holding fast to tradition. "Longer stays in the wilderness offer something that simply can't be replicated on shorter trips," says director of Outdoor Programs Greg Shute. The evidence was clear this summer when the small group of trippers and leaders returned from Chewonki's longest and longest-running wilderness trip, the Thoreau Wilderness Trip, or TWT as it's affectionately known.

"When the group came back, you could just feel the power of their experience," said Greg. "There was a noticeable sense of calm, an increased focus and attention, a sense of connection and ease that can only be manifested by spending extended time away from the built environment."

The seven-week canoe expedition travels through the largest undeveloped forest east of the Mississippi and retraces many of the steps that Henry David Thoreau took in the summer of 1846. It was led this year by veteran Chewonki trip leaders Jason Chandler and Christina Roach. Jason's father, Chip Chandler, led the same trip back in 1972!

Putting in on June 26 at Baker Lake, the group paddled more than 100 miles down the St. John River, poled up the Allagash, and then traveled the lakes of northwest Maine to the headwaters of the East Branch of the Penobscot. They concluded the trip on August 10 by climbing Maine's highest peak, 5,267-foot-tall Katahdin.

"This trip was special in so many ways," said Jason on their return. "We saw no one else on the upper St. John, even though water levels were perfect. We were alone with the Moose and the eagles until we got close to Allagash Village. It was a great environment for group bonding, and it allowed a profound awareness of nature to wash over us." Among the trip's many wildlife highlights were paddling right up to a Bald Eagle that was tearing apart a duck on the shore of upper Chesuncook Lake and, later that same day, observing an otter family at close range.

The trip also included lots of singing and music, spoon and paddle carving, reading aloud, and conversation. One of the books the group read was Helen Hamlin's 1945 classic, *Nine Mile Bridge: Three Years in the Maine Woods.* Capturing the beauty of the region and a now-vanished way of life, Hamlin tells the story of her life as a young schoolteacher in a small lumber camp at the headwaters of the Allagash and then as a game warden's wife on the St. John.



Participant Lilly MacNeish (left) and leader Christina Roach leading the way as TWT poled up the Allagash this summer.

"These kids came home totally charged up about their experience," said Greg. "And their guides did too. There was a lot of talk about the trip at the end-of-camp banquet, and there already seems to be a lot of interest in it for next year."

Greg led his first TWT trip 30 years ago and knows firsthand just how special the expedition is. "In the 40-plus years that Chewonki has been running this trip, the route has hardly changed," he said. "Also, we're the only group left that still poles *up* the Allagash. For much of the trip you're answering the question 'Why are you guys going the wrong way?' I think it really endears us to the old-timers. They know about the big flat-bottomed boats that used to be pulled up the Allagash by horses to supply the logging camps. And of course the game wardens used to pole up the river too, patrolling their territory."

TWT is Chewonki's only seven-week wilderness trip. Although acknowledging that seven-week trips are "kind of a dinosaur" in the camp world these days, Greg is hopeful that longer expeditions will continue to stand the test of time. "It's just an incredibly rich experience, in so many ways," he said. "It can provide a lifetime of memories."

For more information on TWT and other wilderness trips, including our 2014 dates, visit our website or contact Summer Wilderness Programs director Ryan Linehan (rlinehan@chewonki.org or 207-882-7323). As with other Chewonki programs, financial aid is available.

"In the 40-plus years that Chewonki has been running this trip, the route has hardly changed. Also, we're the only group left that still poles up the Allagash."





Happy 25th Anniversary, Semester School!

It couldn't have been a nicer weekend! Nearly 350 guests gathered on August 23–25 to reconnect with Chewonki Semester School and to honor its history as well as its future.

A campfire on Friday night included storytelling by Tim Ellis and music by Scott Andrews, Amy Rogers, and Sue West. Among Saturday's many activities were a 5-K run, farm chores, a bird walk with Don Hudson, paddling with Paul Arthur, and a series of inspiring presentations by alumni. People swam, sailed, canoed, and kayaked. They walked to the Point, visited cabins that used to be "home," relaxed in the Adirondack chairs, and spilled lazily across the lawns—all the while, talking, talking, talking! A fabulous Harvest

Dinner was followed by great fiddling and a lively contra dance. The celebration ended with a Sunday Service at Campfire Circle.

All weekend, we were reminded again and again that semester alumni have carried the Chewonki mission out into the world and are making amazing contributions to the planet (including adorable children).

Our heartfelt thanks to all who came and made and shared the fun.

Photography by Joseph and Ursula Cote of 207 Stills PhotographyTo see more photos, as well as a great short video made by Charlie Hudson (MCS 24), visit chewonki.org and click on the anniversary logo.

Top left: Almost 40 faculty and staff, going all the way back to MCS 1, were on hand for the celebration. Middle right: A beautiful selection of knitted and woven crafts—many of them made by students in the informal "Sheep to Shawl" program—were raffled off to help defray of the costs of the weekend. Below right: Ingrid and Mark Albee, former health care provider and farmer, drove over from New Hampshire. Below center: Past and present heads of school (L-R, Bill Hinkley, Ann Carson, Scott Andrews, and Willard Morgan) and Chewonki presidents (Willard Morgan, Don Hudson, and Tim Ellis) were aglow with pride all weekend.





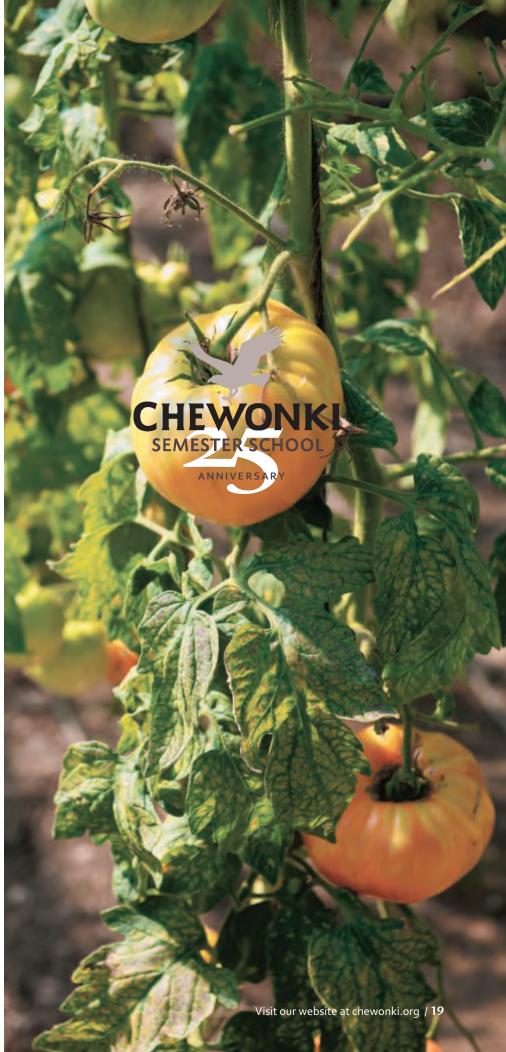












Applewild School Returns to Chewonki for Its 36th Year

Applewild is an independent day school in Fitchburg,
Massachusetts, serving students in grades kindergarten through
eighth grade. It has been sending its sixth-graders to Chewonki's
Outdoor Classroom every year since 1977. In late August I had the
pleasure of talking about that long tradition with math teacher
Lynda Gregson. This year marked Lynda's 16th trip to Chewonki
with Applewild students. —Betta Stothart



Math teacher Lynda Gregson and a few of Applewild's sixth-graders getting ready to carry the wannagans to their campsite in September.

ANDY BEZON PHOTO

What does Chewonki offer your sixth-graders that they can't get at Applewild?

t Applewild, we truly believe in the core values—respect, honesty, fairness, responsibility, civic—mindedness, compassion, and cooperation—that we teach and model. Chewonki is a perfect match for our students. At Chewonki, kids have a chance to learn about themselves, other classmates, and their teachers in an outside environment where there is no pressure to perform. I love that we are all completing tasks together in order to have a productive week. We all have to cook, build a fire, and pitch our tents together. Problem solving in nature is what we don't get to do at home. Another factor is the lack of technology. For four days our kids get to be away from electronics, and this is really powerful.

Why is sixth grade such a good age for this experience?

It's a great age! Students are really open to new experiences. They are willing to listen and work together to accomplish a goal. Sixth grade is an age of wonder and discovery, so this age group is really appropriate for the kinds of challenges Chewonki offers.

What do you see happening to Applewild students at Chewonki?

I see a sense of personal empowerment. When kids go to Chewonki, they come back with increased resilience. They get to understand and practice the idea that they are all responsible for themselves and to their small group. I love how the process encourages kids to learn from each other in a non-threatening way; that kids don't get left out; that they are always heard. At Chewonki, students really feel like they have a voice and are an important part of a functioning unit.

Much of what you have addressed is about community building and personal growth. What are some ways that you see Chewonki delivering environmental education?

I'm thrilled with the environmental focus at Chewonki. The fact that kids have one bowl, one cup, and one spoon during their stay, that you don't use any paper products—these are incredible. I am always excited when kids learn they should leave the environment in better shape than they found it. I don't think kids today think about where garbage goes, where water goes. These kinds of values are a deep part of the

Applewild tradition, and kids get to play those out during their time at Chewonki.

What is your take on character education and the grit factor?

This is a subject I think about a lot. At Applewild, we believe that character education is as important as academic education. When we are at Chewonki, there is a lot of intention around character and integrity. Chewonki leaders work to interject ethical thinking models as we go through the week, and I know this has an impact on our students. Overall, the kids seem to learn deeply about themselves.

Why do you think Chewonki's encampment model works?

For one, the model works because the teachers are part of and not separate from it. As a teacher, I get to learn about my students in a way that I may not in the classroom. I get a good idea of what kind of problem solvers they are even before I have them in a math class. I also get to know them on a personal level—we hear about their families, their pets, their siblings, or that they are witty or have trouble getting along with others. I try to take notes while I am at Chewonki so I can share them with teachers when we get home. It can be very helpful to see things at Chewonki that we may not see in the classroom.

What has kept you coming back for so many years?

The Chewonki trip is part of an orientation progression that continues with a seventh-grade Appalachian Mountain Club trip to New Hampshire and an eighth-grade trip to Washington, D.C. Personally, I love Chewonki. I deeply believe in your program. Kids get to sit on your shore and see satellites, shooting stars, birds, and seals. This program is as important to parents and families as it is to the kids. Parents are overwhelmed by so many things these days—the Internet, television, their jobs—but when those kids come back and share what has happened, it's truly amazing. They might cook a meal for their family, or offer to clean their room, or start a recycling system at home. Those kinds of changes are truly powerful for parents.

Chewonki makes it possible for kids to camp out and live in the outdoors for the first and maybe last time in their lives. For those kids and their families, you have changed lives

What a Chewonki Summer Can Offer Our Children

AN INTERVIEW WITH RICHARD BARTH

Editor's note: On a hot day in July, Richard Barth and Wendy Kopp drove to Chewonki to drop off their children for camp. It was not their first time driving down Chewonki Neck Road, but this year was different because they were dropping off three of their children. After checking in with Boys Camp director Garth Altenburg and settling the boys into their cabins, the family paused for this photograph. Later in the summer, Richard shared some thoughts about the impact that a Chewonki summer has on his sons.

—Betta Stothart

What do you think a place like Chewonki can offer children?

ey for us is the boys spending three-and-a-half weeks outdoors, off of technology, learning new things about themselves, about how they relate to others, and about the amazing outdoors that Maine uniquely offers. Our three boys live very busy lives in New York City, filled with school and after-school activities. Chewonki is an essential part of their year, one that truly complements their life in Manhattan.

What are your hopes for your children while they are at camp?

The cabin experience is huge. Each of our sons has headed off to camp as an eight-year-old, and they come home having had to assume responsibility for making their bed, cleaning their shelves, sweeping the floor, taking the trash out to recycling. Cabin life is also about making friends—and learning about getting along with other boys who may be very different from you. And cabin life is so very much about the counselors with whom they build relationships and adore. This year, as we sat at dinner the first night back, the boys each talked about their counselors, and Benjamin said, "We got really lucky. We all had amazing counselors."

Can you provide an example of what your boys gain from their Chewonki experience?

Our boys are very different. Each of them gets something different out of the Chewonki experience, and most interestingly, each of them gets something different out of each summer. For our middle son, Francis, who plays travel soccer year-round and is an artist at heart, Chewonki is a chance to explore nature in a deep and sustained way. For the past two years he has been on a mission to become a Master Naturalist [see News, p. 6]. Every day is a chance to learn something new that he would never be exposed to in New York City.

For our youngest son, Haddon, this year was about getting good at archery, about contributing to the Hocs' victory over the Sags, and about playing a leadership role for his cabin at a Saturday evening campfire. In his first year at camp, Haddon was the king of the camp's Polar Bear swim—doing it every morning but one!



Richard Barth and Wendy Kopp at Chewonki in July with their children.

For my oldest son, Benjamin, who is 13 and an Osprey, this year was most notable for his wilderness camping trip—a full week in the mountains. He fell in love with hiking. When he returned, he asked me whether he and I could do some hikes together. He loved summiting mountains, carrying a 40-pound pack on his back, and even climbing for four hours in a drenching rainstorm. He loved the camaraderie of being out there with his cabin. And now he wants to go on a threeweek trip next year.

Are your children changed after camp?

Each year our boys have tried something different and learned something new about themselves. For one of our sons, this may have been the summer he discovered he has the potential to be a leader in a way he did not know. For another, this may have been the summer he discovered he has the ability to be compassionate in a way he didn't fully realize. What is a constant is that when our three boys arrive home, they are different. They are more considerate. They are more mature. They are well fed (they love the food), and they are more aware of who they are and what they enjoy. They have been away from New York and television and computers for nearly a month, and they are so much better for it.

Richard Barth and Wendy Kopp are academic entrepreneurs with a passion for education. Richard is CEO of the KIPP Foundation, a national network of free, open enrollment, college-preparatory public charter schools. Wendy is the founder of Teach For America, an organization working to ensure that kids growing up in poverty get an excellent education. Richard and Wendy live in New York City with their four children, three of whom are Chewonki campers.

"What is a constant is that when our three boys arrive home, they are different. They are more considerate. They are more mature. They are well fed (they love the food), and they are more aware of who they are and what they enjoy."

Katie Tremblay, Long-Time Outdoor Classroom Director, Sets a New Course

ELIZABETH PIERSON

he hasn't gone far, but that doesn't mean we don't miss her. On July 31, Katie Tremblay said good-bye to her colleagues and to a job she has loved: directing Chewonki's Outdoor Classroom. She was spending the morning cleaning her office, tending to last-minute correspondence, and by her own admission, trying not to dwell on her departure.

Making the decision to leave for a new job near Augusta wasn't hard, she said. But actually

leaving, she acknowledged, was very hard. "I love this place. I've spent the bulk of my professional career here. And Chewonki Neck is the landscape I know best and am the most connected to on Earth."

Katie came to Chewonki in 2001 as a young graduate student, to teach in what was then called Environmental Education. She became the program's assistant director in 2002 and director in 2004. Each year 75 to 100 schools bring as many as 2,000 students to the OC for customized day trips, overnight trips, and wilderness trips. As director, it was Katie's job to orchestrate those visits, to shape curricula and policy, and to train and oversee Chewonki's sizeable team of OC educators.

Reflecting on her nearly 13 years here, Katie noted how grateful she was for the extraordinary colleagues and opportunities Chewonki had given her. "This has been such a formative place for me," she said. "I've been influenced by so many amazing mentors. When I came here in my early twenties, the people I worked with were so different from other adults I'd had in my life growing up. Everyone is so passionate about the outdoors and so inspiring."

Equally inspiring, she said, are the scores of OC instructors—a new batch every year—with whom she worked. "These young educators are amazing. Many of them just work magic with kids. They're young and idealistic, and they help me keep that part of myself alive. I'll really miss them."

As for trip-leading opportunities, Katie could only marvel. Extended sailing, canoeing, and kayaking trips. Winter camping in the North Woods. Cumberland Island, Georgia. "For three summers I co-led five-week sailing trips on the Maine coast. There are people who wait their entire lives to retire and cruise the Maine coast!"

A "huge part" of what Katie will remember most fondly is her relationships with the school administrators and teachers with whom she worked. "I hope to cross paths with many of you as we continue our work in education—Maine is not too big a place after all!" she wrote to them in a letter



announcing her departure. It has been both challenging and deeply satisfying, she said, to be involved in environmental education in Maine, especially at the state level.

In citing Katie's many accomplishments at Chewonki, president Willard Morgan praised her leadership through a time of economic uncertainty that has made it harder than ever for schools to afford trips. He highlighted her efforts in curriculum revision, development of a staff intern program, and three years ago, formation of the

ELLMS (Environmental Living and Learning for Maine Students) collaboration to pursue support for public schools to have residential environmental education programs. "The Outdoor Classroom has benefitted enormously from Katie's leadership and is also poised for continuing innovation in the years to come," said Willard.

As news of Katie's departure spread among visiting schools, so did the tributes and accolades. "You have been such an important part of our Chewonki experience and success of our students ... as well as helping shift the mindset of teaching and learning for our staff," wrote Louise Moses, assistant principal of Lyman Moore Middle School in Portland. "Please know how much you will be missed and how respected you are."

Drew Dumsch, executive director of Ferry Beach Ecology School in Saco, Maine, has known Katie professionally for many years. "Katie brought such a thoughtful and focused energy as a board member of the Maine Environmental Education Association and as a member of the steering committee for ELLMS," he said. "We'll *all* miss her."

Five days after leaving Chewonki, Katie stepped into her new position as program coordinator for the nonprofit Vaughan Homestead Foundation in Hallowell. She lives with her husband, Diano Circo, and their four-year-old son next-door to the historic property, so the new position couldn't be more convenient. Especially with a second baby due in January, she is happy to be working closer to home.

In her generous love for the natural world, her unwavering commitment to environmental education, and the bonds she formed with colleagues both here and far beyond, Katie has left a deep and lasting impact at Chewonki. We wish her all the best and offer her our deepest gratitude for a job well done.

Chewonki will conduct a search this fall and winter and expects to have a new Outdoor Classroom director in place by next spring. In the meantime, the program is in excellent hands, with assistant director Andy Bezon serving as interim director.



NOTICING NATURE

FRED CICHOCKI

'm not an entomologist by any means, but I can't help being absolutely amazed by the insect world. At camp this summer, one of our daily Natural History Mysteries concerned the fascinating interaction between some ants (Formicα sp.) and tiny aphids (Aphis asclepiadis) on common milkweed plants (Asclepias syriaca) growing in front of the Allen Center. I asked the boys to observe these insects closely: what were they doing, and why?

The phenomenon is well known. Several kinds of ants "herd" aphids (order Hemiptera; many species), which suck the juices of plants and convert them to a sugary substance called honeydew. By delicate stroking, the ants "milk" the aphids and drink the honeydew, for which the aphids receive protection from predators and parasitoids. It's a classic case of mutualistic symbiosis, not unlike human dairy farming. One astonished camper remarked, "I saw this on a video at school but had no idea you could see it for real!" How typical, I thought. If they only knew what wonders of nature were happening all the time right under their noses.

It's a modern malady: we've become a vicarious society receiving most of our knowledge secondhand. End of story, or so I thought, until I looked more closely. Among the aphids were some sort of wormlike

insect larvae. I learned in short order that they were the maggots of one of our common hover or flower flies (family Syrphidae, possibly Toxomerus sp.), and voracious aphid predators! How could this be? Aren't the ants supposed to protect "their" aphid herd from predators? Yet these syrphid maggots were busy munching on aphids right before their eyes. And that, as it turns out, is the key to the puzzle.

Ants know their world mostly by touch, taste, and smell (and sometimes sound)—not much by sight. The outer cuticle of an insect's exoskeleton contains a host of hydrocarbons and waxes that serve mainly to "airproof" the body (i.e., keep the insect from drying to a crisp). However, since many of these molecules have a complex structure, they can also function in sophisticated chemical recognition. Ecologists call them semiochemicals. Thus, each insect species might have a distinctive chemical "taste," or perhaps smell. In an elegant piece of research, David Lohman and colleagues at Harvard revealed—using qas chromatography and mass spectrometry—that the specific cuticular hydrocarbon profile of syrphid fly larvae (and of several other aphid predators, too) closely mimics that of their aphid prey. That was it: these syrphid maggots were the proverbial wolves in sheep's clothing! Their chemical disguise was so perfect that the ants were actually protecting them, as if they were aphids themselves. I was literally dumbstruck.

Puzzle solved. Well, almost. No one yet knows whether syrphid larvae make their own disquise or acquire it directly from the aphids they eat. Regardless, it's a striking example of the creativity of evolution in action. But then, Nature is full of such marvels, and this is just one of them.



Adult syrphid flower fly on garden daisy.



Formica ants "herding" aphids on milkweed, while predatory syrphid fly larvae happily

[&]quot;Doc Fred" directs the nature program at Chewonki Camp for Boys.

GREENGOES UNDERGROUND

And Kick-Starts a New Era in Sustainability Funding

LAURA HARTZ

hewonki's Sustainability Office is beaming these days, and it's not just because sustainability officer Tom Twist loves playing outdoors with giant pipes and dirt. Last spring, Chewonki was awarded a substantial demonstration grant from Efficiency Maine, an independent trust that promotes efficient and costeffective energy in Maine. The grant is now enabling Chewonki to accomplish two remarkable feats.

First, we recently replaced the Dumont—the behemoth wood-fired boiler in the basement of the Wallace Center that for years has heated the entire building—with a new cordwood gasification boiler that is far more efficient and 30 percent larger. This increased capacity will enable wood-fired district heating, meaning the Wallace's boiler will also heat the Allen Center, and possibly even the Farm House. By heating the Allen Center with wood instead of propane, Chewonki should save about \$4,000 and 1,900 gallons of propane annually.

Second, and perhaps more important, the grant is kick-starting an innovative new financial tool for Chewonki: a Green Revolving Fund, or GRF. GRFs are a fairly new way to fund green projects. In short, a GRF is an internal fund that accrues the savings from sustainability projects as a way to pay for future sustainability projects. Take the Dumont replacement, for example. For the next five years the savings from burning wood instead of propane—about \$4,000 annually—will seed Chewonki's GRF, providing funds for future sustainability projects that will result in further savings of money and resources. Tom sees a long list of potential projects—everything from insulation and weatherization of buildings to lighting upgrades and solar hot water for the Hilton bathhouse.

Any member of the Chewonki community can bring a GRF idea to the Sustainability Committee. The committee will evaluate the project for potential payback in terms of dollars and resources (fuel, water, and waste, for example) and, if it's approved, finance it with money from the GRF. The savings from that project will then be reinvested in the GRF, seeding the next round of sustainability projects.

The list of positive attributes for GRFs goes on from there.

• GRFs are good investments. The Sustainable Endowment Institute states that a typical return on investment for a GRF is 28 percent, much higher than most market-based investments.

- GRF projects are stable investments because they are investments in physical infrastructure instead of in volatile markets.
- At Chewonki, our GRF creates a budget for the Sustainability Department without any added cost to the foundation as a whole.
- Money from our GRF can also be used to pay for the green upgrade on expenses Chewonki would incur anyway—such as new lightbulbs for the CEE parking lot.

The fact that Chewonki has a GRF should also make our sustainability projects appealing to grantors and donors. When donors invest in a GRF, their dollars go to a tangible project and to future tangible projects, making the donation function more like an endowment than a one-time gift. Grantors like GRFs because they are an effective way to invest in environmental improvements that keep on giving. Many leading colleges and universities have adopted them, including Dartmouth College, Harvard University, Boston University, Carleton College, Oberlin College, and the California Institute of Technology.

One potential drawback of a GRF is the problem of diminishing returns. At some point there must be an end to all the sustainability projects that could save money and resources, right? Tom grinned broadly when I asked him that question. "That time is not coming for a long, long time," he chuckled. Chewonki's president and chief financial officer have both signed off on the GRF, and the Sustainability Committee is excited about its future.

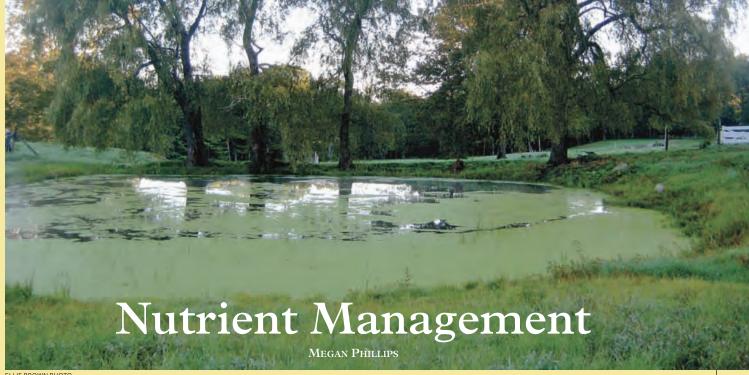
In short, Chewonki's Sustainability Department is entering a new era of green projects. With the upgrade of the Dumont and the establishment of the Green Revolving Fund, Chewonki's future looks bright green. Thank you, Efficiency Maine, for making this new future possible!

If you are interested in making a donation to support Chewonki's GRF, please contact Development director Lucy Hull at Ihull@chewonki.org or 207-882-7323 ext. 127. ■

Laura Hartz attended Maine Coast Semester 27 and was the 2012–2013 Sustainability teaching fellow. She's currently working in the Chewonki kitchen, and continues to be passionate about agriculture and the environment.

Two-hundred-plus feet of pre-insulated piping were buried in the Quad this fall to connect a new energy-efficient wood boiler in the Wallace Center to the nearby Allen Center. This endeavor to provide wood-fired district heating has kick-started a new era of green projects at Chewonki.

THE DIRT ON CHEWONKI NECK



lmost one year ago, I stood next to the newly re-dug farm pond with semester students and their parents in the midst of a Family Weekend tour of our farm systems. We gazed out at the mud pit that facilities manager Don Lamson had recently carved out with his excavator—the pit that today is a functional farm pond but, at the time, was just starting to fill slowly with recent rains.

"This isn't very pretty right now, but it's our farm pond," one student explained to parents and siblings. "It will be used for nitrogen sequestration and maybe for backup irrigation once it's filled." Later that day, I chuckled (and grimaced) as another student stated matter of factly, "The new pond has very little to do with the farm. It will mostly be for ice skating and swimming."

Note to self: Revisit nutrient management in a future farm talk with students.

The farm pond, in truth, has everything to do with the farm. It exemplifies the intentional, closed-system approach to organic farming that we embrace here. Thirty years ago, no pond existed here. These days, the pond that exists is twice as wide and much deeper than the one that was originally dug here. The placement of the pond is ingenious—or common sense, depending on how you look at it. As rainfall runs through the barnyard—which lies just uphill of the pond—it carries potentially valuable nutrients away with it. The rolling hills of Chewonki's aptly named Saltmarsh Farm ultimately all end in the most downhill part of this place: the salt marsh. Although the impact of nutrient runoff from our diminutive farm pales in comparison with the fertilizer runoff from farms along the Mississippi that have caused the dead zone in the

Gulf of Mexico, we are still hugely aware of the nutrients leaving our land. Quite frankly, we want them here.

And thus the cycle of the farm pond begins. Nitrogen from barnyard manure runs into the pond, the pond converts the runoff to duckweed (a floating emergent plant), and we rake the duckweed off the pond every four to six weeks throughout the summer. That rich material goes into our compost system or, more recently, onto the lasagna garden, our attempt to convert lawn to perennial gardens and an orchard over the course of the next two years (see Step It Up, p. 34).

Nutrient management is not unique to the pond: it's happening all over this land. Rotational grazing of cows and sheep gives our livestock access to fresh grass every 12 hours throughout the pasture season. This constant movement through small paddocks ensures that grass has adequate time to regrow between grazings, spreads manure evenly across the pasture, and ultimately improves the health of the land. Managing compost and applying compost onto every garden allows us to recycle nutrients from food waste into the basic building blocks of basil, tomatoes, carrots, and so much more. The aromatic spreading of composted manure each fall onto our hayfields fertilizes the land that the animals do not graze.

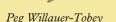
I will unabashedly admit that I find nutrient management to be fascinating. It speaks to so much that I believe in, so much that is at the heart of the sustainability movement at large and the day-to-day, intimate workings of the farm: namely, an undeniable interconnectedness and a recognition and ownership of impact. Here's to duckweed growing (and ice skating) on the farm pond.

Megan Phillips is the farm manager at Chewonki.

ALUMNI & FRIENDS

Dear friends,

As we approach Chewonki's centennial in 2015, we're amassing a mountain of material for our archives and for our history and book project. More than ever, we're eager to gather stories about Chewonki. Can you help us? Your personal stories, whether written or spoken, will not only help us preserve and honor Chewonki's history—they'll also help weave a tapestry of connections among the extended Chewonki community. I hope you'll heed the call!



Assistant Development Director & Alumni Coordinator alumni@chewonki.org or tel. 207-882-7323, ext. 153

"By the Campfire's Gleaming Light,"

an excerpt from a centennial book essay by Renny Little

(Boys Camp '42-'46; kitchen crew '47-'48; counselor '53-'55, '60; trustee '73-'00; advisor '00-)

r. Allen took his place [at campfire], leaning against a rock at the head of the circle and, with a small card containing the order of events, called for order and introduced the fire lighter. This might be the youngest camper, a birthday boy, or a welcome guest—a former counselor or parent. Mr. Allen then called upon a previously selected camper who appeared and in a loud voice pronounced "Everyone up for a good camp cheer!" followed by a rousing rendition of "Neath the Pine Tree."

What followed, in a well-orchestrated fashion, were camper reports on Tent Days (Cook's day off), trips to the Camden Hills and Katahdin, results of medals won on the rifle range, birds added to the camp list, and winner(s) of the weekly "What is It?" at the Nature Museum. Cabin cheers and skits ran the gamut from the sublime to the ridiculous, and there were always a number of ghost stories, some more scary than others.

Music was interspersed between reports, with songs of the period and rounds sung by all, or by the counselors. At times, an

CALLING ALL STORIES!

Written Stories

More than 60 alumni and friends have already submitted essays for a centennial book to be published late next year. We'd love to receive more essays, for an expanded companion book that will be available online. You can email your story (500 words or fewer) to book@chewonki.org.

Among the many wonderful submissions we've received to date is the one above by Renny Little, about Saturday night campfires in the 1940s and 1950s. We hope it whets your appetite and inspires you!

Spoken Stories

Thanks to the new service
VoiceRoots, launched by MCS 8 alum
Patrick Duncan (see p. 29), you can also
share spoken stories with us, by phone.
Call 1-888-920-WONK (that's 1-888920-9665) toll-free to record, share, and
preserve a Chewonki story. Your story
can be short or long; if you have more
than one, call back as many times as you
want. It's as easy as leaving a message
on an answering machine!

Not sure where to begin? We have lots of ideas on our website to get those juices flowing. For example, was there a teacher or staff member who was

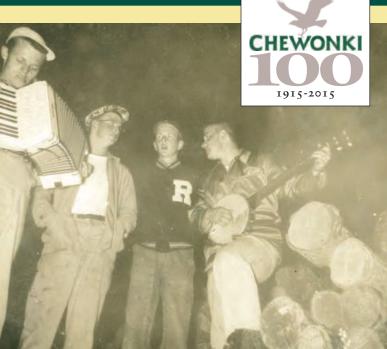
VoiceRoots particularly important to you? Is there a special food or meal

you remember, or a special skill you learned (and perhaps still use)? Or maybe there's a Chewonki sound or smell that remains strong in your mind? There's more about the Chewonki VoiceRoots project, including many more topic ideas and links to stories that have already been recorded, on our website; visit voiceroots.com/chewonki, then call and tell us a story.



Boys Camp alumni: Were you a Sag or a Hoc captain? Or do you remember who was? Our records on this are embarrassingly incomplete. As we get closer to Chewonki's centennial in 2015, we're working hard to make our archives as complete as possible. If you were a captain or know who was, please email his name and the year to alumni@chewonki.org. Thank you!





Do you recognize any of these early 1950s campfire revelers? We'd love to hear from you if you do!

instrumental performance by a talented camper or counselor was added. Who remembers the "Breezy E's"—the entire Ellis family with lively tunes played on their sweet potatoes? Hardy Ellis

reciting Holman Day's "Tale of the Kennebec Mariner" ("Guess I've never told you, sonny, of the strandin' and the wreck...") and "Aunt Shaw's Pet Jug," or singing "All I Want Is Hummingbirds for Breakfast." I can't remember who sang "Once there was a burglar bold who went to rob a house," but it was always a favorite.

Perhaps the highlight of the evenings were songs or skits performed by the visitors. Neighbor Chapin would demonstrate how to play the banjo without appearing to strum it. Former campers and counselors such as Chippy Chase regaled all with his "high water clammin," and the identical Fenn twins could seemingly get out of a large locked trunk. We all looked forward to Paul Killiam's appearance, as he could be counted on for a stirring rendition of "When Father Laid the Carpet on the Stairs," or one of Gilbert and Sullivan's famous patter songs such as "I Am the Very Model of a Modern Major General," or "When You're Lying Awake with a Dismal Headache."

Although the campfire theme had some variations, one additional event took place at the last campfire of the eight-week season. Each camper was given a pinecone and was asked to make a silent wish before throwing the cone into the fire. Doubtless many wished to be back "Round the Campfire" again the next year.



It's not too early to save the date! Please plan to join us on Chewonki Neck next summer, August 14–17.

PEOPLE

We welcome news from all Chewonki participants and staff. Please e-mail your news to Alumni@chewonki.org or mail it to Chewonki, attn. Peg Willauer-Tobey. We try hard to avoid errors. If you see one, please let us know so we can correct it in the next issue. Unless you specify that you do not want us to print your news, we will include it in the *Chronicle*. We reserve the right to edit for space and clarity. Thanks for sharing your lives with us!—Ed.

Key to abbreviations: BC: Boys Camp; EE: Environmental Education (predecessor to OC and TNHP); GC: Girls Camp; MCS: Maine Coast Semester, through Semester 43; OC: Outdoor Classroom for Schools; TNHP: Traveling Natural History Programs; WT: Wilderness Trips

1930s

It was wonderful to hear recently from **Ron Davis** (BC '31-'33), winner of the Best Camper Cup in '33. We were sorry, however, to learn of the death last year of his brother, **Gil Davis** (BC '33-'36). Years ago, Ron was in touch with **Jesse Dukes** (BC staff '00-'05 and author of *Chewonki: Celebrating 90 Years*), who was interested in hearing about Chewonki's early days. Ron says he would love to see more news here from other folks from the 1930s. *[So would we! —Ed]*

1940s

Congratulations to John L. Allen (BC '47-'55; BC staff '59; advisor '83-'84; trustee '84-'04), who has a new grandson! See the 2000s for details. Bill Hetzel, Jr., (BC '43-'48; BC staff '54-'57; trustee '69-'06) has lived for many years in neighboring Woolwich and been a regular visitor to the Neck on his bike (see photo). He moved to Thornton Oaks in Brunswick in late October and said he looked forward to getting to know that area by bike as well. For news from Renny Little (BC '42-'48; BC staff '53-'55, '60), see the 1970s.

1960s

It was great to hear from **Terry Foley** (BC '67-'70), who sent news of his son **Tim Foley**; see the 2000s below.

1970s

Renny Little reports that his son, blacksmith David Little (WT '72), has opened The Arts Collaborative (www.theartscollaborative.net) with wife Heidi in Meredith, NH. "They have joined Dave's stunning iron work with a master woodworker to produce beautiful furniture," Renny says. "Downstairs Heidi has her art workshops with classes in all



Bill Hetzel, Jr. at Chewonki in October

mediums for all ages. Dave also is known for his development of items to recognize donors (www.donorarts.com)."

1980s

Proud dad Tom Eichler wrote with updates on his four sons: Andy Eichler (BC '85, '87-'89) is with a startup in Los Angeles; Chris Eichler (BC staff '98, '04) is a photographer in Brooklyn, NY: Ed Eichler (BC '89) is in the Foreign Service and is going to China this fall with his wife and baby son; and Eric Eichler (BC '89-'91; BC staff '02, '04) is a social worker in San Diego. Aaron Ritzenberg (BC '87-'91, '93; BC staff '94-95, '99-'06) was excited to be back at Chewonki this summer to help record the centennial album (see p. 7). He's living in New York City, teaching at Columbia University, and recently published a book titled The Sentimental Touch: The Language of Feeling in the Age of Managerialism. "I especially recommend it for Outhaul alumni," he says. For news of Justin Reich (BC '87-'91'; BC staff '94-'05) and Andrew Ross (BC '88-'89; BC staff '94-'95), see MCS 11.



Two generations of Chewonki directors!

If you think you may have seen this photo before, you're right. Taken in 1948 or 1949, it appeared on page 11 of the last *Chronicle*. We chose it to illustrate a story about Chewonki's upcoming centennial because we knew the man on the right is **Clarence Allen**. What we didn't know at the time is that the boy on the left is **Tim Ellis!** It was Tim himself who called to tell us. What's more, Tim was able to identify his fellow campers. The towhead in the center is **Hans Wurster** (BC '48, '49, '51; BC staff '55), and on the right is **Jim Hinkle** (BC '48-'50). Asked if he might have any memory of what the boys and "the Boss" were so intent on that day, Tim laughed. "Sorry, no idea!"

1990s

Improvements continue on the Brooks, ME, home of Hans Albee (BC '90-'92, '94-'96) and wife Jennifer. "We now have solar hot water and solar electricity, meeting much of our energy needs," reports Hans, "and our daily joys revolve mostly around our son Turner." Steve Melamed (BC '90-'91, '94, '96-'97; BC staff '98, '00-'04, '06) married wife Marisa in 2009, and they have settled near Montpelier, VT. He leads Outward Bound canoe trips in the Moosehead and Allagash regions of Maine each summer and recently ran into Chewonki's Northwoods Canoe trip-led, in part, by his former Mariners tripper Becca Abuza (MCS 35; WT '01-'05; BC staff '07; GC staff '08-'11; WT staff '13; spring 2013 TNHP intern)! Philip Persson (BC '98-'00, '02-'03, '05; BC staff '04, '09) lives in Denver, CO, where he works as an exploration geologist. Joe Sayre (WT '96-'97; BC staff '99), wife Anna, and son John have recently moved to Singapore. Joe has worked in various aspects of carpentry; he was a classic shipwright in New York and has moved to interior design work and furniture building in his new home. "I think I am like tens of thousands of other boys, now men, that can say Chewonki was a transformative place for me,"

he writes. While visiting Berkeley, CA, Emilio Spadola (BC staff '94- '95) played a leisurely game of basketball with Jason Soll (BC staff '95). Emilio says he "would love to hear from folks from the mid-90s." See MCS 16 for news of Biche Fessenden (BC staff '97); MCS 18 for news of Forrest Fleischman; MCS 24 to learn about a recent production by videographer Charlie Hudson (BC '91-'93, '95-'99; BC staff '02-'03); and MCS 35 for news of Jamie Watson (BC '97-'02; BC staff '07).

2000s

Pam Foxley Arifian (BC staff '02-'03) is the Sustainability Director at Silver Lake Conference Center, an Outdoor Ministry of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ in Sharon. CT. She is responsible for program development, including educational workshops for summer camp participants and staff, as well as event programming for teens and adults. She also manages the vegetable garden, chickens, and compost operations at the camp. She lives there year-round with husband Greg, who is the site manager, and their daughter Lena, who will be 3 in November. "My first summer at Camp Garrett [in Newtown Square, PA] has been full

Kate Braemer (GC & TNHP staffs '09-'10; OC staff '09-'11). "I'm working on improving the Counselor in Training program and connecting the garden to the kitchen. Missing you all on the Neck and hope to be swinging by in late September!" Jesse Dukes (BC staff '00-'05) traveled to Bergen, Norway, in May to present his radio documentary "The Soul of Guatemala" at this year's 39th International Features Conference. Read more in News from the Neck on p. 8. In the same story, you can also read about Zander Martin (WT '00-'01, '03), who spent two months paddling across central Asia this summer on his Asia Rivers Expedition. Tim Foley (BC '03-'04) graduated from Manchester Community College in Manchester, NH, with an associate's degree in Automotive, writes his father Terry Foley (BC '67-'70). "Tim is working at Monroe as the lead mechanic and part-time shop manager. He is also up for promotion to sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserves, having served in Iraq." After a cross-country bike trip in 2012, Leah Heyman (WT '07; GC staff '08; OC staff '07-'11; WT & TNHP staffs '09-'11) and Adam Williams (OC staff '10-'11; WT & foundation staffs '11) have settled in Topsham, ME, and recently became engaged! Leah began the ETEP (Extended Teacher Education Program) credential/master's program at the University of Southern Maine this fall while Adam started a position as a Wilderness Therapy Guide with Summit Achievement. Both continue their work with FoodCycle, creating access to local foods in public schools. David Glover writes that, although it's been more than a decade since son Derek Pullen's (BC '00-'01) time at Boys Camp, "we still remember the profound, positive impact Chewonki had on his life...and on ours as a family...Thank you!" Isabelle de Trabuc Smith (advisor '06-) and husband Jerald Smith welcomed their first child, James Arnaud Smith, on 4-4-13. Isabelle is the great-granddaughter of Chewonki founder Clarence Allen. The baby is affectionately known as "JA," after his grandfather, John L. Allen (BC '47-'55; BC staff '59; advisor '83-'84; trustee '84-'04). Masters swimmer **David Vail** (advisor '09-) traveled to Cleveland, OH, in July to compete in the National Senior Games. Swimming in his first competition since "aging up" to the

of learning and lots of fun," writes

70-74 age group, David won gold medals in the 100- and 200-yard backstrokes and 500-yard freestyle. He also won two silver medals (200 freestyle and 200 IM) and a bronze (IM). David is professor emeritus of economics at Bowdoin College. See MCS 38 for news of Franklin Jacoby (WT '06-'07; WT staff '12); Semester School Faculty & Staff for news of Daegan Miller (BC & OC staffs '04; MCS 31-36 faculty) and Talia Epstein Miller (EE staff '03-'06); MCS 11 for news of Elsa Olivetti (BC staff '01-'04); and MCS 24 for news of Leah Titcomb (GC '07-'09).

2010s

Tessaly Jen (OC intern '12) recently began working as a field science educator at the Golden Gate campus of NatureBridge, a sciencebased outdoor education program in the San Francisco area. Dominick Yocius, father of Maggie Yocius (GC staff '12), reports "The family really enjoyed the 2013 calendar [that Maggie designed for Girls Camp] and stories of her 2012 experience as Art Director!" See MCS 33 for news of Bryce Koukopoulos (Semester faculty '11-'13; GC staff '12) and Semester 43 for news of **Katie Burns** (GC staff '12).

SEMESTER SCHOOL

MCS 1

Fall 1988

Class Agent: Torrey McMillan, vmmcmillan@gmail.com

For news of **Torrey McMillan**, see Faculty & Staff on p. 33.

MCS 2

Spring 1989

Class Agent: Critter Thompson, crittert@gmail.com

MCS₃

Fall 1989

Class Agents: Krech Paynter, tkpaynter@gmail.com; Will Redfield, wredfield@gmail.com

MCS 4

Spring 1990

Class Agent: Mitch Levesque, levesm@gmail.com

MCS 5

Fall 1990

Class Agent: Laura Leduc, laura howard@yahoo.com

MCS 8 Alum Launches New Service to Record, Share, and Preserve Spoken Stories

It's called VoiceRoots, and it launched

on March 1, 2013, near Austin, Texas. **Patrick Duncan** (MCS 8), the CEO and co-founder, says the project's mission is to connect people with family, friends, organizations, schools, and brands through spoken story. "At its essence," says Patrick, "VoiceRoots enables human connections. We believe the power of the human voice can transcend generations and



Patrick Duncan with his 5-year-old son Beckett on Mustang Island, TX.

geographies, and help us better understand and learn from our collective human experience." The catalyst for VoiceRoots was Patrick's own desire to record and save family stories told by his parents for his two young sons. "I needed an easy way for my parents to record their life stories so that my children—and perhaps their children—could someday listen to and appreciate this heritage. Surprisingly, there weren't any good options."

Anyone with a phone can call VoiceRoots toll-free and record, share, and preserve a spoken story. The platform is intuitive and user-friendly, and private, secure, and permanent online archiving enables stories to be preserved forever. Chewonki has been privileged to help beta test the new service in recent months. "It couldn't be easier to use," said Willard Morgan, who recorded one of the first stories.

You can learn more at voiceroots.com/chewonki. Check it out—and then call and tell us a Chewonki story! The toll-free number is 1-888-920-9665.

MCS 6

Spring 1991

Class Agent: Andy Wilbur, andrew wilbur@hotmail.com

For news of **Will Willis** see Faculty & Staff on p. 33.

MCS 7

Fall 1991

Class Agent: Brooke Guthrie, bpguthrie@gmail.com

MCS 8

Spring 1992

Class Agents: Jenn Gudebski, jenn.gudebski@me.com; Sarai Hinkley, saraihinkley@hotmail.com

Kudos to **Patrick Duncan** on the launch of his new service, VoiceRoots (see above)!

MCS 9

Fall 1992

Class Agent: Katie Wagner, katie@katiewagnersocialmedia.com

MCS 10

Spring 1993

Class Agent: Betsy Stubblefield Loucks, betsyruth@gmail.com

MCS 11

Fall 1993

Class Agent: Jess Green, jebby-green@gmail.com

Justin Reich (BC '87-'91'; BC staff '94-'05; MCS 11) and wife Elsa Olivetti (BC staff '01-'04) welcomed Loren Fire Olivetti, their second child, on 8-12-13. They call her "Wren." Andrew Ross (BC '88-'89; BC staff '94-'95) has two sons, ages 3 and 4.

MCS 12

Spring 1994

Class Agents: Lara Fox, jlarafox@gmail.com; Becky Palmer Dickson, rebeccapdickson@gmail.com

Gen Pence Kent has just been awarded a job as conservation planner for the Western Cape in South Africa. The Cape Floral Kingdom is a World Heritage site. Gen's dad, Brian Kent, writes that all of this is thanks to Chewonki and others. "Gen is doing great work in Africa!"

PEOPLE



Ben Thompson, Erin Quinn, and Melissa Jencks at the 25th anniversary

MCS 13

Fall 1994

Class Agents: Erin Quinn, equinn141@yahoo.com; Besenia Rodriguez, besenia@yahoo.com

Lauren Lochner is living in Seattle with husband Ryan. "Both Ryan and I work in a middle school so we have been lucky enough to spend the summer days together with our new baby," says Lauren. "His name is Riordan and he is pretty wonderful" (see photo). Erin Quinn enjoyed catching up with Ben Thompson and Melissa Jencks at the 25th anniversary at Chewonki (see photo). Erin is still living in Atlanta and working for the Federal Home Loan Bank in mortgage valuation. She loves visiting sister Kerry Quinn Granfield (MCS 20), brother-inlaw Patrick, and new nephew Tommy, who recently moved back to the Washington, D.C., area.

MCS 14

Spring 1995

Class Agent: Erika Brown, erikabrown1@gmail.com

"How might we empower Practical Idealists to create well-being in their own lives and in the world?" Cynthia Jaggi focuses on this question at GatherWell, a "think and do tank for Practical Idealists" that she recently founded in Berkeley, CA (www.gatherwell.com). She'd love to connect with any in the MCS community whom GatherWell might be able to support. Loren Merrill recently finished a post-doc at Oklahoma State University examining how preand postnatal experience shape an organism's stress responsiveness,

immune function, growth, attractiveness, and cognitive abilities over the course of its life (using zebra finches as a model system). In December he'll move to Illinois to begin another post-doc. In between, he and girlfriend Tara have some adventures planned, including travels to California, Maine, Hawaii, and Panama. "One of my big goals for this trip will be to take the perfect moose picture in Baxter State Park," Loren said. He also hoped to stop by the Neck. Valerie Orth recently moved to Brooklyn, NY, after 11 years in San Francisco to continue pursuing music with her punk-folk band (www.valerieorth.com).

MCS 15

Fall 1995

Class Agents: Fitz Cahall, dirthagdiaries@earthlink.net; Emily Dellas, emilyd@gmail.com; Glynnis Roberts, glynnis.roberts@gmail.com

MCS 16

Spring 1996

Class Agent: Bailey McCallum, bailey.mccallum@gmail.com

Hannah (Pepper) Attwood

checked in from Ojai, CA. She has three little ones and runs a small business. Clark Childers says hello from his dual life in Marfa, TX, and Los Angeles, CA. Cathryn Christensen recently moved from Santa Rosa, CA, to Baltimore, MD. She passed through Portland, OR, and caught up with Bailey McCallum before leaving the West Coast. She's studying for her MPH before moving back to the West Coast to practice medicine.

Courtney Clinkscales was getting married in September. Kyle Durrie has departed rainy Portland, OR, for the desert of Silver City, NM. Biche Fessenden (BC staff '97) is working as a first- and second-grade special-ed teacher in Boston. Napa Valley is home to John Lockwood, who has a new baby girl. Ann Levy Walden and husband welcomed their first child in Chicago, IL. Hilary (Williams) Walrod lives in Contoocook, NH, and teaches graphic design at Colby-Sawyer College. Hilary, Biche Fessenden, and Bailey McCallum reconnected at the 25th anniversary on the Neck in August.

MCS 17

Fall 1996

Class Agent: Page McClean, pagemcclean@gmail.com



Lauren Lochner's son Riordan

MCS 18

Spring 1997

Class Agent: Sarah Klain, s.klain@gmail.com

Nicole Casper recently got her master's in marine biology at Western Washington University in Bellingham, WA. Since graduating, she has taught marine science to fifth- through twelfth-graders on a sailboat in the San Juan Islands and traveled through Europe with her sister. "The West Coast is my home now," she writes, "but I hope to make it back to Chewonki soon-it's been too long!" Forrest Fleischman is now assistant professor in the Department of Ecosystem Science & Management at Texas A&M. "I'm excited about new opportunities ahead, and grateful for the support and friendship I've received in the past," he says. Kristin Holcomb reports: "Ben and I celebrated our

daughter's first birthday this spring

and look forward to what lies ahead

MCS 19

Fall 1997

with her."

Class Agent: Josie Rodberg, josierodberg@gmail.com

Lindsey Wong is in a plastic and reconstructive surgery residency at Wake Forest, with two more years to go. She married Thurston Webb in May. Congratulations to Lindsey and Thurston!

MCS 20

Spring 1998

Class Agents: Marley Aloe, marleyaloe@gmail.com; Kerry Granfield, kqgranfield@gmail.com

Caleb Linville has a degree in architecture from Yale and is currently at Christoff: Finio

Architecture in Manhattan. "Alex and I got married on June 22nd!" he reports. Congratulations to Clay Smith, who married Samantha Collins in August. See MCS 13 for news of Kerry Quinn Granfield.

MCS 21

Fall 1998

Class Agent: Malia Haddock, maliahaddock@gmail.com

MCS 22

Spring 1999

Class Agent: Louisa Pitt, lapitt@gmail.com

MCS 23

Fall 1999

Class Agent: Ariane Lotti, ariane.lotti@gmail.com

In January Marselle Alexander-Ozinskas began a new job with a private family foundation in San Francisco, working to build the capacity of the California land and water conservation community. She enjoyed a mini reunion with Lindsey Horton in August. A year of dissertation research in Brazil is in store for Rosie Dent, who's working on her PhD in history and sociology of science at the University of Pennsylvania. "I'm studying the history of human genetics and anthropological research on indigenous communities," she writes, "but will be sure to make time for some serious study of samba and the birds of Rio Grande do Sul." Rosie won the School of Arts and Sciences Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching by Graduate Students for the 2012-2013 academic year. Congratulations, Rosie! Emily Izenstein and partner Meg are settling into their first home in Portland, OR. "We've enjoyed lots of time this summer running and hiking with our dogs in the beautiful Pacific Northwest mountains," says Emily. "We are also excited about a short trip back to Maine this October to celebrate Beth Schiller's wedding. Liz Tunick and I continue to stay in touch from opposite coasts, and as ever, I'd love to be in touch with other MCSers, whether on the West Coast or otherwise." Heather (Ferguson) Kelly is living happily guy!" Heather writes. "Liam is fond

France is still home to Envi Koene (advisor '08-), where she was married this summer to Ludovic Sardain. "If any MCSers are ever in Paris or in France and need a place to stay, don't hesitate to reach out," she offers. Ariane Lotti (Farm '01; advisor '12-) lives in Washington, D.C. She works for the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, where she is working on the farm bill and food safety regulations. She has become an award-winning pickle-maker. She recently visited Mark and Ingrid Albee in New Hampshire, "Hello from Canada!" writes Megan (Nuttall) McCarrell. She lives in the Ottawa Valley on a 20-acre farm with husband Adam, dogs, chickens, and newborn twin daughters Maren and Silva (see photo). "I am now on maternity leave, but in January will be rejoining my faithful coworkers at the Madawaska Valley Midwives as a Registered Midwife. Until then you'll find me harvesting the bounty from our market garden, nursing my little ones, and dreaming of a new outdoor wood-fired brick ovenhopefully in the works for next year." Andrew Schapiro has recently settled into a condo in San Francisco. He leads a team of graphic designers at Airbnb, which he says keeps him busy and challenged. "Our mission is inspiring, and the company culture is unrivaled." Caroline (Clark) Sterkel, husband Ty, and 3-yearold son Brody welcomed daughter Madeleine Rose Sterkel in January. Caroline teaches writing to fifthand sixth-graders at a charter school in Eagle County, CO. "If anyone comes to ski at Vail/Beaver Creek," she says, "I'd love to see you!" Liz Tunick is still in Washington, D.C., where she began a new job last year on international programs at the Smithsonian. "I love the work and the variety—education, outreach, strategy-and was able to travel to Oman last fall for a project," she writes. "I recently got engaged, so planning a wedding will be another 'project' on my plate in the coming months." As a lawyer for EarthRights International, Marissa Vahlsing works to help communities in the Amazon hold multinational extractive companies legally accountable for rights violations. She is based mainly in Washington, D.C., but takes frequent trips to the Amazon and spends a good deal of time in canoes. Nan Wakefield is working in video restoration and taking psychology classes. "I loved the

25th reunion," she says. "It made me feel whole and alive in a way that no other place does. I don't know how you guys do it, but thank you so much!"

MCS 24

Spring 2000

Class Agent: Nora Moore, nfgouge@gmail.com

A big shout-out to **Charlie Hudson** (BC '91-'93, '95-'99; BC staff '02-'03), who made a wonderful short video of the 25th anniversary weekend. To watch it, go to chewonki.org and click on the 25th anniversary logo. **Leah Titcomb** (GC staff '07-'09) is working for the Appalachian Mountain Club as the Coos County Education Coordinator, helping bring environmental education to northern New Hampshire schools. She loves living in the White Mountains.

MCS 25

Fall 2000

Class Agents: M.A. Moutoussis, maryangela.moutoussis@gmail.com; Chris White, cstuartwhite@gmail.com

MCS 26

Spring 2001

Class Agent: Andrea LaRosa, andreallarosa@gmail.com

Amy Aloe has moved to Harpswell, ME, to launch, manage, and cook at The Schoolhouse Cafe, which is associated with Harpswell Coastal Academy, a new charter school. "We'll provide the school with wholesome, locally sourced meals," says Amy, "and hope soon to serve the community as well." Maren Bean just graduated from business school at Michigan Ross School of Business and has moved to Minneapolis to work for Medtronic Inc.



Megan Nuttall McCarrell's twin daughters, Silva (L) and Maren

Attention, Semester Alums! 25th Anniversary T-shirts Are Still Available

Looking for a special remembrance or holiday gift, or your very own collector's item? Our commemorative T-shirt can help you—or someone you love—remember and celebrate Semester School's 25th anniversary. The beautiful design is by MCS 33 alum **Mattias Lanas** (modeling the shirt here), who was our 2012–2013 art fellow and is this year's interim art teacher. All sizes (S through XXL) are unisex and 100 percent cotton, and the price is



right: \$15 plus \$3.50 for shipping and handling. To order, visit chewonki.org and click on the 25th anniversary logo.

MCS 27

Fall 2001

Class Agent: Chris Clark, clizzy@gmail.com

MCS 28

Spring 2002

Class Agent: Ellie Stewart, elliestew@gmail.com

Elspeth (Pierson) Hay has added yet another task to her busy schedule: she helped start and manages the Wellfleet Farmers Market on Cape Cod. She continues to write about local food, including at diaryofalocavore.com, and to produce a weekly radio show on the same topic for NPR affiliate WCAI. (You can listen to her from her blog.) She and husband Alex are peddling pretty fast to keep up with daughter Sally, who just turned 2.

MCS 29

Fall 2002

Class Agents: Cara Brody, cara.lutz.brody@gmail.com; Greg Daggett, gdagget1@gmail.com

Constanza Ontaneda (Semesters 47–50 faculty) is in grad school at New York University.

MCS 30

Spring 2003

Class Agents: Will Davidson, davidswr@gmail.com; Kiira Heymann, kiirahey@gmail.com; Olivia Sideman, olivia.sideman@gmail.com

Dana Crane is helping support the local food movement in Midcoast Maine by managing the gardens at Salt Water Farm. The gardens fuel a cooking school in Lincolnville and a farm-to-table restaurant in Rockport.

MCS 31

Fall 2003

Class Agents: Sarah Kirk, sskirk@gmail.com; Ben McGee, benjamin.e.mcgee@gmail.com

"I'm currently the lead instructor for the North Carolina Outward Bound School, and a research coordinator in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of North Carolina," writes **Courtney Smith**. She began studying for a PhD in clinical psych this fall.

MCS 32

Spring 2004

Class Agents: Julian Holland, jpholl05@gmail.com; Molly Martin, mollymarti@gmail.com

MCS 33

Fall 2004

Class Agents: Bryce Koukopoulos, bkoukopoulos@gmail.com; Jaz Smith, jasmine.whitney@gmail.com

Educator and musician Dani Gershkoff lives in Philadelphia. She teaches ESL to adults and works in children's after-school and summer camp programs teaching everything from poetry to gardening to music to reading. This fall she's nannying for her 4-month-old nephew. Also, Chewonki-style, she lives collectively with a group of six friends. "We have an eating system, cleaning system, jobs system, a little tiny garden in the backyard, and lots of fun together!" Jane Koopman is now a gear reviewer at the on-line site Blister. Brvce Koukopoulos (Semester faculty '11-'13; GC staff '12) has moved to Athens, Greece.

PEOPLE



Semester mates (L-R) Hannah Gallo, Ellie Bomstein, Mikayla Lytton, Jasmine Smith, and Mattias Lanas at the 25th anniversary

MCS 34

Spring 2005

Class Agents: Alex Beecher, albeech317@yahoo.com; Liz Franchot, efranchot@gmail.com

Milla Kate Bell-Hart lives in Los Angeles with boyfriend Thaddeus and her cat, Pocket. She assists two television writers. She is (unsuccessfully) learning to identify succulents.

MCS 35

Fall 2005

Class Agent: Cameron McKnight, faithcameronmcknight@yahoo.com

Jamie Watson (BC '97-'02; BC Staff '07) has started med school at the University of Chicago. See the 1990s for news of **Becca Abuza**.

MCS 36

Spring 2006

Class Agents: Teddy Newmyer, tnewmyer@wesleyan.edu; Chelsea Pompadur, cpompadur@gmail.com

Mary Cox planned to attend Harvard Extension School this September to take all of the preregs for med school. She planned on taking classes at night, and "studying, volunteering, and maybe working a bit during the days."

Wendy Lovinger recently moved to San Francisco. She continues to rock her faded black fleece and

muddy quasi-moon boots. **Chelsea Pompadur** is working for City Year London as a team leader in an all-boys secondary school. "This will be my second year with City Year," Chelsea writes, "and I'm really looking forward to the challenges and rewards."

MCS 37

Fall 2006

Class Agent: Lizzy Tarr, lizzy.tarr@gmail.com

Katie Black is in med school at the Medical College of Georgia, class of 2016.

MCS 38

Spring 2007

Class Agents: Franklin Jacoby, fjacoby@coa.edu; Maddy Schwartz, madeleineschwartz@gmail.com

Franklin Jacoby (WT '06-'07; WT staff '12) spent the summer working on his family's farm and has begun a one-year master's program in philosophy in Scotland. Emmy Masur graduated from Middlebury in February and spent time after graduation in Peru working on a mapping project for a small health NGO in the Sacred Valley. In May she began a premedical post-bacc year at Goucher College in Towson, MD, where she will complete her remaining med school requirements. Halie Morrell has just started a master's program at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Science. Annie Sprogell will be going to Tufts Medical School this vear.

MCS 39

Fall 2007

Class Agents: Dana Golden, deg1@williams.edu; Madeleine Woodle, mwoodle@princeton.edu

Maddy Woodle graduated from Princeton in June with a degree in politics and moved to Chicago to work for the Illinois State Board of Education. "I am learning so much about education policy, and it's made me reflect about my own schooling, which inevitably makes me think about my wonderful MCS experience," she writes. "I was lucky enough to have dinner with **Wells Andres** and **Abby Wilson** in July [see photo]. Wells is teaching in Chicago for Teach for America, and Abby was in town for a bit for job training."

MCS 40

Spring 2008

Class Agents: Rachel Madding, rmadding@middlebury.edu; Nick McCleod, nwmcleod@syr.edu

Lisa Beneman has moved to Walla Walla, WA, and sends "everyone at Chewonki a warm hello." Yona Koch-Fienberg finished at Oberlin by completing her final year at the London School of Economics. She spent part of this summer at Chewonki as a temporary sustainability intern. Eliza Taylor is a senior at Barnard, majoring in economics. She wants to work in sports marketing. The Chicago Botanic Garden has awarded Elisabeth Ward a fellowship in Conservation and Land Management. She'll graduate from Brown University in May with a BS in human biology and plans to begin working for the Bureau of Land Management in Las Cruces, NM.

MCS 41

Fall 2008

Class Agent: Kevin Coleman, colemanki@gmail.com

MCS 42

Spring 2009

Class Agent: Carly Blumenfeld, cnblumenfeld@gmail.com

Cassie Greenbaum spent the summer in Thailand, conducting research for her undergraduate thesis. She's studying the social, environmental, and economic impacts of dams along the tributaries of the Mekong River and the Mekong itself.

Semester 43

Fall 2009

Class Agent: Sara Clark, saraclark146@msn.com

This summer **Katie Burns** (GC staff '12) worked for Maine Audubon's Piping Plover/Least Tern Monitoring Project, an endangered species recovery project that involves managing and monitoring endangered shorebirds. Katie's responsibilities included setting up stake and twine fencing, constructing predator exclosures, taking field notes, and



(L-R) Wells Andres, Maddy Woodle, and Abby Wilson

administering public educational programs. "By the end of the season," she reports, "our efforts had vielded almost 80 fledged chicks." Matthew Goodrich anticipates new challenges as he heads off for a year at St. Catherine's College at Oxford University. He is concentrating in history and political thought. Upon completing a fall semester in Florence, Italy, Katherine Shor will return to the Honors College at UNC Chapel Hill, where she is pursuing a dual degree in public policy and English. Katherine works for Student U, a nonprofit, collegeaccess, and mentorship program for Durham Public School students in grades 6-12. She teaches middleschool students about sustainability and environmental responsibility.

Semester 44

Spring 2010

Class Agents: Charlotte Allyn, charlotteallyn@gmail.com; Hannah Perkins, hannah_perkins@me.com

Clarkie Hussey is "happily at Columbia after a gap year spent half in Australia and half in Seattle." Deirdre Shea's studies at Hampshire College are in education, social policy, and economics, with a particular focus on educational accessibility in early childhood and high school. "In connection with that," she writes, "I am interested in hearing other MCS/Semester School alumni's perspectives on why Chewonki's program appealed to them, and about the kind of support network they had in their application process. If anyone is interested in sharing, I would love to get in touch!"

Semester 45

Fall 2010

Class Agents: Katie Rush, katierush@westminster.net; Noah Stone, noah1313@gmail.com

Semester 46

Spring 2011

Class Agents: Ruthy Gourevitch, ruth-gourevitch@gmail.com; Katie Kibler, kkibler@paceacademy.org; Clarke Rudick, clarkerudick@gmail.com

Semesters 47 & 48 Are Off to College!

Alumni from Semesters 47 and 48 graduated from their sending schools this past spring and are off to do amazing things. Several are taking a gap year, with plans that include traveling around South America, Europe, and New Zealand; WWOOFing (Willing Workers on Organic Farms) in various locations; and working in a Buddhist monastery.

The following are the schools that Semester 47 and 48 alumni will be attending:

Allegany College
Amherst College
Bard College
Bates College
Berklee College of Music
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brown University
Carleton College
Colby College
College of the Atlantic
Colorado College
Columbia University
Cornell University
Dartmouth College

George Washington University Goucher College Grinnell College Hamilton College Hampshire College Kenyon College Lehigh University Lewis & Clark College Macalester College Maine Maritime Academy Middlebury College Mount Holyoke College Pitzer College Quinnipiac University Sewanee Smith College

St. Lawrence University
Trinity College
Tufts University
Tulane University
University of Maine
University of Oregon
University of Rochester
University of Vermont
University of Wisconsin
Williams College
Vanderbilt University
Wesleyan University
Wheaton College
Whitman College
Yale University

Maritza Padilla traveled to India this summer and is studying at Pomona College. "I absolutely love California, though I do miss Maine a lot!"

Semester 47

Fall 2011

Class Agents: Francesca Governali, francesca@maine.rr.com; Paige Williams, paigewilliams@ westminster.net

Semester 47 students reunited this June at the home of Ella Driscoll. "It was amazing!" wrote Ella's mom, Susie Driscoll Fairchild. "I cannot begin to tell you how bedazzled I was by the kids' organization in planning, preparing, and cleaning up all meals. They were respectful, leaving the house possibly cleaner at the end then when they walked in the door. They even did a bit of weeding for us!" The bonds created during the semester remain strong. "Watching them together was magical-I know these will be life-long friendships."

Semester 48

Spring 2012

Class Agents: Chris Coughlin, cdcoughlin@gmail.com; Miranda Mahmoud, miranda.mahmoud@ gmail.com; Madeline Miller, livelaughluv094@gmail.com; Elizabeth O'Connor, oconnore@gfacademy.org

Semester 49

Fall 2012

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Semester 50

Spring 2013

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SEMESTER SCHOOL FACULTY & STAFF

Chewonki sustainability officer

Tom Twist spoke at the Energy
Ocean International Conference in
Warwick, RI, in June. His
presentation focused on the
collaborative efforts of Chewonki
and the Town of Wiscasset to assess
tidal power in the Wiscasset section
of the Sheepscot River. Although

researchers concluded that this is not a promising site for tidal power, the undertaking has drawn attention as an example of a municipality and a nonprofit working well together. Also in June, Tom attended the national Summit on Environmental Sustainability in Independent Schools in Connecticut. He was especially pleased to meet two semester alums there: **Torrey**McMillan (MCS 1), director of the Center for Sustainability at the Hathaway Brown School in

Cleveland, OH, who spoke about sustainability as part of the school curriculum, and Will Willis (MCS 6), director of environmental initiatives at Mercersburg Academy in Mercersburg, PA. Meg Giuliano (MCS 39-40 teaching fellow) recently moved back to New England from Washington, D.C., to take a position with CitySprouts, a nonprofit that develops, implements, and maintains school gardens in collaboration with the Cambridge and Boston public school systems. She says "it's wonderful to be back up north, and I am truly enjoying my new job, where I get to spend my days outdoors teaching young people, working in the gardens, and building capacity among Cambridge's teachers." Meg and her new neighbor, Elana Snow (MCS 41-42 teaching fellow), planned to attend the 25th anniversary together. Daegan Miller (BC & OC staffs '04; MCS 31-36 faculty), married to Talia Epstein Miller (EE staff '03-'06), reports: "Our son, Wyeth, is 2 years old and an avid birdwatcher, able to identify many backyard birds and their calls." The family left Ithaca this summer so Daegan can take a post-doc at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

IN MEMORIAM

Douglas Finlay Allen (BC '33-'41; BC staff '42, '46-'47), son of Chewonki founder Clarence Allen, died on May 22, 2013, in Salem, MA, after a short illness. He was 87 years old. Few people have had as long a friendship with Chewonki as Doug had. He spent the summer of 1926 here, arriving when he was two months old, and made his last visit in July 2011, when he was 85. "It was a very poignant visit," development director Lucy Hull recalled recently. "Doug came with his wife, Louise, and daughter, Tapley, and shared some wonderful old photographs and stories with us."

Doug was born in Boston on May 7, 1926, to Clarence E. and Elizabeth L. Allen. He was also the son of Katherine B. Allen, whom Clarence married in 1942, after Elizabeth had died. Doug attended Rivers School and graduated from Deerfield Academy, Harvard College, and Harvard Business School and received an ALM degree from Harvard. He served as a lieutenant in the Navy in the Pacific.

He spent more than 20 summers at Chewonki, first with his family and later as a camper and counselor. As former president Don Hudson said recently, "Doug grew up at Chewonki. He had a particular fondness for nature and served as the Nature counselor. He was one of many people who picked up the baton after Roger Tory Peterson left." When his father sold Chewonki and it transitioned in 1962 from a summer camp to a year-round nonprofit, Doug supported the change whole-heartedly, said Don. He maintained a lifelong interest in Chewonki and, especially in his later years, was a frequent

visitor. When Chewonki celebrated its 90th birthday in August 2005, it was Doug who blew out the candles on the cake. His daughter reported that shortly before he died, Doug was talking about how important Chewonki was to him.

Doug was a longtime resident of Swampscott, MA. For many years he was a partner of Farquhar & Black in Lynn and a director of the Eastern



Doug Allen with Willard Morgan in July 2011

Bank. He served as president of the Board of Trustees of Lynn Hospital and as president of the Board of Trustees of Tower School in Marblehead. His greatest public service commitment, however, was to the Town of Swampscott, which he served for 47 years as head of the Finance Committee, town moderator, and chairman of the Board of Selectmen. He was also an avid fly fisherman and accomplished gardener.

Doug is survived by his wife of 65 years, Louise Breed Allen; their children, Doug Allen, Jr., Pitch (Richardson) Allen, and Tapley Allen Sheresky; and four grandchildren. Chewonki is honored that donations in Doug's memory can be made to Chewonki, for the Clarence E. and Katherine B. Allen Camp Scholarship Fund. Doug asked that a portion of his ashes be spread near Sunrise Cabin.

Lasagna Gardening: The Slow Art of Transformation

CAITLIN THURRELL, FARM EDUCATOR

ardening, like most engagements with other living things, is long and patient work. Slowly, I am learning that things done hastily are rarely done best. This past summer on Saltmarsh Farm we initiated a project that will bear its best fruit over the next 5 to 50 years. Using a method pioneered by gardener Patricia Lanza and called "lasagna gardening," we have begun converting the front lawn of the Gatehouse into an orchard and perennial fruit garden. Lasagna gardening is a no-dig, no-till method of organic

gardening that can save time and labor while also resulting in soil that is rich in nutrients, relatively weed-free, and easy to work. (You can learn more at lasagnagardening.com.)

On deciding you want to plant a garden, it is possible to borrow a rototiller from your neighbor or the local hardware store, tear up a likely looking patch of lawn, and plant seedlings almost in the same day. More than likely, though, you will end up with little more than a few wan tomato plants struggling up through a mat of persistent grasses. Organic gardening is largely a practice of attention to the state of the soil, so perhaps I'll start this conversation as we started our beds, from the ground up.

Most grasses found in a lawn are well-adapted competitors. Many spread through rhizomes, rootlike structures underneath the soil. These grasses are perennials, and given the chance will come back year after year. Instead of trying to beat back lawn grass with the mechanical interruption of tiller or plow, the farm crew spent the rainy days of June

harvesting cardboard from the recycling shed and peeling off countless yards of stickers and plastic tape. We layered these carefully over the lawn, creating a solid barrier between the grass and sun. By next spring, the grasses will be dead and beginning to

decompose, adding the organic material of their roots and leaves to the fertility of the soil.

Lasagna gardening is named not for its ingredients but for the process of layering it employs. Through long July afternoons we spread a variety of nutrient-rich materials in thin layers atop the cardboard, leaving it all to break down in place. Mucking the sheep's winter bedding left our barn clean and made a fine first layer of well-balanced carbon and nitrogen. Manure scraped from the winter paddock of our draft horse, Sal,

was followed by duckweed skimmed from the surface of the farm pond. For a home gardener, any organic material can be useful: newspaper, unfinished compost, grass clippings, and garden waste all have their place. We finished the project in August with a final layer of leaves, pine needles, and waste hay, keeping everything in place to rot well into the soil.

This year's effort will continue in the spring, when we will plant asparagus, raspberries, blackberries, blueberries, strawberries, apples, and other perennials into the ground that once grew only grass. The first harvest won't come for a little longer yet—two years, perhaps, at the soonest—but it will be sweetened with the anticipation, and will continue to yield for a long time to come.

The bottom line: In the real world, nothing is waste. With patience, attention, wheelbarrows, and willing hands, the refuse of one year is the nourishment of the next.

"I study climate change" "I'm getting my Ph.D. in philosophy" "I'm a journalist" "I'm an international human rights lawyer" "I work in renewable energy" "I'm a venture capitalist" "I'm raising twins" "I'm a 'green' architect" "I'm an emergency medicine physician" "I sing" "I analyze food policy" "I'm a neuroscientist" "I study marine mammals" "I started a micro-funding company" "I am a teacher" "I'm a real estate investor" "I'm a human beat boxer" "I lead an investment management company" "I lead wilderness trips" "I'm a sculptor" "I build canoes" "I'm a bird rehabilitator" "I'm an energy engineer"

Has Chewonki made a difference in your life?

Many alumni tell us that who they are today began at Chewonki. Help make a difference in someone else's life.

Please give to the Annual Fund!

"I'm a viticulturist" "I am an entrepreneur and growth strategist" "I'm a photographer" "I'm a midwife" "I work on a goat farm" "I'm a pastry chef" "I'm a lawyer and Highland hammer-thrower" "I'm a psychologist" "I work for a senator" "I'm a curator" "I'm an anthropologist" "I'm in the Air Force "I've written a book" "I'm general counsel at a bank" "I'm a social media consultant" "I'm a translator" "I lead a land trust" "I work for international peace" "I'm a private equity advisor" "I manage science content for a museum website" "I'm studying sustainable landscape planning" "I work at a charter school"

The Importance of Planned Giving

It's the ultimate statement of how much I value and care about Chewonki

CHARLIE GORDY

should start with full disclosure: I make my living helping people benefit the organizations they care about and believe in—including Chewonki. I also practice what I preach: my first bequest to Chewonki was my kayak, paddle, backpack, and assorted gear; it's now a percentage of my residual estate. I'm a proud member of Chewonki's Osprey Society, for individuals who have included Chewonki in their long-term estate plans and financial planning.

The seeds for my gift—and my career—were planted in the summer of 1969 when I first arrived at Chewonki. I was a nervous 9-year-old and turned 10 that July. My cabin was Ranch House, and my counselors were Fred Scott and David Ridgeway (I think). We watched the astronauts land on the moon in Woodchuck Lodge (where the Ospreys are now), learned woodcraft and nature, swimming, and arts and crafts. Campfire and Tent Day were highlights.

Chewonki was a simpler organization then, but the values were the same as they are today: respect for and stewardship of the natural world; teaching people of all ages how to value and appreciate what they see and experience outdoors; how to leave a softer footprint; understanding local connections to regional and global issues. I was a camper for three summers (and those were eight-week sessions then) and went on to Umbagog, the Thoreau Wilderness Trip, and the first Mistissini trip. I had all of the Hudsons—Dave, Ben, and Don—as my counselors and teachers. Those experiences are an indelible part of who I am and how I look at the world.

After attending college in Maine and law school in Washington, D.C., I returned to Maine to clerk for the Maine Supreme Court and to practice law for a few years in Portland. It was then that Tim Ellis asked me to become a Chewonki advisor. Practicing law was not for me, and Tim hired me as Chewonki's first development director. I did everything from planned giving to licking the stamps on the annual appeal, and continued in that role when Don Hudson became president.



My development career led me to the Wilderness Society, Tufts University, Yale University, and now Harvard Law School. From the Wilderness Society onward, I have used my legal training to focus on planned giving. Throughout those times, I remained a Chewonki advisor, and earlier this year I became a trustee.

Becoming a trustee is an incredible honor and responsibility. It requires active engagement in the present and future of the foundation and its activities from budget, financial, and development issues to programmatic composition and direction. I look forward to contributing my skills and experience to the success of Chewonki, its staff, and the board.

I am also pleased to be a member of the Osprey Society. Planned giving is an important component of many organizations' financial support, and for me it's the ultimate statement of how much I value and care about Chewonki. Professionally, it's incredibly gratifying to use my knowledge and experience to help people provide for organizations they care about, especially if one of them is Chewonki! Bequests, gifts from IRAs (either immediate or deferred), charitable trusts, and gifts of real estate are some of the planned gifts people can make and qualify for membership in the Osprey Society. Let the staff know if you would like more information about these opportunities.

Charlie Gordy is director of planned giving at Harvard Law School and a Chewonki trustee.

The Osprey Society comprises people who have included Chewonki in their estate plans and financial planning. For more information, contact Lucy Hull, Director of Development, at lhull@chewonki.org or 207-882-7323 x 127.







and see more photos on pages 18-19.



Oh, What a Time We Had!

From campfire to contra dance, from Polar Bear plunges to public policy discussions—it was all wonderful. Nearly 350 alumni, current and former faculty, and family members from across the country gathered to celebrate Semester School's 25th anniversary weekend on August 23–25. A brilliant blue sky each day and a sweep of stars each night arched over the festivities, allowing everyone to enjoy the Neck at its finest. Spirits shone as alumni reconnected with semester mates and teachers, made friends across semesters, and learned about Chewonki today. The weekend also marked the culmination of our special "Raise the Roof" fund-raising challenge for semester alumni. Learn more about that on p. 4,