SPRING 2011

CHEWONKI

Unplugging How is it done in the digital age?



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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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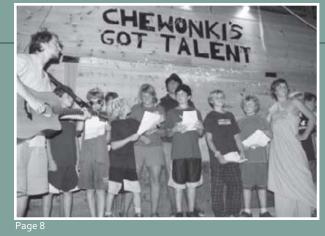
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Stories Are at the Heart of Chewonki

t was with great sadness that we lost Margaret Ellis to a year-long illness in February of this year. Although I am a relative newcomer to Chewonki, Margaret and Tim (former Chewonki president) have shaped my experience in important ways. In the summer of 2004 I spent a few weeks with them in their old farmhouse in Woolwich, and I fondly remember the daily tea-time with Margaret's probing questions, infectious chuckle, and wry smile. She and Tim offered sage advice then, and between their subsequent travels, but they always did so with a plainly take-it-or-leave-it attitude that empowered my leadership of Maine Coast Semester (now Chewonki Semester School).

It was in their home that my wife, Jenn, and I said good-bye to a peaceful and radiant Margaret in the week before she died. That home has hosted a steady stream of Chewonki visitors over the past months, many of whom joined us for a celebration of Margaret's life on April 9.

At that event we saw nearly the entire span of Chewonki history represented in the generations and affiliation of attendants. The same is true for this issue of the *Chronicle*. In addition to the wonderful remembrance of Margaret, we have profiles of Chewonki luminaries Gordy Hall and Dick Thomas. Gordy led Tim on a trip to Baxter State Park in 1950, and then Tim was mentor to Dick in the 1970s and 1980s, before Dick succeeded him as camp director in 1986. In their stories we feel the heart of Chewonki.

In this issue we also see the future in our new head of school, Ann Carson, and our new director of Camp for Girls, Abby Burbank. You will also read about our unplugged environment today, which fosters deep connections in the same way they were made by Margaret, Tim, Dick, and Gordy in the past. Finally, we share work to bring the Chewonki experience to others through the ELLMS funding collaborative and Zero Waste Initiative, projects rooted in the era of Tim and Margaret's leadership.

We look forward to sharing more about Tim and Margaret's contributions in the fall *Chronicle*, and we hope you will share your stories too, especially in the context of preparing to celebrate our centennial in 2015. It is the heartfelt stories that can give us strength and comfort through the joys and challenges of a well-lived life.

With warm regards, Willard



News from the Neck

New Partnership to Provide Financial Aid for Public School Visits

our Maine nonprofits specializing in residential environmental education have formed a unique collaboration to make their programs more widely available to schoolchildren. Chewonki, Ferry Beach Ecology School in Saco, and two University of Maine 4-H Camp & Learning Centers—one in Bryant Pond and one in Lincolnville—have partnered to create ELLMS: Environmental Living and Learning for Maine Students. The program was formally announced on Earth Day, April 22.

ELLMS will provide students in all 16 Maine counties with residential environmental education by establishing a financial aid fund for public schools. The program will begin with the 2011–2012 school year and will focus on upper-elementary and middleschool students.

Katie Tremblay, director of Chewonki's Outdoor Classroom, is thrilled to be part of the effort. "Maine is famous for its natural resources, yet many of our children today barely know the natural world outside their homes and classrooms," she said.

As school budgets have shrunk in recent years, all four ELLMS partners have seen a steady decline in public school visits. "Teachers and principals all over the state have told us how sad and frustrated they are about losing the unique educational opportunities we offer," said Katie. "ELLMS will help us reach more students in more communities and will also ensure that underserved children have the same access to high-quality residential environmental education that students from more affluent families enjoy."



The program is being established with grants from private foundations and corporations. Once it gains traction, ELLMS hopes to secure additional funding from businesses, school and community partners, and individual donors.

Schools will apply online for financial aid to support tuition and/or bus transportation to the ELLMS program of their choice. Funding will be awarded on a first-come/ first-served basis on a sliding scale between 10 and 95 percent, based on what percentage of the school's students are eligible for the National School Lunch Program. Chewonki and the other three partners will each provide 15 percent of tuition costs.

The project has already attracted state and even national attention. "This is breaking new ground and will serve as a model for other like-minded nonprofits in Maine and across the country," said Katie.

For more information, visit www.ellms.org. If you are interested in supporting this innovative program, please contact Chewonki's director of development, Lucy Hull, at 207-882-7323 ext. 127 or lhull@chewonki.org.

Mini-Grant Program Benefits Seasonal Staff

new staff development fund at Chewonki is providing six members of the seasonal staff with "mini-grants" to support valuable training opportunities away from the Neck this year. The mini-grants program was launched last fall by the Camp and Wilderness Trips offices and is intended to promote the professional development and training of Chewonki's seasonal summer staff while also securing their employment for the coming summer.

"The program will provide small grants of varying amounts—between \$100 and \$500," said Summer Wilderness Programs director Ryan Linehan. "Chewonki wants to continue to attract and retain high-quality staff. These grants are one way we can say 'We value you, we want you to improve your awesome skills and come back next summer."

Applicants must meet several criteria: they must have been employed by Chewonki for the past two seasons; commit to returning the next season; be seeking an experience that enhances their work at Chewonki; provide a total budget for the experience; and give a presentation on their experience during trip-leader training in the spring.

This year's grants will support tuition for a National Outdoor Leadership School training course; two Zoar Outdoor swiftwater rescue courses; an extended wilderness experience in northern Maine; and programs with the Boulder Outdoor Survival School and the Massachusetts-based Food Project Winter Institute.

To learn more about the mini-grant program, including how interested donors can help support it, contact Ryan Linehan (rlinehan@chewonki.org).

American Camp Association Bestows Accreditation and Prestigious Award

fter a formal accreditation visit last August and an official vote at its fall board meeting, the American Camp Association announced in early January that Chewonki Camp for Girls has been ACA accredited. "We're thrilled," said Chewonki president Willard Morgan. "Camp director Genell Huston and her whole team achieved this remarkable benchmark after only three summers at our Fourth Debsconeag Lake campus."

The first-time achievement means Chewonki Camp for Girls met or exceeded more than 300 standards for health, safety, and program quality an impressive accomplishment for a camp that embarks on only its fourth summer this year. Accreditation is entirely voluntary and in some cases requires meeting standards that exceed state regulations. Chewonki Camp for Girls attained 100 percent compliance with ACA standards.

The 100-year-old ACA accredits more than 2,400 camps nationwide. "ACA accreditation is the best evidence that a camp is committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment," the organization states.

"The planning for our girls camp began in earnest in 2007, and many people have worked tirelessly to make it such a wonderful, magical place," said Willard. "We're very proud that it is ACA accredited, especially as we welcome our new camp director, Abby Burbank."

hortly after celebrating the accreditation of Girls Camp, Chewonki received word that it would also receive the ACA's prestigious Eleanor P. Eells Award for Program Excellence. The award was received by semester and camp staff alumnus Sean Bohac at the ACA's national conference in San Diego on February 8.

Born in 1893, Eleanor P. Eells was a social worker and a leader and inspiration in the field of camp throughout her life. "Her greatest contribution was helping individuals and camps start new programs," said the ACA. She died at the age of 93, but her legacy lives on in the annual award that was created in her honor in 1977.

This year marks the second time Chewonki has received an Eells award. The first was in 1990, for the newly developed Boatbuilders Expedition, a five-week program that remains one of our most popular coed wilderness programs for teens. <complex-block>

Stothart Connor. "The Eells award recognizes camps that develop creative responses to the needs of children and society, and we cannot imagine a more meaningful role for Chewonki to play today."

In addition to rewarding program excellence, the award also recognizes camps that stimulate the exchange of creative ideas and that promote the positive contribution camp makes to the well-being of individuals and society.

A New Weather Station!

hewonki participants and staff have been keeping track of the weather around here for as long as anyone can remember—emptying rain gauges, resetting max-min thermometers, refilling the ink in data loggers. Now, those daily chores are history! With a new solar-powered, wireless weather station, Chewonki is firmly in the 21st century when it comes to collecting weather data.

The new station—a Davis Instruments Vantage Pro2—is mounted in a clearing near the orchard and transmits to a monitor in the Farm House during most of the year and to the Nature Museum when camp is in session.

"Anyone can look at the monitor and see what's happened over the last 24 hours," says head naturalist Lynne Flaccus. The system measures barometric pressure, temperature, humidity, rainfall, wind speed and direction, and UV radiation. It provides highs and lows, as well as totals and averages, for virtually all variables for the past 24 days, months, or years. "We can even get our own local forecast," says Lynne. Data can be shown in graph form or in a text file, and it's all stored digitally. The major advantage of the system, however, is that it enables Chewonki to collect data consistently, meaning no more gaps when programs aren't in session or staff are unavailable.

The new station has already proved especially helpful when Lynne does water-quality testing at Montsweag Brook, where Chewonki is overseeing habitat restoration following the removal of Lower Montsweag Dam. "I can go back to previous weather data and compare it with our testing results," she says. Lynne is training staff and semester students on how to use the new station and is developing ways to incorporate it into all of Chewonki's programs.

Funding for the new station came from the Portland-based Aldermere Foundation, which focuses on civic and environmental interests in Maine.

News from the Neck

Chewonki Heads South to Isla Holbox

t has been said that hooking a tarpon is the most exciting 10 seconds of flyfishing, and Chewonki director of operations Don Lamson (shown here on the left) agrees. That's why he's organizing a guided fishing trip this August to Mexico's Isla Holbox, a 26-mile-long island about 6 miles off the Yucatan Peninsula.

Spend six days fly-casting to one of the most formidable game fish anywhere, and have the chance to see dolphins, sea turtles, and many species of rays and seabirds. Don, a lifelong fly fisherman, returned ecstatic from a scouting trip to the island in March, having secured first-rate accommodations for Chewonki's guests. "I'm thrilled that we can stay in a beautiful hotel and have the opportunity to fish with some of the best local guides."



Beyond the fishing, Isla Holbox is magical. The island boasts white sand beaches, turquoise seas, and 150 species of birds. The village of Holbox is home to about 1,500 year-round residents. There are no cars on the island, only bicycles, scooters, and golf carts. Except for the village itself, the island is undeveloped, and most of it falls within a protected nature preserve. Don traveled to Holbox with his wife, Dot, former director of Chewonki's Center for Environmental Education. "She loved the island— the birding, the beaches, the ocean. It's a great place to take a family vacation," Don said.

The biggest tourism draw on the island is not tarpon but swimming with whale sharks, which migrate along Isla Holbox each summer. Tour boats allow for people to actually *swim* with the giant peaceful fish. There are also birding tours, kayak rentals, and windsurfing. But the favorite pastime on Isla Holbox is "relaxation," says Don. "It's one of my favorite places on earth, and if you like wildlife and beaches, it falls into the category of sheer paradise." Don enthusiastically invites anyone in the Chewonki family to join him this summer. "I've traveled throughout Central America," he says. "Isla Holbox has it all."

To learn more about our Isla Holbox trip and other wilderness vacations for adults and families, go to www.chewonki.org/vacations/vacations_flyfishing.asp.

PLEASE Update Your Address

We know you're out there, because our records tell us you are. Some of you are 40 years old and still getting mail from us at a parent's address. Some of you are getting mail from us at *two* addresses; some at *no* address! PLEASE update your address and email. The benefits?

- Staying connected with Chewonki the way that you want.
- Saving resources—something we all want!

It couldn't be easier: just visit www.chewonki.org and click on "Keep in Touch," right under "Popular Pages." You can also phone us at 207-882-7323 or email assistant director of development Peg Willauer-Tobey at pegwillauer@chewonki.org.

Take Our Reader Survey

It's easy, fast, and just a click away. Please take a few moments to complete our reader survey! We'd love to hear what you like the most (and the least) about the *Chronicle*. By sharing your opinions and suggestions, you can help us ensure that these pages best serve *you*, our readers. The survey is anonymous, and it will be most effective if many people participate. Go to www.chewonki.org and click on Reader Survey. We'll share our findings with you in a future *Chronicle*.

FROM THE FARM

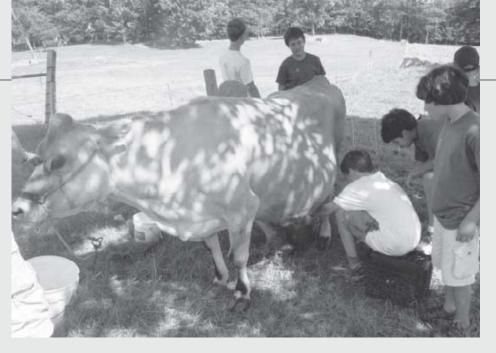
Goodbye to Adeline. It was a

hard decision looming. Our old friend Adeline, the 21-year-old Jersey cow that thousands of Chewonki participants had milked over nearly two decades, was rapidly declining. When a morning arrived in January that she could no longer get up to eat her grain and simply lay on the barn floor, mooing short questions at the farm crew, they knew it was time.

That afternoon, just before chores, Addie's long life at Saltmarsh Farm came to a close. She was buried near the Gatehouse, overlooking the fields that sustained her and near the remains of our old draft horse Nel. "Adeline's rich personality was a source of comfort and a symbol of stability for so many of us who spent time with her through the years," said assistant farm manager Jeremy Tardif. "She was a gentle creature who touched a lot of lives, in very significant ways. We miss her."

Bigger, Better Bins. Thanks to our

Maintenance and Wood Shop crews, Saltmarsh Farm has three brand-new, concrete compost bins. What, no more turning the compost with a pitchfork? That's right. Well, almost. Students still hand-turn the new material that's added to the pile each day, but the farm crew regularly tractor-turns the compost now.



It's an honest case of bigger being better. "We outgrew our old system and were having trouble handling the food waste created by an ever-growing community," explained farm manager Margaret Coleman. With the new system, the compost can be mixed and aerated much more efficiently and effectively. Semester students, campers, and Outdoor Classroom participants remain as involved as ever in the rest of the composting process. "The bins, as they have always been, are both an educational tool and a functional system," said Margaret.

It's difficult to get accurate figures, but assistant farm manager Jeremy Tardif estimates that Chewonki generates 18 to 24 yards of compost annually.





JOIN US FOR FAMILY CAMP!

Our annual Family Camp will be held this year on August 18–21 on Chewonki Neck. We hope you'll join us! Family Camp is an opportunity for couples and familiesincluding children and grandchildren-to enjoy a fully outfitted Maine vacation in the company of other friends and families. Come relax on the Neck and enjoy hiking, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, nature study, building bird boxes, birdwatching, fishing, and much more. For more information, visit our website or call us at 207-882-7323.

DIGITAL INTERRUPTION At Chewonki, the best connectivity platform

is still community and nature

ELIZABETH PIERSON

eo Abbe-Schneider didn't really look at trees before he came to Chewonki. It isn't because he lives in the desert or above tree line; Leo lives in Los Angeles, in a neighborhood full of trees. "It's because I was too busy texting," he says. Leo sends hundreds of text messages a day when he's at home. "I spend so much time looking at the palms of my hands that I don't see anything else. Here, I notice the trees and other things in my environment."

Forty-one students, Leo among them, are at Chewonki Semester School this spring. Their cell phones have been locked away since they arrived. For the first 10 days of the semester, their laptops were also locked away. When the laptops were returned, Leo said no thanks. When he needs a computer to do school work, he uses one of the public computers in the Farmhouse. He also emails and checks Facebook there, although not as often as he does at home.

Leo is 17 years old. Like the majority of his peers, including many at semester school, he defines himself as a heavy user of digital media and technology. He was not happy when he learned what he would be giving up at Chewonki: cell phone, digital internet devices, DVDs, Netflix subscription, TV, stereo. "My phone is my text-messaging machine. I couldn't

imagine not having it," he says. He can imagine it now. Not only that, it turns out that giving up his gadgets—cell phone included—was easier than he expected.

His classmates say the same thing. "I don't miss it at all. In fact, I kind of hate all that technology now," says Farallon Broughton, who's from New York City. "I don't need it. I have 40 friends right here on campus."

Sarah Gledhill of North Carolina says losing her phone has been "a positive thing." She recognizes now that she often used it to avoid awkward situations. "If there was a pause in a conversation, or something felt uncomfortable, I'd start texting to escape it. Here I really *talk* to people. I feel more connected."

"It's liberating not to have a phone!" exclaims Ben Jaffe. "There are times I feel phantom vibrations in my pocket, however." The Seattle student calls his free time at Chewonki "more diverse" than it is at home. The one rule he still chafes at is that laptops aren't allowed in the students' cabins. But maybe that's why he is reading more. And talking more with friends and teachers. "We're always busy here," he says, "but life is more relaxed than it is at home. It's simpler."

G G S impler." Clarence Allen would have loved to hear Ben say that word. Clarence was a young schoolteacher when he founded Camp Chewonki in 1915 as an antidote to the creep of urbanization and mechanization. Ninety-six years later, in a society heavily driven by media and technology, the antidote that became Chewonki is needed more urgently than ever.

Consider the findings of the California-based Kaiser Family Foundation, a nonprofit, private foundation that specializes in health policy and communications. In January 2010 Kaiser published the results of one of the most comprehensive studies ever conducted in the U.S. on media use among youth. "Generation M²: Media in the Lives of 8- to 18-Year-Olds" examines which media young people use, which they own, how much time they spend with each medium, which activities they





BRIDGET BESAW

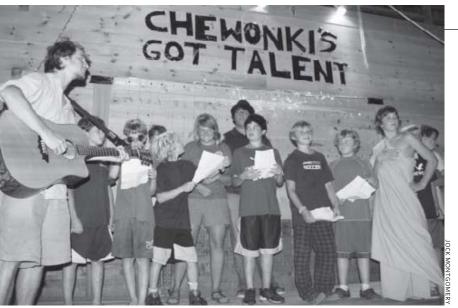
"We offer young people something that has become increasingly rare: an opportunity to simplify their lives and focus instead on the people and the surroundings that nurture them."

engage in, and how often they multitask. It explores a wide array of media, including TV, computers, video games, music, print, cell phones, and movies.

The results are astonishing. The average young person in the U.S. now spends more than 7½ hours a day using media— "almost the equivalent of a full work day, except that they are using media seven days a week instead of five," the report states. "Moreover, since young people spend so much of that time using two or more media concurrently, they are actually exposed to more than 10½ hours ... of media content during that period." Amazingly, this does *not* include time spent using a computer for school work or texting or talking on a cell phone. The dominant form of media consumption is watching TV—increasingly on mobile devices.

Media equipment surrounds our children. It is in their homes, their bedrooms, their cars, their schools, their backpacks, their pockets. According to Kaiser, 29 percent of 8- to 18-year-olds own their own laptop, 76 percent their own iPod or MP3, 66 percent their own cell phone. Cell phones were once just a way to talk with someone; now they're also a way to consume more media. "Eight- to eighteen-year-olds spend more time with media than in any other activity besides (maybe) sleeping," concludes Kaiser.

Continued on page 10



"I think many kids come to recognize that they often use electronic devices to amuse themselves when they're bored and don't have other options," says Boys Camp director Garth Altenburg.

What remains unknown is the effect all of this exposure is having on personality and the brain, particularly in children whose brains are still developing. Scientists are in the early stages of investigating the subject, but already there is evidence that people of all ages may be paying a hefty price for plugging in too much.

n this world of unrelenting digital stimulation, a Chewonki experience is even more relevant now than it was in 1915, says Chewonki president Willard Morgan. "In our summer programs, school programs, and semester school," he says, "we offer young people something that has become increasingly rare: an opportunity to simplify their lives and focus instead on the people and the surroundings that nurture them."

Willard recently created his own Facebook account and blog and is quick to acknowledge the value of digital media. "The challenge," he says, "is to be sure we're using the digital tools, especially telecommunications and social media, thoughtfully and sparingly instead of reflexively and habitually. At Chewonki we hope that 7 ½hours of media time each day becomes outdoor play, conversation, hands-on work, or intellectual engagement."

To that end, we unplug, to varying degrees. Semester students, who spend half a school year on campus, are partially unplugged. Campers, trippers, and Outdoor Classroom participants are completely unplugged; for the relatively short time they are with us, they must leave their laptops, cell phones, iPods, video games, and even Pokémon-type game cards at home. Instead of emailing, they communicate by letters.

Asked if he gets much pushback on this policy from parents or campers, Boys Camp director Garth Altenburg says, "No. For the most part it's embraced. I think people appreciate our policy. They recognize that they're tied to technology at home and value the opportunity to step away from it at Chewonki. A lot of parents ask me 'You're totally unplugged, right?' They really want that for their kids." The staff can have cell phones and iPods, but they can use them only when they're off duty and not with campers. During staff training week, even that is not allowed. "At the beginning of the summer, the entire camp staff takes a cyber sabbatical," explains Garth. "We put all of our phones and electronics away so we can concentrate on getting to know one another and coming together as a community."

Garth believes campers benefit in many ways by being unplugged from electronics. "The biggest thing is allowing them to be present in the community and in the world around them," he says. "It's a unique opportunity, something they really can't do the rest of the year. I think many kids come to recognize that they often use electronic devices to amuse themselves when they're bored and don't have other options. In some urban environments, kids don't have as many exciting things to do right outside their back door. At camp, the entertainment, the friendships, the adventures—they're all right here!"

Abby Burbank, the new director of Chewonki Camp for Girls, is excited about spending summers on Fourth Debsconeag Lake, where *everything* is unplugged. The fact that Girls Camp depends on a generator and renewable energy for all of its power means that every decision to employ modern technology is carefully weighed.

"There's no 'sending out the laundry' at Fourth Debsconeag," laughs Abby. "We do our laundry with an oldfashioned roller washboard and a tub sink!" In her position as the athletic director at a girls boarding school, Abby had ample opportunity to observe what a powerful force electronic media can be in the lives of teens. "We really had to wrestle sometimes with how to get kids out of their dorm rooms," she recalls. "They're in front of a computer screen all day, and it's a portal into another world."

Chewonki offers young people a portal into another world too—a world where nurturing respect for each other and the natural world is at the core of everything we do. It's a world that places a premium on direct interactions instead of on keyboards and touch pads.

"Chewonki isn't anti-technology," says math teacher Bill Hinkley, interim head of semester school. He points to all the technology that is embraced and modeled on campus, from solar panels to geothermal, renewable hydrogen, biodiesel, and the new wind turbine, not to mention fully networked main buildings with wireless internet hubs for staff and semester students. "Rather, our goal is to encourage students to use technology thoughtfully. We hope their experience here will raise their awareness and inform future decisions they make." Bill isn't under any illusions that students will go home and throw away their phones or drastically change their behavior at least not anytime soon, he says.

But consider this. Leo has learned to look at trees. Ben has discovered a love of reading. And Sarah has declared she will never again text while talking.

*The January 2010 Kaiser report is available online at www.kff.org/entmedia/mb012010pkg.cfm.

Chewonki Joins Nationwide Discusson about Education

f you have school-aged children, and especially if you live in a city or suburb, you may already have seen *Race to Nowhere.* The acclaimed documentary, subtitled "The Dark Side of America's Achievement Culture," was inspired by a series of wake-up calls that director Vicki Abeles said caused her "to look closely at the relentless pressure to perform that children face today."

As described on its website, the 85-minute film features the stories of "young people across the country who have been pushed to the brink, educators who are burned out and worried that students aren't developing the skills they need, and parents who are trying to do what's best for their kids." In hundreds of communities nationwide, people have been gathering to watch and discuss the movie and use it to raise awareness and galvanize change.

In February, Chewonki partnered with Frontier Café & Cinema in Brunswick to present six screenings of the film over three consecutive nights. A Chewonki staff member was present each evening to introduce the film and lead a

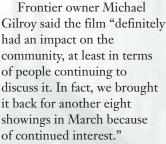
30-minute discussion afterward.

At the showing that Willard Morgan introduced, he said Chewonki partnered with Frontier "because we want to be part of this nationwide discussion about education here in midcoast Maine. In our semester school, Outdoor Classroom, and summer programs, we work with students of all ages and abilities and from across the country. We see the state of education. And the trends aren't all good." At Chewonki, he noted, staff have observed changes in children's physical health, mental health, amount of exposure to the natural world, and ability to engage in free play and to form friendships with peers and adults.

All 41 students from Semester 46, together with their advisors, attended the film. Asked afterward if any of them saw themselves in it, all but two students raised their hands. "Almost everything that was said in this movie has been true for me at my home school," said one boy.

Interim head of school Bill Hinkley said the film resonated with faculty as well as students and led to many healthy conversations. "While our mission seeks to keep serious academics in balance with physical work and outdoor experiences, there are occasions where conflicts arise," he admitted. "Based on themes brought up in the movie, students and teachers have been discussing our homework policies and considering making changes to our morning schedule to encourage a little extra sleep."

The film is not without its critics. It's heavy on anecdote and light on data, and several viewers in Brunswick thought it reflected the experiences primarily of suburban and privileged families. Yet those same viewers clearly identified with Vicki Abeles's lament that "childhood has become indentured to test scores, performance, and competition."



Race to Nowhere is "a call to mobilize families, educators, and policy makers to challenge current assumptions on how to best prepare the youth of America to become healthy, bright, contributing and leading citizens," says the film's website.

"It's thought provoking and well worth seeing," said Willard. You can learn more at www.racetonowhere.com.

THE DARK SIDE J' AMERICAS ACHIEVEMENT CULTURE

RACE TO NOWHERE

TAKE PART IN OUR NATIONAL SCREENING DAYS

Chewonki Welcomes Two New Leaders

Abby Burbank, Girls Camp Director

bby began work in the midst of a busy enrollment season and as hiring for summer counselors was getting underway. She joins Girls Camp at a fortuitous time. In only its fourth year, the camp remains a fledgling operation in some respects. Yet much of the core work—construction, expanded dining hall, privy installation, program development—has been accomplished by a tireless and dedicated team of staff and supporters. Abby's tenure takes root as Girls Camp begins its maturation from infancy to young adulthood.

Tell us a little about your childhood—where you grew up and what influences led you to this moment.

I grew up in coastal Maine, started going to day camp when I was five, and have continued ever since. Camp has been the strongest influence on my life. It's where I learned to ride horses, to canoe safely, to sail a boat myself—as opposed to being just a passenger. Without camp, I would never have learned to lead wilderness trips. Camp gave me experiences that have become a central part of my life.

Camp gave me connection and friendships. My best friend today is someone I met at age 12 in camp. Powerful connections are made at camp that are different from those made in residential academic settings like schools. In camp, you are actually *given* skills to help you learn to live with others, whereas at most boarding schools the focus is on the academic experience and you basically get through the residential part.

I'm lucky to have attended high-quality camps, and this sets a high standard for what I expect. At age 25 I was trained by the American Camp Association to perform accreditation visits, and I commonly visited four or five camps a year. I loved doing this and got to visit camps in beautiful places around the country—like the Tetons of Wyoming and Colorado. Eventually I became a standards instructor.

What lessons have you learned working at a summer



BETTA STOTHART CONNOR

camp that apply to your new role? I learned that you're never done learning—so that even though it may be the same site and many of the

same people each year, it will be different. Camp is intermittent; everyone comes back with nine months of experience behind them. It's important to celebrate and use that!

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Chewonki was delighted to announce the appointment of two new leaders earlier this year. On February 14 Abby Burbank became the second director of Chewonki Camp for Girls, and on March 10 Ann Carson was named head of Chewonki Semester School. I had the opportunity to talk with both women shortly after their appointments. Below is some of what they shared with me about their backgrounds, what inspires them, and what drew them to Chewonki. You can read more about Abby and Ann at www.chewonki.org/news.asp. —BETTA STOTHART CONNOR

Ann Carson, Head of Chewonki Semester School

nn is currently dean of faculty at the Fountain Valley School, a four-year boarding school in Colorado Springs, where she has taught since 1997. Chewonki's search committee was particularly impressed with Ann's 24 years of independent school teaching and leadership, her deep love for the outdoors, and her proven record leading sustainability initiatives and education. Ann and her husband, Steve Kerchner, will move to Chewonki's Wiscasset campus on August 1.

Tell us a little about your childhood—where you grew up and what influences led you to this moment.

I grew up in Berkeley, California, in a home where camping and spending time outdoors were our primary means of "vacationing." Our family regularly visited Yosemite National Park, camping and hiking in the high country, and spent many a weekend on wild beaches on the California coast. My parents were lovers of wild nature, passing on this passion to my two brothers and me. In addition, my parents were incredibly interested in wildlife. My mother is a lifelong birder, and my father is a wildlife artist.

Why do you feel sustainability education is so important today?

This generation has some tough decisions ahead of it, including what to do about climate change and how to continue a comfortable way of life in an age of dwindling resources. To me, teaching about sustainability is the most important educational gift I can give my students.



What do you like most about teaching science?

Instilling a sense of wonder is what science education is all about. Whether I'm teaching chemistry, biology, or environmental science, having students understand how the natural world works and how *fascinating* it all is motivates me every day in the classroom.

What drew you to Chewonki?

Chewonki's mission of having students understand their place in the natural world is incredibly compelling to me. Working together as a community, learning about more sustainable ways to live, and understanding the ecology of the place you're in—these are exactly what I'm most interested in as an educator.

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Abby Burbank, Girls Camp Director

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Do you think single-gender experiences are special?

Yes. They allow for girls to feel empowered. At camp a girl learns how to build a fire, split wood, set up camp. The single-gender experience allows her to have an immersion experience without distraction.

The important part of this is to have key female role models. Not all of the role models in camp need to be women—it's important to have both genders represented in the community—but *key* role models should be women. I've seen girls camps where when it was time to go on a wilderness trip, the men loaded the canoes and then drove the trailers. This is *not* how I suggest teaching leadership to women.

You've spent much of your career working with young women as a coach. What drew you to become a girls camp director? Both coaching and camping are forms of teaching, and both take place in an outdoor classroom. What I enjoy about camps is the residential setting. I look forward to the intimate size and setting of Debsconeag—a setting that allows campers and staff to be with and learn from each other. This kind of setting affords the time for personal growth for everyone, counselors included.

If you wanted camp parents to know one thing about you, what would it be?

I believe in having fun with a purpose. Enjoy what you do, but learn while you're doing it.

If you wanted campers to know one thing about you, what would it be?

That I like all facets of camp, especially the activities. They can expect to see me in the costume box, in the water, in a boat, and in the dish room with them.

Where were you when you got the news that you had been selected to be the next Girls Camp director?

I was in Vermont, skiing with a bunch of camp friends who knew I had applied for the job. A message came in from Willard, saying he was trying to reach me. So I called Willard back, and we had a wonderful conversation, and then I put on my skis and skied for the whole day. I told my friends the news that evening, and we celebrated.

What was your reaction to the news?

I was deeply honored and happy. What excites me most about Chewonki is the caliber of the people who work here. This is just an amazing place.

Ann Carson,

Head of Chewonki Semester School Continued from page 12

What do you like about working with young people?

Their enthusiasm, energy, sense of wonder, and ability to grow and change. All of these attributes make working with teenagers incredibly fulfilling.

Do you have any previous connection to Maine?

Yes. When I was in graduate school, we spent two weeks near Lubec, in an environmental education seminar. I loved birding each morning, running in the woods, and paddling the tidal inlets. In addition, we spent a few weeks exploring Maine on our way to maritime Canada. I'm very excited about the North Woods, the rocky coastline, and the small-town flavor of this relatively unpopulated state.

If you wanted semester parents to know one thing about you, what would it be?

That I understand the entirety of the high-school experience. I've taught juniors for many years, and I know that soon they will be considering college and have many important decisions ahead of them. Helping students navigate the intense experience of semester school while keeping an eye toward their senior year and the college process is something I feel very comfortable doing.

If you wanted students to know one thing about you, what would it be?

Same as above, but also that I thoroughly enjoy spending time with teenagers, in the classroom, in the wilderness, and in work projects.

What lessons have you learned in working at boarding schools that apply to this new role?

As dean of faculty at Fountain Valley School, I've learned important lessons about listening to many different points of view and considering ways to support faculty. As a teacher for over 20 years, I've learned best practices for the classroom and ways to motivate students through real educational experiences. I've taught widely in the field, using wild nature as the most powerful teaching tool. Lastly, living in a boarding school setting, I understand the concept of community and how important this is for *everything* that happens. Without a strong sense of belonging and a commitment to the values of the community, everything else is for naught.

What is your favorite mode of wilderness travel?

This is a difficult question! As a former river guide, anything involving water is wonderful for me. My family does extended whitewater river trips each summer throughout the West, enjoying the beauty of diverse canyons and the rhythm of wild rivers. I also love the simplicity and self-sufficiency of backpacking.

You have spent a good part of your career as a science teacher. What drew you to become a head of school?

I enjoy seeing the entirety of things. After teaching science for so many years, I found myself branching out and serving on a wide variety of committees and thinking more broadly about how schools function. This soon led to my role as dean of faculty. Considering strategic directions, pondering the most effective ways to get there, and finding way to motivate and support faculty have all been rewarding. Doing all of this in the small, intentional, and highly focused environment of Chewonki is ideal.

Will your role at Chewonki include teaching?

Yes! I wouldn't accept a position that didn't involve teaching.

GORDY HALL A Helping Hand, Now and in the Future

LUCY HULL

or campers and semester school students, the name "Gordy Hall" means the newest cabin in Osprey Circle: the one with solar panels and an exercise bike for power generation. When the *real* Gordy Hall stops by campus, students and campers are always eager to meet the man who provided the funding for this cabin.

Gordon "Gordy" Hall III of Marblehead, Massachusetts, has a long and deep history with Chewonki. Over the course of 61 years he has been a camp counselor, trip leader, board member, and generous supporter.

Gordy has been exploring Maine since he was three years old, when his father brought him to Greenville and their fishing camp on Wilson Pond. "I absolutely loved it and never stopped loving it," he says. His father died when Gordy was 15, and ever since he has clung to the "smells, sights, and sounds of the Maine woods as the embodiment of the man I desperately missed."

At age 16 Gordy and a friend ran the Allagash. In 1946 there were no roads and few people north of Moosehead Lake. They canoed all the way to St. Francis without seeing or hearing another person.

In 1950, with his Allagash credentials under his belt, Gordy was hired as the woodcraft counselor by Clarence Allen, who had been Gordy's headmaster at Rivers School. "We worked hard—had a ball. We counselors would laugh that Chewonki was more fun for the staff than for the boys," Gordy remembers. His first year, he led a group of eight boys, including a young Tim Ellis, on a week-long hiking trip all over Baxter State Park. It was a big success and helped inspire the Chewonki trips that continue today. Gordy led trips for Chewonki for the next four years, while at Amherst College and then after his first year at the Yale School of Forestry.

Gordy is pleased every time he remembers his first trip, and delighted that it was Tim who guided Chewonki as it became a nonprofit. "My appreciation and admiration for Tim's work have been enormous ever since," he says. "The bedrock of the warm and binding ethos of Chewonki is Tim's doing to a very large extent."

Gordy's deep connection to Maine and Chewonki has only grown over time. Along with family and friends, he continues to enjoy paddling Maine's rivers and is a passionate Down East sailor. He has been a Chewonki trustee since 1972, served as board chair from 1997 to 2004, and has been a loyal supporter and friend to a vast swath of Chewonki constituents.

In 2006 Gordy helped Chewonki purchase and protect four Maine islands, thereby securing permanent access for Chewonki's coastal programs. Later that year, when Chewonki undertook its Pathway to the Future campaign, Gordy stepped up again, this time with a stunning lead gift of \$1 million. He also co-chaired the campaign, with trustees Fay Shutzer and Josh Marvil. This was the third Chewonki capital campaign in which Gordy played a substantial role; the first was to build the Allen Center, the second to build the Center for Environmental Education.

Among his other contributions have been helping with the purchase of Big Eddy Campground and being a mainstay for the annual fund, both financially and by encouraging the support of others. Gordy remembers making calls for Chewonki back when the database was a 2-inch-thick pack of 3x5 cards in an elastic band! He is also a stalwart supporter and board member of the Conservation Law Foundation and the Forest Society of Maine.

Gordy is one of the founding members of the Osprey Society, which comprises those who include Chewonki in their estate plans. The group currently includes more than 90 individuals. Planned gifts whether from a trust, a bequest, or a retirement plan—help build a solid and dependable future for Chewonki, strengthening our efforts to provide educational opportunities in all of our programs.

Charles B. Gordy, Chewonki's first development director, former planned giving director at Yale and Tufts universities, and current director of planned giving at Harvard Law School, has devoted a career to estate planning. "A well thought out planned gift is one of the most important gifts someone can make," he says. "It's the ultimate statement of what someone cares about and believes in." Charles, who is also an advisory board member for Chewonki, adds that educational institutions like Chewonki absolutely depend on bequests to ensure their long-term stability.

Thanks to Gordy Hall's membership in the Osprey Society, Chewonki will continue to benefit from his generosity both now and in the future.

Lucy Hull is director of development at Chewonki.





For more information on the Osprey Society, contact Lucy Hull at Ihull@chewonki.org or 207-882-7323 x 127. CHEWONKI GOES FOR ZERO WASTE

BETTA STOTHART CONNOR

hewonki unveiled Zero Waste, the fourth in its poster/online curriculum series, on April 5 at Memorial Middle School

in South Portland. The poster was two years in development, and its unveiling included a press conference and a statewide rollout and contest.

"Chewonki's poster series grew out of a solid-waste curriculum we developed almost 20 years ago. With so much attention today on water and energy, we decided to really emphasize the release of the Zero Waste poster and curriculum," said Chewonki president Willard Morgan. "Many of us at Chewonki have read the groundbreaking book *Cradle to Cradle* by William McDonough and Michael Braungart. The authors' idea of moving toward a Zero Waste world through ecologically intelligent design and sound waste-management strategies is a concept we want to promote and embrace."

Willard was quick to admit, however, that Zero Waste is an ambitious goal and that Chewonki has some work to do before it can make any claims of its own about being a Zero Waste campus.

Sustainability coordinator Peter Arnold concurred. "Chewonki is working hard to be all that it can be in terms of sustainability initiatives, energy use, and carbon reduction. But claiming 'Zero Waste' is not a declaration we can make with a straight face yet," he said. "Like many, we have some work to do, and we will do it publicly to show the challenges and opportunities of striving for Zero Waste in our operations."

Recognizing that reducing its waste had to involve students and staff working together, Chewonki engaged Semester 46 to undertake a campus-wide evaluation of Chewonki's waste stream and make a formal recommendation for how the organization could move toward a Zero Waste campus.

"We asked the students to become garbologists, to do dumpster dives and get to know our waste stream with intimacy, so they could help us reduce the amount of waste that ends up in the landfill or the waste-to-energy plant," said Peter.

Once the process was underway, things got really interesting, said Willard. Trash collection at Chewonki began to change: trash bins were reduced in number, made smaller than the recycling bins, and labeled "Landfill" instead of "Trash" to drive home the point. Within weeks the frequency of dumpster pick-ups was reduced by half. "Reaction to the poster draft was really positive," Willard added. "Knowing that we had hit on something big, we felt the curriculum and the challenge deserved statewide attention."

The two-year effort to create a Zero Waste curriculum project began as a partnership with the Maine State Planning Office, which provides independent analysis to the governor and legislature on the development of the state's economy and conservation of its natural resources. The concept was vetted with teachers and students throughout Maine, as well as experts in the field of waste management. Then it took on a corporate sponsor.

"When our communications director brought the project before Poland Spring CEO Kim Jeffrey, he immediately liked it," Willard explained. Poland Spring signed on to a significant sponsorship and also proposed a statewide Zero Waste competition for middle schools. The "Zero Waste Challenge" was announced at the April 5 rollout, with students and principals from several middle schools pledging to enter.

Imagine a world without garbage.

Humans generate millions of tons of trash each year.* You can help conserve the earth's natural resources by rethinking the concept of trash and by supporting the vision of a zero waste world. Follow the steps in the cycle below and learn how you can make a difference in your home, school and community.

> THOUGHT DESIGN

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CHEŴONKI

www.chewonki.org

This coming fall, any Maine middle school (or sixth-, seventh-, or eighth-grade class) can enter the contest, which involves completing a campus waste assessment; working steps 1–6 on the Zero Waste poster; evaluating the school's progress; proposing how the school can move to Zero Waste; and writing a plan.

Entries are due in January 2012. An independent panel of judges will review the entries, and winners will be announced in February. First prize will be \$3,000, second prize \$2,000, and third prize \$1,000. The funds can be used to implement a Zero Waste strategy on the campus of the winning schools, or they can be used toward a Zero Waste Outdoor Classroom program at Chewonki.

"The Zero Waste poster project has catalyzed triple bottom line thinking at Chewonki, and we hope it does throughout Maine," concludes Willard. "Zero waste has environmental, financial, and social benefits: we can reduce solid waste, save money, and engage students in meaningful education."

For more information about the contest, and to see the online version of Zero Waste, go to www.chewonki.org/zerowaste.

The Sustainability Office is the hub of Chewonki's leading-edge conservation and energy curriculum. This unique and vibrant office helps develop materials, lessons, and demonstration projects on a wide range of topics, from solid-waste management to the use of renewable fuels, such as solar, wind, hydro, biofuels, and hydrogen. Learn more at our website.

Visit our website at www.chewonki.org / 17

FOND FAREWELL: DICK THOMAS *A Chewonki legend embarks on a new career in South Korea*

ELIZABETH PIERSON

t seemed pretty far-fetched at the time," recalls Dick. For most of his friends, it *still* seems far-fetched. As anyone who knows Dick could have guessed, however, he was willing to at least listen. In fact, when a rare opportunity arose late last fall, Dick did more than listen. He got on a plane and with his wife, Karen, flew halfway around the world to check it out.

A few weeks later, Dick accepted the position of dean of student life at the brand-new Korea International School (KIS) on Jeju Island in South Korea. When the school opens this fall, Dick will be in charge of the dorms, extracurricular activities, sports, and schedules for 350 boarding students in grades four through eight. "Kind of like the camp director of the school!" he said.

It was a remarkable, and remarkably quick, turn of events. Only a few weeks earlier, a difficult decision driven by financial challenges had been made at Chewonki to eliminate the position of director of alumni relations, which Dick had held since 2005. When word got out, a longtime Chewonki friend told Dick about the position at KIS. The head of the school turned out to be a Mainer, and he and Dick quickly hit it off.

By early this year, Dick was already at work in his new position, hiring staff and developing schedules and activities. He moved to South Korea in late March and is happily ensconced in his new position there. "I'm only going forward," he said recently, with characteristic optimism.



For many in the Chewonki family, Dick's greatest legacy will be his many years as camp director (1986–2005).

Rew people have worn as many hats at Chewonki as Dick or had as much experience with participants. Between his arrival in 1970 as a quiet, tow-headed 12-year-old and his departure last December, he was a camper, wilderness tripper, counselor, head counselor, program director, assistant camp director, development director, camp director (1986–2005), chief of staff, and director of alumni relations (2005–2010). He served 30 years on the year-round staff, beginning in 1980 when he graduated from the University of Maine.

For many in the Chewonki family, Dick's greatest legacy will be his many years as camp director. As former president Don Hudson noted, "For 19 years of campers and their families, Dick Thomas *is* Chewonki. There's a lot of love out there for Dick." When he was appointed to the position in 1986, he was only the fourth director in Camp Chewonki's 71-year history—and the camp served only boys.

Summer offerings expanded enormously under Dick's tenure. Chewonki added a fledgling girls program, guides program for counselors in training, cabin trips, coed wilderness expeditions, Saltmarsh Farm program, and one-week environmental education camps. The total number of campers nearly doubled, and the percentage of returning campers grew from 40 to 62 percent. Dick also oversaw much of the transition from an allmale to a coed summer staff—and earned high marks for assigning women to significant leadership roles.

"Dick was ever upbeat, always carried a smile, and was a trooper at every occasion," remembers trustee Kate Wilkinson, who worked on the camp staff for five summers.

Dick was also active in the larger community of youth camping at the state, regional, and national levels. In 2002 he became the youngest recipient ever to receive the prestigious Halsey Gulick Award, given by the Maine Youth Camping Association for distinguished service to organized camping. It was a rare moment in the spotlight for a man who eschewed it. His Chewonki colleagues were honored and delighted to see him receive the recognition he so richly deserved.

iven Dick's background, it is hard to imagine anyone better prepared for his new position at KIS. The coed, international school for day students and boarders which already has two campuses in mainland South Korea—has an American curriculum, and instruction is in English. The Jeju campus will eventually serve grades K–12. In addition to over-

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Dick was back on campus in late February for the dedication of Rodman Hall in the Wallace Center. Rodman Hall is named in memory of Dick's childhood friend and former camper, staff member, and trustee Matthew Rodman and in honor of Matt's parents, Oliver and Cynthia Rodman, shown here.

seeing dormitory life, Dick will coordinate a wide array of extracurricular activities: everything from sports and field trips to drama, orchestra, rock climbing, arts and crafts, cooking, student government, several clubs, and more.

Jeju Island is situated in the Korea Strait and is Korea's largest island (and smallest province). With a landscape of volcanic rock and beaches, frequent rains, and a mild climate, it is similar to the Hawaiian islands. Not surprisingly, it is a popular vacation spot, especially for Koreans, Japanese, and Chinese. The island is well known for its natural beauty, much of which remains unspoiled. Its capital, also called Jeju, is a bustling modern city with a population of about 400,000.

From the moment he arrived, Dick has enjoyed exploring his new home and learning about all it has to offer. "The job, the culture, the experiences—it's all exciting. It's also beautiful!" Dick exclaimed, and quickly added, "We have a big apartment at the school and look forward to having visitors."

Karen, a social worker with a law degree, will be a boarding specialist at KIS and hopes to teach ESL. Six-year-old Sadie will enter first grade at KIS this fall and, to her great delight, has already met her new teacher. Sadie and Karen visited Jeju in the spring and look forward to moving in a few months. Big brother Colton remains in the States, where he is a first-year

Dick Thomas Day

No one seems to remember exactly which summer it happened, but everyone in camp at the time remembers what it involved. Looking for an opportunity to thank Dick for a great summer, his staff quietly organized "Dick Thomas Day." With everyone but Dick "in the know," campers and counselors planned a full day of activities organized entirely around a Dick Thomas theme. Posters of Dick would hang all over campus. Readings before meals would be Dick Thomas quotes. There would be Dick Thomas games, poems, and even a treasure hunt.

When the appointed day arrived, it went off without a hitch—except that Dick wasn't there! The industrious planners had apparently forgotten that it was Dick's day off. He never saw Dick Thomas Day, though he certainly heard about it in the days that followed. Later, his staff agreed it may have been the perfect celebration for a modest guy who always shunned the spotlight.

"Former campers and staff still joke about Dick Thomas Day," says director of communications Betta Stothart Connor. "It's part of the Chewonki lore, and always told with great affection for Dick, who inadvertently outfoxed his fans." student at Eckerd College in Florida. He's excited about visiting his family in their new home this summer.

Amazingly, the Thomases won't be the only Chewonki transplants on Jeju Island. Dick has hired former camp staff and camp parents—Dean and Cathy Paquette (Camp Staff '91, '92, '94, '95 and parents of Stephen and Jason) to teach music at KIS. The Paquettes have been music teachers in Ellsworth since they graduated from the University of Maine with Dick in 1980. "I'm thrilled that they've been granted a year-long leave of absence to go to Korea," Dick said.

o say that Dick is missed at Chewonki would be an understatement of the highest order. "I'm grateful for the many years we worked together as colleagues," said wilderness trips director Greg Shute. "I have never met a more kind and gentle person than Dick Thomas."

Kate Wilkinson called Dick "the epitome of a person who gave Chewonki his all over many years. Chewonki has benefited from his good humor, his institutional knowledge, his kind spirit, ever-present smile, and most of all his willingness to always be a helpful steward of our mission."

Chewonki advisor Scott Beebe is a former camper, counselor, and current camp parent. "Dick will be terribly missed by all the staff, participants, and the many alumni whose lives he has touched," he said recently. "His warmth and infectious good humor endeared him to generations at Chewonki, many of whom have stayed in regular contact with him. Dick has helped shape Chewonki into the multi-dimensional institution it is today—a very different place than the organization he joined in 1970. In my mind, Dick embodies all that Chewonki stands for and more."

Boys Camp director Garth Altenburg was a camper and counselor under Dick and succeeded him as camp director in 2005. "I learned so much from Dick through the years and am so grateful for his friendship, support, and guidance," he said. "He has been one of the most significant figures in my life, and his influence remains strong in what we do at camp today." Garth speaks for scores of Chewonki alumni when he says "there are many leaders out there who had their first leadership experience at Chewonki because Dick believed in them and gave them an opportunity to lead."

Garth is already planning a trip to Jeju to visit his mentor and recruit for camp. Meanwhile, he is convening a group of alumni and staff to develop ways to honor Dick's legacy at Chewonki. "We wanted to have an alumni campfire this summer to honor Dick, but his new position at a start-up school is keeping him busy already!" said Garth. "Dick has a deep appreciation for Chewonki history, and we hope to celebrate his tenure now and in the lead-up to our centennial."

In his many years at Chewonki, Dick's dedication to enriching the lives of children—and their families—was manifest in everything he did. Year-round, no matter what his job title was, he devoted himself to young people. Over and over again, he proved himself loyal, steadfast, caring, and a model of absolute integrity.

"I think of you all often, and wish you the best," he emailed the Chewonki staff in January. "I look forward to keeping in touch." You can contact Dick directly at dickthomas41@gmail.com; and you can learn more about Korea International School at www.kis.ac/english.

People

Dear Chewonki alumni,

Thank you for your wonderful news! We love hearing from you, whether by regular mail or email. If the latter, we're just a click away, at www.chewonki.org/alumni. You can also update your contact information here; please see our plea about this on page 6!

We do our best to ensure that the information here is accurate, but with so many of you communicating with us in a variety of ways, mistakes sometimes find their way into print. Please accept our apologies, and let us know how to correct any errors. Also, if you do *not* want us to share your news in the *Chronicle*, please be sure to tell us. We reserve the right to edit the information we receive, for clarity or to make it fit.

We have organized your news by the first decade in which you came to Chewonki—unless you are an MCS or semester school alum, in which case your news is under your semester.

Thank you for staying in touch and for doing so many great things for the world! We look forward to your updates. —Elizabeth Pierson, Editor

1950s

Rupert Scofield (boys camp '58-'63; camp staff '65-'67), cofounder of FINCA International, a charitable organization providing microfinancial services to low-income entrepreneurs worldwide, saw his book published this spring: *The Social Entrepreneur's Handbook: How to Start, Build, and Run a Business That Improves the World.*

1960s

Jeffrey Eberle (boys camp '62-'63; camp parent '94-'95; MCS 29 parent; trustee) and his wife, Molly, hosted a wonderful Chewonki event at their home in Concord, MA, in February. Among the attendees was Charles Gordy (boys camp '69-'70, '72-'75; staff '88-'92; foundation advisor).



Gearing up for our centennial: can you help us identify people in this photo? Chewonki turns 100 years old in 2015, and we are exploring our archives—seeking photos and documents that tell the vibrant and remarkable story of Chewonki. Tim Ellis surmises that this photo of the barn is from the earliest days— 1920 or so. He writes: "This photo was taken before the first dining room was attached, so the campers were still eating in the wing of the Farm House, which became the library. The building to the left was used as a tool shed, and the bell (same one we still use) was attached to the left-hand side of that tool shed (just off the picture)." Tim could not identify any of the people in the photo. Can you?

1970s

Ben Hobbins (camp staff '79) was recognized by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in November '10 for his work to restore Lake Delton after a natural disaster. The effort involved private and public business partners and individuals networked together. "I have been advising Governor Culver in Iowa on restoration of Lake Delphi, which involves a watershed and recreational area about 40 times the size of the one around Lake Delton," Ben writes.

John McGhie (boys camp '72-'75; Mariners '76; camp parent '07) reports that his sons are nearly grown but he's staying young by tele-skiing and doing backcountry trips. He'd like to get in touch with Anthony Frederick Hodge (aka Monkey), if anyone knows his whereabouts.

1990s

Marie Farneth (North Woods Canoe '97, Mistassini) was recently working with teachers in Mali as part of her master's program with the School for International Training (SIT) in Vermont.

Nick Morrison (boys camp '93-'95; boys camp staff '00-'01, '03, '05, '07) attended the Chewonki gathering at the Eberles' in February.

Richard Mumby (boys camp '93-'95) is "still living in New York City, working for an eCommerce company called Bonobos. I've been competing in triathlons quite a bit, which ensures that I get outside while living in a city. Hope to visit Chewonki sometime soon—especially with my nieces and nephews (soon to be campers, hopefully!)."

Christina (Burnham) Sudler

(North Woods Canoe '95, Voyageurs '96, Umbagog '97, Women's Leadership Expedition '98; camp staff '00-'01, '05, '07-'08; OC staff '06-'09) met her future husband, Brian Sudler, on a NOLS trip in East Africa. They married on New Year's Eve '10. Chrissie fundraises for Jifundishe, an NGO promoting literacy, education, and community empowerment.

2000s

Victor Gan (boys camp '09-'10) won a five-star school spelling bee and was headed toward a big-time, multi-school event in March. He plans to attend a leadership forum in Washington this summer and then work on his tennis in Florida.

Jeremy Nellis (boys camp staff '00; EE '01), his wife, Allie Burke (boys camp staff '93-'95, '99-'00; MCS 9), and their son, Parker, celebrated the arrival of Eliza Brooke Nellis on 10-26-10.

John Parker (boys camp '01-'06; camp staff '07-'08) writes, "I am proud to say that I am interning...with the EU agency Eurofound (European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions) in Dublin! I work in a unit called the European Monitoring Centre on Change, and one of the projects...is analyzing and helping to manage the growth of green jobs in the EU."

People

CLASS NOTES



Kate McElderry, MCS 1.

MCS 1 Fall 1988 Class Agent: Torrey McMillan, vmcmilla@alumni.princeton.edu

Kate McElderry's photo (above) shows her with an armful of children! Daughter Mary is now 1 ½, and son Seamus is 4. No doubt they help Kate run her mixed-age playgroup. She'll soon begin part-time tutoring, "a nice segue back into the professional world," she writes. Her husband, David, works at the Audubon Society and Johns Hopkins University. He is immersed in a major survey of salt marshes on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

MCS 2

Spring 1989 Class Agent: Critter Thompson, crittert@gmail.com

MCS 3 Fall 1989

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

Kristina Hartell taught science at the Mountain School for 7 years before her twins arrived. Now she and her husband are building a house for their family in Weston, VT.

MCS 4

Spring 1990 Class Agent: Mitch Levesque, mitchlevesque@tuebingen.mpg.de

MCS 5

Fall 1990 Class Agent: Laura Howard Leduc, laura_boward@yahoo.com

MCS 6

Spring 1991 Class Agent: Andy Wilbur, andrew_wilbur@botmail.com

Will Willis, sustainability coordinator and director of international programs at Mercersburg Academy in NJ, organized a 10/10/10 event there.

MCS 7 Fall 1991

Class Agent: Brooke Peelle Guthrie, bpguthrie@hotmail.com

Jeremy Delinsky (former trustee) and his wife, Sherrie, welcomed their second child. Maxwell Benjamin, in 2010. Jeremy is chief technology officer at Athena Health, a Boston-based company with about 300 employees in midcoast Maine. Kate Gibson is married and has two daughters (2 1/2 years and 5 months old). She lives in northwest London and works for InterContinental Hotels on their Global Strategy Team. Brooke (Peelle) Guthrie has three redheaded daughters and is counting the days till they can go to girls camp!

MCS 8 Spring 1992

Class Agents: Jenn Parfet Gudebski, 4jenn@tds.net; & Sarai Hinkley, saraibinkley@botmail.com

Tanya Witman lives in Tucson, where she's a massage therapist and teaches massage and yoga. Her CD of yoga and massage music is perfect for meditative hiking! "In our MCS yearbook, my fellow Wonskters predicted I'd be a singing massage therapist," she writes. "How's that for weird?"

MCS 9 Fall 1992

Class Agent: Katie McClelland Dyer, katie_mcclelland@hotmail.com

Allie Burke (boys camp staff '93-'95, '99-'00) and her husband,

Jeremy Nellis (boys camp staff '00; EE '01), have a daughter! Eliza Brooke Nellis joined big brother Parker on 10-26-10.

MCS 10 Spring 1993 Class Agent: Betsy Stubblefield

Loucks, betsyruth@gmail.com Amy Morris reports that a small reunion took place "in Brooklyn at Bessie Oster's house in January...prompted when I posted a picture on Facebook of the view out of my office window and Erica Holahan queried if I was in Paris. Ralphie quickly spotted that the photo showed the Chrysler Building. About 5 people responded that they work or study close by and suddenly plans for a NYC reunion took off at warp speed! We had a fantastic time and hope to reconvene a larger crowd sometime this

arger crowd sometime this spring." The photo shows, left to right, **Katie Sigelman**, **Raphael Rodriguez**, **Bessie Oster**, **Jane Spencer**, and **Amy Morris**. **Ben Rosenblum** was also there but missed the photo op! **Betsy Stubblefield Loucks** (boys camp staff '94-'96, '98) couldn't get there, having her hands full with twin daughters (see photo on

MCS 11 Fall 1993

next page).

Class Agent: Jessica Montgomery Green, jebbygreen@gmail.com

Jess Green reported from Pittsburgh: "We added a dog to our family, just to keep life interesting. Abi (almost 6) and James (3) are thrilled. Last fall we had our first family overnight in a tent."

MCS 12 Spring 1994

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

India Bayley is "now a science teacher in NY, which I absolutely adore! Much better than medicine; I'll take ecosystems and elodea over gastric tubes and gentamicin any day!" India and Ryan welcomed a daughter, Ilaria Shackleton Bayley, in January '11. Rebecca (Alex) McMackin is head gardener for Washington Square Park in NYC and runs Mantis Plant Works, a garden design business. She's also halfway through a landscape design degree at Columbia. "I'm very thankful to Chewonki for teaching me about plant communities," she says. "I live in Brooklyn and ride my bicycle A LOT. Like, I can't stop really!" Jo Prince (boys camp staff '96-'97, '99) wrote, "Just settling in to enjoy the winter season in the western foothills of Maine with my husband and our daughter, Amelia. We look forward to playing in the snow and doing lots of skiing. I am still teaching at the University of Maine-Farmington in the Elementary Education Program and working on my doctoral degree at the University of Maine."



Katie Sigelman, Raphael Rodriguez, Bessie Oster, Jane Spencer, and Amy Morris, MCS 10.



Betsy Stubblefield Loucks, MCS 10 and boys camp staff.

MCS 13 Fall 1994

Class Agents: Erin Quinn, erin.quinn@alumni.brown.edu; & Besenia Rodriguez, besenia@yaboo.com

Stephanie Elson lives in Jamaica Plain, MA, with her husband, Emile, Roo the dog, and 60,000 honey bees. She works for Massachusetts Audubon, "a fantastic organization, and would love to get together with other MCSers in the Boston area for a hike or bird walk in the spring!" Lydia Peelle (boys camp staff '02) had her first book, a story collection, Reasons for and Advantages of Breathing, published in 2009 to high praise. She is now at work on the next one, "a novel, set in Nashville (where I'm living) during the First World War." Erin Quinn (math fellow, MCS 25 and 26) is glad to be back in her hometown of Atlanta, where she now works in mortgage valuation for the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta. She is still an avid knitter! Sarah Scally and her husband, Anthony Stevenson, welcomed a son, Manuel Antonio Stevenson, on 1-19-10. Jimbo Schley was last seen "in the Everglades working with the North Carolina Outward Bound School trying to get kids from Miami to love the river of grass." Ben Thompson and his wife, Courtney Urfer (see photo), enjoyed their honeymoon in South Africa and Zambia and recently moved to NYC. "I'm still working as a producer for CNBC, and Courtney just completed her master's program in psychology."

MCS 14 Spring 1995

Class Agents: Erika Brown, erikabrown@hotmail.com; & Colby McGavin, cmcgavin@stanfordalumni.org

Hoppy Hopcroft is enjoying life in Portland, OR, where she is a consultant for a company that specializes in energy-efficiency programs and sustainability/ carbon management consulting. She crosses paths with a variety of Chewonki alums, including Jonathan Barrett (MCS 16) and Bailey McCallum (MCS 16). Jess LeClair and her husband, Matt, bought a house in Bangor, and she's working toward her MFA in "intermedia" at the University of Maine in Orono. "Intermedia," she explains, is "the spaces in between traditional disciplines within the very broadly defined field of art. My practice falls somewhere between photography, book making, and story telling." Cynthia Macleod lives in Berkeley, CA, and is the chief program officer of Catholic Charities of the East Bay. Arianne Zwartjes is "still living in Tucson and teaching English at the University of Arizona, as well as for NOLS and the Wilderness Medicine Institute." Her first fulllength poetry book, The Surfacing of Excess, received Eastern Washington University's poetry prize.

MCS 15 Fall 1995

Class Agents: Fitz Caball, dirtbagdiaries@eartblink.net; Emily Dellas, emilyd@gmail.com; & Glynnis Roberts, glynnis.roberts@gmail.com

MCS 16

Spring 1996 *Class Agent: Bailey McCallum, bailey.mccallum@mac.com*

Jonathan Barrett lives in Portland, OR, with his wife, Carissa, and their baby son, Liam. Kyle Durrie has been operating a letterpress printing business for the past two years in Portland, OR. She's decided to combine her love for printing and road trips by hitting the road! "I've built a fully functional print shop into the back of a bread truck. Starting in June, I'll be spending the next 8+ months traveling around the US and Canada, teaching workshops and generally sharing the good word about printing the oldfashioned way!" To find out if Kyle is coming to a town near you, go to www.powerandlightpress.com. Bailey McCallum works in the renewables industry in Portland, OR. Lee Panich (boys camp staff '90, '94, '96-'97; Umbagog) and his wife, Lucy Diekmann, welcomed a baby girl, Tessa, in August '10. Lucy is finishing her PhD in environmental management/policy at UC Berkeley, while Lee teaches anthropology/archaeology at Santa Clara University. Hilary Williams organized a 10/10/10 event in Des Moines!

MCS 17 Fall 1996 Class Agent: Page McClean,

pagemcclean@gmail.com Page McClean (former staff) has been teaching at a bilingual school in Argentina. She just finished a mountaineering course and is "looking forward to

climbing some more mountains and glaciers soon!" Congratulations to **Stewart Peery**, who tied the knot last July! **Billy Wailand** is practicing law and enjoying life in Alaska with his wife, Heidi.

MCS 18

Spring 1997 Class Agent: Sarah Klain, s.klain@gmail.com

Amanda Aikman and her husband, Stephen (a former Chewonki camper), live in Washington, D.C., where both are government lawyers. Amanda is a prosecutor at the Department of Justice but "will be moving sometime this summer to Geneva, Switzerland, as Stephen has got a three-year job there. Not yet sure what I'll be doing...having fantasies of writing novels in some cafe near the lake." Sierra Curtis-McLane was scheduled to defend her PhD in late March at the University of British Columbia. She's heading to Alaska, where her husband will be the geologist for Denali National Park. Lauren Downey teaches Latin at Needham High School in MA, where she lives with her husband and two parrots. "Samantha Friedman was a

bridesmaid at my wedding," says Lauren, "and one of the highlights of the night was dancing with Robert Hosea." Sam is a clinical social worker in private practice in Michigan and is working on her doctoral dissertation in clinical psychology. Forrest Fleischman (boys camp '92, '94, '96; boys camp staff '01, '03-'04) is doing fieldwork for his PhD in public policy at Indiana University. His research focuses on the implementation of forest policy reforms in the teak forests of Central India. He goes "back and forth between India and Indiana" but hopes to be in Indiana long enough to have a full garden. For more on his adventures, see http://forrestfleischman.blogspot.com. Sarah Klain (boys camp staff '97-'99) saw Forrest in India when she attended the International Association for Sustaining the Commons conference there in January. "He can really sport a kurta (the traditional Indian man's tunic) now and he's fantastic at bargaining for autorickshaw rides," she says. Sarah recently got her master's at the University of British Columbia in resource management and environmental studies and has begun a PhD, focusing on marine conservation. Tim Healey, who lives in Baltimore, reports that in the recent past he has "interned with Senator Kennedy, gotten married, welcomed my daughter Isabelle into the world, and finished studies for my master's degree." He hopes to move back to New England sometime, because "who would want to raise their child as an Orioles fan?" Kristin Holcomb lives in Winston-Salem,



Ben Thompson, MCS 13, and Courtney Urfer.

People



MCS 18ers Ami Mehta, Amanda Aikman, and Chartey Quarcoo with Ashley McCants.

NC, with her husband, Ben, and their golden retriever, Piper. They made a good trip to Chewonki's camp on Fourth Debsconeag Lake. "If you have an opportunity, definitely take advantage of it," she writes. Kristin works at Pricewaterhouse-Coopers in the risk assurance group. Ami Mehta and her husband, Nihar, live in Houston, where she works from home for an architecture firm. The arrival of a son, Sorin, has turned her life "upside down...but it's been 100 percent blissful...in a bleary-eyed sort of way." She is "still knitting (sort of), still vegetarian (since the chicken incident-sorry again, Dan!), still enjoying the occasional hoedown." Julia Niles and Sean Easton live in Squamish, British Columbia, and welcomed a son, Kodiak Niles Easton, on 8-7-10. "I have set aside my professional climbing and guiding for the moment as I am occupied being a mom," writes Julia. She and Sean will marry this summer in Idaho. Chartey Quarcoo (foundation adviser) sent a photo of joyful MCS 18ers celebrating his wedding to Ashley McCants in '09. Left to right: Ami Mehta, Amanda Aikman, Chartey, and Ashley. Belated congratulations!

MCS 19 Fall 1997

Class Agent: Josie Rodberg, josie.rodberg@gmail.com

Michaela Andrews will leave her teaching job in June to move to

Germany to join her boyfriend, Jan. He works at the Max Planck Institute, and Michaela is looking forward "to experiencing the many adventures and inevitable challenges that come with living abroad. I'm currently learning German and looking for work as an English teacher in Münster." **Elliott Peery** works for a national homebuilder in Charleston, SC. **Jess Rochester** does social research for the University of Washington in Seattle.

MCS 20 Spring 1998

Class Agents: Marley Aloe, marleyaloe@yahoo.com; & Kerry Quinn Granfield, kdquinn@gmail.com

Jenny Herring (boys camp staff '98) writes, "Jason and I welcomed our daughter, Charlotte Wilhelmina, in June '09. We're still living on the Georgia coast but hoping to move back to New England within the next few years."

MCS 21

Fall 1998 Class Agent: Malia Haddock, maliahaddock@gmail.com

Rachel Cotton has a job, details unknown. Eliza Davenport (boys camp staff '99) is living in Portland, OR, and applying to graduate school. Andrew Gustafson (boys camp'95-'98; North Woods Canoe) and Spencer Taylor (boys camp '95-

'98; Umbagog) want everyone to know that the next time they ski Suicide 6 and relax like old men in a hot tub, there's always room for one more. Spencer and his wife, Serena, are embarking on a cross-country adventure in their VW Westfalia, squeezing in as much skiing as possible. Andrew occasionally breaks from dissertation research (explorations of cultural procrastination, focusing on the past 20 years of New Yorker fiction writing) to write a blog for Urban Oyster. He enjoys chilling in NYC with Margie Graham (boys camp staff '99) and Molly Aeck, who are studying there. Malia Haddock (boys camp staff '99) lives in Portland, ME, where she's building a printing press. "Stop by the studio anytime to see some art and meet my dogs," she says. Emily Meuser is living in Vancouver, finishing her master's in conservation biology, and getting married this July in Ontario! Ella Moench is teaching at a progressive, independent school in Los Angeles. She loves her middle-school kids, coaches soccer, and spreads the word about Chewonki. Ella is planning some outdoor adventures; anyone daring enough to join her is invited to tag along. Kate Petersen (boys camp staff '99-'00) continues to adventure around the country, spending time with living creatures, great and small, wherever she lands. Raisa Rexer (boys camp staff '99, '01) is living in France. Her baby is due in September and she's accepting suggestions for baby names. Ben Svenson is sometimes seen making his way to NYC with his five teacup poodles.

MCS 22 Spring 1999 Class Agent: Louisa Pitt, lapitt@gmail.com

Clare Gupta is in her fifth year of a PhD program in environmental studies at UC Berkeley, studying the influence of conservation policy on human livelihoods near Chobe National Park, Botswana. **Louisa Pitt** teaches third grade at Solomon Schechter Day School in Newton, MA, lives in Arlington, still sings, and plays lots of Ultimate Frisbee.

MCS 23 Fall 1999

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

Marselle Alexander-Ozinskas

lives in Cambridge, MA, and is a grant writer for Ceres, a Boston nonprofit that, according to its website, is "integrating sustainability into capital markets for the health of the planet and its people." She writes, "My job is incredible and I feel very lucky to work for such an amazing organization!" She recently had a mini-reunion in NYC with Lindsev Horton and Caroline Schley. Rosie Dent started a PhD in the history and sociology of science at the University of Pennsylvania last September. She's happy to be back in Philly after four years in Quito, Ecuador. Mia Farber is pursuing her MBA at UNC's Kenan-Flagler Business School with a concentration in sustainable enterprise. She also recently joined the SJF Institute in Durham, NC, as an associate. Ellie Shepard Forrest and her Kiwi husband, Iain, were married last summer in Fiji. They live in Queenstown, New Zealand, where Ellie is the program coordinator for the Queenstown branch of the Special Olympics. Rebecca Garfield spent a year in Barcelona studying for a master's in international relations-"a fun change of pace from teaching Spanish in rural New Hampshire," she writes. Afterward she and her fiancé went backpacking through Peru, Bolivia, and Brazil, going down the Amazon by riverboat. She's teaching at the Fay School and says, "Come fall I will be teaching at Hackley School in Tarrytown, NY. Paul and I hope to marry this spring and are awaiting his fiancé visa." Emily Izenstein writes, "All is well in the Midwest. I'm in my third year of a doctoral program in English and American literature at Northwestern, so most days find me reading, writing, and lesson planning I'm still enjoying the same old things-lots of running (a race a month in 2011!), knitting (my very first cardigan!), and garden-planning (carrots and beets and beans, oh my!). My partner, Meg, and I are also having lots of fun with our twoyear-old pup, Pico, who keeps us

busy on the (so very flat) trails around Wisconsin and the surrounds." Amanda Joyce and husband Matt live in Cumberland, ME, "with an open door for visitors!" Envi Koene left her admissions job at the Taft School, moved to Paris, and finished her master's in French. She's now "an English assistant of sorts at engineering school...I am loving my time in Paris." Tyler Lewis, living in Boston, recently celebrated his fifth year at Fidelity Investments. "I work on the trading floor doing fixed-income sales and trading for large money managers and institutional investors. I really enjoy the fast pace of my job and general trading-floor camaraderie and bravado." He has started a threeyear executive MBA program at Babson at night and still finds time to get to the gym, run, box, and sea kayak. Ariane Lotti (boys camp staff '01) lives in Washington, D.C., where she is the policy director for the nonprofit Organic Farming Research Foundation. In the summer she becomes a home canner. producing all sorts of delicious pickles, jams, and chutneys. Megan Nuttall is a midwife working with rural women and their families. She writes, "I've been catching babies at home and in hospital for the past 4 years as a student, and it feels great to finally be striking out on my own! I still have my flock of sheep (that I milk and keep for wool), and Brian and I hope to relocate to our own farm and contribute to our local CSA in the next two years." Julia O'Hern writes from Texas that she is "hopefully in the last year of my PhD. I am surveying marine mammals in Ecuador in relation to oceanographic variability, working with their Navy and some other students in the country." Liz Tunick graduated from Williams in June '10 with a master's in art history and now works in the French paintings department at the National Gallery of Art. She's enjoying life in D.C., noting that the only other time she'd been there "was during my 10th-grade American history trip, during which I found out I'd been accepted to MCS!" Marissa Vahlsing is in her final year at Harvard Law School, where she's been working on cases seeking corporate accountability

for human rights violations and environmental harm. Her longterm goal is to start her own NGO to focus on transnational community "lawyering" to achieve social justice and corporate accountability at home for abuses by U.S. corporations in Latin America. A freelance writer and editor in San Francisco, E.J. Winter recently spent three months traveling around Southeast Asia with her partner, John. "It was truly a magical experience to be traveling again-the rhythm of life on the road is unlike anything else. The natural landscape, vibrant cultures, deep connection to spirituality, and food-I instantly fell in love with that part of the world." E.J. will enter Bastyr University's naturopathic medicine program in Seattle this summer; she hopes "to fuse two lifelong passionscomplementary and alternative healing and writing-and am envisioning a future of authoring articles and books on topics related to health, in addition to seeing patients in a clinic that fuses western and alternative medicine."

MCS 24 Spring 2000 Class Agent: Nora

Class Agent: Nora Gouge, nfgouge@gmail.com

Caleb Merrill (boys camp staff '03) lives in Salt Lake City and is a ski patroller at Solitude Mountain Resort in the winter and fights wildland fires with the Bonneville Hotshots in the summer. Allie Silverman is hard at work at Vermont Law School! Leah Titcomb (girls camp staff '07-'09; OC staff) is studying for a master's in creative writing at Goddard College while also teaching English at Coastal Studies for Girls, a new semester school in Freeport, ME. Leah leads Chewonki wilderness trips in the summer.

MCS 25 Fall 2000

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

M.A. Moutoussis manages alumnae affairs at Barnard College and serves on the New York board of The Mission Continues, a nonprofit supporting wounded and disabled veterans who want to continue their service to the nation as community leaders. M.A. misses her fellow MCSers and hopes for a 10-year reunion this summer.

MCS 26 Spring 2001

Class Agent: Andrea LaRosa, andreallarosa@gmail.com

Amy Aloe recently moved to Northampton, MA, and started a job as a genetic counselor with Baystate Medical Center. "I am excited to be back in New England and have been taking advantage of the snow, but am looking forward to great hiking in the summer," she says. Anna Bondarenko left NYC after three vears at an investment bank and moved to Paris to pursue a master's in international economic policy. She also volunteers as a marketing and communications coordinator at Cents Ability, a nonprofit dedicated to teaching financial skills to high-school students. Eric Hanson and his wife, Lindsay Hamlin, attended the Maine Environmental Education Association conference at Chewonki in April. They team-teach a science course at Windham [ME] High School, Eric focusing on wildlife ecology and Lindsay on marine biology.

MCS 27 Fall 2001

Class Agent: Chris Clark, clizzy@gmail.com

Alden Alexander is working for a private equity firm in Chicago quite a change from several years of sailing yachts around the globe, which she enjoyed after graduating from UNC. Chris Clark recently moved to Las Vegas to take a job with Stage Technologies as an automation engineer. The company designs, manufacturers, and installs winches, motors, and controls for

theatrical automation; its clients include universities, churches, and Cirque du Soleil. Emily Orzech is in China for a year on a Fulbright to study lithography at the Central Academy of Fine Art in Beijing. Annalee Sweet (boys camp staff '02-'04, '07) got married in '09 and is finishing grad school at Boston College, doing a clinical internship at MIT's mental health service. She's planning to move to NYC this summer. Emily Wellington is in Montana, helping the National Park Service with the formation of the Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative at the Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center in Bozeman. "My best project right now," she says, "is to co-author a chapter on the status of Whitebark Pine in a book about Yellowstone in transition." She's also in grad school part-time, concentrating on community and landscape ecology of the Rocky Mountain region. She's putting her skis and mountain bike to good use.

MCS 28

Spring 2002 Class Agent: Ellie Stewart, elliestew@gmail.com

MCS 28 takes on the Smithsonian! Mary Crauderueff finished a contract at the Smithsonian in 2010 and has since been enjoying smaller contracts along with volunteer work as she searches for permanent work as an archivist. Keats Webb started her own photography business last summer, mostly doing event photography and scientific imaging, for which she's currently on contract with the Smithsonian.

MCS 29

Fall 2002 Class Agents: Nellie Black, nellie.peters.black@gmail.com; Cara Brody, cara.lutz.brody@gmail.com; & Greg Daggett, gdaggett1@gmail.com

Greg Daggett is on the beautiful island of St. Kitts, where he's attending Ross University School

Note: There will be a 10-year reunion for MCS 25 & 26 and a 5-year reunion for MCS 35 & 36 at Chewonki Neck on June 10–12. We hope you can come!

People

of Veterinary Medicine, fulfilling a lifelong dream. "It's a strange juxtaposition to have the fast pace of school and slow pace of Caribbean culture, but so far it has been a lot of fun," he writes. Greg graduated from Boston University and got a master's in lab animal science at Drexel University. His "dream position would be to conduct field research with large cats in Africa, but one step at a time...I often reflect on the time I spent [at Chewonki].... It made me a better writer, a better observer, and more appreciative of the fleeting moments that I get to just look at my surroundings. Even now I find myself identifying birds habitually, and rereading essays by fellow alums that I've read dozens of times already." Emily Guerin (boys camp staff '04) spent most of last year between Maine and Boston. teaching environmental education and doing an internship with "Living on Earth," an NPR show about science and the environment. She started doing freelance journalism in Portland over the summer "but decided I wanted a 'real job,' so now I work as a reporter for the Forecaster, a weekly paper in midcoast Maine." Hannah Larkin teaches English at a charter high school in Boston and is "truly enjoying it." She's also prepping to take the GMATs.

MCS 30 Spring 2003

Class Agents: Will Davidson, davidswr@gmail.com; Kiira Heyman, kiirabey@gmail.com; & Olivia Sideman, olivia.sideman@gmail.com

Dylan Atchley wrote from Valparaiso, Chile, where he was helping some college friends with an NGO they started to teach local kids surfing, English, and environmental stewardship. After

graduating from Bates, he worked at the Natural Resources Defense Council in Washington for two years but says "the whole desk/computer thing eventually wore me down and...I cut town to go do some research and learn Spanish in Mexico. Now I am...tooling around the southern half of the Americas visiting friends, seeing the sites, and working on my Spanish." Vera Chang has started her second year working for Bon Appetit Management Company, a sustainable foodservice company. "As the West Coast fellow, I travel to farms and colleges from SoCal up to Washington and I love it! Learning the stories of farmers and speaking with college students about food issues is a dream for me." Michael Crowley and his girlfriend live in Connecticut, right next to the Connecticut River-handy for canoeing and riverside biking. Mike works for Lincoln Financial, a life and annuity company. Will Davidson, thriving on the West Coast, is taking a course in wilderness and primitive survival skills with Trackers Earth. "I've spent the last two summers working on an organic farm and totally fell in love with farming, in part thanks to the Chewonki farm and farmers," he reports. Sara Farnum is finishing law school in Boston, where she's also been an intern at the District Attorney's office. "I think I have found my calling in the courtroom. If anyone knows any lawyers in Boston that might want to hire me next August after the bar, let me know! I live with the same boyfriend I had right after Chewonki, Brent (does anyone remember the guy that sent me a package and I went around showing his senior picture??)." Craig Hanson and his girlfriend are living in Shenzhen, China,

where both teach at an American International School. Craig writes, "I have 13 kids in my 7th/8th-grade classroom, ranging from an 11 year old who speaks fluent English to a 16 year old who can say 'goo mo-ning' and 'sank you' and that's about it. Mackenzie and I are having some great experiences in and around China and most of them are chronicled on our blog, lobstersandpandas.wordpress.com." Rachel Hiles is managing editor of the Buddhist magazine Tricycle. For her job, she is obligated to go on a 10-day Alaska kayaking meditation retreat in June. Anna **Isaacson** (boys camp staff '08) taught English in Taiwan for a year and now works for the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, "promoting walking and biking to and from Massachusetts schools through the national Safe Routes to School program," she writes. She lives in Jamaica Plain and enjoys "running up and down the hills of the nearby Arboretum...[and] trying to learn how to dance." Barbara Johnson lives in Brooklyn and works as the education coordinator at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. "I get to teach students and adults of all ages about architecture, ecology, medieval history, religion, etc., and work specifically with visitors with disabilities." Allison Klein is a cartographic technician at Yellowstone, doing lots of GIS/GPS/cartography work. She calls the job "a nice mixture of making maps and then getting to go backpacking to do field work." After graduating with a BA in architecture, Nick Kruse taught art at the Island School in the Bahamas, where he discovered that he is "decent at free diving (SCUBA with no gear)." After working for a year at the Mountain School in Vermont as

Coming Soon! Our Annual Report To save resources and provide more room for content in the *Chronicle*, we will publish a stand-alone Annual Report electronically. Please look for it online in May.

the sustainability coordinator, he now lives in Silver Spring, MD, and works as a building analyst for a green building group, "driving around in my two-door Honda Insight (avg 60 mpg) handing out CFLs and showerheads and recommending attic insulation ... it feels good." Kate Letourneau is "super happy to be nesting" in Ann Arbor, MI, with her boyfriend. She works at a public health lab at the University of Michigan for a pediatrician who studies children's eating behavior in low-income populations. "I'm starting to look into going back to school to be a nurse practitioner," she says, "as I think it's the closest I can get to being a witch while keeping mainstream enough to help all sorts." Jason Lillev has been teaching soil conservation techniques for the Peace Corps in Paraguay, working in schools on environmental education and gardening, and building brick stoves. He's planning to hit Patagonia when his two-year assignment ends, then work his way up through South America "until the funds dry up and I end up back in Maine to play in the soil and work on grad school apps." Kristen McLean is in a public health program at Emory in Atlanta, studying behavioral sciences and health education. "I am concentrating in global mental health...hoping to jump on board a research project in Liberia this summer to help scale up psychiatric services.... Want to work with the kiddies eventually. Tessa Solomon-Lane and I actually lived up the street from each other for about a year without knowing it. Now we get to hang out." Sara Miller lives in Chicago with her fiancé and is "studying like crazy—going to medical school at Loyola's Stritch School of Medicine. I sometimes (like everyday) wish I had a class in which I had to go to a spot (I think I'd choose a big tree somewhere on the Neck) and write about it for an hour." Nora **Paul-Shultz** is an environmental educator for Nature's Classroom. She plays "in the woods with kids and tries to remember everything Bill taught us and impart that information to them.... I am applying to grad school to become a high school physics

teacher so hopefully that will be the next step." Evan Schnidman (boys camp '98-'99) lives in Cambridge, MA, and is in the third year of a PhD program in political economy. Now that he's done with coursework, he says he spends most of his time teaching undergrads and master's students, developing his dissertation prospectus, working part-time in economic development, and communing with his dog. Bessie Schwarz put in a stint as a researcher of stakeholder perceptions of ecosystem services but then "took a turn for the political," she says. She's been working as an environmental organizer, first for Green Corps, now in D.C., "where I do less organizing and more strategy design and management. It's cool except that the environment usually loses." Jesse Shapell (boys camp staff '95-'99, '02-'05; Maine Coast Kayak, North Woods Canoe) now lives in Brooklyn. "Even though my Latin degree hasn't landed me a pertinent job, I've been working as a host at a swank spot on the Upper West Side. Aside from that, I've been working on two book-length works: a short-piece collection about Portland and the surrounding suburbs and a lit crit study on the comic The Adventures of Tintin by Herge." Also in Brooklyn is Olivia Sideman, who graduated from Oberlin and works at the Vera Institute of Justice to improve processing times for child neglect/abuse cases in the NYC Family Court system. She brews beer and kombucha in her small apartment, sings in a choir, and plays Ultimate Frisbee. Seth Silverman (former foundation advisor) is in western Kenya working for One Acre Fund, which will serve about 60,000 farm families in Kenya and Rwanda "by the upcoming 2011 long rains," he says. "We provide smallholder farmers with access to and credit for inputs like good seeds and fertilizer and training in sound agricultural practices.... We are increasingly providing other services like solar lanterns, child health services, and the like. (We are growing fast so if anybody is interested in this type of work, be sure to check out

www.oneacrefund.org/get_involve d/careers)." After Vassar College and "the nomadic outdoor science life for a while." Tessa Solomon-Lane is in a neuroscience PhD program in Atlanta, studying social behavior in fish. She spends the academic year in the city and the summer field season on Catalina Island, CA. "I live in a great neighborhood and have started up martial arts and juggling again, and I get to see Kristen McLean every once in a while!" she says. Casey Whittier is "anxiously awaiting a visit from the lovely Tommy Otey...because I am exactly a year from my MFA show in ceramics at the University of Colorado, Boulder, and just found out that he is at Colorado State University in Fort Collins." Casey is teaching freshmen, taking a full load of courses, has two offcampus jobs, and one of her ceramics pieces is in a show in Kansas City. "I'm eating as many pomegranates a week as I can afford," she writes. Liz Yates is "living in New York and enjoying life after investment banking; now working in private equity origination." She recently enjoyed traveling in India after attending a wedding there.

MCS 31 Fall 2003

Class Agents: Sarah Kirk, sskirk@gmail.com; & Ben McGee, ben.mtbm@gmail.com

Annie Brett majored in environmental science and public policy at Harvard and until recently was the environmental advisor for Infinity Expeditions, an organization dedicated to community-focused research on climate change in the Pacific Islands.

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; & Jasmine Smith, jsmith@coa.edu

Jane Koopman (camp staff '08, '10) enjoyed teaching kayaking at

Chewonki last summer and spent the winter in Jackson Hole, working at the mountain and skiing in tons of snow! Mattias Lanas spent part of the year studying in Australia, spending 1- to 2-week intervals in different ecosystems, including the Great Barrier Reef. Art also continues to play an important role in his life. Mattias will graduate in June and hopes to stay an extra year at Stanford to pursue a master's in earth systems. Matt Larkin is majoring in sculpture at Wesleyan. He's been going allout to design his final projects for a senior thesis exhibition. Margaret Mansfield graduated from UVA with a double major in art history and French. She now works for Bloomberg in NYC and has enjoyed reconnecting with Chewonki friends in the city.

MCS 34 Spring 2005

Class Agents: Alex Beecher, 10anb@williams.edu; & Liz Franchot, efranchot@gmail.com

Kate Bell-Hart lives with her cat, Pocket, in Los Angeles and works in the film industry. Noah Isaacson, wielding a paddle with fellow Bowdoin grad David Wells (MCS 33), ran into Willard Morgan at Big Eddy last summer. Doug Ray graduated from Bates, where he was a radio host, wrote for the student newspaper, and co-founded The Monkey Blog, now a well-known music blog. Doug is a journalism student at Stanford, primarily interested in the arts and international reporting.

MCS 35 Fall 2005

Class Agent: Cameron McKnight, faithcameronmcknight@yahoo.com

Alex Brett spent a month last winter aboard the sailing ship *Infinity* with Infinity Expeditions, a group that does environmental research in the Pacific Islands (see Annie Brett under MCS 31). Alex is now working on his senior project at College of the Atlantic, setting up several sites around Frenchman Bay to monitor major benthic algae and invertebrate communities and interviewing local people about changes they have observed in marine life over their lifetimes. **Jamie Watson** is a senior at Davidson, where he is a political science major researching FEMA's community preparedness programs. He volunteers for the Davidson Fire Department—good training for his upcoming studies in the Johns Hopkins post-baccalaureate premedical program, where he'll prepare for a career in emergency medicine.

MCS 36 Spring 2006

Class Agents: Teddy Newmyer, tnewmyer@wesleyan.edu; & Chelsea Pompadur, cp296@st-andrews.ac.uk

Marian Messing is finishing her undergraduate studies at Princeton, majoring in the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and focusing on human rights, authoritarianism, the rule of law, and political and economic development in the Middle East, in addition to studying Arabic. She is a recipient of the Scholars in the Nation's Service Initiative (SINSI) at Princeton and will begin a master's in public affairs at the Woodrow Wilson School next fall. She still enjoys the usual stuff-soccer, clarinet, and civic engagement on human rights issues. Teddy Newmyer will travel to Tanzania this fall with SIT to study ecology and cultural issues. Chelsea Pompadur is in the home stretch at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland, where she's studied psychology and international relations and been a tour guide, rower, and Senior Student (similar to school president). "I've loved the experience of being in Europe for so long and being able to travel, and St. Andrews is a wonderful place." Stephanie Rendall is on a leave of absence from Hampshire College, working on web design and fish identification and exploring what it means to "buy local" on the Caribbean island of Bonaire. Stephanie and Nina Subhas enjoyed a performance by Guillermo Gómez-Peña in NYC last spring, and last summer Nina shared a picnic at Chewonki with Meredith Ruhl.

People

MCS 37

Fall 2006 Class Agent: Lizzy Tarr; lizet345@gmail.com

Karl Berger is studying art at Lewis and Clark College. Tarara Deane-Krantz works in the NYC mayor's office each summer and is busy at Bowdoin College, managing a cafe and volunteering for a Maine state representative along with studying.

MCS 38 Spring 2007

Class Agent: Franklin Jacoby, frjacoby@verizon.net; & Maddy Schwartz, madeleineschwartz@gmail.com

Casey Cummings showed off her culinary skills in Chewonki's kitchen last summer before returning to Syracuse University for her junior year. Matt Darcy visited Chewonki a year ago when his brother, Ben Darcy, attended Semester 44. Franklin Jacoby is in his third year at College of the Atlantic and recently finished an internship surveying a Maine island. When he's not canoeing or rock climbing, he has "been studying a variety of subjectshuman ecology, biology, philosophy-and am in the middle of trying to integrate them into a senior project." Willard Morgan enjoyed lunch with Ethan Nonomura at Bowdoin College last spring.

MCS 39 Fall 2007

Class Agents: Dana Golden, rivergal@botmail.com; & Maddy Woodle, xcrunner4260@botmail.com

Wells Andres is majoring in psychology and neuroscience at Yale, taking pre-med classes, and "filling up any other moments of the day with music." He works in a neuroscience lab focused on the behavioral and cellular pathways involved in learning and memory, is principal second violin in the Yale Symphony Orchestra, and also plays chamber music. Lexi Barab has two majors at Scripps: psychology and a self-designed major called Gender, Health, and Global Development. Climbing is her way to relax after studying.

Cammie Taylor is an environmental studies major, with a concentration in sustainable agriculture, at Warren Wilson College. "I have been working at the college farm since my freshman year and have specialized in work with our pasture-raised pork, chicken, and egg operations. I'm about to embark on my senior thesis...grafting tomato plants that have been bred for resistance to blight. This could be an organic answer that growers are looking for." Cammie dreams of owning a farm. Richard Van Deusen Joyce served on Chewonki's search committee for the new head of semester school last winter. Madeleine Woodle spent last summer in Ghana, where she stocked up on kente cloth, learned some new African dance moves, and picked up a little Twi. She is studying Arabic and plans on majoring in politics. Last fall she led her first wilderness trip in the Berkshires, as part of Princeton's freshman orientation program.

MCS 40 Spring 2008

Class Agents: Rachel Madding, maddingal@yahoo.com; & Nick McLeod, nickmc10935@aol.com

Lisa Beneman is enjoying her sophomore year at Whitman College. "I love living in and learning about the American West and am an environmental studies and politics major." Mateus Costa was on the Neck last summer as a counselor at boys camp. Willard Morgan spotted Samantha Hersom behind the counter at North Cottage Coffee in Damariscotta, ME, last summer! Rachel Madding played a key role in the Middlebury women's soccer team's dramatic 4-3 defeat of Amherst last fall. Down 0-3 with 10 minutes to go, Middlebury rallied to score 4 goals. Rachel scored one of them and also delivered a stirring pre-game speech that inspired others. Malcolm Richardson (Boatbuilders '08) reports: "Saving money to buy a truck. Spending money to enjoy good food."

MCS 41 Fall 2008

Class Agents: Kevin Coleman, colemankj@gmail.com; & Ali Connolly, alison.connolly@tufts.edu

Kevin Coleman saw Willard Morgan last September when Willard was visiting California. Kevin was taking an EMT course and getting ready to start Colorado College. Fiona Haslett attended a Chewonki gathering in Concord, MA, in February. She had just completed a Where There Be Dragons program in Nepal and was headed to Spannocchia in Italy for the spring. Hazel Jacoby (boys camp staff '10; Explorers, George River, North Woods Canoe '06-'08) served as the farm activity leader at boys camp last summer.

MCS 42 Spring 2009

Class Agents: Carly Blumenfeld, cnblumenfeld@gmail.com; & Emily Busam, emily.busam@gmail.com Maile All is attending Montana State University, "doing great, but missing Chewonki." Lyla Amini completed her senior project for St. Paul Academy by working at the Chewonki farm last May. Alex Macmillan also worked at the farm, to kick off his gap year and before heading to Chile, and was ecstatic about attending several Phish concerts! Genevieve Oxman is enjoying the College of Wooster in Ohio. Jack Phinney came to Chewonki to lend a hand on our 10/10/10 projects, including the 35-Mile Meal.

Semester 43 Fall 2009

Class Agent: Sara Clark, saraclark146@msn.com

Jacqui Colt came by Chewonki last summer to say hello. Kieran Hanrahan joined other friends, including Emily Hollyday and Corey Thaxton, at a Chewonki celebration at Flatbread in Portland, ME, last September. Kieran started the "Do Stuff" Club at Waynflete School. Eliza Margolin came to Chewonki for 10/10/10 and shared the delicious 35-Mile Meal. Katherine Shor saw Willard Morgan at a Chewonki gathering in Charlotte,

NC, in January. Ben Surface worked at Saltmarsh Farm last summer, as did Mia Ritter. and was at Chewonki for 10/10/10. Tavo True-Alcala had a summer internship at the Hotchkiss School, working on investigating the feasibility of using solar energy. "Hotchkiss is committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2020," reported Tavo, "so I was investigating the possibility of installing photovoltaics on the gym and the main building, as well as solar thermal possibilities on faculty housing not connected to the central heating plant Unfortunately, due to the small incentives, the payback time is around the same as the expected life of the systems, so until that gets better, it is likely nothing will get done."

Semester 44 Spring 2010

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

Leah Cooper came back to Chewonki during a family trip to Maine last summer. Delger Erdenesanaa took a break from a college trip to stop by last October. Soren Hope, in her tap-dancing debut, performed in the Dancers Responding to AIDS benefit at her school, Friends Seminary. Maxson Jarecki has been playing regularly around NYC with his five-piece band, CrabCorps, which he started alongside fellow 44er Johnny Steines. Julian McGinn (boys camp '04-'06; North Woods Canoe '07; Maine Appalachian Long Trail '08) joined the Chewonki festivities at Flatbread in Portland, ME, last September. Jessica Nichols, Hannah Perkins, and Suhas Vijaykumar attended a Chewonki gathering in Concord, MA, in February.

Semester 45 Fall 2010

Class Agents: Noah Stone, noah1313@gmail.com; & Katherine Rush, rush@westminster.net

Francesca Gentile, Nicholas Luther, and Maggie St. Jean attended the Chewonki party at Molly and Jeff Eberles' home in Concord, MA, in February.

Former Faculty

Alexandra Harris (boys camp staff '06; MCS 33-37 faculty), an RN and graduate of Simmons College, married Clark Woolley in New Hampshire last summer. She and Clark live in Washington, D.C., where she is at Georgetown in her first year of the Nurse Midwifery/Women's Health Nurse Practitioner Program and Clark works for the U.S. Forest Service. Melina Shannon-DiPietro (semester school fellow), one of the founding directors of the Yale Sustainable Food Project, left New Haven last fall to become director of food projects for the High Line, a new public park on an old elevated rail line in lower Manhattan. According to High Line's website, "Food is one of our everyday connections to community and to the environment, and through food, Friends of the High Line hopes to connect people to one another and the land."

NEW BABIES ON THE NECK!

Bienvenu, petit Louie! Kelsie Tardif, development assistant, and her husband, Jeremy Tardif, assistant farm manager, celebrated the arrival of Louie Marc Tardif on 3-31-11. Little Louie is already the apple of older brother Claude's eye!



Jeremy, Claude, and Louie Marc Tardif.

NOTABLE VISITORS TO THE NECK

Carl Wilson, chief lobster biologist for Maine's Department of Marine Resources, spoke with the semester school's Environmental Issues class in September and February, describing his experiments manipulating trap density in lobster fisheries in midcoast Maine. **Paul Kando** and **Topher Belknap** of the Midcoast Green Collaborative visited last fall and winter to do energy audits of four buildings. They also taught semester students the basics of building physics and showed them the equipment used in auditing. Their audits will help guide Chewonki's effort to reduce its carbon footprint. **Bailey McCallum** (MCS 16; foundation advisor) spoke with semester school students in November about his work as an industrial wind energy developer. NYC documentary filmmaker **Jauretsi Saizarbitoria** visited semester school Spanish classes last winter to talk about her movie *East of Havana*, which portrays Cuban hip-hop culture. **Roger Richmond**, professor of architecture at the University of Maine, Augusta, presented his three-dimensional macro nature photography slideshow to semester students and faculty on February 4. **Wes Jackson**, a plant geneticist-agronomist, founder of The Land Institute, and MacArthur fellow, visited on April **11**. Dr. Jackson has done pioneering research in natural systems agriculture, including perennial grains, perennial polycultures, and intercropping, for more than 30 years. He took a farm tour and shared lunch with students and staff.

IN MEMORIAM

Chewonki lost a devoted friend and supporter when **David Demeré** died after a seven-year battle with bone marrow cancer on November 1, 2010, in Belfast, ME. He was 51 years old and left behind an immense circle of cherished friends and family.

Possessed of boundless enthusiasm and a deep love for the natural world, David thrived on outdoor adventures and on sharing the wonders of nature with others. He loved sailing, worked as a sailing instructor and boat builder, and founded a youth rowing program. He also loved carpentry and crafted a low-impact, self-sufficient lifestyle for himself and his family. A man of many talents, he was a loving and involved father, a soccer coach and musician, a lifelong peace activist and community volunteer—among many other things.

At Chewonki, we knew David especially well though his work as chair of the Debley Foundation, a family charitable foundation working to improve the lives of disadvantaged women and girls around the world. The Debley Foundation generously supported Chewonki's Canoe Expedition for Maine Girls and continues to provide enthusiastic support for Chewonki Camp for Girls. "David was an extraordinary person, who taught all around him by example. We are enormously grateful to him and his family for their support," said director of development Lucy Hull.

David is survived by his parents, Margaret and Charles; wife Tara and stepson Cameron; children Lucretia, Seth, and Tyler; three grandchildren; and three siblings.

Werner J. Rothbacher (Camp Staff '73–'77, '80) died on February 2, 2011, at the age of 83 in Beverly Farms, MA, after a long illness. He had a deep affection for Chewonki, where he was the waterfront director and where his wife, Betsy, was a longtime bookkeeper and secretary.

"Werner was a wonderful, steady presence and a fine role model for campers and counselors alike," remembers former executive director Tim Ellis. "His whole family was immersed in Chewonki: Heidi, Rainer [Camp'73-'75; Camp Staff '76-'77], Rick [Camp '73-'77], and Liesl [Camp '74-'76], and of course Betsy."

Under Werner's caring eye, many a Chewonki camper became a better swimmer. "I had been swimming all my life, but Werner taught me how to *really* swim. I still think about how he coached me on my stroke," said Bart Chapin, who was a counselor during Werner's time. And as former director of Alumni Relations Dick Thomas fondly noted, "*Pobhbhbhblar beabrs* in an Austrian accent still permeates the Lower Field."

Werner developed his love of the outdoors and of physical exercise as a youngster in his native Austria. After graduating from the University of Graz, he came to the U.S. on a Fulbright Scholarship, returned to Austria to earn his PhD, and moved to the U.S. permanently in 1957. Over the next 50 years he immersed himself in teaching and coaching. He directed the Sugarloaf and Lost Valley ski schools in Maine, taught German and P.E. at Brunswick High School, and coached the Colby and Bowdoin ski teams and the Brunswick High swim team. After "retiring," he worked in the Athletic Department at Bowdoin College.

Werner is survived by his wife and children, 11 grandchildren, and a sister and 2 brothers in Austria. Among his grandchildren are Will Davidson (MCS 30) and Ben Hawley (Camp '07– '10). Gifts in Werner's memory can be made to Chewonki (for camp scholarships) or to the Brunswick Area Student Aid Fund in Brunswick, Maine.

Remembering Margaret Ellis

April 12, 1939–February 26, 2011

ountless people—family, friends, and colleagues—lost a dear friend when Margaret Ellis died on February 26. The cause was a rare form of lymphoma. Margaret died peacefully and surrounded by loved ones, in her beloved old farmhouse just across Montsweag Brook from Chewonki.

Over almost 50 years, Margaret was nurse, gardener, community builder, and so much more at Chewonki. She arrived here in 1965. Her husband, Tim Ellis, had practically grown up at Camp Chewonki and worked there in the summers. When Chewonki founder Clarence Allen retired in 1966, Tim took over as director. In 1970 he also became the first president of the fledgling nonprofit Chewonki Foundation. It was Tim's vision and leadership that transformed Chewonki from a small boys camp to a year-round place of learning.

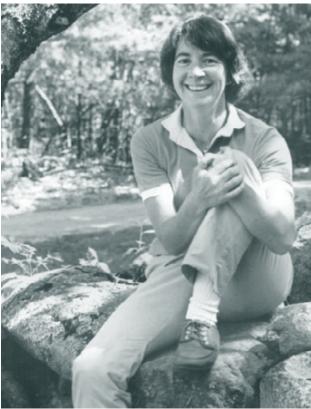
From 1966 until 1991, Margaret served as director of healthcare and safety and played a vital role in helping Chewonki grow into its new role. Even after she left, she was a frequent visitor on campus and stayed in touch with hundreds of Chewonki friends around the globe.

argaret Petrie was born on April 12, 1939, in London. At age 15 she moved to the Channel Islands where she took a job helping Peter and Jenny Wood with their six children. She embraced the Woods, and they her, and came to consider them her true family. During this time Margaret also grew to love the natural world and discovered her gifts for gardening and nurturing, which developed into lifelong vocations. She became a nurse in 1960 and a midwife in 1963.

A nursing job at the Leysin American School in Switzerland brought Margaret together with the young teacher Tim Ellis. They married in 1964 and the next year moved to Maine. Margaret settled into her new life and sank her roots deep into Maine soil. She and Tim devoted themselves to two allimportant tasks: Chewonki and their family. Their son Ben was born in 1966 and their daughter Jenny in 1968.

Margaret never lacked for energy or passion. While working at Chewonki, she also earned her certification as a nurse practitioner and her B.S. in nursing. After leaving Chewonki, she worked in medical practices in the Brunswick area. She received an M.S. in nursing from Simmons College in 1996 and served as an adjunct faculty preceptor there and at the University of Southern Maine.

After a long career of caring for others, Margaret might have relaxed into retirement. Instead, she set out to practice among Native Americans in Arizona and coastal Alaska, and in the Dominican Republic. She threw herself into this new endeavor, and once again garnered a devoted following of patients and friends.



HOTO COURTESY OF TIM ELLIS.

Margaret was equally passionate about her family. She and Tim spent much of the last five years in the West and made a second home in Missoula, Montana, closer to their children and grandchildren.

On January 2, in the online journal that she and Tim kept for family and friends during her illness, Margaret said she was "inspired by all the love and caring" she had received from so many. She closed by saying "Our intention for one and all is to find satisfaction and happiness in the small things of each day, to find joy in family and friendship, and to show kindness and love in as many ways as we can." In that heartfelt sentence is the essence of Margaret Ellis.

Margaret is survived by her husband, Tim; daughter, Jenny, her husband, Seth Wilson, and their children, Zoë, Simon, and Reid; and son, Ben, his wife, Shannon Shuptrine, and their son, Flynn. She is also survived by her "adopted" siblings Simon, Benjamin, and Rupert Wood, Jo Grimshaw, Pennie Heyworth, and Rosie Dorey.

A celebration of Margaret's life took place on April 9 at Chewonki. Gifts in Margaret's honor can be made to the Garden Fund at Chewonki. Through this fund, the perennial gardens she established here many years ago will always flourish, and will remind us of Margaret and all that she gave us.

As the *Chronicle* went to press, plans were being finalized to hold a Margaret Ellis Day later this spring. The day will be devoted to working in Chewonki's gardens, many of which Margaret planned and planted with the help of campers and semester students years ago.

On My Mind

Art and Owls

Alexandra Kahn

I love art. I love drawing, painting, sculpture—you name it. So, sensibly, I have been taking art class for years at home. In all my years of school art class, however, I have never had an experience like the one that occurred during my second week of the semester school class Art and the Natural World. Our teacher, Sue West, asked Kate Braemer from the Traveling Natural History Programs to bring in two owls.

Otis the Eastern Screech-Owl and Byron the Barred Owl graced us with their magnificent presence to create an unforgettable experience. Both birds are incapable of surviving on their own; Byron is missing a wing, and Otis suffers from partial blindness and brain damage.

The Traveling Natural History Programs staff takes in animals that, for various reasons, are unsuited for the wild. Some lucky semester students help care for these animals. The staff uses the animals to teach both children and adults about our fantastic natural world.

Owls are not the only resident animals at Chewonki. There are also hawks, eagles, a small falcon, turtles, an alligator, snakes, a blind Virginia opossum, and others.

The two gorgeous owls sat for us during one period of art class. Their stunning eyes, ear tufts, wings, and feather patterns made them excellent subjects. Sue suggested that we try to portray the owls in as few strokes as possible and that we use mostly black ink and charcoal. I opted for ink and had an absolute ball using the extreme darkness of the ink along with lighter washes to portray the birds' expressions and colors. The



sheer awesomeness of sitting two feet away from an owl was shocking. It was unforgettable, and the type of experience unique to Chewonki.

The incredible integration of academics, outdoors, and art makes this place phenomenal, and that art class was quite the adventure.

Alexandra Kahn is a current semester student from the Fieldston School in New York City. That's her drawing of Otis the Eastern Screech-Owl above.

STEP IT FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Gold in Your Garbage

RUTH POLAND, SCIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY FELLOW

If you view the world with a "cup-half-full" mentality, you'll realize that waste can be an opportunity. Food scraps and yard litter constitute roughly 30 percent of the waste stream in the U.S. Trucking and processing this waste produces CO₂ emissions, is an expense for towns and cities, and overloads our landfills. Creating compost instead is one of the most elegant ways to not only reuse but upgrade this waste. In short, food and yard waste should be seen as an opportunity rather than a necessary waste product.

Composting is the natural process whereby bacteria, fungi, and insects break down organic matter. Gardeners call compost "black gold," and studies show that soil mixed with compost produces plants up to 75 percent larger than those grown without it. Composting, like gardening, is a great way to make your daily life more sustainable.

A good compost pile contains a 30:1 ratio of carbon to nitrogen; it is moist to the touch but doesn't wring out any water when squeezed. As a general rule, materials with a high carbon content are dry and brownish, like fallen leaves and paper. Materials with a high nitrogen content are colorful and wet, like food scraps and grass clippings.

Simple bins consist of two or three 3- x 3- x 3-foot boxes made from chicken wire or pallets. These bins keep the piles neat, are the most efficient size for composting by hand, and allow airflow around them. Using a number of bins allows you to have piles at various stages in the composting process and still have a fresh one to add to. A great website to consult for further advice is www.howtocompost.org.

"BLACK GOLD"

Debunking the myths:

1. Doesn't compost smell bad? If it does, your carbon to nitrogen, or water to air, ratios are off. You can ameliorate the smell by adjusting these ratios.

2. Won't weeds and diseases persist in compost? If mixed properly, your pile should heat up to about 160° F, killing weed seeds, fungi, and harmful bacteria. Letting your compost pile cure and freeze over the winter can also help ensure that no pathogens survive.

3. I don't want to shovel it! Lasagna gardening is a method of layering compost ingredients directly on your garden and letting it cook in place. Check out the book *Lasagna Gardening* by the inventor, Patricia Lanza, for more information.

4. Can't I just put food wastes down my garbage disposal?

Well, it's better than sending it to a landfill, as some waste-water plants do separate solids to make compost. But this compost is of lower quality and far from your garden. Instead of using a garbage disposal and then buying soil mix for your garden, it's better to create a closed-loop system right at home.

The bottom line: Composting is an easy and fun way to turn a large portion of your garbage into "black gold."



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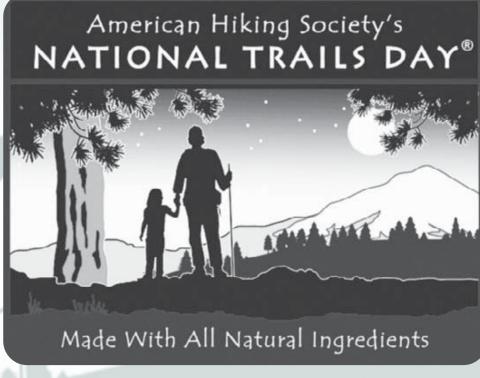


Are your name and address above up to date? If not, please see our note on page 6 and set us straight. Thank you!

JOIN US ON NATIONAL TRAILS DAY: JUNE 4

On Saturday, June 4, National Trails Day will bring together outdoor enthusiasts across the country for the 19th annual celebration of our nation's magnificent trail system and the great outdoors. More than 2,000 events will take place across the country. Chewonki will be involved, and we hope you will too!

Get out on your favorite local trail and help spruce it up for the summer months. You can join a local organization's project or create your own. "Think of it as a day of service for the land," says Chewonki president Willard Morgan.



"Many hands make light work, and there is nothing more satisfying than volunteering your time to make a difference and connect with other Chewonki alumni and friends."

You can search for events in every state and Puerto Rico and register your own event at www.americanhiking.org. Learn more about Chewonki's efforts at www.chewonki.org/alumni/events.

National Trails Day is organized by the American Hiking Society. Founded in 1976, the AHS is a national recreation-based nonprofit dedicated to promoting and protecting America's hiking trails, their surrounding natural areas, and the hiking experience.