

## *Kawanhee Affiliates with John Austin Cheley Foundation*

In October the Frank Foundation received the word it was hoping for: The Board of Directors of the John Austin Cheley Foundation offered Kawanhee one of its coveted endorsements as an associate camp. Kawanhee is one of only six Cheley Foundation associate camps nationwide, and the only such camp east of the Rocky Mountains. All Cheley Foundation associate camps have in common a mountain setting and the primacy of mountain experiences to their camp programs.

According to its mission statement, the Cheley Foundation, founded in 1989 to honor the memory of John Austin (Jack) Cheley and help fulfill his dream of making a camping experience available to deserving youth who could not otherwise afford it, exists “[t]o secure the benefits of summer mountain camp experience for children whose family resources are not adequate to cover the costs.” From its multi-million dollar endowment, the Cheley Foundation has awarded hundreds of camperships to children from 31 states. Beginning in the summer of 2010, Kawanhee will receive its first campers sponsored by Cheley Foundation grants.

According to Andrew Livingston, president of the Cheley Foundation’s board of directors, “The John Austin Cheley Foundation is thrilled that Camp Kawanhee will become one of our associate camps. Having high core values, excellent facilities and serving young men for over 85 years will be a natural fit. Additionally, the opportunity to send individuals awarded camperships to an entirely different part of the country allows the John Austin Cheley Foundation to expand its reach.”

A representative of the Cheley Foundation visited Kawanhee in August to meet our directors, counselors and campers and to survey the camp and its programs. Both before the visit and since, the two Foundations have exchanged numerous phone conversations and other information. In the coming weeks, Kawanhee’s website ([www.kawanhee.com](http://www.kawanhee.com)) and the Cheley Foundation’s ([www.cheleyfoundation.org](http://www.cheleyfoundation.org)) will feature reciprocal links. Kawanhee will coordinate with and support the Cheley Foundation’s fundraising initiatives so that deserving kids can be enriched by mountain camp experiences. Liz Standen, Co-Executive Director of the Frank Foundation, said, “We so appreciate this opportunity and Big John Detrick’s role in bringing it forward. We’re hoping that alumni will help us in identifying boys who might benefit from a Cheley Foundation campership. This affiliation will help with our goal of enhancing the camp community with greater diversity.”

As for Kawanhee’s own financial aid program, it will continue, supplementing the Cheley Foundation camperships awarded to Kawanhee campers. The Cheley Foundation’s endorsement is great news for Kawanhee and for deserving campers who need financial help.