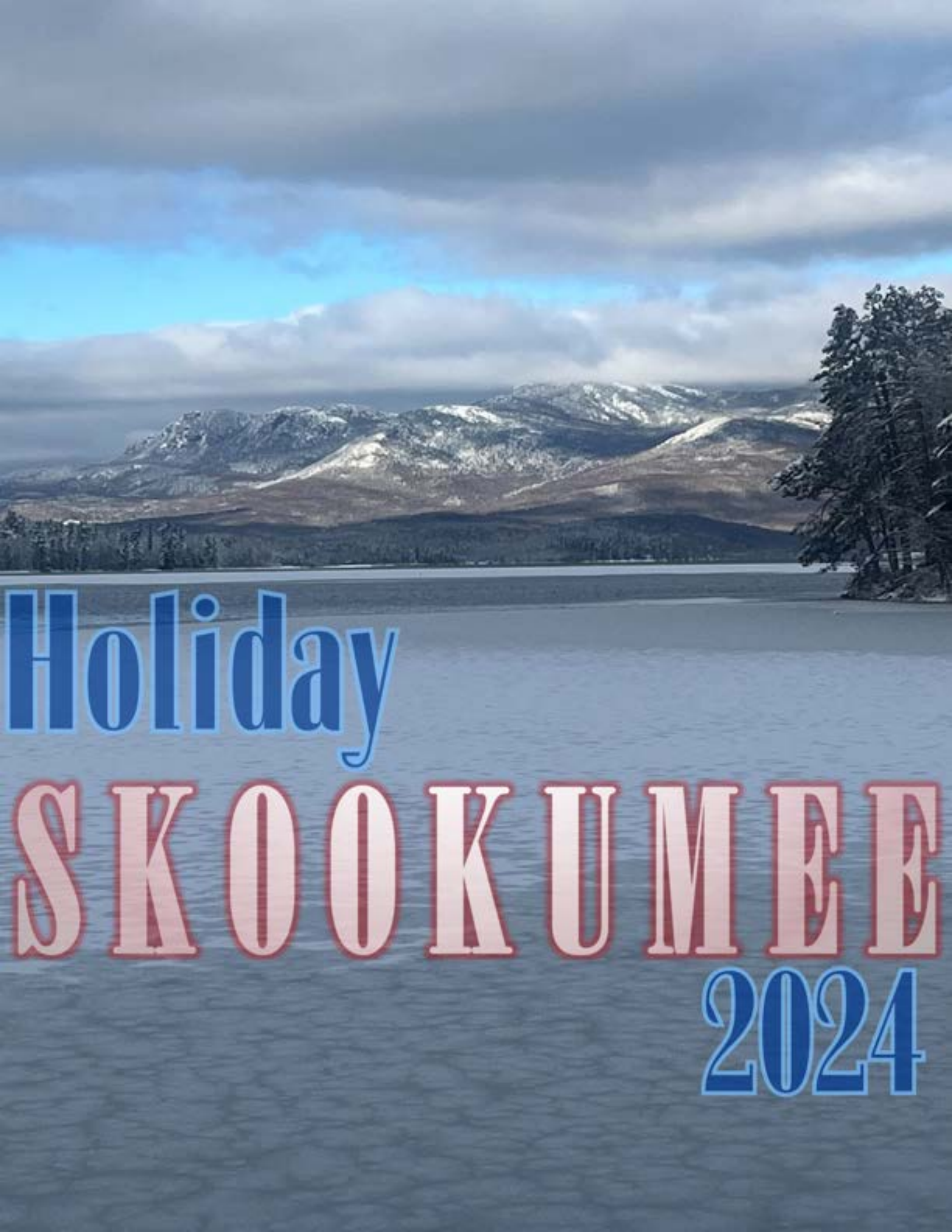




Holiday

SKOOKUMEE

2024



SKOOKUMEE:

It's that beach and outpost across the lake that Kawanheens paddle to for lodge overnights. It's camp property, but you don't quite feel like you're "in" camp. Once the night comes and the fire starts, it becomes the perfect place to share... share scary stories, funny stories, ideas, fears, laughs, recommendations, appreciation, goals, and just whatever's on your mind. Since we can't be together in person every moon of every year, we wanted to create a space online for campers, staff and alumni to come together and keep sharing those wonderful ideas and memories.

Wherever you are reading this right now -- big city, small town, east coast, west coast, Columbus, España, Puerto Rico, Greater Manchester, and beyond -- Come join us around the fire.

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Long Live Boyhood

MARK STANDEN



Exactly a year ago, our lead article in Skookumee featured a small photo of a holiday gift we bought for Camp Kawanhee. We had been out shopping in our hometown of Freeport, Maine (there's a lot of shopping in Freeport, for better or worse) at one of our favorite kids' stores, and we were in the hunt for gifts for our three young grandchildren. After a few minutes of stumbling around, we were taken not by a bright, shiny object, of which there were many, but by what was certainly the least assuming item in the store. It was roughly a square foot of off-white poplin bearing three simple words: LONG LIVE BOYHOOD. We realized immediately that these three words were the mantra we had lived by but never uttered, a prayer, a fervent wish, a rallying cry. Call it what you will, but we knew where it belonged: in Kawanhee's dining hall, where it now hangs.

Kawanhee is an institution that carries the torch for boyhood. It has done so for 103 years, through the Great Depression, several wars, the first manned landing on the moon, the Beatles, the Boston Red Sox finally winning it all, 9/11, and, more recently, social media, a warming planet, Taylor Swift, a pandemic and ChatGPT. Kawanhee has stayed the course through it all, and it is poised to continue serving as a rich formative experience for boys for a very long time.

Growing up a boy has probably never been easy, but it certainly must be bewildering these days. Kawanhee has tried to meet the moment by providing a safe haven, free from cell phones, social media and the steady onslaught of ominous news from tv anchors. Kawanhee has filled these spaces with a pristine lake, mountains and rivers, and a community that puts a premium on active learning, joy, reflection and connection.

Kawanhee has had, and has, many stewards, and we know we are in very fine company to be working shoulder to shoulder with the Frank Foundation's Board of Directors, our veteran staff, our community of parents and campers, and our generous alumni. We prepare for the upcoming camp season psyched to be a part of such a vibrant place. We hope you enjoy this issue of Skookumee, with its healthy doses of Kawanhee's casual goofiness and its seriousness of purpose. LONG LIVE BOYHOOD!



Kawanhee Responds

Catch up with Kawanheean Past and Present! Thanks to everyone who responded to our annual prompts



FERD SCHOEDINGER III

Weare, NH

- **What camp tradition is most special to you?**
Opening/Closing ceremonies
- **What's your favorite musical camp memory?**
Taps every night
- **One thing that's new for me in the last year?**
Finishing up a boat project painted maroon and grey!
- **One time I've thought about camp in the last year** was a slalom course improvement for myself so I approach the rounding buoy earlier
- **If I could give a shoutout to any Kawanheean** it would be to **Bailey, Brie, and Trevor** for their chocolate chip cookies!



NEIL GEST

Sammamish, WS

- **What camp tradition is most special to you?**
Remembering the people I knew and our shared activities
- **What's your favorite musical camp memory?**
Singing in Herb Yenser's chorus
- **One thing that's new for me in the last year** is I made a new friend
- **One time I thought about camp in the last year** was July 4th
- **If I could give a shoutout to one Kawanheean** it would be **Dean Ross Miller** because of his magical influence

ANDY TRAYNER
Lutz, FL



- **What camp tradition is most special to you?**
Grey/Maroon competition.
- **What's your favorite musical camp memory?**
Singing "You can't get to Heaven"
- **One time I've thought about camp in the last year** was at the end of the season



ROBERT JOHN RAY

Santa Fe, NM

- What camp tradition is most special to you?
Testimonial Vespers
- What's your favorite musical camp memory?
Singing "Can You Canoe" with the choir at the campfire and there were more people in the choir than there were sitting down watching us
- One thing that's new for me in the last year is
I moved closer to my winter gig in Santa Fe!
- One time I've thought about camp in the last year was every time I hang out with one of the many Kawanheean in New Mexico
- If I could give a shoutout to one Kawanheean right now it would be **Hector** because he's such a cool guy



BRANDON HELGASON

Chestnut Hill MA



- What camp tradition is most special to you?
Testimonial Vespers
- What's your favorite musical camp memory?
Tim Duncan's 2007 Hits Album
- One thing that's new for me in the last year was
traveling down to NYC for the Kawanhee Night Out event
- One time I've thought about camp in the last year was every day!
- If I could give a shout-out to one Kawanheean right now it would be **Ferd IV** because he's just a good dude



THOMAS REYNOLDS

New York, NY

- What camp tradition is most special to you?
Opening/closing ceremonies
- What's your favorite musical camp memory?
Tim and Simon's camp Chicago remix.
- One thing that's new for me in the last year was
not making it to camp for at least a visit in 2023
- One time I've thought about camp in the last year was **Anders Helgason's** wedding
- If I could give a shout-out to one Kawanheean right now it would be **Graham Marvin** because he gets Kawanhee people together more than anyone else I know

GRAHAM MARVIN Queens, NY



- **What camp tradition is most special to you?**
Opening/Closing Ceremony (formerly "Chief Ceremony") continues to be such a spiritual, powerful thing for me.
- **What's your favorite musical camp memory?**
Simon Doolittle and Tim Johnston doing a Kawanhee rendition of Sufjan Stevens' "Chicago". Runner-up: The **Ben Smith** Song
- **One thing that's new for me in the last year is**
I released my movie! It's a short film called "All Through The Night," and you can watch it on Vimeo if you're interested. It's a father/son psychological drama starring Tim Daly.
- **One time I've thought about camp in the last year** was when my former Lynx 2003 counselor, **David Sentis**, visited NYC and he, **Torrey Liddell**, **Russ Jessen**, **Rich Pinkham** and I all hung out and reminisced about camp stories.
- **If I could give a shout-out to one Kawanheean right now it would be:**
 1. **Brandon Helgason**. He traveled from Boston to NYC to see the NY premiere of my movie. To have your former camper -- and one of your absolutely favorites -- do something that supportive 15 years (!!) later is something special. Thank you, Helgas.
 2. **Cam Kaubris**. He's taking over Kawanhee Night Out and is the absolute best guy for the job. We got celebratory drinks a couple weeks ago because of that and because he just got engaged!
 3. **Mary, Sandy, Nancy, and Spencer**. They all traveled to Fort Lauderdale to celebrate my movie and it meant so much to me!

WILL TELGHEDER Darien, CT



- **What camp tradition is most special to you?**
The opening/closing ceremony
- **What's your favorite musical camp memory?**
Singing with everyone on the lat day of camp
- **If I could give a shout-out to one Kawanheean right now it would be to** **Hector** for making the camp so energetic and bringing so much love to camp! Thank you, Hector!

E

ALFREDO MARTINEZ Puerto Rico



- **What's your favorite camp tradition?** Every campfire or I forget the name but saying your goals on a mini field trip for the camp year
- **What's your favorite musical camp memory?**
Poor Charlie
- **One thing that's new for me in the last year is**
Master Camper
- **One time I've thought about camp in the last year was** Today, tomorrow, and yesterday
- **If I could give a shoutout to one Kawanheean right now it would be more than one!** **Danny Piper, Hector, and Guillermo Costal** (I think that was his last name) because they were just incredible people, will remember them forever



MIKE ALTMAIER Weld, ME



- What camp tradition is most special to you?
Campfires
- What's your favorite musical camp memory?
Singing campfire songs
- One thing that's new for me in the last year is losing some weight
- One time I've thought about camp in the last year was going to visit BA and Wallis at camp
- If I could give a shout-out to one Kawanheean right now it would be Bailey and BA for their pictures.

FERNANDO CARRASQUILLO Orlando, FL



- What camp tradition is most special to you?
Saturday campfires to recognize points for Grey/Maroon
- One time I've thought about camp in the last year was thinking about the hikes and routes we took as I'd love to recreate these memories as an adult
- If I could give a shout-out to one Kawanheean right now it would be My fellow countryman and brother, Enrique Garcia Thompson, whom I share a lot of memories with, including our three years at Camp playing basketball and as volleyball counselors together.



FERD SCHOEDINGER IV Weare, NH



- What camp tradition is most special to you?
The closing ceremony
- What is your favorite musical camp memory?
Sam Reynolds and Colin Grove singing "Sweet Child of Mine" with a runner up of Caleb Tulloss playing the piano
- One thing that's new for me in the last year was taking some hometown friends to Weld in October. That was a new experience
- One time I've thought about camp in the last year was So many! Any time the topic of summer comes up I think of camp.
- If I could give a shout-out to one Kawanheean right now it would be Gus Anthon, he always makes me laugh!

GRANT MORAVEC Somerville, MA



- What's your favorite camp tradition?
Opening/closing ceremonies
- What's your favorite camp musical memory.
The 2014-2018 underground dance party era
- One thing that's new for me in the last year is I graduated college! Now I'm working...at a college haha
- One time I've thought about camp in the last year was driving up to Maine with Camille Tulloss for Wyatt Gormsen's birthday. Kinda hard now to when you're an hour from the place.

B.A. Vision

B.A. ALTMAIER

As we all end another year on this earth and soon begin another, I continue to be so amazed by the beauty of camp in the off season, especially this time of year with the snow. I cherish my 57 seasons at camp, but at the same time have been able to enjoy camp 12 months a year! Many campers are probably like my sons who when they were camp age never wanted to come to camp with me in the off season because none of their camp friends were there. Every spring when the snow melts and the lake slowly begins to thaw I start to get excited for another camp season. I tell my good friend Wallis Tyler that camp is not just a visual sense for me, I can also smell camp. He looks at me kind of crazy, but there's something in the air as it gets closer to another camp season! Meeting new friends, seeing friends from previous seasons, and just looking forward to having fun at camp and enjoying all activities and trips that camp offers! The friendships at camp are really special and many turn into life long friendships! I literally have hundreds of those friendships as it started for me in 1965 and continues today 57 years later. All are special. Like meeting Bob Zechiel (Zeke) in Crow Nest lodge in 1966. This year, 57 years later, we spent six weeks together, 3 in Wyoming and 3 in Maine and New England, exploring, going on adventures and spending literally hours talking of our shared experiences at Kawanhee. Our stories might change a little bit over the years but our friendship doesn't. So as I enjoy the beauty of camp in the off season it gets me excited for another season. May there always be a Kawanhee and may Kawanhee Love always be burning in your heart!

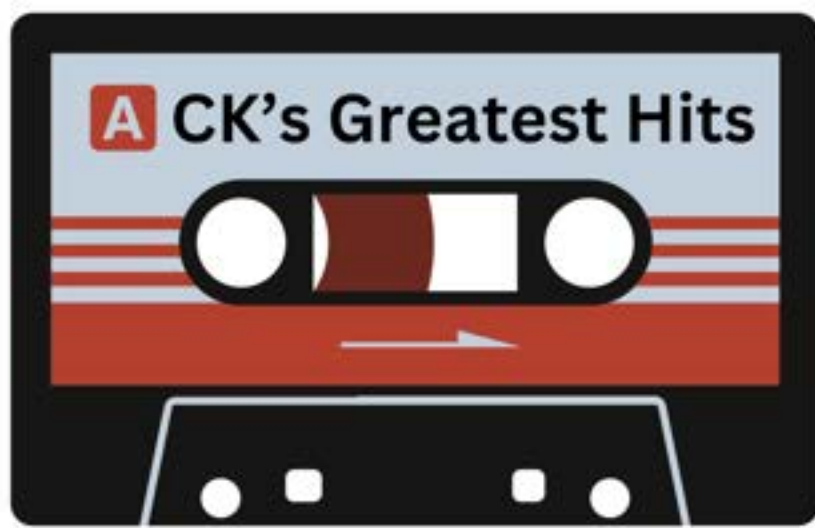


A Camper from Ukraine

MAKSYM DOVBUSH

My name is Maksym and I am from Ukraine. My family moved to the US in September 2022. Camp Kawanhee gave me a wonderful opportunity to visit their camp, meet a lot of great people and get new experiences. I learned how to use tools, set fires and tents, sail and basically how to be an "Honorable Man." I really enjoyed the nature of Maine as it reminded me of my home country. Although I didn't expect to leave Ukraine I'm glad I can see the US and learn about life here, with miles, gallons and inches. Hopefully next year I'll be able to see my friends and dive into the lake of adventures again.

Thank you to Robert Sherman for helping bring the Dovbush's to Kawanhee.



Hit play on songs
guaranteed to get you in
the camp spirit!



The Horse Ran Around

Andy Trayner

Maine - Noah Kahan

Thomas Reynolds

Roar Wildcat Roar

Ferd Schoedinger III

Poor Charlie

Alfredo Martinez

Chicago - Sufjan Stevens

Brandon Helgason

Let Me In - Grouplove

Graham Marvin

Stairway to Heaven -
Led Zeppelin

Mike Altmaier

I Want it That Way -
Backstreet Boys

Will Telgheder

Notorious Thugs -
Notorious BIG

Grant Moravec

Fight the Team Across
the Field

Neil Gest

Love Story -
Taylor Swift

Ferd Schoedinger IV and Robert Ray



The Polar Bear
Swim Song

Fernando Carrasquillo

The Oldest Surviving Kawanhee Alumnus

MIKE ALTMAIER

As I was researching my book on Kawanhee history- "Among the Pines" I came across some info that helped me locate the oldest surviving Kawanhee alumnus. I thought it was interesting info and as you'll see a little bit of a story behind the story and I'd like to share it with you.

Dr. Richard Miller -who is the second oldest alumnus- and spends the summers on Lake Webb each summer helped me locate the only alumnus older than himself. Dick is now in his young nineties and had a long Kawanhee career. He was captain of the Maroons in 1948-the only summer there was a tie in the Maroon-Grey competition.

The oldest Kawanhee alumnus is named Jones Harris and is 94 years old and lives in New York City. He wanted to come to our last reunion but couldn't arrange it. Jones attended Camp Kawanhee in 1940 and 1941. Jones had a keen interest in the theatre arts at Kawanhee which he came by naturally since his mother was the famous actress Ruth Gordon. In 1968, Ruth Gordon won the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress in the movie "Rosemary's Baby"..Ruth Gordon visited Kawanhee while Jones attended camp. Once she was sitting on the rocks at our beach and one of our motorboats came cruising by and offered to give Ruth a ride. She politely refused and continued to bask in the sunshine and beauty of the Kawanhee beach- as so many of us have. Eventually, Jones moved on with his life away from Kawanhee, but in 1949, he and his mother convinced the son of Henry Fonda (Peter) to attend Kawanhee for that one summer.

In 1968 I was a young counselor (with no car) and one night my friend, Bob Zechiel and I were able to borrow a car and we decided to attend a movie in Farmington. Wow, guess what was showing? "Rosemary's Baby". Bob and I both enjoyed the movie and the performance of Ruth Gordon. Little did I know that next spring as she basked in the acclaim of her performance and won many awards -that over 25 years before she had been enjoying the sunshine and beauty of Camp Kawanhee and refusing motorboat rides! And now her son, Jones Harris, is the oldest living alumnus of Camp Kawanhee in 2023 !



Defining Decades

With over a century of history under our belt, there's certainly been changes at Kawanhee. We asked Skookumee submitters to choose one thing that defines the decade or decades that they were at camp

1940s

Taking a train to
get to camp

Neil Gest

1976

USA 200th birthday celebration

Ferd Schoedinger III

Early 2000s

"Best Dressed" award at
campfire and Ken Chances
Karaoke Night

Graham Marvin

2008

The octagon soccer field

Brandon Helgason

Drinking scalding hot water out
of the fountain by the Red
Desert (the old basketball court)
during basketball periods

Ferd Schoedinger IV

2014-2018

The Underground Dance Party Wave. Every
week or so, a bunch of campers would get a
speaker and organize a bunch of kids to
throw down in a lodge for 30 minutes or so.
Eventually counselors would come in and
break it up. But they were a blast and a
really cool initiative campers started.

Grant Moravec

Love
of
Kawanhee!

Michael Altmaeir

May There Always Be a Kitchen at Kawanhee

BAILEY SCOTT



Camp Kawanhee has been part of my summers long before I began working there. As a young girl I would often go to campfires, baseball games, the Awards Ceremony and Arcadia dances. In 2006, the summer after my freshman year of high school, the wait was over and I officially joined the Kawanhee family as a Kitchen Girl like many of my family members have. I spent 16 years working in the kitchen and bakery with my uncle, Sean Minear. The summer of 2022, after the twice postponed Centennial Reunion, was Sean's final year at camp. This past summer I moved into the position of Camp Chef.



I spent a lot of the offseason preparing for my first summer as Chef: attending conferences, webinars, and researching recipes to add my own style to the menu. When June arrived it was 'go time'. Western Maine had several snow days at school so once again Pre Camp and the final week of the school were the same week. I worked at school during the day and went to camp in the evenings for dinner. It was like working two separate full time jobs in one day. My last day of school was the first day of Staff Training. We all hit the ground running to prepare for the 2023 Camp Kawanhee summer season!



May There Always Be A Kitchen at Kawanhee

BAILEY SCOTT

One of my goals this year was to be a bit more creative with the menu. Our kitchen crew prepared and served protein bowls with a variety of fresh vegetables, choices of quinoa or brown rice and protein options like chicken, salmon and carnitas meat... The staff and campers seemed to love the effort and the selections! We did add some new dishes to the menu but it just wouldn't be Camp without piles of Popcorn Chicken, BBQ Ribs, Grilled Cheese and Tomato Soup!

This year had a few challenges. Our goal in the kitchen was to work hard as a team to offer healthy and delicious food to staff and campers. There were many food restrictions, allergies and a higher number of campers and staff that we were feeding than past summers. We did our best to accommodate everyone. The first few weeks everyone seemed ravenous ~ that made the ordering of supplies and serving enough food more difficult. We never ran out but they cleaned their plates! This past summer we also had a LOT of rain... cooking hamburgers outside in the rain was a challenge ~ but we all survived! One thing I have learned is that there is never enough Old Bay or Truffle Salt!

The kitchen may be
getting renovated, but
that doesn't mean that
the lyrics of Love Story
aren't in the bones of
the building!



May There Always Be a Kitchen at Kawanhee cont.

BAILEY SCOTT

In the early years I had to scrub the bottom of the steel cut oats pot , "marry" the milk and orange juice, prep the salad bar and peanut butter cart and sweep and mop the floors. At the end of the shift we would jump in the trash truck for the delivery of cardboard and the gigantic, heavy duty bags of trash to the dumpster.

I have loved being in the kitchen at CK. We have our own language ... "Like a Shark ~ Always moving ~ Stop you die." "Plates on Plates. Bowls on Bowls." "The truck is here!"

Over the years I have made lifelong friends. As teenagers/young adults we used to spend evenings on the tennis courts looking at stars, talking, laughing and singing some of the camp songs. "Old John Henry," "There was a Bear," "Oh You Can't Get to Heaven," and "The Ben Smith Song" will always remind me of Friday night campfires gathered together at Council Point with the sun setting over Tumbledown and the sound of loons in the background. The banquet on the final Saturday singing Country Roads and Leaving on a Jet Plane with the entire camp has always been one of my favorite traditions in the dining hall! The kitchen may be getting renovated, but that doesn't mean that the lyrics of "Love Story" aren't in the bones of the building!

Now, many years later, we still enjoy the times we see each other and can sit around and reminisce about the days gone by at Kawanhee. I feel like I am truly part of the CK family and look forward to many more years of making memories.



The Kitchen by the Numbers

BAILEY SCOTT

HERE'S WHAT IT TAKES TO FEED
CAMP FOR AN ENTIRE SUMMER

15 Turkeys to feed camp for a Sunday meal



25 Pounds of pasta for an evening meal

319 Gallons of orange juice



350 Pounds of popcorn chicken

400 Pounds of sugar

550 Pounds of flour



558 Pots of Coffee

660 Pounds of Bacon

792 Gallons of Milk



2480 Hamburgers



4500 Eggs

Kawanhee in the Real World

How might Kawanhee impact us as we carry out our adult lives?

What ways might it affect our college, career and personal experiences in the "real world"?

In the fall of 2022, three passionate Kawanhees -- Jo Doherty, Graham Marvin, and Will Ryan -- set off on a mission to explore these questions. They reached out to a range of past & present Kawanhees, each at different stages of their lives. This is PART TWO in an ongoing series featuring the responses they received.

DAN ALEXANDER
1997-2011

Senior Editor at Forbes
Troy, OH



- *How did working as a counselor at Kawanhee positively affect your college life?*
 - Kawanhee acted as something of a moral ballast for me during college. As you get closer to the working world, it can be easy to focus on ambition and earning potential. Working at Kawanhee reminded me each year of how much it means to give back. I think that helped encourage me to look at careers that would be fulfilling rather than just enriching. And ultimately, I think I'm happier today because of that.

GAVIN CADWALLADER
1999-2009

Director, Apollo Global Management
New York, NY



- *How did attending Kawanhee as a camper help you professionally?*
 - There are a lot of lessons baked into Kawanhee that are applicable throughout life, including the workplace. For example, I often hear people at work talking about "finishing the swing" or "seeing things through". From a young age at Kawanhee, I always heard about the importance of finishing what you start.
 - I worked on building a model sailboat for probably 3 summers. There was no ability to start a new project when I realized I was slightly out of my depth. I leaned on the skilled shop counselor to guide me through and I was very proud when that model boat went into the lake for a "sail" at the end of the third summer. It's the same enjoyment I get when one of my projects or products at work gets launched.

Reflecting on Kawanhee

TRAVIS FROST

Hello everyone, my name is Travis (Tj) Frost and I'm super excited to be a part of this edition of Skookumee! My summers as an SC were between 2013-2017 and like most of you, I can confidently say my summers at Kawanhee were one of the biggest influences to the person and man I am today.

Reflecting back on my days at Kawanhee, the first thing that always jumps out is the incredible friendships I made. These friendships continue to teach me the importance and power of true human connection. There is beauty that exists when you are stripped from electronics and need to rely on your fellow campers for entertainment, support, and affirmation. Kawanhee presents a unique set of circumstance that foster life long relationships as well as promote personal development.

This leads me to another aspect of human connection that camp taught me, and that pertains to quality of time vs. quantity of time. At camp, you are only with your peers for a max of 7 weeks, but it is incredible what sort of bond you can form in such limited time. You are constantly being pushed out of your comfort zone while also supporting others while they endure the same. You grow together and learn from each other, share defeats and celebrate successes. This allows us to be extremely vulnerable and connect on such a deep and genuine level. As they say, "Friends for a summer, family for a lifetime."



**You grow together and
learn from each other,
share defeats and
successes**

Reflecting on Kawanhee cont.

TRAVIS FROST

Kawanhee also taught me how to be fully present. This is ever so challenging in today's world. I am not perfect with this, however, camp gave me a different perspective and understanding on what it means to be "fully present". Living on Webb Lake and being surrounded by the mountains, trees, and all the nature that comes with it, I always felt a part of something bigger than myself. This played a big part in my spiritual and emotional health.



In 2019 I graduated with my Doctorate of Pharmacy and have been practicing as a pharmacist since. This has been an extremely rewarding career path thus far and this is largely due to the relationships I create with my patients. As a pharmacist, I am the most accessible health care professional and am the first one the community turns to with questions or concerns. Especially during the Covid pandemic, pharmacists stepped up nation wide and I am proud to have played a part in that fight.

I am the current pharmacy manager at Mt. Blue Drug in Farmington, Maine. A bonus from working in Farmington is every once in a while someone from Kawanhee will pop in so that is a great perk (and the reason I got the chance to write this article!). Every time I speak with a patient from Weld I always make sure to tell them about my days as a counselor.

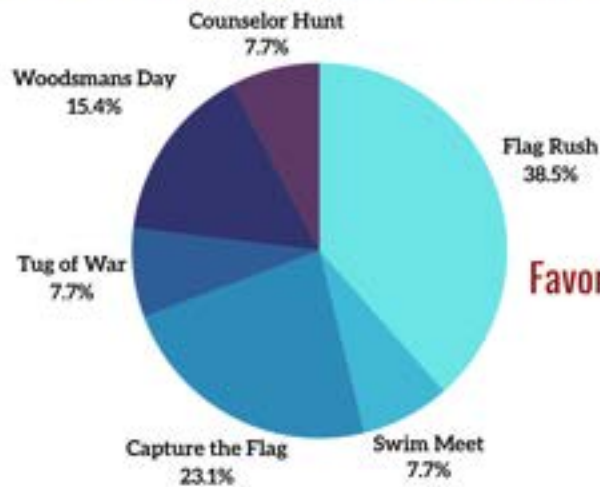
Last year was a big year for me as I got engaged to my now fiancée, Melissa, and we also purchased our first home in Turner, Maine. We live here with our two kitties and are currently in the process of planning a wedding!

Love to all and may there always be a Kawanhee!

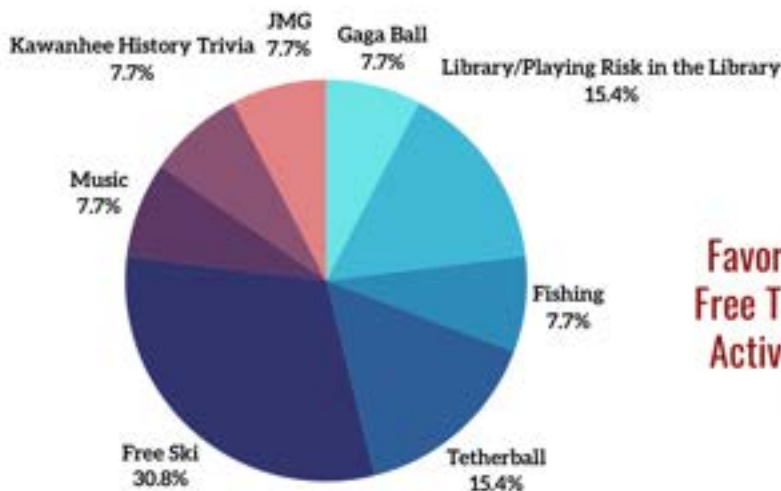
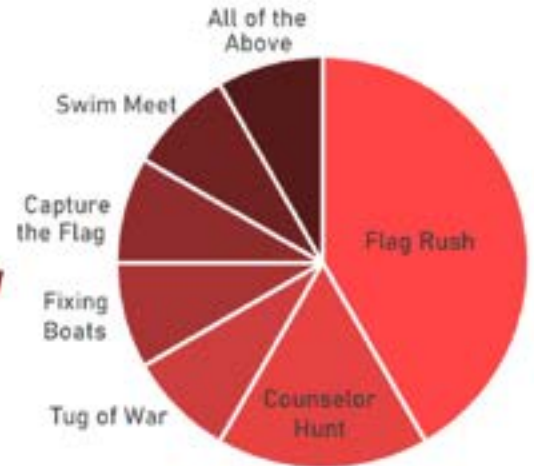


Kawanhee Polls

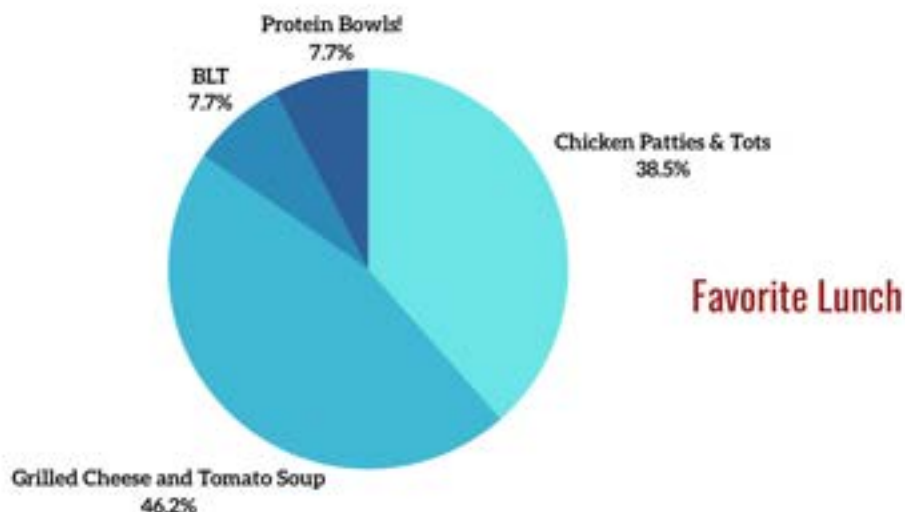
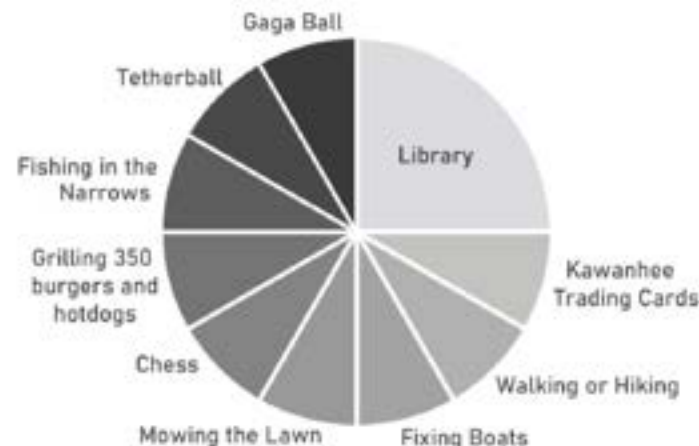
For our 10th issue, we wanted to look back. We asked the same polls that we asked for the first time in the summer of 2020. See current answers on the left and past answers on the right. No matter how much times change, Flag Rush reigns supreme.



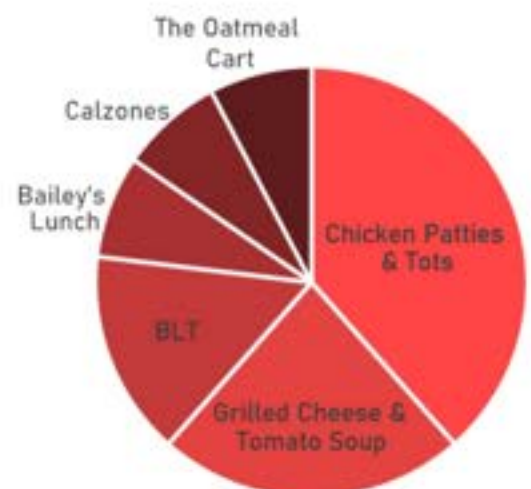
Favorite Gray/Maroon Activity



Favorite Free Time Activity



Favorite Lunch



Kawanhee in the News

Like many youth organizations, Kawanhee is dedicating more resources to supporting the social and emotional health of our campers and staff. We invite you to read an article written by Karen Mitchell, a social worker who teamed with Rohan Doherty to serve as Kawanhee's 2023 camper and staff support counselors. As the article describes, the training that Karen and Rohan developed and offered made a positive difference in our staff's ability to address the wide range of behavioral challenges our campers present. The article describes in some detail the trainings involved and how the ideas were executed. The link to this article is in the American Camp Association's CAMPING MAGAZINE November and December Issue and can be found here:

<https://www.acacamps.org/article/camping-magazine/swims-smores-social-emotional-growth>

We hope you enjoy reading about some of the professional development we offer our counselors and the many ways we try to address and improve upon our care of Kawanhee's campers. We look forward to having Karen and Rohan back with us in 2024 to continue their fine work.

Sending our very best to you this holiday season! Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns and as always, thank you for your support.

Liz and Mark

More about Karen and Rohan's work can be found in our 2023 Pre-Camp Skookumee Issue



The CK Full Circle

HECTOR QUINONES

A full circle at Camp Kawanhee for Boys is when someone gets to experience every aspect of the Kawanhee life from camper to junior counselor to senior counselor. The full circle at camp provides people with all the different opportunities and experiences camp has to offer. It starts as a kid taking in all the amazing opportunities and experiences camp has to offer. It ends with giving back to camp as a counselor and providing kids with the same amazing experience that you once had as a kid. Like every journey you take, there are ups and downs, but with the support and community that campers and counselors provide this journey into a new place can turn into a second home.

A camper's first year at camp can be a very hard year due to the fact that everything is new. Questions arise... Do I fit in? Will the other kids like me? Will my counselors like me? Will I like it here? A bunch of questions that can be hard to get the answer to especially if the kid is not willing to try. The first week at camp is a sort of feeler week. You go to all the activities with your lodgemates, see what activities you like, which lodgemates you get along with most, and what you want to do with your free times. Things like Gray and Maroon and waterskiing are unique things camp has to offer that really blows kids out of the water. Many of the things kids can do at camp they don't have access to anywhere else and that can be good to keep them busy and engaged. Usually by the end of the first year at camp kids know if they want to come back and continue the journey or decide camp isn't for them.

The second year and every year after that feels like you are returning back home. For a lot of kids once the car doors open for your second year they are off and running. No hesitation, no thought, just happy to be back, ready to go to your favorite activities, and complete your new goals. You have high hopes for the season and excited to come back to see all of your friends and favorite counselors. The years after kids first are the years in which a lot of these lifelong friendships are formed. These are the friendships that only get stronger with time. The years after your first are also the ones that really help kids open their eyes and see what they are exposed to and work to develop real skills in the activities they like. This section along the journey in Camp Kawanhee is what really forges the skills that are needed to be great at the activity they like. Whether the activity be kayaking, basketball, or campcraft, they all require a willingness to be there and spend time working on getting better at mastering this skill.



The CK Full Circle

cont.

HECTOR QUINONES



The next phase in the journey is when a camper becomes a junior counselor. At this point the kids are 16 and 17 and have already found their niche at camp. This stage in the journey they have more freedom than campers and are given actual responsibility too. In addition, they begin to practice their skills by teaching it to younger kids and helping learn the ropes of the activities they grew to love. Junior counselor years can be some of the most formative years at camp. Those two years at camp really help kids grow into leaders and into good role models for younger kids. In these years they get the chance to be leaders in cabins, sports, gray vs. maroon, and in their activities. Furthermore, those years provided kids opportunities to do trips that are absolutely mind blowing. They do anything from river trips in the middle of nowhere to simple trips like going to the city and hanging out with their peers at the mall. These years alongside your peers really cement some of these bonds formed in the first couple of years at camp. For a lot of people this is where the journey ends. It gets harder and harder to come back to camp as the years go by, especially when you get closer to college. That's why making it through camp and coming back as a senior counselor can be so hard.



The CK Full Circle cont.

HECTOR QUINONES

The final part of the full circle is the most rewarding. Being a senior counselor is the most important role in how much fun kids have during the summer. Senior counselors bring the energy and are that guardian figure kids rely on during the summer away from their parents. Furthermore, when you become a junior counselor and then make it into your counselor years you will get the chance to see your once young campers grow up and become leaders. Not only that, but when you become a senior counselor you have a special opportunity to connect with the kids beyond what you think is possible. As a junior and a senior counselor you are looked at as a role model and a big brother. Kids will look at you and treat counselors that way; it is the counselor's job to respond to the position they are in by being an exemplary role model and a great older brother. This phase in the full cycle allows for people to really help mold these kids into great people and even better leaders. The most rewarding thing about making it to the final stage of the full circle is seeing your former young campers grow up and become a leader and hopefully join the staff.



The full circle comes to an end once you become an SC. There is more to gain from if you can come back for multiple years, but it is not realistic for everyone. Being able to be on all sides of the table at camp shows you the magic that takes place in each one. Being a senior counselor is the most rewarding part of the full circle. As a senior counselor you get to influence camp in ways you can't in the other phases. You get to teach skills, adapt your activity to make it exciting for campers, and provide campers a wholesome environment. The willingness to give back as a senior counselor is what will cement your pawprint at camp. Every phase provides opportunity for growth, memorable experience, phenomenal memories and lifelong bonds of friendship.



Thank You to Our Donors

The George and Raymond Frank Foundation is thankful for all of our supporters. Your generosity is essential to Kawanhee's continued success as we enter our second century. Thank you!

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- DANIEL ALEXANDER
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- DELORES AND MARK WARD
- CELESTE AND BILL WILLIAMS
- BEN ZAMBITO

An Appeal

For many of us, the benefits of Kawanhee have lasted a lifetime. Camp is the place where we made decades-long friendships, fostered our sense of independence, developed our love of the outdoors, and learned to finish what we start. Kawanhee is still giving campers the same wonderful experience that boys have had for the last 103 years.

The George and Raymond Frank Foundation is committed to expanding access to Camp for families of all backgrounds and means. Due to the generosity of our alumni, families, and friends, the Frank Foundation has doubled its scholarship and endowment funds in recent years, in addition to building the new Katahdin Pavilion and renovating the Rec Hall.

This holiday season, we are reminded of all of the gifts that Kawanhee has given us. We are also cognizant of the opportunity that we have to give those same gifts to future generations. Your generosity will help us to keep tuition affordable, maintain our iconic buildings, and make Kawanhee accessible to more families.

Very Truly Yours,

The George and Raymond Frank Foundation Development Committee

Dan Alexander

Kimberly Hokanson

Jon Morgan

Will Ryan, Chair

John White

Steve Yale

CAMP KAWANHEE

44°40'25.5"N

70°25'32.9"W

for Boys

Life Updates from the Kawanhee Community

OBITUARIES

Ernest Johanson 1937-2023

Ernest George Johanson, a resident of Newport Beach, California, peacefully passed away on October 15, 2023, at his home surrounded by family. Ernie was born on November 14, 1937, in Columbus, Ohio.

Ernie spent cherished summers at Camp Kawanhee for Boys in Weld, Maine, where his enduring passion for sailing blossomed. A proud graduate of Ohio State University, Ernie joined the Navy after college, embarking on a journey that ultimately led him to Newport Beach. There, he met his late wife Linda Zinn, and together they raised three children: Nancy, David, and Steven.

Ernie's professional journey in real estate at Grubb & Ellis was marked by great success, earning many awards, including a coveted Broker of the Year. He later retired as Branch Manager from NAI Capital. An avid sailor, Ernie was an active member of the Balboa Yacht Club. Ernie and his second wife Judy, enjoyed traveling the world together. They shared many nautical adventures on their yacht 'Goodbye Columbus' in the northwest & Canada.

Following Ernie's wishes, a private service was held at Pacific View, where he now rests alongside his family. He is fondly remembered by his wife, Judy Wigell Johanson, son Steven Johanson, and extended family: Roman, Shelby, and Bode Fessl; Carter, Erica, Bowen, and Makena Wigell.

Dawson Bishop 2000-2023

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved Dawson N. Bishop on December 21, 2023, at the age of 23. Born on July 26, 2000, Dawson filled our lives with love from the moment he came into the world.

Like all of us, Dawson spent his short life searching for what made him happy. Eclectic by nature, he found meaning from many different sources. An animal lover at heart, he felt great joy in their company. An avid sports fan and natural athlete, he played a masterful game of basketball. Drawn to the mysterious and symbolic, he loved Japanese Anime and Spiritualism. Creative and emotional, he found artistic expression in the lyrics of his Rap music and his intricately designed tattoos. Above all, he loved living in our small community by the ocean and delighted in seeing his friends and family daily.

Engaging and funny, Dawson enjoyed good company, kidding around, and emphasizing his connections with family and friends. With a smile that could light up a room and a heart full of compassion, he was a friend to everyone he met. He loved without reserve and gave of himself without hesitation. Our lives were more rich, more vibrant, and more meaningful because of him. His good humor and generous spirit touched everyone he met, and he will be terribly missed by all who knew him.

Dawson worked at Kawanhee in 2021. Just like everyone, Dawson was welcomed with open arms into the Kawanhee family. He absolutely loved everyone and the place it self. Keep him in your hearts as he flies high!" - Zach Sherman

Life Updates

MARRIAGES

Fernando Carrasquillo and Paula
on November 30, 2023



OTHER UPDATES

Ben Smith got engaged on August, 31, 2023

Ignacio Lasso completed his MBA at the Kellogg School of Business this past May

Billy Sellers, Kai Robles, Thomas Jones, Daniel Mertus, and Grant Moravec are going to meet up in Albuquerque in January

Ferd Schoedinger IV is doing airport design work in Concord, NH

James Forbes ('98 - '00, '04), Jim Wallingford ('94 - '97) , and Dan Sharpe ('96 - '98) gathered in Oklahoma for their second CK duck hunt reunion and safely put their range skills to work!



Share news with us!

Share your life updates (or the life updates of your friends & family members!) with the camp community by emailing us at skookumee@gmail.com and we'll include them in a future issue of Skookumee. Jobs, births, deaths, graduations, publications, and more. We want to hear it all and share it!

If you send your address with your birth announcement we'll send you a Kawanhee onesie for your new arrival!

Coming Soon!

KAWANHEE NIGHT OUT IV

COMING
EARLY 2024

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HOSTING FOR
YOUR CITY, PLEASE CONTACT
KAWANHEE.NIGHT.OUT.4@GMAIL.COM

The Bass Rock Walk

Sunday, 2/18/23 @ 10 AM



...followed by a bonfire and chili in camp!

For those looking to stay overnight, we recommend the Comfort Inn in Wilton and invite you to join us at the Homestead Restaurant in Farmington the night before for dinner on Saturday February 17th at 6:00.

For more details, contact liz@kawanhee.com. Please let us know if you plan to be there!