

Holiday

SKOOKUMEE

New Year's 2023





SKOOKUMEE:

It's that beach and outpost across the lake that Kawanheean paddles 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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Happy New Year, Kawanhee Family!

MARK & LIZ STANDEN

Executive Directors

2022 was quite a summer for all of us! We had fabulous weather, a full complement of campers, both returning and new, and proudly another COVID-free season, with the help and vigilance of our nursing staff, lodge and senior staff, food service staff and support from our camper families.

A high point this year was the new Katahdin Pavilion, made possible by the generous support of our alumni and a fabulous building committee under the able and dedicated direction of Bill Dargusch, alumnus and FF Board member. Throughout the summer, we enjoyed all camp gatherings there, skit nights, open mic nights, pickle ball, ping pong and a terrific space to play on rainy days. Since the end of camp, we have added an a/v system which will allow us to have all camp movie nights. On the list of other improvements, with the help of Wallis Tyler, our maintenance director, and Robby Ray, our staff diving expert, we added another level to the infamous diving tower, giving campers even more challenges as they perfect their diving skills.



New to camp this summer was Brett Shifrin, our camp director. Brett brought fresh and valuable perspective and skills to our overall camp program and has been working on many plans for next summer, including developing a MOUNTAIN BIKING PROGRAM, new to Kawanhee for 2023! Brett is a knowledgeable and avid mountain biker and is so excited to bring this enhancement to the Kawanhee program, getting campers out into the surrounding area where there are many trails to explore and experience. We are fortunate to be in a prime location for this activity. Camp will be purchasing bikes for campers to use and a trailer to transport the bikes to various locations. Many parents & campers have indicated that this will be a desirable addition to our program, and we are thrilled to be able to respond to this interest.

Another aspect of the summer worth noting was a highly successful CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION following the camp season. This event was really well attended and by all accounts lots of fun, with great events and activities available, incredible food, and the weather we were wishing for. Thanks to all who helped in the planning of this event. It literally took a couple of years to organize. We are grateful!

In the spirit of continuing to provide boys with an exceptional summer experience as they join and remain part of the Kawanhee community, we send our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all who work towards and bring this common goal to reality.

May There Always Be A Kawanhee.
-Liz and Mark

An Update from the Board

JON MORGAN Chair of the Frank Foundation Board

As many of you know, the Estabrook family and about a dozen other shareholders donated Camp Kawanhee to a newly created tax-exempt non-profit foundation called the Frank Foundation more than 25 years ago. The goal of the Frank Foundation remains the same as that first day: to provide governance over Camp's operations and support and sustain the long-term mission of Kawanhee. There are currently fourteen alumni, parents and friends of Camp that serve on the Board for a four-year term. The current members are: BA, Don Casto, Jo Doherty, John Estabrook, Will Fleming, Bill Dargusch, Graham Marvin, Jon Morgan, Butch O'Neill, Jose Otero, Kate Estabrook, Will Ryan, John White, Jacqueline Telgheder, and until very recently, Steve Yale (more on this in one minute). This past year was quite a busy one for the Board. In addition to our regular duties like approving budgets, managing Kawanhee's finances, working with Mark and Liz on scholarships, and recruiting campers, the Board was also very involved in all aspects of the Centennial. A big thank you to Bill Dargusch, BA and Wallis in particular for their leadership over the Rec Hall and Pavilion projects. There was also a tremendous effort from John Estabrook, Jo Doherty, Graham Marvin and Liz Standen behind the scenes running things. And last, but not least, was Steve Yale's leadership of our Centennial Campaign and serving as on-the-ground emcee. And we wouldn't be surprised if the person registering you or getting your drink at happy hour was a Board member too. Thanks to all who worked hard.

We have one newcomer to the Board this year, Jacqueline Telgheder. Jacqueline is the mother of Will Telgheder, a member of Pine Tree Lodge in 2022. Jacqueline lives in Darien CT with three other children and is an author and a parent coach. We know that she will make a great contribution to the Frank Foundation Board.

In November 2022, Steve Yale stepped down from the Board after serving since the Frank Foundation's inception. Amongst other things, Steve was Chair of the Board at its inception. We all owe a huge debt of gratitude for Steve's service to the Board and Kawanhee over these many years that can't adequately be described in writing. Please thank him when you see him. And the good news is that Steve has agreed to be our first-ever Director Emeritus. We can't think of a better person to break in that new role. Thanks, Steve.

If any of you have any questions or are interested in the Frank Foundation Board, please reach out to any of the Directors (or Mark and Liz if that is easier.) We hope the Kawanhee community will learn more about how the Board operates. May There Always Be a Kawanhee.

"We wouldn't be surprised if the person registering you or getting your drink at happy hour was a Board member too"





The 100th Reunion: By the Numbers

JO DOHERTY Frank Foundation Board Member

1500+	Meals served
800+	Days of planning -- remember we had to postpone the reunion twice!
760+	People who proudly wore the Centennial t-shirts over the camp season and for the reunion!
300+	People hosted by CK over the weekend - the most people we've ever had at camp
250	Registration packets filled and handed out
157	People who attended the reunion over 5 days
134	People who attended the reunion over 2 days
125	Linens rented for those staying at camp in the cabins
50+	Tables rented
20+	New lines of merchandise available at the camp store
12	Porta Potties rented
4	Opportunities to show up for Polar Bear
1	Spectacular new building, the Katahdin Pavilion, debuted in time for the camp season and reunion

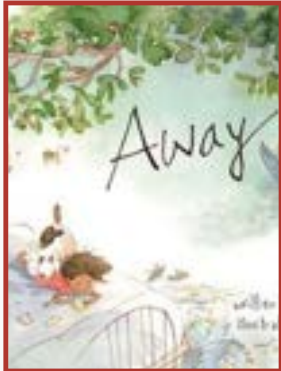
Plus COUNTLESS hours spent planning volunteering and working towards the PRICELESS celebration of the 100th reunion of Camp Kawanhee!

Summer Camp Reads for Cold Winter Months



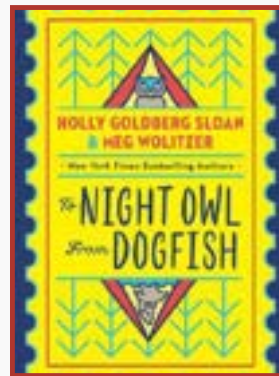
MACY DAVIS Staff Member (2018–2019) + Skookumee Editor

As a children's librarian, I read a lot, and I always get excited when I come across a book that features a summer camp or that in some way captures that camp feeling! Some are better than others, but all make me think of my experience working at Camp Kawanhee. From picture books and graphic novels to non-fiction, here are a few of my favorite summer camp reads. And of course, you should all read *Among the Pines*, Mike Altmaier's excellent history of Kawanhee!



Away by Emil Sher

This is the perfect picture book for the first time camper who may be a little nervous about going to camp for the first time!



To Night Owl From Dog Fish by Meg Wolitzer and Holly Goldberg Sloan

When Bett and Avery's dads fall in love, they get sent to the same summer camp and they find themselves on a summer adventure that neither of them could have predicted



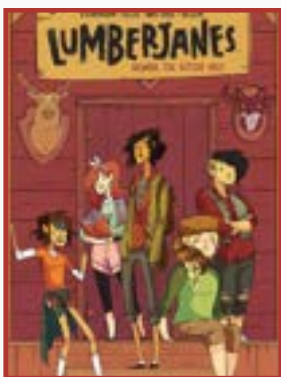
Be Prepared by Vera Brosgol

This graphic memoir is a hilarious must-read. What could go wrong for an awkward middle schooler at Russian camp? Will Vera survive the outhouse of her nightmares?



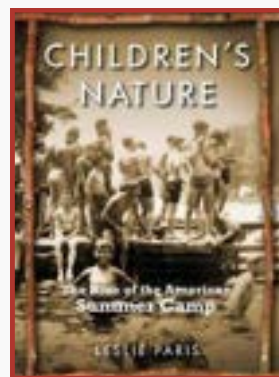
Sports Camp by Rich Wallace

12-year-old Riley is the smallest kid at sports camp. Will he be able to help his bunk win the camp trophy or will vicious Joe the legendary camp snapping turtle stop him?



Lumberjanes

This series of comics follows the Lumberjanes as they figure out why supernatural things keep happening at their camp! Thank goodness there are no monsters at Kawanhee



Children's Nature: The Rise of the American Summer Camp

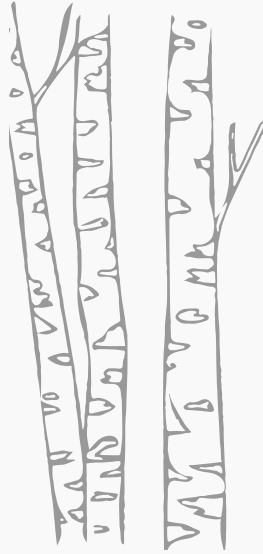
If Mike's book has you interested in more camp history - this is a well-researched book that tracks the development of summer camps as part of American history and culture

Catching up with Kawanhees!



GRANT MORAVEC

Ithaca, NY; 2011-Present



- **My favorite moment of the Centennial Celebration** was watching the staff whip it in those fancy golf carts.
- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** **Dylan Germain** in NYC this October, and he showed me some of the sights around the city.
- **Life updates from me:** I'm about to graduate college this year, so I guess that means I need to find a full-time job soon.
- **If I could give a shout-out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be:** **Mike Altmaier** for creating an absolutely fantastic history book about Kawanhee. It's such a great resource for telling younger campers about this history of this place
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** I'm finishing up my finals for class this week, so I am just getting a lot of memories of being a Junior Counselor and studying for the Junior Maine Guide program (although somehow college is less stressful)
- **My message to the entire camp community:** Try and see your camp friends in the off-season (if you can)! It's really fun hanging out with people outside of camp, and it's just a blast. Scheduling can be challenging but if you can make it work, definitely do it.

BILL MILLER

Bellville, OH; 1976

- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** **John Postlewaite** - I was out biking and stopped in at his business near the train.
- **Life updates from me:** I have been staying busy hiking, biking, running, camping, playing music with friends. I did another 100 mile bike ride one day...I'm stronger now than when I was a camper, lol.
- **If I could give a shout-out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be:** **John Detrick** because he set a good, fun example for us all, both at my high school and at camp!
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** Campfires may not solve all problems, but they might help.
- **My message to the entire camp community:** Go take a hike in the woods! You may get to a point when you are not able to do that and the memory of it will be treasured.





KATE ESTABROOK SCHOEDINGER

Weare, NH; 1978-Present

- **My favorite moment of the Centennial Celebration** was greeting everyone at Registration and the Happy Hours in the center of camp!
- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** **Hector, Marcos, Arian, Robbie, Wyatt** at my house in Weare post Centennial!
- **Life updates from me:** I continue working as a reading specialist for 7th/8th graders in the same district since 1984. I had a great trip to Hawaii and saw **Matt Duncan** in Kauai at his fabulous store/restaurant called Living Foods. Lastly, a former student's son attended camp in 2022 - : shout out to **Tate Barrett** and dad **Ryan Barrett!!**
- **If I could give a shout-out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be:** **Mike Altmaier** and **Steve and Diana Yale** for researching, writing and editing the great book, AMONG THE PINES, that beautifully documents the history of Kawanhee.
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** A joy to have my two kids, **Liza** and **Ferd IV**, run the waterski department together for a summer.
- **My message to the entire camp community:** Timeless friendships that are global and ageless define Kawanhee for me.



JON MORGAN

Darien, CT; 1974-77, 1980-82

- **My favorite moment of the Centennial Celebration** was the Centennial Campfire
- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** FaceTiming with **Ben Morgan** who is now the father of a beautiful, baby girl. Cheers me up that Kawanhee is a place that involves and includes so many of the women in our lives.
- **Life updates from me:** My wife and I are now empty nesters so we are traveling around to see our nieces and nephews. And working, of course. I lost my hound dog this year ... which was tough.
- **If I could give a shoutout to one person it would be:** **BA**. He has been such a humble leader for 5 decades plus.
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** A memory that I come back to a lot is a "bad" one — losing a wrestling match I thought I should win. I started off blaming other people, but it became a turning point in me trying to own my own mistakes/choices. CK can teach us as much in our struggles as our victories.
- **My message to the entire camp community:** So grateful for all the alumni enthusiasm. Let's keep it up. I love meeting Kawanhee people.





BAILEY SCOTT

Farmington, ME; 2006-Present

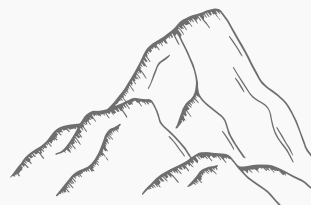
- **My favorite moment of the Centennial Celebration** was catching up with so many Kawanhees who I haven't seen in many moons.
- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** **BA**, because he was shoveling out my car after we got almost two feet of snow!
- **Life updates from me:** I am currently working on new and (hopefully) exciting things to bring to the kitchen in 2023. I have spent a lot of time volunteering and helping out at extra curricular activities at school. I am looking forward to another summer at camp with new beginnings!
- **If I could give a shout-out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be:** Everyone who helped organize/plan the centennial this past summer. So much hard work went into making it such a successful event.
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** The first day of camp every summer.
- **My message to the entire camp community:** Stay healthy and I can't wait to see everyone in 6 moons.

GRIFFIN O'NEILL

Columbus, OH; 2016-Present



- **My favorite moment of the 2022 Season** was hanging out with friends after JMG.
- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** **Brady Cooke**, just hanging out
- **Life updates from me:** I'm swimming again, was a back to back water polo state champion, and am looking to be a swimming state champ soon.
- **If I could give a shout-out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be:** **Hector Quinones**. I would smoke him in paintball.
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** Meeting **Eric Beauchamp**.



ROBBY RAY

Albuquerque, NM; 2018-Present



- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** **Max, Ruby, and Hector** working at Ski Santa Fe.
- **Life updates from me:** I'm working as a snowboard instructor in Santa Fe this winter.



HÉCTOR QUIÑONEZ MÉNDEZ

Albuquerque, NM; 2010-Present

- **My favorite moment of the Centennial Celebration** was when **George Hauser** unexpectedly put me on the spot in front of everyone to talk at the Centennial.
- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** **Max** and **Ruby**. I see those two hooligans every day.
- **Life updates from me:** I got dragged out to Albuquerque by the Kawanhee burqueños. Life currently looks like a lot of time spent on the snowy slopes in Santa Fe and some good times with the New Mexico cast.
- **If I could give a shout-out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be:** **Marcos Aparicio** because he is wrapping up his final semester in college and will soon be a graduate!
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** Not necessarily ringing true, just one I hold dear: the first day I got to camp as an SC after thinking I would never be back at camp and being able to work in C.C. with the boyz **A.J. Detrick** and **Thomas Reynolds!**
- **My message to the entire camp community:** Hope to see you in six moons!



DEAN YANTES

Lewes, DE; 1957-1964

- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** Summer of (1964) overnight at Skookumee beach with 2 buddies Mike and Tom when 2 of our counselors tried to sneak and scare us late at night.
- **My message to the entire camp community:** Enjoy your time at Camp Kawanhee as the time there is fleeting and the memories are forever!



AGUSTÍN GONZÁLEZ VILLALBA

Seville, Spain; 1974-1978

- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** **Juan Pablo Olazábal**
- **Life updates from me:** Lots of work, I moved to Seville.
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** Webb Lake, Monhegan Island, Pizza party
- **My message to the entire camp community:** Love Camp Kawanhee, great place!



JAIME DE LA LASTRA

Santander, Spain; 1995-2001

- **My favorite moment of the Centennial Celebration** was all of it. Setting foot on camp 21 years after the last time.
- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** My brother, a great Kawanheean: **Juan de la Lastra**
- **Life updates from me:** I am practicing law in my home town, Santander and raising a beautiful 4 year-old girl called Carmen.
- **If I could give a shout out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be:** **David Sentis**. Because he loves camp and he missed the reunion.
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** The first time I saw Webb Lake at age 11, at the porch of Hawk Lodge. It was my first experience abroad and I knew I was in the right place.
- **My message to the entire camp community:** If we all live our lives with these 5 rules present all the time, nothing can go wrong, and if it does, we'll overcome it:
 - Finish what you start
 - Fun with a purpose
 - Learn to do by doing
 - Take advantage of your environment
 - Remember the big R: Responsibility

NICOLAS PARK

Manhattan, NY; 2015-2019

- **My favorite moment of the Centennial Celebration** was seeing old counselors
- **If I could give a shout out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be:** **Jasper Nadel** because he recently committed to George Washington University to play division 1 baseball.
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** Hiking Mt. Katahdin
- **My message to the entire camp community:** May there always be a Kawanhee.





JACQUELINE TELGHEDER

Darien, CT;

Current Camp Parent and New Board Member

- **My favorite moment of the 2022 camp season** was when **Brett** helped my son overcome personal challenges in order to thrive!
- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was Jon Morgan**, who is a resident in my town, member of my church and country club! I love seeing Jon around!
- **Life updates from me:** I recently joined the CK board. I am thrilled to be a part of such a special group and to contribute in any way I can to make CK the best it can be!
- **If I could give a shout out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be: Brett** because of his openness, collaboration, and determination
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** After Will's first year at camp, he came home and started a nightly a tradition for our family: Saying grace at dinner. "Please bow your head for a moment of grace..." Thank you CK!
- **My message to the entire camp community:** The Telgheders love Kawanhee and all it does for our sons, and in turn, our family.



ROBERT "BO" BUCHER

Philadelphia, PA; 1999-2006,
2012-2014

- **My favorite moment of the Centennial Celebration** was feeling like I was a 12 year old camper again, going to activities, hanging out with my lodge-mates, seeing the counselors that where there when I was a kid, and of course campfire. Hard to chose one moment, the whole event was amazing!
- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** Everyone at the reunion... I need to do some traveling.
- **Life updates from me:** My wife and I welcomed a daughter in March and are still living in Philly. I'll be starting a new job in January and we'll hopefully be moving into a house as we've outgrown our apartment in the city.
- **If I could give a shout out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be: Evan Jones** because he's the man!
- **My message to the entire camp community:** The Centennial Celebration allowed me to catch up with a lot of good camp friends that I had not seen or spoken to in a while, the relationships you make at camp are unlike any other. If you have not talked to a camp friend in a while, reach out I'm sure they would love to hear from you.



ALEC RUSSO

Dallas, TX; 2011-2019

- **My favorite moment of the Centennial Celebration** was catching up with all my role models and seeing the men they have turned into.
- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** **Drew Cooke + Cooke Family**, celebrating Thanksgiving over brunch
- **Life updates from me:** I'm in my final semester of college, I miss home and especially my dog Casper, I'm looking forward to skiing this winter.
- **If I could give a shout out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be:** **Ferdinand Schoedinger** for being an absolute stud.
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** Being a part of the community that surrounds you and giving back to those people/places
- **My message to the entire camp community:** No swimming off the skiing dock!



DEAN DESAPRI

Winnetka, IL; 2022

- **My Favorite moment of the 2022 camp season** was Talent Night
- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** I saw **my dad** today at home.
- **Life updates from me:** I'm excited to see the beautiful glistening lake next summer.
- **If I could give a shout out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be:** **Tate Barret** because he likes magic cards and **Roscoe** is nice.
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** My first jump off the port.
- **My message to the entire camp community:** Let's go Kawanhee!!





JOHN ABBOTT

Mount Airy, MD 1958-63, 1968

- **My favorite moment of the Centennial Celebration** was getting together and spending time with all my Kawanhee friends.
- **Life updates from me:** My granddaughter Lucy turned two years old in October, my Mom, Anna Maria Abbott, will turn 94 years old in December. My wife Ann and I celebrating our 44th anniversary in October.
- **If I could give a shout out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be:** The Kawanhee Board of Directors and the Kawanhee Reunion Committee members that made the reunion such a wonderful experience and success.
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** Kawanhee friends are forever.
- **My message to the entire camp community:** Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and I can't wait to see you again at the 2025 Reunion.

TOM PEARS

North Hampton, NH; 1955-57, 59-64, 67

- **My favorite moment of the Centennial Celebration** was talking to people
- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** Everyone at the end of the reunion
- **Life updates from me:** I'm really enjoying following youtube accounts of 2022 Appalachian Trail thru-hikers.
- **If I could give a shout out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be:** **Wallis** because 2023 is coming!
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** It was wonderful to have watched the senior staff get old, and now it happens to me!
- **My message to the entire camp community:** We are so lucky to have such a wonderful place to go to!





ETHAN GROVE

Portland, ME; 2011-2015

- **My Favorite moment of the Centennial Celebration** was watching my brother go and have fun, then hearing all about it.
- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** My buddy **Thom (Thomas Reynolds)**. He came to fish night!
- **Life updates from me:** Went to universal and rode velocicoaster, got a 2018 Nissan rogue, broke 90 on the links!
- **If I could give a shout out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be:** Myself probably, I feel like I need it.
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** bringing the house down at Open Mic by spitting absolute bars
- **My message to the entire camp community:** You miss 100% of the shots you don't take - Dustin Johnson said this.



ELI YALE

Palo Alto, CA;

2008-2013, 2016, 2019

- **My favorite moment of the Centennial Celebration** was shooting the Flaming Arrow to light the fire with **Brandon Flora**.
- **The most recent Kawanhee person I saw was** A whole squad in Albuquerque New Mexico for Halloween. I also ran into **Phil Coons** in Tahoe at a deli.
- **Life updates from me:** Moved from Bend to Palo Alto. Climbed A LOT. Currently working on software for Ford's electric vehicles.
- **If I could give a shout out to one Kawanheean right now, it would be:** **Olivia Yale** because she always wanted to be a Kawanheean and officially spent her first summer at camp in the Infirmary this year!
- **A Kawanhee memory that is ringing true for me in this moment:** **Diego and Seba** being Aliens for Skit Night in 2019...always makes me laugh thinking about it.



The time of my (adult) life

JAIME DE LA LASTRA Alumnus (1995-2001)

To be honest, although at first my excitement about the Centennial Reunion was absolutely overflowing, the pandemic and the fact that we were obliged to delay it not only 2020, but 2021 as well, lowered it down in a considerable way. We no longer had this cool cabin rented across Webb Lake as we had in 2020, but I simply couldn't miss this event. I had been dreaming about it for so many years, 21 to be precise. We switched the cool cabin for a motorhome and we arrived at Webb Lake the night before the 2022 Awards Ceremony. It is impossible to describe the feeling when I parked the RV at Mt Blue State Park: the big tall trees, the view of the lake, all the great memories came together and suddenly it all felt like 25 years ago, frozen in time.

When I arrived the next morning to Camp to attend the Awards Ceremony and give my applause to all the achievements won by the boys, especially my nephew's awards, it was absolutely emotional to see how all the traditions remain mostly the same. But what I loved the most was to see that the unforgettable bond that is created between counselors and campers is still there: the eternal, almost parental, bond from master to apprentice; from veteran to rookie; from older brother to younger. I took many pictures during the thrilling days spent this summer in Maine, but if I could choose one above the others (besides the family ones) it would be the one I took with Harry Rosberger and my three nephews, Guillermo and Eduardo (2022 first time campers, and Ignacio who will be a debutant in 2023). Two Maroon Captains separated by 22 years and a whole new generation raising. Harry and I barely know each other but we both feel the Kawanhee brotherhood. I think we became friends in less than 30 seconds; He wants to become a doctor; at his age, I wanted to become a lawyer, which I finally did. Anything is possible with the K spirit present and the mind open, just like it becomes open to the world when Kawanhee inflates our hearts.

May there always be a Kawanhee.



My CK Experience in the 50s & 60s

DEAN YANTES Alumnus (1957-1964)

My first year was 1957 and I was 8 years old. The boys from New Jersey thought that the boys from Ohio were still fighting American Indians at the time. I laughed. In the 1950s most of the Kawanhee boys were from around Englewood or Columbus, hometowns of the brothers Raymond and George Frank respectively.



CAMP FIRE GROUP
AT KAWANHEE

We “westerners” would be put on a train by our parents at the Columbus train station and do an overnighiter to Boston (an adventure not available now). Arriving in Boston we were always treated to a great tour of Boston with my favorite visit to the USS Constitution. I made this trip 6 times and felt that I could give the tour of the Old North Church and the surrounding area of Bunker Hill and Paul Revere’s house.

From Boston, the bus trip to camp was a 3 hour jaunt. We always stopped at a restaurant where we were served sandwich bag lunches next to a very old pet cemetery. Great Fun!! I always knew we were nearing camp when we passed through Wilton, with the rather robust stinky smell of the paper mill there. It was a great relief to finally see the Camp Kawanhee sign at the entrance of the windy road down to camp. The sight of the tennis courts, baseball field and the Crow’s Nest Cabin gave feelings of home again for the summer!

I spent 2 full months here every summer for 6 years and still yearn to return.



The Monkey Bridge Nears Completion

This Bridge is Part of the New Nature Trail and Was Built During the Past Season
By Boys in the Kah-Ne-Do-Go-Nah Troup

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"?

This past fall, 3 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. Here is a selection of responses they received.

DRAKE WILLIAMS Construction Project Manager 2006-2014, 2016 Boulder CO



- What are the top 2 ways you believe day-to-day life at Kawanhee positively affected your college life?
 - Independence/being a self-starter- I could not rely on my parents to tell me what to do. Kawanhee also gave me the confidence in my ability to try new things and meet new people. College was a fresh start, but knowing I'd be able to find my spot in a new place with new groups of people gave me the confidence to go out and do just that. BONUS: if you go to Camp, you already have your shower shoes, caddy, and robe.
- Do you have a passion, hobby, and/or dream career that you believe was positively influenced by your time at Kawanhee?
 - Woodworking/making models for architecture school; I probably wouldn't have started making stuff with my hands at all if it hadn't been for Kawanhee. I was able to use skills/experience from being a counselor on job applications and to obtain the job I have now.
 - I also still use skills and knowledge I was taught in Campcraft and while doing JMG when I'm out here camping in Colorado. Am I allowed to say chicks dig a guy who can build a fire? Good wilderness stewardship is important these days and CK definitely instills an appreciation for nature.

BRANDON HELGASON Senior Financial Analyst 2008-2016, 2019 Newton, MA



- Do you believe that your time at Kawanhee may have impacted your employer's decision to hire you?
 - I detailed my work as a counselor on my resume. It definitely boosted my resume and provided me with valuable experiences to talk about in interviews.
- What are the top 2 ways you believe that being a counselor or camper at Kawanhee positively influenced your work life?
 - At Kawanhee, I developed the ability to communicate effectively and learned how to work with others to achieve a common goal. During Pre-Camp, you're assigned projects with other counselors. In 2015, I was assigned to one of the worst of these projects- putting in the docks. At first it seemed impossible to assemble, but learning from Ed Watson and J.P. Rullan, who had assembled the docks several times, made it much more manageable. It took a group of roughly 15 of us to assemble, but we managed to get it done by the end of the day by communicating and working as a team.

ANDERS HELGASON **Sixth Grade Teacher** 2008-2014, 2016 **Somerville, MA**



- *What are the top 2 ways you believe that working as a counselor at Kawanhee positively affected an aspect to your college life?*
 - 1. Working at Camp helped show me that I wanted to work in education after college. Being a counselor, although challenging, is incredibly rewarding work, and I continue to feel that sense of reward as a teacher today.
 - 2. Working at Kawanhee also gave me a sense of responsibility to myself and my work in college. When at Camp, we were often told that our stakeholders naturally trusted our work; to leave your child at a Camp in Maine for 7 weeks must mean that the parents believe in you. It felt very honorable to know this, and even more so to know you are upholding their expectations. This sense of responsibility carried with me in college. I thought about all the people who had gotten me to this point (teachers, counselors, friends, family), and felt it vital to uphold the expectations that so many had put on me growing up.
- *Can you please elaborate on a specific Kawanhee memory that affected your work life?*
 - This comes in regards to being an approachable teacher.... My first year as a Junior Counselor, a camper skipped inspection. I was very frustrated about it, and decided that the consequence should be stacking/waiting all Sunday. When I told the camper, he was visibly upset about my inability to listen to him and had to cool down. I remember explaining the situation to a Director of Activities, who asked me, "do you really believe he deserved that punishment?" I talked it out with him, and he talked with me about the importance of being authoritative over authoritarian. He explained how being an approachable figure has more power than any punishment that can be delivered. It's something I think of all the time when having to handle the many crazy events that happen while teaching in a middle school.

JAMIE STRAWBRIDGE **Attorney** 1994-2004 **Baltimore, MD**



- *How have you used the skills you developed as a counselor in your career?*
 - By the time I was a counselor, I had been coming to Camp for years, and Weld was my second home. Nonetheless, I knew that part of my job was to see Camp through the eyes of new campers nervously unpacking their trunks. For these kids, Camp could seem like a foreign land with its own language, traditions, and lifestyle. I had to work to understand what these kids were going through and what they needed to feel not only welcome but that they too were members of this strange Camp family. I knew I had done my job when, after mere weeks, a kid who at first didn't want to be at Camp now didn't want to leave. As a civil rights attorney in Baltimore, I depend on the skills I developed as a camp counselor. I can't effectively represent my clients in court if I don't first understand where they're coming from—what they experienced, how that experience affected them, and what they need to feel they have attained a measure of justice through our legal system. In many cases, my clients' life experiences are far removed from my own, and putting myself in their shoes is far easier to say than do. To the extent I succeed, I'm thankful for my training as a camp counselor.

EDDIE TRAYNER Founder/Owner of Interstate Vans

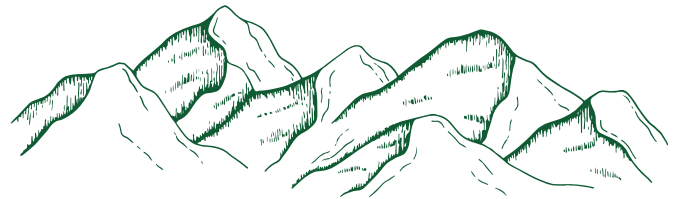
2007-2019 Waltham, MA



- Do you believe that your time at Kawanhee impacted your decision to pursue this career?
 - I believe that a lot of what I do now stems from things I have learned at Kawanhee. Both from learning in the woodshop at a young age, to working in the off-season with Walis. I acquired the base skillset I use now every day at Camp, from basic tool knowledge and safety, to learning to think and problem-solve creatively. I think that the biggest thing that Kawanhee offered me related to my current job is confidence building -- both general and specific to the tasks I complete daily at work. Not only did I learn a lot of the skills I presently use at Camp but I also learned to believe in the things that I can do because of the supportive environment that Kawanhee offers. So I started a business!
- Are there any ways that Kawanhee has positively impacted your adult life?
 - One of the main things that Kawanhee has provided to me, and to many others, is the gift of countless lifelong friendships. I can't imagine not having so many of the people in my life from Kawanhee. I found that many of the friendships I formed at a young age were strengthened during my years as a counselor. They are now true friendships that I will have for the rest of my life, whether I see people often or every few years.

GRANT MORAVEC Undergrad Student

2011-PRESENT Ithaca, NY



- Do you believe that Kawanhee may have impacted your acceptance into college?
 - Absolutely. My Common Application essay prompt was to write about a time I experienced a challenge or failure, and how I responded. I wrote about my JMG experience, failing the first year but working on it the next summer and passing. I think this helped me with college because I showed a clear personal drive to complete a very challenging goal, and that I was part of a larger community that wanted to see me succeed. College essays generally want to see you relate a specific, personal part of your life to broader ideas of challenge, community, and assistance. Kawanhee is a fantastic place for that. As a camper, you get to challenge yourself in so many ways that help you grow, and with Kawanhee being so close, it is very easy to talk about the role your community has had on you.
- How did your time as a camper help you in your college life?
 - One way being a camper has helped influence my college life is it helped me become unapologetically myself. By that, I mean that I am fairly comfortable just being who I am naturally, and less worried about how people will receive that. While college can be a very accepting place, people often feel worried about fitting in. However, thanks to years of being at camp, and being respected for being myself, so long as I am kind to others, taught me that I don't need to worry about that. I knew that I would find a group of friends of people who liked me just by acting how I wanted to, and that there was no need to try and fit in. Sure enough, that's exactly what happened.

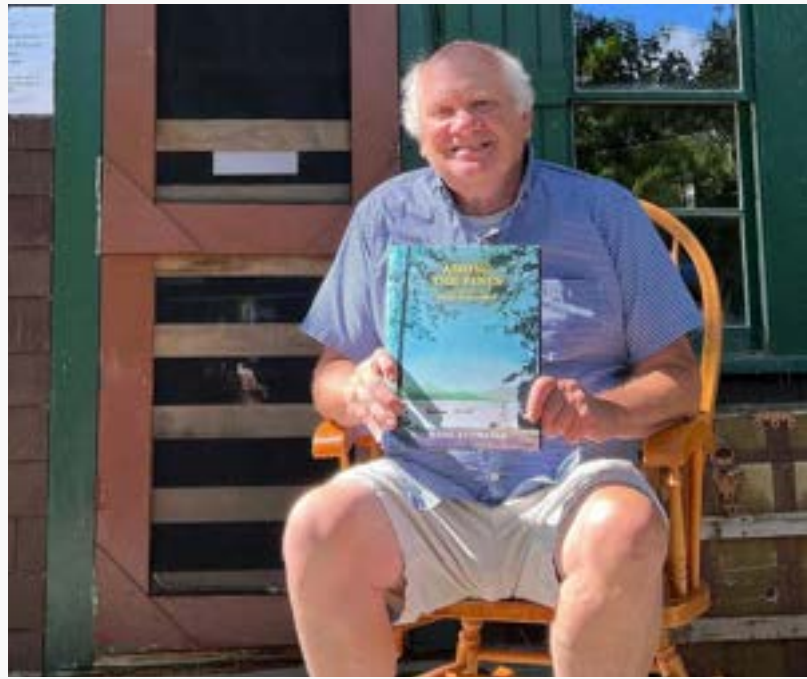
We look forward to sharing more of these responses both in future Skookumee issues as well as in a comprehensive document that we are actively putting together!

Are you interested in helping and sharing how Kawanhee positively impacted your adult life as it relates to college, career, or beyond? Thank you, and please [CLICK HERE!](#)

Thank You

MICHAEL ALTMAIER Staff Member (and legend)

I just wanted to thank everyone who purchased a copy of my book "Among the Pines - A History of Camp Kawanhee". I have never been in financial position to give a donation to the George and Raymond Frank Foundation and this project has enabled me to give money to the foundation and specifically to the Patrick Jeffrey Foundation, a former camper of mine who died last year in a hurricane in New Jersey.



I would especially like to thank people who wrote positive comments to me and the one former camper who ordered nine copies! I can still remember the sunny late August day in 2019 when I started this project and to see the present day results is very gratifying.

We have about 10 books left. What is the future? My real dream would be to eventually produce an updated edition that would include the 2022 summer and correct a few mistakes and add more pictures. I would encourage people to keep ordering copies and I will get them to you!

If you are interested in ordering a copy...

Please email me at maltmaier49@hotmail.com! The book is \$60 + \$5 shipping. 25% of the profit goes back to Camp Kawanhee. Payment via check and VENMO is accepted.



The Centennial Campaign Recap

We are delighted to report that the Centennial Campaign has been a smashing success. Due to the generosity of our alumni, parents, staff, and friends of Kawanhee, we have raised a grand total of just over One Million dollars!! Thanks to over 300 individual donors, we exceeded our financial goal and can fully fund our three major initiatives

First, we completed the re-imagining and renovation of the Rec Hall. This project included the installation of new dormers in the main building to admit more natural light and improve air circulation, and an upgrade to the library. In addition, we transformed the former office space and other small rooms into a larger open space for the Camp Store, mailroom and flexible meeting areas for counselors, and added a wrap-around porch. But most importantly we have maintained the historic look and feel of this iconic building, and it remains the centerpiece of the Kawanhee camp site!

Additionally, we were able to design and construct the majestic Katahdin Pavilion. Located behind the Rec Hall, Katahdin serves as a space for rainy day activities and as a gathering place for Camp-wide events. By next season, the Pavilion will have a new audiovisual system, lighting and a stage. Katahdin, along with the Rec Hall, gives us the flexibility to hold multiple indoor events at the same time.

Our next priority was to grow our endowment in order to better ensure Kawanhee's future as it enters its second century. As a result of the Centennial Campaign, we have been able to add \$150,000 to our endowment. These funds will help to preserve Camp property and fund future construction and programming initiatives.

Finally, we added \$150,000 to our scholarship fund, double our original goal. This money will enable us to provide the Kawanhee experience to more boys and continue to increase the diversity of our population. With the funding of the Patrick Jeffrey Scholarship Fund and the ongoing relationship with the John Austin Cheley Foundation, our scholarship funding is stronger than ever and benefits more campers every summer.

The Centennial Campaign surpassed our original goal by \$250K. The enthusiasm and dedication of all Kawanhees, past and present, is what made this possible. Again, we cannot thank everyone enough for your support and generosity.

May there always be a Kawanhee!

In gratitude,

The Centennial Campaign Committee:
Steve Yale, Will Ryan, Will Fleming, John White, Jon Morgan

Thank You to All Donors!

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A Kawanheean on the AT

KATE ESTABROOK SCHOEDINGER Frank Foundation Board Member

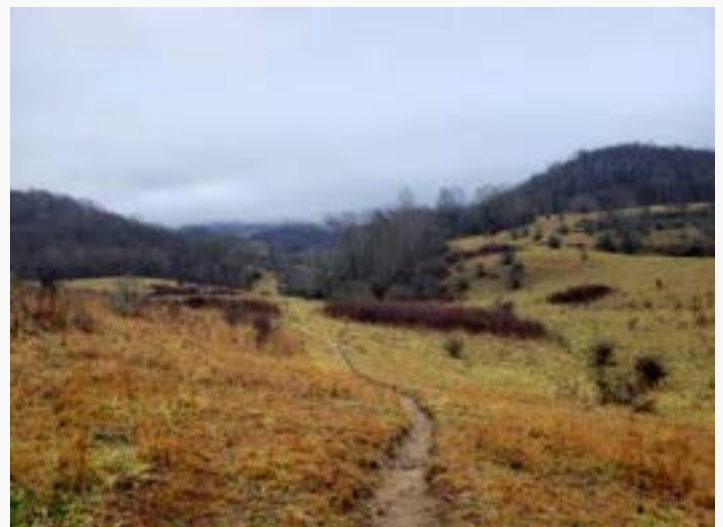


I caught up with Spencer for a walk on the soccer field and learned it's really all about the shoes. Spencer was on a hunt with family members John and Becky Bell to find inserts for his shoes that looked more like a running shoe than a hiking boot. That really surprised me. Spencer filled me in on the importance of a flexible, breathable, sturdy shoe that would support his efforts walking at least 10-12 hours a day, clocking 20-24 miles a day.

There is so much activity, fun and fellowship to pack into a camp season no matter how many weeks a camper opts to stay. Packing it all in for a reunion weekend is as exciting and a Centennial Reunion is the ultimate joy with such a long list of daily offerings. I am grateful for all who helped with the work that goes into planning such a festive occasion and appreciate how smoothly the Centennial Reunion ran for five days. I am honored to play a small part by working the Registration table.



It is tricky to see everyone at a reunion but the best thing about Registration is that we get to greet, welcome and visit with each attendee. People came from all over the United States, Puerto Rico, Europe and even Dubai! But only one person came off the Appalachian Trail to squeeze in some quality CK time before continuing on with his solo Through Hike experience. It was a pleasure to visit with Spencer Davis as he made his way from Katahdin, through Maine and onto New Hampshire eventually finishing before the New Year in Georgia, his home state.

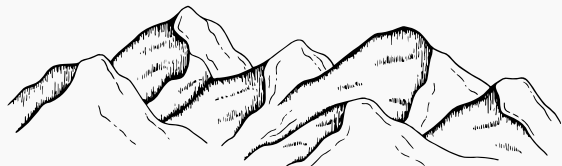


A Kawanheean on the AT cont.

KATE ESTABROOK SCHOEDINGER

I cannot imagine hiking a minimum of twenty miles a day for months, carrying all the equipment and setting up for meals and sleeping, coping with all the weather elements and actually managing it all with a positive outlook. But Spencer was coping so well with this immense undertaking. I was in awe.

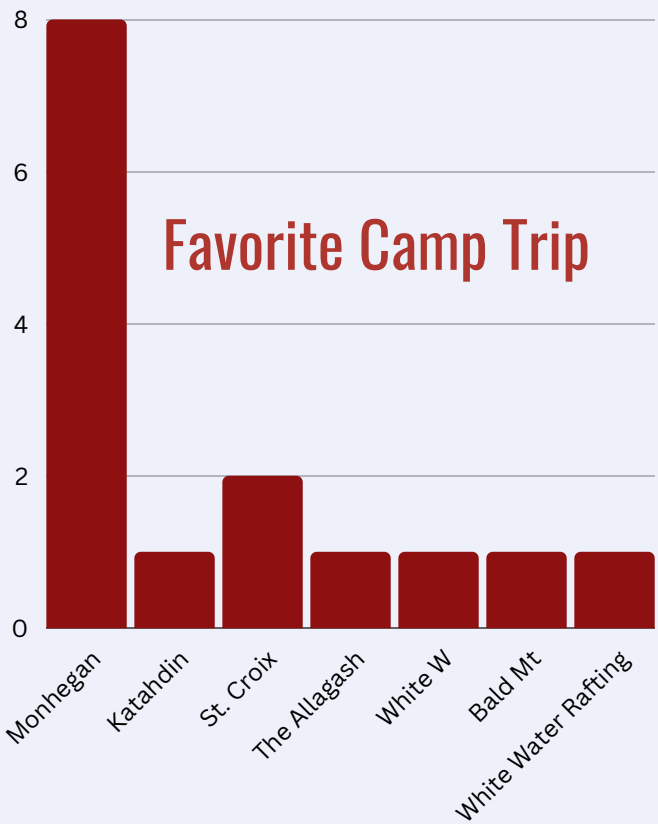
Thanks to Graham Marvin (who met with Spencer for a day in New York with Chase McReynolds), I was able to speak by phone with Spencer who was wrapping up Tennessee on December 15, 2022. Of the total 2193 miles, Spencer now has 421 miles left. He is on his fourth pair of shoes, expects to buy a fifth, and said one pair lasted 820 miles. He has faced six months of problem solving, experimentation and recommendations from others to be so successful. He set out to become a hiker, test his self-sufficiency, develop outdoor living skills and trail legs and test his ability to make friends on the trail. He said it is a lot like making friends at camp. Spencer's trail name is "Talk Show," given to him by other hikers because he is such a terrific conversationalist. He has spent a considerable amount of time with a fellow Georgian he met in Pennsylvania, so he and "Honey Bullet" now hike together testing routes, checking weather, managing water and supplies, and getting to hostels before rain sets in.



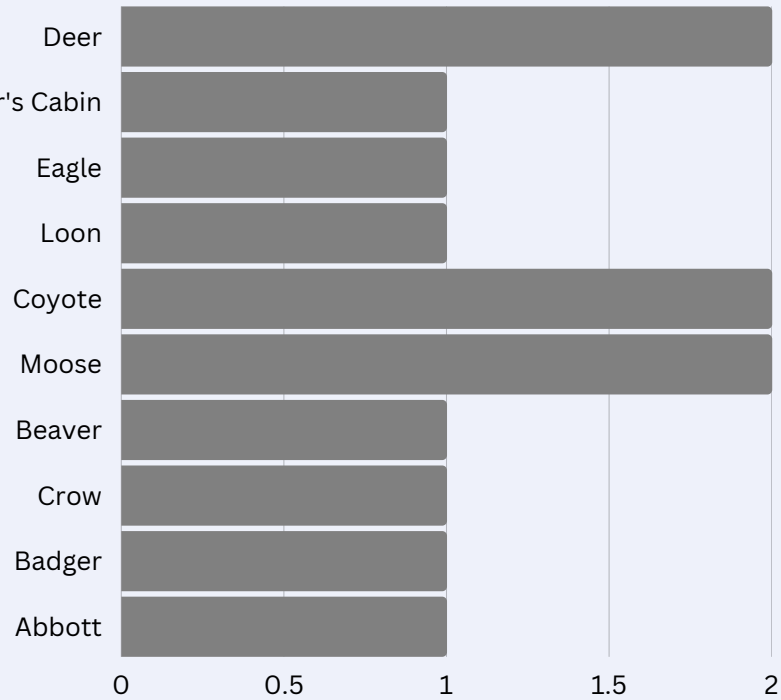
Spencer said that it really is an equation: Time to Think + Nature's Beauty + Physical Effort = Finding Himself. He states that he still will have questions when those 2193 miles/ 5 million steps are completed but is contemplating doing the Through Hike again, this time south to north. He has met amazing people, heard incredible stories, learned about himself and the specialized hikers' vocabulary, like Trail Magic, Blazing Markers and Purism. I'm cheering him on every step of the way. And I can't wait to hear about that next pair of shoes.



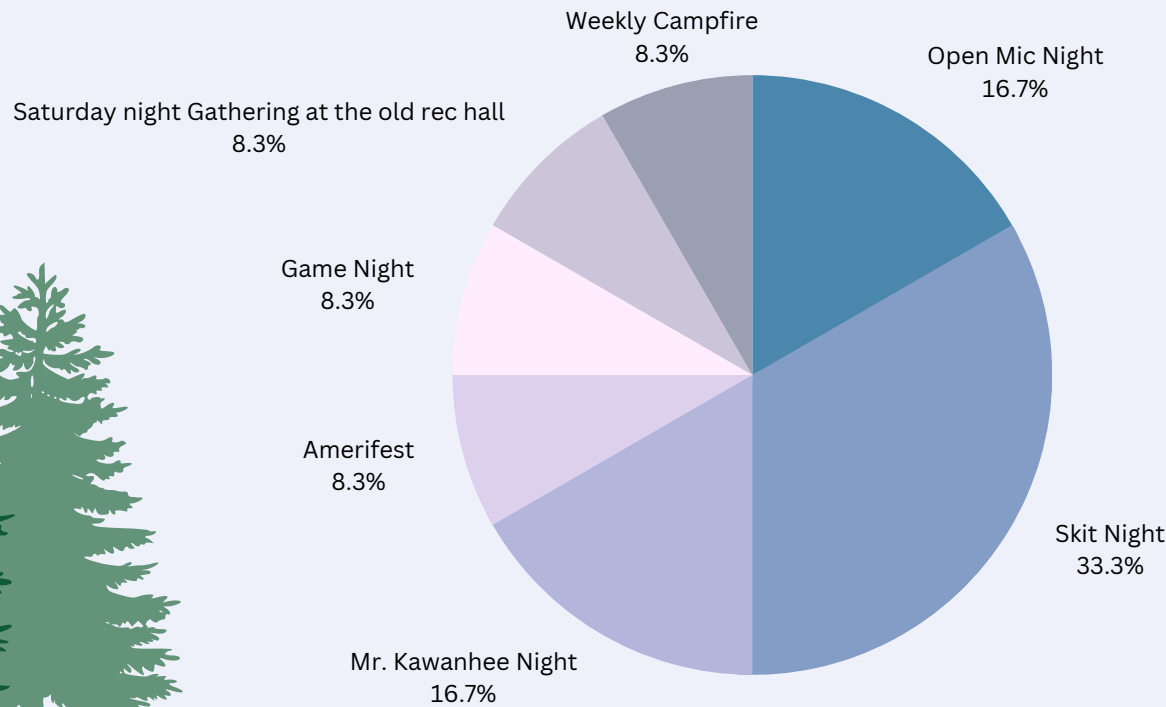
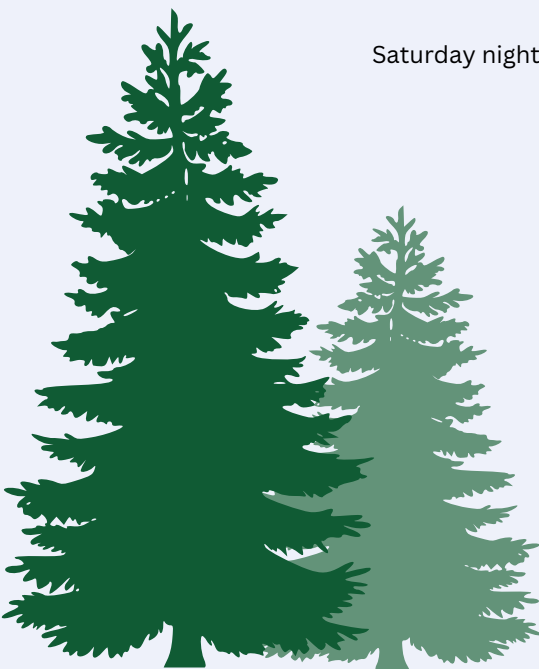
Kawanhee Polls



Favorite Lodge



Favorite Evening Special Activity



The Desert Wind Calls Kawanhee

ELI YALE Alumnus (2008–2019)

On October 26th a warm breeze blew through my window, and it whispered into my ear, “Go to Albuquerque.” I awoke in a daze, unsure if I had dreamed it or if my mind was playing tricks on me. Either way I knew what I had to do. A couple months prior, Liza Schoedinger had texted me about a Kawanhee meetup in Albuquerque, New Mexico for Halloween. I hesitated at first, flights got expensive, and I had no more vacation days left with work. Yet I knew it would be a blast, and I needed some time on the open road.

I threw my climbing gear, some clothes, and a sleeping pad in my Subaru and left on Thursday as soon as I finished work. My maps said it was a 16 hour drive from my home in Palo Alto, California, but I knew between Taco Bell stops and my speed limit compliance, I should budget for 17. I also had to work remotely on Friday, so the plan was to drive as far as I could, sleep in my car, then go to a coffee shop for a cup of WiFi. I made it to the Mojave desert right on the border of Nevada and slept with my moonroof open under a sky full of stars. I’ve never spent much time in the American Southwest, but this first night in the desert gave me a taste of cowboy life. I loved it already, except my horse cost \$5 per gallon to fill up.

The next day I worked out of the Wagon Wheel Diner in Needles, California where every square inch of the dark wood walls was filled with trinkets, taxidermy, and license plates.



Around noon I called it quits, cranked up Nirvana's MTV unplugged set, and decided I could push the speed limit a bit through Nevada and Arizona so I would make it to Albuquerque in time for the evening festivities. I pulled into the driveway well past sunset and sized up the beige stucco mansion Liza had booked for the weekend. I was greeted with a warm Kawanhee welcome from Hector, Marcos, Ferd, Liza, Jamie, Robby, Ruby, Max, Wyatt, Devon, Devin, Blaise, Erika, and Kyle. It was an epic squad.

On Saturday Danny Packer took us on a hike weaving through cacti and sandstone boulders with the snow capped Sandias as a backdrop. You know we got an A+ biology lesson on the flora and fauna of New Mexico. That night was for Halloween festivities, and Blaise had the great idea to make everybody Tinfoil hat costumes to block out the electromagnetic waves. In the spirit of nearby Roswell, it's the thing to do. The streets of Albuquerque were crawling with club goers dressed as Ace Ventura, Clowns, Minions, and more. It was clear to me that Albuquerque was a lively city with fantastic access to nature, and I understand why many Kawanhees have chosen to settle there. Rumor is Albuquerque is the new Columbus!

The Desert Wind Calls Kawanhee cont.

ELI YALE

On Sunday the Crew got Twisters breakfast burritos (my third burrito in two days), and we split up—half went to ride the Cable Car up the mountains, while Blaise, Erika, Ferd, and I went mountain biking on a mesa plateau. The landscape there was so striking; we rode along a thin gravel ridge with a view for miles of striated red, white, and orange rock. Everyone met up again at a classic sopapilla food truck, and we shared a few more fits of laughter as we gorged on the classic Southwestern dish. Tomorrow we would have to return to work, school, and real life. Thank you to Ruby, Max, Hector, Danny, Blaise and the other locals for hosting us, and Liza for planning and inviting me.

Later that week I took off solo towards Moab, Utah, to continue my remote working road trip. The second half of this trip was to attend a climbing festival and climb on the most famous desert sandstone cracks in the world. I found some awesome climbing partners and climbed classic routes such as Ancient Art, Incredible Hand Crack, and Supercrack of the Desert.



My experience at the Kawanhee ropes course as a camper and counselor has led to a lifelong passion that I will always be grateful for. Battling gravity and rock has taught me self reliance, persistence, and how to be calm in stressful situations. The endless hours on the open road taught me our minds are capable of dreaming up incredible things and recognizing the wonder all around us. I learned you can never go wrong with a spontaneous road trip to Albuquerque to visit old Kawanhee friends, just make sure to bring your Tinfoil hat!



Kawanhee Snapshots



The Puzzle of Camp Kawanhee

BRETT SHIFRIN Camp Director

Throughout the summer, and especially at the 100-year celebration of Camp Kawanhee, interactions with kind-hearted people who strive to support and encourage each other to be playful, purposeful, and thoughtful shifted my thinking from being a camp director to being a camp connector.

Kawanhee is a magical place that reminds me of a pile of puzzle pieces that come together to create a community of care and encouragement. The people, experiences, location, history, values, and opportunities converge to empower each of us to be the best version of ourselves. The shores of Lake Webb and the ringed circle of the Blue Mountain range are our common frame and added to it we bring multi-generational stories as well as new piece shapes and colors. As we snap in pieces and shift others around to find the interlocking match, our individual stories start to form pictures that we carry in our hearts to uplift us and connect us to the community.

My puzzle piece continues to take shape with the generosity of Mark and Liz as stewards of the Kawanhee spirit and strives to link strongly with the most critical part of the puzzle: our staff and counselors. Throughout the summer I witnessed them share their camp passions as they mentored campers. Pause for a moment and remember the counselor that had an impact on you or your son. Now, imagine your puzzle piece locking together--strongly bonded by getting up on water skis for the first time, cresting the top of Tumbledown, getting a hug when homesick, ripping down a rapid in a kayak, learning to ask for help, swimming to Bass Rock, the magic of campfire. Our collective puzzle is life-affirming and anchored by generations of dedicated staff and counselors.



Knowing that Camp Kawanhee is here for all of us fills me with joy and pride. Paying witness and playing my part in the growth of campers, counselors, and camp is a privilege. I am still learning and growing as a director/connector and appreciate having the Camp Kawanhee community supporting me. As part of that learning, I am sharing how I am starting to finish the phrase “May Kawanhee always be.....”

- a place of joy
- a feeling that empowers and enhances each day
- a human connection
- an escape from technology
- a reprieve from always having to perform for others
- a spirit that fills our hearts
- a tree-filled paradise surrounded by a pristine lake and development-free mountains.

What would you add to that list? Share your reflections and perspectives with me by emailing brett@kawanhee.com.

With gratitude & respect,
Brett Shifrin



Upcoming Events and CK Links

The Bass Rock Walk



Sunday, 2/19/23 @ 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
Calzaiola's in Wilton the
night before for dinner
on Saturday February
18th at 6:00.

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

Kawanhee Night Out 3

MARCH 2023

ALBUQUERQUE
BOSTON
CHICAGO
COLUMBUS
NEW YORK
LOS ANGELES



MORE INFO COMING SOON!
WANT TO ADD YOUR CITY OR GET EMAIL UPDATES?
KAWANHEE.NIGHT.OUT@GMAIL.COM

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[2023 Camp Season Registration](#)

[2022 Camp Season Photo Gallery](#)

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