

LIVE.
LAUGH.
LOVE.
Camp 2010

Saturday August 14, 2010

Evening Program: Camp, FIRE FIRE FIRE

Welcome to the 53rd week of camp, this year is Rips 52nd week of camp, marking 1 year of his life spent at camp. This year we had our largest camp ever totaling over 400 campers and more than 65 staff.

Our theme this year is "This I Believe". Based upon the NPR series in which everyday people and celebrities discuss what they believe in, and how it impacts the world. The staff starts working on the theme and the programs as soon as camp ends, trying to improve on our camp each and every year.



Camp Cody Cabins

Camp favorites this year: Ninja Tag, Knockout, Camp Cody gear, Curtis Lindens hair, lax dudes.

Thoughts on camp 2010- This I Believe

Brian Hickox

Camp, most often referred to as an "indescribable place". A week filled with love, laughter, faith and friendships. To many, this was a first time experience. However, whether it was a campers first year or sixth year, each individual had their own unique experience.

The week started off like any other. A parking lot filled with hundreds of enthusiastic kids anticipating a great week. And to that, everyone's wishes and hopes came true. Camp 2010 truly was an unbelievable and unforgettable experience. Ultimately, the success of this week is attributed not only to the dedication and enthusiasm from the staff, but also the ample amount of participation and energy brought forth by the campers. Each of you single handedly made the week better for the people around you, Thank You!

Every morning after both junior high and senior breakfast was completed, all staff members and campers joined together for morning watch. A time in which no one talked and the sounds of nature filled our ears; a time to read a story which often delivered an important message; a time to strengthen our relationship with God and a

time to pray for ourselves, the people around us, and for the friends and family we have at home. The calm water of Lake Ossipee, the view of the White Mountains, and the warm sun made a tranquil environment for many to gaze out and reflect upon the things in our lives.

As I sat by myself during the first morning watch on Sunday, August 15th, I stared out and felt both amazed and shocked. I was truly astonished at the number of people present at camp. It is amazing how each year the numbers grow bigger and bigger and the waiting list gets longer and longer. Just like 'Rip' said at the end of the week, "We must be doing something right". At the same time, I could not stop envisioning myself in the same position as the campers around me, except 8 years prior. Throughout the week as I witnessed campers take part in morning group, plow face first into a plate of delicious camp food, sing and dance to "lean on me", watch the seniors do a ridiculous skit or be woken up for the first time by the quiet call from Terry, I realized that each moment and interaction that the campers were experiencing together was helping to build their character.

Just like almost everything in this world, a person's character is not something that is going to be formed overnight, or in the case of camp, over a week. As Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "People grow through experience if they meet life honestly and courageously. This is how character is built". Camp is one of *those*

experiences in which people grow. Camp is a place and environment which gives each person the opportunity to learn about themselves and the people around them. This week, everyone's true character came out whether we met together as a whole, as a small group, or in a one-on-one conversation. Ultimately, every person had an amazing week because we did three things; we *lived*, we *loved*, and we *laughed*.

It was evident that each day during the week everyone LIVED their life to the fullest. Life, in general, is the greatest gift that each one of us has been blessed and we definitely celebrated that each day. The loudness/craziness which took place in the dining hall, the intensity and teamwork which was brought to cabin wars, the random and sporadic forming of the 'centipede' and the massive amount of energy brought to each program were some of the ways in which we lived life to the fullest.

It was evident that each day during the week everyone LOVED. Yes, there are obviously many different types of love; the love of parents, the love of food, the love of friends, the love of animals, the love of God, the love of dancing, but most importantly the love of oneself. Whether it was during morning group, during vespers, with your cabin, or by yourself, each person grew a stronger understanding and love for who they are. At the same time, new friendships were being formed and previous friendships were being strengthened. Getting to know

people and building new relationships was one of the best parts of my week.

And finally it was evident that each day during the week everyone LAUGHED together. Laughter is one of those contagious things which brings people together. I will forever randomly burst out in laughter thinking about some of the things which took place during the week. The thought of Greg Zopatti dancing blindfolded in front of us and not knowing he was by himself, the sight of 20+ people in morphsuits surrounding me, the hysterical skits performed throughout the week and the “inside” jokes which were created will always put a smile on my face.

If everyone in this world lived, loved, and laughed to the extent we did during this year’s week of camp, the world would be a more positive and uplifting place to be in. This I believe.

Sunday August 15, 2010

Afternoon Program: Billy Madison Day

Evening Program: Peace, Love, Dance

The afternoon program today kicked off a week of great programs including EpiClue, Cops and Robbers, Cabin Wars, and the Festapaloozastock. We had loads of fun moving from game to game with our morning group and trying our best to outdo other morning groups in some brand new and some classic camp games like: the human knot, 24, hula hoop pass, history jeopardy, chubby bunny,

relay races, donut on a string, spelling bee, name that tune, shoot out, and more. In the end, the winner wasn’t officially announced, but each team won plenty of games and had fun along the way.



Camp Sunset

Throughout the week, different councilors had the chance to poll the campers on their favorite parts of camp. Check throughout the newspaper for quotes and thoughts, that take on the style of this years dining hall sensation. To start it off.....**Give me a ONE! (Who is your Favorite councilor)**

Andy Sheflin- really funny and serious in MG
Rachel Grant- really fun and nice, great cabin
George Raymond- absolutely hilarious
Adam Fiander- such and inspiration, unbelievable friend
Curtis Linden- absolute riot, always has a positive attitude
Maggie Holland- so fun/ funny and so nice
Carissa Marlowe- she was very nice and funny
Curtis Linden- really good at basketball, chill
Danielle Walsh- she’s fun to be around
Mike McNeil- he is the nicest person I have ever met

Jill Clifford- she was very funny and kind
Matt Pearson really reached out to me this year
and remembered my name
Sean Farrell- he was funny
Tom Flanagan- he really listened to what I had
to say
Andy Sheflin- he is like family to me
Rachel McCabe- she is my favorite person in the
world
Colleen McNeil- My girl!!!
Matt Pearson- my first cabin councilor
Mike McNeil- I know him before and he's
awesome
Tom Crosby (wink wink), Colleen McNeil, and
Andy Sheflin
Mike Pearson- he's just awesome

Monday August 16, 2010

Morning/ Afternoon Program: EPIClue

Evening Program: Morning Group at Night

Morning group is a time to get to know a small number of other campers very well. With two councilors in each group who are there to help lead the conversation but also learn from our amazing campers, morning group is a favorite time for many campers. Just like vespers and chapel, morning group is a chance to open up your mind and heart, and thoughtfully and respectfully help each other grow. Just as Stef Zopatti said early in the week, you can't fill someone else's bucket up without filling up your own.

Campers loved having morning group at night last year, so this year at camp we made sure to do it again! Having the chance to sit outside with your morning group and enjoy the night sky allowed everyone in the group the chance to relax and get to know each other even better. As the morning group wound to an end,

we all slowly made our way to a giant camp fire and the chance to end the night on a quiet and thoughtful note.

Perceptions

As read by Rachel Grant

Washington, DC Metro Station on a cold January morning in 2007. The man with a violin played six Bach pieces for about 45 minutes. During that time approx. 2 thousand people went through the station, most of them on their way to work. After 3 minutes a middle aged man noticed there was a musician playing. He slowed his pace and stopped for a few seconds and then hurried to meet his schedule.

4 minutes later: the violinist received his first dollar: a woman threw the money in the hat and, without stopping, continued to walk.

6 minutes: A young man leaned against the wall to listen to him, then looked at his watch and started to walk again.

10 minutes: A 3-year old boy stopped but his mother tugged him along hurriedly. The kid stopped to look at the violinist again, but the mother pushed hard and the child continued to walk, turning his head all the time. This action was repeated by several other children. Every parent, without exception, forced their children to move on quickly.

45 minutes: The musician played continuously. Only 6 people stopped and listened for a short while. About 20 gave money but continued to walk at their normal pace. The man collected a total of \$32.

1 hour: He finished playing and silence took over. No one noticed. No one applauded, nor was there any recognition.

No one knew this, but the violinist was Joshua Bell, one of the greatest musicians in the world. He played one of the most intricate pieces ever written, with a violin worth \$3.5 million dollars. Two days before Joshua Bell sold out a theater in Boston where the seats averaged \$100.

This is a true story. Joshua Bell playing incognito in the metro station was organized by the Washington Post as part of a social experiment about **perception, taste and people's priorities**. The questions raised: in a common place environment at an inappropriate hour, do we perceive beauty? Do we stop to appreciate it? Do we recognize talent in an unexpected context?

One possible conclusion reached from this experiment could be this: If we do not have a moment to stop and listen to one of the best musicians in the world, playing some of the finest music ever written, with one of the most beautiful instruments ever made.... How many other things are we missing?

Tuesday August 17, 2010

Afternoon Program: Cops and Robbers

Evening Program: Rhythms

Give me a TWO (favorite camp meal)

"Grilled Cheese is my favorite, I had four this year"- Kate Pearce

Chicken Patty- Angela Mieks
C.P.- Lauren McGillivray
Grilled Cheese- Meg Tural
Pancakes- Cam Landen
Mac n Cheese- Molly McKenny
Chicken and Mac n Cheese- Courtney Lombard
Chicken Wings- Zack Prescott
"French Toast. Why? I don't know"- Kristina Dias
Chicken Fingers- Megan Doran
C.P.- Dan Jofnee
C.P.- Michelle Thornton
Grilled Cheese- Matt Boudreaut
"The day we had grilled cheese and tomato soup.... Was the perfect day for grilled cheese and tomato soup!"- Zack
Chicken Patty- Emma Collins
Tacos- Joanne O'Sullivan
Chicken Patty- Abby Killeen
All breakfast- Cally Taccini
Tacos- Julie Ronson
Sheppard's Pie – Sarah Burke
Chicken Patty- Sarah O'Connor
Sheppard's Pie- Bridget Conroy
Tacos- Liz Doran
"Tacos just make me so happy." – Joanne O'Sullivan



Ninja Tag in Action!

Make Some Noise

Conor Pedro

What was to be expected from a program so few knew the slightest bit about? The night began with a call and response video interaction pitting Conor Pedro, Greg Zopatti, and Jon McCabe in a fierce battle of the bands against..... well..... Themselves! The buzz from the first act grew to a dull roar when Tiffany Smith, Hilary Finnegan, Jill and Jenna Clifford, took to the stage and performed a rhythmic creation using four steel chairs that quite literally brought people out of their seats!

Kevin Worth and Conor then showed the audience how even miscellaneous items such as a bucket, weight rack, trash can lid, and a pitcher could be utilized for musical creation. The evening was then placed in the ever capable hands of one John Fiander, who was clearly having a little fun with the entire audience and proved once again just how captivating a man with a loud voice, a beard, and an arsenal of flannel can be.

Campers were then called up to see if their rhythmic skill could match that of their counselors and by far the most epic of the evening's showdowns was that of rookie staffer Curtis Linden versus the dynamic and talented Jared Holton who more than held his own and showcased some fine percussive skill.

The crowd was then treated to a soothing "Thunderstorm" led by the Cliffords, Tiffany, and Hilary that transitioned into another performance piece which came courtesy of Adrienne Perfetuo, Cole Burton, Stef Zopatti, Curtis Linden, and Brian Hickox. This "Fab 5" wowed the crowd with a percussive dance number utilizing trash cans, wooden broom handles, and drumsticks. Tom Deegan was in the right place at the right time to help "clean up" the end of the number.

The final act of the evening was a musical progression featuring everyone involved in the show and eventually the entire audience and acted as a bit of a reprise, summarizing the different acts throughout the night. A bit of "Strawberry Jam" to pull the night together and top the evening off.

What an incredible evening that allowed both the staff and campers to feed off of each others energy creating a most memorable show!

Wednesday August 18, 2010

*Afternoon Program: The Bread and the Cup
FESTAPALOOZASTOCK*

Evening Program: Talent Show

We have amazingly talented campers and staff. From guitar and piano players to tremendous singers, dancers, and comedians, campers inspire each other each year to perform. This year we had a whole day to see the talents of our camp family. With the outdoor afternoon Festapaloozastock filling the air with music to our first outdoor talent show, Wednesday turned into music day at camp.

This years talent show saw some amazing performers and one Beyonce like host in Maggie Holland. With great skits from the senior high boys and girls, original songs performed for an audience of almost 500, to our first time performers and those artists who have bookmarks for each week at camp, we had a tremendous night.

Give me a THREE (favorite camp song)

Compass "just awesome" - Jared Berman

Lean on Me "I like the dance"- Allison Burns
Compass- Nicole Hunt, Mike Mahoney
Pharaoh Pharaoh - Ashley Field
Born in Bethlehem- Gabby Lueck
Grace Like Rain- Tom Hickey
Take me Down to Ossipee- Sean McPherson
I Am Free- Ashley Field
Open the Eyes- Jenna Sartucci
Lord of the Dance- Maggie Holland, Caryn
MacDonald
Cartoon Song- Ricky Hawkes
Friends are Friends Forever- Tom Larsson
This Love- Tori Bodell

Thursday August 19, 2010

Afternoon Program: Cabin Competition

Evening Program: A Black Tie Affair Dance

Thursday Cabin Wars 2010

Kevin Smith

The Cabin Wars program on Thursday afternoon has become somewhat of a camp tradition since its inception five years ago. The event pits cabin against cabin in middle school gym games such as Dodgeball, Trash in my Backyard, Tug o' War, Shipwreck, and various relay races. The campers are split into two divisions (Jr. High and Sr. High), and compete in a double elimination. What really makes the event special is the campers' enthusiasm for the competition. Cabins dressed up in outfits that included construction workers, pirates, cowboys, vacationers, and the Pawnee boys squeezed into body suits.

The afternoon was sunny and hot, but Cabin 18 won the Jr. High bracket and faced the Senior Boys from Cheyenne in the championship. The Jr. High boys prevailed in the Dizzy Bat/Sponge

Relay final, thanks in part to an accidental bucket kick from the seniors. This is the third year in a row that a Jr. High cabin has won the event. For the seniors, sometimes you are more famous in defeat.

The campers had an awesome afternoon, and a special thanks to the staff that refereed and ran the event.

Friday August 20, 2010

Afternoon Program: Hug Line

Evening Program: Consecration Service

Traditionally the last day of camp is an uplifting one where we celebrate our time together and let others know how important they are to us. From Strength Bombardment in morning group, through the hug line, and into the evenings consecration service, time is spent celebrating the friendship and fellowship of the week.



Taco Eating Champion 2010: Pat Deegan

19 Tacos

Break it down (Why I love camp)

“Just the atmosphere in general”- Alisha Tam

Vespers- “You learn something from it and it’s relaxing”- Emma Toye

Saturday August 21, 2010

Camp

Tom Flanagan

Each year, campers and staff speak and think about the same question: “what is camp?” Possible answers to this question fill prayers, small group discussions, vespers and senior speeches, and some excellent speakers and incredible camp personalities have given it their best shot over the years. Most find their way to defining camp as love, or a spirit inside us all, or a feeling that we must all strive to bring home. All those ideas have merit, and I don’t want to propose that I have a more correct or better answer. I have just come to a new way of thinking and talking about camp that I find interesting and useful, and I hope that sharing it may help some others consider their time at camp from a new perspective. I believe that camp is not really “something” in its own right, but instead a tool through which we’re able to evaluate all the “somethings” in our lives. I believe that camp is a system of measurement, and in that, an opportunity.

Few of us have a presence in our lives so consistent as camp. Think about it: what

about camp would have to have been different 150 years ago? The music wouldn’t be quite as loud at the dances (and who even wants to imagine what the dances moves would look like). The mass production of so many meals would have been a challenge. The cabins wouldn’t have been quite as comfortable without electric lights and indoor plumbing. But do any of those advancements affect what camp actually is? I don’t think they do. The topics we discuss in morning group and listen about at vespers would have changed over the years, but probably not as much as we think.

My point is this: there is nothing that helps define camp that we don’t bring to it ourselves. For example, the location (beautiful spot on a lake tucked into the mountains) and the activities (games, dances, competitions, discussions, reflections) that we all enjoy are all chosen or created by the staff, and to be truthful they’re kind of arbitrary. The location has changed three times, and if Camp Cody was sold and chopped up to develop condos tomorrow, we’d find a fourth location. And it would be fine. This year, the rhythm performance was many campers’ favorite event, and it’s a great memory we’ll all hold. But it was just one possible output from the creative talents of the staff. In another year, instead of a rhythm show it would be Green Guy Crew, or a Dinner Theater, or a weeklong battle for a Hardcore Belt. All of those things were awesome, and they were major parts of

what made camp great in those particular years.

So the basics of camp are timeless, and the specific programs that make us love it each year are as fleeting as the revolving cast of staff and campers. So how does that make camp a system of measurement? Because unlike most things in our lives, it remains the same as we change. If you're as lucky as I have been, camp could provide stability through years that are otherwise loaded with change. From a middle school student up through junior high to the high school, off to college, living abroad, moving away from home to start a career in another state. Almost nothing in those 12 years was quite the same from one year to the next except camp. My role at camp has changed dramatically along the way, but when I was in 7th grade there was some 24-year-old on staff filling the role that I did this summer. Here's another way of thinking of it: in the endless string of science experiments that is the life of a young person, camp is the control.

So, instead of trying to define camp, I have embraced the idea that camp is simply an opportunity to continually define ourselves. Many junior high campers find things like vespers and morning watch strange, and yet many senior high campers are obsessed with both. Vespers and morning watch didn't change, the campers did. Senior boys who appear in skits wearing underwear and half shirts were once too shy to deliver a single line. The audience didn't shrink, their self confidence grew.

These signs of growth are obvious, though. If camp's only offering is to show seniors that they have come out of their shells since seventh grade, it wouldn't be very interesting. What makes it interesting is that you are able to measure yourself in much more complex categories than your capacity to sit still during morning watch or act outrageously in a skit. Camp lets you measure your tolerance of the ideas, strengths and weaknesses of others. It lets you measure your generosity of spirit. It lets you measure your faith. Maybe more than anything else, it lets you measure how comfortable you are in your own skin. It lets you measure all these things, and more (big ups Pastor Dick).

We should not ask or expect too much of camp. Camp will not make you a great person. It will not make you open-minded, or fun, or warm. It will not make you a great citizen of your school, your town, or the world. It will not make you comfortable and tolerant in your faith. It will not make you the kind of thoughtful person that people simply love to be around.

You will have to make yourself all of these things as you move through life. And if you want to, you will. These are the traits that have nothing to do with your height or your singing voice or how well you do in school. They are completely within your control, and they are the characteristics that truly define a person and a life. In camp, I believe that we all share in an incredible opportunity to measure our progress.

<u>Graduating Senior</u>	<u>Years at Camp</u>	<u>Plans for next year</u>
Shayna Albanese	6	URI
Tori Bodell	6	BSC
John Boretti	5	Bryant
Emily Clark	6	BC- Nursing
Erin Curry	2	Massasoit
Paul DeRubeis	6	Marist
Michael Dias	5	Bentley
Vicki DiNatale	5	Springfield
Kelly Donnelly	6	Curry
Gabrielle Durgin	6	Salem State- Nursing
Derek Fallon	13	Castleton State
Laura Fleming	5	Northeastern
Dan Gessner	4	Fairfield
Amy Harrington	6	St. Anselm
Ricky Hawkes	5	Lasell
Shane Hennessey	5	BU
Kara Lally	6	Southern NH
Tom Larsson	6	BC- Nursing
Emma Lena	6	Champlain
Emily Leibert	6	Northeastern
Andrea Lockhead	6	UMASS
Caryn MacDonald	6	WPI
Michael Mahoney	4	BC-Nursing
Michael O'Dea	6	Springfield
Valerie Ripley	6	UNH
John Sartucci	2	Lasell
Meg Strong	5	BSC
Johnny Sugrue	7	BSC
Brian Valovcin	4	Bryant
Greg Vogel	7	U. of Hartford
Matthew Whalen	3	UMASS- Boston
Jenna Wilson	5	Johnson & Wales

Some Quotes from the This I Believe Series:

“This I Believe. By that name, we present the personal philosophies of thoughtful men and women in all walks of life. In this brief space, a banker or a butcher, a painter or a social worker, people of all kinds who need have nothing more in common than integrity, a real honesty, will write about the rules they live by, the things they have found to be the basic values in their lives.” – **Edward R Murrow, 1951 initial introduction to the series.**

“What life means to me is something constantly in process of reconstruction, a reconstruction made necessary by ever shifting scenes and situations but which I hope draws nourishment from each difficult contact with life. Life to me is an endless challenge, a challenge imposed by the forces of nature and social life, itself.”- **Charles S. Johnson 1951 Sociologist and Educator**

“I believe in the human race. I believe in the warm heart. I believe in man's integrity. I believe in the goodness of a free society. And I believe that the society can remain good only as long as we are willing to fight for it — and to fight against whatever imperfections may exist.” –**Jackie Robinson, 1952 Baseball Pioneer**

“At the age of sixteen, many of my friends have already chosen a religion to follow (usually that of their parents), and are bound to it by many ties. I am still "freelancing" in religion, searching for beliefs to guide me when I am an adult. I fear I shall always be searching, never attaining ultimate satisfaction, for I possess that blessing and curse — a doubting, questioning mind.” –**Elizabeth Deutsch 1954, high school student.**

“..I learned that hunger can lead to more life — that by sharing real food, I'd find communion with the most unlikely people; that by eating a piece of bread, I'd experience myself as part of one body. This I believe: that by opening ourselves to strangers, we will taste God.” –**Sara Miles, 2008 food pantry founder.**

“I believe that whatever we receive we must share. When we endure an experience, the experience cannot stay with me alone. It must be opened, it must be deepened and given and shared.” – **Elie Weisel 2008, holocaust survivor, Nobel Prize Winner.**

“The day you speak to someone who has their head held down and when they lift it up and smile, you realize how powerful it is just to open your mouth and say, "Hello.” –**Howard White VP Nike, 2008**

“Please don't be cynical. I hate cynicism. It's my least favorite quality and it doesn't lead anywhere. Nobody in life gets exactly what they thought they were going to get. But if you work really hard and you're kind, amazing things will happen.”- **Conan O'Briens last monologue as host of *The Tonight Show***

CAMP 2011 DATES ARE AUGUST 20TH THROUGH THE 27TH.