

# THE ARROWHEAD

## CAMP NEBAGAMON'S MONTHLY NEWSPAPER

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February 2015

### FAMILY REUNIONS

Those of you that do not live the life of a camp director may not be aware of the fact that this is high travel and reunion season. With more than 25 different reunions every winter, I travel from the Northeast, to the Midwest, to the Southwest, and everywhere in between. Not only do I get a chance to sample the finest in local cuisines from across the country (not good for a middle aged man's waistline...of course I am speaking exclusively of Fornear), but I also get a chance to steal literally hundreds of little bottles of shampoo, conditioner, and lotion from the various hotels where I stay throughout my travels. (And let me publicly apologize to those of you whose homes I have stayed in. You may have found yourselves short of that bottle of shampoo you left in the shower.....habit!) With more than 15,000 miles a year spent in a car with Fornear, I think Camp Nebagamon is singlehandedly responsible for the greenhouse gas problem on this planet, and I am told that the Keystone Pipeline was proposed just to supply our gas needs. If you add in the psychiatric bills that 15,000 miles a year spent in a car with each other forces us to incur, you know that we invest a great deal into these reunion tours. Without a doubt, being gone as much I am does take a bit of a toll on me personally (not just the aforementioned waistline issues). It is a lot of time to be away from one's family. I miss lots of sporting events, school presentations, and just plain hang out time. That part is a bummer.

But when I set foot into one of your homes or community centers for a reunion, all of the stress melts away in an instant. Reunions are awesome! As anyone who has been to camp would tell you, there is just nothing like Nebagamon. The friendships are deeper, the self-confidence fostered is unmatched, the memories are unparalleled, and the sense of belonging is truly unique. So whether you are a current camper or staff member, or an alumnus that has not been to camp in decades, the winter camp reunions are a wonderful and virtually failsafe way to reconnect to the place and the feelings that only camp can create. The reunions generally include a chance to check out the photo albums created from the past summer, view the narrated slide show with photos from the previous summer, and screen the video from that summer as well. But far more significant than the formal program is the informal interactions and connections that happen at these reunions. Old friends reconnect in wonderful ways and strangers meet, strangers who very quickly discover that they are not strangers at all....they share something powerful and significant in their lives.....Nebagamon.

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## NEWS OF THE CAMP FAMILY



As many of you know, I (Fornear) love fishing. And since moving back to the Midwest I've had to transition to putting away the fly rods for a couple of months, with the exception of the occasional work trip or vacation. With those in storage and my five-gallon pail of ice fishing jigging rods and tip ups in the back of the truck, my slow introduction back into the world of ice fishing has been less than exciting. Before moving out to Idaho I used to spend days upon days out on the ice. We would even drive out onto Lake Superior – fish all day and then camp in the back of the trucks (on the ice) – then wake up early and fish for ten more hours. I loved it! Now that I'm back here, though, the “fun” of ice fishing is eluding me. It's sad for me to write this as ice fishing was a huge part of my childhood. My dad and I would spend weekends fishing the lakes of southeastern Wisconsin. My mom even

sewed up a winter boot of sorts one winter when I had a cast on my right leg from a skiing injury, just so I could go ice fishing. I was always either getting some sweet air at the “mountain” at Alpine Valley or jigging for giant perch on Lake Geneva. While this is kind of a sad moment for me, I think I won't be quitting ice fishing for good. I still have enough equipment to get on the ice and hang out with some good friends. This past weekend I was able to ice fish a couple of ice fishing derbies near Lake Nebagamon. The fishing was horrible but hanging out with good friends from camp (Andy Mack, Todd Blatt and Shannon Salomaki) made for plenty of laughs.

The off season is quickly coming to an end as Adam Kaplan is wrapping up the reunion tour solo. Thank you to everyone who has joined us thus far, and we hope to see the rest of you on the final leg! I will once again need you to email, call or snail mail me your news for future Arrowheads. So send me that news! 'Til next time, enjoy the day and get excited for the upcoming summer!

**IT MAY INTEREST YOU TO KNOW** that in Minneapolis **Brett Schoppert** is getting closer to his goal of raising \$15,000 for Haiti's Outreach, Adopt a Well program. His particular well is appropriately named Brett's Well. To learn more about the project please go to <http://www.haitioutreach.org/adopt-a-well/bretts-well/>. **Graham Brimmer** is recovering from a skiing injury but hopes to get back out on the slopes before the end of the winter. **Andrew Kuria** swims the 50, 100 and 200 free for his swim team. **Josue Grassi** plays basketball for Wayzata. **Gunner O'Reilly** ran cross country for Wayzata High School. **Eli Striker** is a midfielder for the St. Paul Blackhawks soccer team. **Charlie Fromm** (Kansas City) has been snowboarding in those sweet mountains of Colorado and wrestling for his school. **Daniel Armstrong** (Chicago) was recently voted MVP for his hockey team at a recent tournament in Toronto. In Detroit we learned that **Max Rontal** continues to tear up the mountain on skis and **Jack Wineman** stays busy with hockey and downhill skiing. **Simon Topf** continues to play the euphonium. **Tommy Sherman** is staying active with swimming while his brother **AJ** plays basketball.

**IN THE WHERE-ARE-THEY-NOW DEPARTMENT:** **Matt Friedman** (Detroit '83-'90) is Chairman of the Board for the Children's Hospital of Michigan. **Troika Brodsky** (St. Louis '87-'93, '95-'07) opened up *Ices Plain & Fancy* ice cream shop in St. Louis (I taste tested a bunch last night and it is delicious!).

**WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS** go to Lucie Uwarow (LA) and **Nicky Laskin** (Los Angeles '99-'03, '05-'09)

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### **FAMILY REUNIONS** (Continued from Page 1)

Year after year, city after city, reunion scenes play out that remind me of what a special place Nebagamon really is. The following are a few scenes from our most recent reunion tour through the Midwest.

Detroit: At the beginning of my tenure as director, we had stopped going to Detroit on the reunion tour. We didn't have any campers from Detroit, and so we just passed the city by. Then, several years ago, we started doing reunions there again. The feeling at these reunions has been indescribable. After a couple of years of neglect, the folks there were so happy to have the chance to reconnect with Nebagamon and each other. It has quickly turned into one of the warmest and most affirming reunions of the year, complete with old-school alumni, brand new campers, staff members who drive a

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**FAMILY REUNIONS** (Continued from Page 2)

long way from the University of Michigan, and even our Nature Lore Director who drove 2 ½ hours from Battle Creek just to attend. While I am sure that they all came for the slideshow and a chance to see me, it should also be noted that our host there always makes the camp classics of Reubens and s'mores for the event....which seems to help attendance as well!

Chicago: This is a truly giant affair that has become a “destination” reunion. Just this year, we had campers travel to Chicago from Minneapolis, St. Louis, Memphis, Boise, and San Francisco for the event. (I was truly flattered that these boys travelled such a distance just to spend a couple of hours with me....but, as ever, my delusions of grandeur were proven out as they all but completely ignored me in favor of each other.....and one of them was my own son!) Additionally, at the Chicago reunion, we were treated to a former camper from the 1940s that had not been to camp or to a reunion in MANY years....he went on to sign up for Family Camp this year! I was thrilled to see my very first counselor at Nebagamom from 38 years ago (the moment he entered the building he was placed under a strict gag order restricting him from discussing what kind of camper I was) as well as several of my own cabinmates from my camper years. The Chicago reunion is also replete with annual cabin reunions of friendships that were forged at camp decades ago. To watch these grown men interact with each other as though they were still little boys in the North Woods is truly an incredible sight. And, oh yes, there are always doughnuts at the Chicago reunion. Win-Win!

Minneapolis: This reunion begins every year with a wonderful dinner put together by our reunion host. This is a no-holds-barred meal complete with enough food to make a Rec Hall meal seem as meager as the portions doled out to competitors on Survivor. (Our host is so kind as to include some incredible flank steak as she is aware of the fact that I live in a house filled with multiple vegetarians!) The meal also includes charming handmade Camp Nebagamom cupcakes made by the sister of our current camper....a camper in her own right at another camp. One annual attendee of that reunion is a man, originally from Kansas City, who spent just two summers at Nebagamom, and both as a staff member. Nevertheless, the place and the experience made such an impact on him that I do not believe he has ever missed a single reunion during my tenure as director. Just two summers at Nebagamom....yet the impression that camp made on this guy has never lessened.

Kansas City: It is usually a small and intimate affair in which we often welcome prospective campers as well as current campers, staff, and alumni. This year, a particularly thoughtful prospective parent interrupted the introductions portion of the evening to ask that, in addition to introducing themselves, each person use a few adjectives to describe camp. The adjectives were perfect. The first boy, a recently graduated camper, used words like “insane, hilarious, nuts,” (which were pretty charming and certainly reflected part of what makes camp so much fun) and when he got to “wrestling on boats,” I decided that our prospective parent had heard just about enough descriptors from this particular child! (I immediately placed a call to the head of sailing that year... he is looking for summer work!) We travelled around the room sharing words that truly captured what camp was all about: friendship, growth, wilderness, laughter. The reason that we all chose to gather in this living room together on a Tuesday night in January was captured beautifully by another recent camper graduate who said simply, “Brotherhood.” That’s right... that’s it... perfect. The prospective father called me yesterday... he’s in.

So Tuesday, I will hit the road again for the California swing of the roadshow. I am looking forward to another great ten days of connecting with alumni, current campers, staff members and prospective families. (Feel free to spread the word so that they know I will be in town!) Then, later in the month, I will be off to Colorado, Texas, Oklahoma, and Arizona. Lots of miles, lots of reunions...lots of Brotherhood. Please come join us and get your Camp Nebagamom fix in February!

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**K E E P T H E F I R E S B U R N I N G**

## 2015 ROAD SHOW CONTINUES!

Adam Kaplan is ready to head to California, Colorado, Texas, Oklahoma and Arizona! Below are the details for February's reunions. Please contact us at the camp office if we somehow missed you on our invitation list and we'll be sure to get you the details so you can RSVP. Hope to see you there!

City	Dates	Reunion Details
San Diego	Feb. 3	Effress, Tues., Feb. 3, 7:00 PM 8545 Avenida de las Ondas, La Jolla
Los Angeles	Feb. 7	Hirschhorns, Sat., Feb. 7, 11:00 AM 560 Toyopa Drive, Pacific Palisades
San Francisco	Feb. 8	Strulls, Sun., Feb. 8, 2:00 PM 25 Rainbow Road, San Rafael
Denver	Feb. 17	Galpern-Portis, Tues, Feb. 17, 6:30 PM 7895 East 28 <sup>th</sup> Ave, Denver
San Antonio	Feb. 18	Rosenblatts, Wed., Feb. 18, 7:00 PM (Location TBA)
Austin	Feb. 19	Aronoffs, Thurs., Feb. 19, 6:30 PM 11608 Sierra Nevada, Austin
Dallas	Feb. 20	Foxmans, Fri., Feb. 20, 7:00 PM 1811 Tucker St, Dallas
Tulsa	Feb. 21	Alderman-Ballengers, Sat., Feb. 21, 5:00 PM 1115 E 20 <sup>th</sup> St, Tulsa
Phoenix	Feb. 22	Frisch, Sun., Feb. 22, 4:00 PM 8868 East Calle de las Brisas, Scottsdale

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### IT'S 2015. DO WE KNOW WHERE OUR STAFF IS? You Betcha!

Back in late 2014, many staff contacted us to say they would like to return. This ensures that we will have veterans in place to lead the charge into another great summer underneath the towering white pines. Many of our key positions have been filled, and cabin counselors and trip staff are coming into the fold.

Here are the returnees for the summer of 2015. We are excited to announce that Alex Gordon will be our Logger Village Director for his sixth year, and that David Sachs will return for his fourth season as the Swamper Village Director. Larry Held returns as the Axeman Village Director for his second season. Lastly, we are pleased to announce that Max Wise will be our Lumberjack Village Director. Everyone should be pleased to hear that Anne Rowe is returning for her 11<sup>th</sup> season as our kitchen manager. I'm already starting to daydream about Anne's Paul Bunyan Day Rib extravaganza! Frank Keys, Ann Pellman, Nellie Taylor, Austin Price, Rachel Grubbe, Elissa Skaggs and Grant Pearson are all returning to cook up those great meals at the Rec Hall. Linnea Moss will spend another summer as our town driver and Jeremy Nordin-Berghuis returns for his seventh summer. Rand Shapiro returns to head up CNOC and Ralph Greil will once again run a safe Target Shooting project. Ellie Berler returns as a craft shop specialist and Matthew Santner (that's right...I said BroNat Matt) is returning as the head of Nature for his tenth year! Amber Burvall returns for her fifth summer as our Nurse. Julia Scharff returns to the office for her second summer and joining her there will be Lilli Cain. Lilli last worked for camp in 2011 but is really excited to be coming back for the summer! Cathy Fries will be starting her 17<sup>th</sup> season as the camp housekeeper.

Our senior counselors are as follows: Grant Rosskamm, Andy Cohen, Louis Levin, Sasha Kahn, Noah Stein, Eli Fromm, Zach Muzik, Johnny Gerstell, James Tune, Nachi Santa Cruz, Grant Chukerman, Joel Sachnoff, Ben Sickie, Zach Stern, David Pilsk, Matthew Myer, Joel Hensel, Nick Morof, Jeremy Boshwit, Sam Werthan and Benji Ballin. Our returning junior counselors are Walter Fromm, Adam Schimberg, Graham Straus, Isaac Murray Stark, Carl Fohran, Matthew Zitlin,

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## LOOK AT ALL THE CAMPERS FOR 2015!



As the enrollments continue to arrive to our office, we want to keep you in the loop about who is enrolled for the upcoming summer. Listed below are the boys who are currently enrolled. New campers are denoted with an asterisk before their names, while eight-week campers are indicated with an (8).

**3rd Grade Campers:** \*Alexander Averbuch (Atlanta, GA), \*Drew Bender (Scarsdale, NY), \*Ethan Blatt (Cincinnati, OH), \*Jasper Braunschweiger (Katonah, NY), Addison Burvall (8), \*Joel Fisher (Chicago, IL), \*Tristan Hall (Minneapolis, MN), \*Hudson McConnell (Hilliard, OH), \*Sam More (Chicago, IL), \*Ethan Pearson (Coeur D'Alene, ID), \*Owen Rosenthal (Charlotte, NC)

**4th Grade Campers:** Sebastian Alderman, Aidan Capes, Michael Cohen (8), Nick Fleisher, \*Emmitt Gerstein (Washington, DC), \*Benjamin Hackney (Memphis, TN), Thomas Harrison, Jacob Laytin, Simon Mann (8), \*Joshua Marcus (Chicago, IL), \*Jake Novack (Glencoe, IL), \*Ethan Schott (Riverwoods, IL), AJ Sherman, \*Nathan Starhill (Arlington, MA), \*John Tierney (New York, NY)

**5th Grade Campers:** Daniel Armstrong, \*Benjamin Bakal (Glencoe, IL), Michael Bayer, Justin Blumberg, Jesse Chan, Charlie Cohen, Daniel Cohen, \*Charlie Davis (Highland Park, IL), Thomas DuPont, Ben Effress, Nick Friedman, Billy Galpern, Jesse Gell (8), Jackson Goldblatt, Jack Goodman (8), \*Jack Gordon (Deerfield, IL), Daniel Heller (8), Matthew Hooper, Danny Horowitz (8), Gabi Huberman-Shlaes (8), Ben Kessler, \*Harrison Lane (Memphis, TN), \*Miles Lokken (Chicago, IL), Eli Moog (8), Charlie Peters, Zachary Philip, \*Jake Powers (Chicago, IL), Harrison Reichert (8), Brady Rivkin, Jack Rivkin (8), \*Ben Shacter (Chicago, IL), \*Jason Shacter (Chicago, IL), \*Gabe Sloan-Garcia (Albuquerque, NM), \*Jude Stephenson (Skokie, IL), \*Solomon Wexler (Evanston, IL), Nate Woldenberg (8)

**6th Grade Campers:** John Bellaire (8), Asher Burvall (8), Grady Clark (8), Rohan Dhingra, Noah Frankel, Matthew Garchik (8), Owen Goldsmith, Benji Gourdji, Alex Greco, Ben Hanson-Kaplan (8), Oliver Held (8), Zachary Herman, Orion Kornfeld, Philix Lin, Owen Marchant, Ben Montag (8), Will Newton, Will O'Brien, Ryan Patterson, Fletcher Redondo (8), Max Rontal, Marc Rosenthal, Grayson Schementi, Isaac Schiff-Lewin (8), Sam Shapira, Jesse Shapiro, Finn Sher (8), Gavin Stern, Ben Weiner, Jed Whalen Stewart, Eli Whiting, Jack Wineman, \*Nathan Xiong (Melbourne, Australia), Joshua Yang

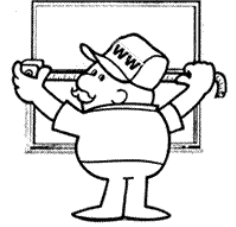
**7th Grade Campers:** Andrew Bahn, Aden Barton, Camden Blumberg, Jonah Docter-Loeb (8), Ben Dubinsky, Isaac Frankel, Micah Franzel, Jeremy Gart, Jacob Green, Elliot Heldman, Jesse Herzog (8), Nate Hohner (8), Jordan Hornick, Tommy Kagan, Ethan Kalishman, Jacob Kassel, Coby Keren, Sebastian Klein, Ari Krupnick (8), Ben Lindy, Henry Lokken, Carson Lubin, Jeremy Margolin (8), Isaac Miller, Ryan Philip, Ben Platt (8), Sam Reichert (8), Jack Rogen (8), Ethan Rosenberg, Ben Serwer, Tommy Sherman, Ben Sklar, Drew Sklar, Charlie Steinbaum, Owen Stephenson, Ethan Stern, Nate Stern, Henry Susser, Nathan Susser, Oliver Swack, Simon Topf (8), Ari Weiss, \*Peter Whelan (Midlothian, VA), Zakary Zawel

**8th Grade Campers:** Eli Amshel, Drew Aronoff (8), Tom Bellaire (8), Michael Berler (8), Alex Buring, Adarius Cooper, Jake Druckman, Jason Eisen, Bryce Endrizzi, Andrew Frisch, Matthew Grossman, Andrew Guest (8), Eli Harrison, Eli Hecht (8), Luke Herzog (8), Daniel Hochberg (8), Lenny Kaznachey (8), Max Kornfeld, Simon L'Tainen (8), Will McCreary (8), Charlie Moog (8), Joey Rivkin (8), Chris Rosenthal, Brett Schoppert, Nick Schumann, Eli Smith, Levi Solomon (8), \*Bruno Tassari (Scarsdale, NY), Conor Tierney, Harrison Weinstock, Isaac Weiss, Charlie Woodman, Matthew Youkilis

**9th Grade Campers:** Eli Asher (8), Ben Avigad (8), Carlos Beaujean (8), Ethan Berman (8), Tony Bogolub (8), Colton Bogucki (8), Jakob Braunschweiger (8), Royce Flacker (8), Max Fleischer (8), Marc Fohran (8), Seth Friedman, Jeremiah Geurts (8), Charlie Gordon (8), David Graber (8), Josh Hanson-Kaplan (8), Christopher King (8), Max Krupnick (8), Matthew Lazarov, Josh Levitas (8), Erik Montag (8), Brett Patterson (8), Gus Peters (8), Henry Quinn-Pasin (8), Zach Rozen (8), Isaac Sage (8), Danny Sickle (8), Eli Striker (8), Ethan Strull (8), Alex Swett (8), Harrison Thomas (8), Abe Zuraw (8)

**At Camp****CARETAKER JOE WORKS AWAY**

Through my many years as a caretaker, I have often had camp alumni tell me how envious they are of our jobs as caretakers at camp. They often remark on how nice it must be working outdoors, surrounded by all of the beautiful trees on the shore of one of the most beautiful lakes in the area. I usually agree that our location does have its perks, but work is work no matter where you are. It's true that on those perfect weather days when the grass needs mowing there is no better place to be than on the riding mower with good tunes on the pod, and a delightful breeze blowing out of the southwest, with a 75 degree temp and clear blue sky overhead. I can see how someone, spending their work day in an office cubicle assembling a report on how the five-cent-per-unit price increase of a key component in the widget they manufacture is going to affect the unit price of said widget, and thus what effect that will have on next quarter's profit forecast – that person might be a bit envious of the glorified version of what life would be like if one was a caretaker at a boys' camp. As I went through my days at work this month I thought often about those envious alums; would they still feel that a camp caretaker has such a great gig, if they were here in my shoes at the heart of the winter with no grass in sight (and barely any snow either), the lake frozen solid, the average temperature in the low 20s, a seemingly endless string of dreary gray days, and a sharp cold wind blowing steadily out of the northeast? Would the job still seem quite as idyllic as they went through the tedious procedure to rehab a cabin blind for the 30<sup>th</sup> time knowing that they had 30 more to go after working at the same task for nearly a month already, and that you did the identical thing the previous two winters for about the same amount of time to about the same number of blinds, with the only upside being that you know that this will be the last of it (this being the last of the four villages needing blind overhauls)?



I'll admit that I to have often had "the grass is greener" moments (quite a few actually while working through the blind rehab project). I often think about what a great life this or that "other" job would bring. I was listening to an author on NPR the other day describe all of the great fun she had researching her topic, months spent traveling to different parts of the country to access various archives and historical collections. I started to think while mired in my tedious but necessary task, how envious I was of someone who had such a great job! But then she started to talk about how that part of the job amounted to less than half of the activity of writing the book, and that the real work got started when she had to go through the slog of turning all of that enjoyable researching into a good book; it was a very hard, tedious, repetitive, and quite frankly boring job to produce the actual book.

Now don't get me wrong, being a caretaker at a boys' camp can be a pretty good job: working outdoors (weather permitting), a wide variety of tasks, eight weeks of the year surrounded by excited kids having a great summer, ten weeks of the year being part of a team filled with energetic ideal-driven young adults who are facilitating that great summer experience, and 52 weeks of the year being a member of the six person team that makes the whole deal possible at all! But as I stated earlier, work is work no matter where you are! No matter what you are working at there are good and bad aspects, easy and hard parts, interesting and dull moments, exhilarating and frustrating days; the only constant in work is you and what you bring to it.

Looking forward to seeing the last of the rehabbed blinds back in the Axeman Village, it's Caretaker Joe At Camp.

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**2015 STAFF** (Continued from Page 4)

Noah Kanter, Reid Kahn, Paul Willett, Danny Koretz, Danny Hoffman, Sam Lucas, and Josh Spitzer-Resnick. Trip staff returners are Jamey Sharp and Bob Campbell. New to trip staff but not to camp is Grant Sachs. Austin Christensen returns as a trip driver this summer, and Lewis Kopman and Robbie McDermott are our two Assistant Trip Directors that will also be sharing one trip driver position. Allen Bennett will begin his third summer as the Quartermaster, while Jason Yale returns for his fifth summer as the Wilderness Trip Director.

So, as you can see, we already have a wicked sweet staff lined up for the summer. There are also many others that I'm in the process of talking with and will be announced later on this off season!