

THE ARROWHEAD

CAMP NEBAGAMON'S MONTHLY NEWSPAPER

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January 2015

THE YEAR THAT WAS AND THE YEAR AHEAD

As many of you know, we are solidly in the throes of the camp travel season. With trips to over 25 cities this fall and winter, I almost know my way around a Waffle House better than around my own house! While I tend to take a couple of weeks off of camp travel right around the holidays, I have spent more than my fair share of time kicking around airports over the past month or so. And airports this time of year are nightmares! The only thing that I enjoy about airline traveling during this time of year is the trip to the newsstand in the airports. Now in general I am not much of a magazine reader, but I have to admit that all changes during this time of year. This is the time of year when so many magazines come out with their "year in review" issues. I love these issues. Whether it be Sports Illustrated's Best Moments in Sports, or Time Magazine's Person of the Year, or Life Magazine's Year in Review, or Camping Magazine's 10 Hunkiest Camp Directors of the Intermountain West, I always enjoy sitting down and thinking about the year past, and remembering what has taken place over the course of the last twelve months around the world.

So too, it is kind of fun to spend a bit of energy looking back on the past year at Nebagamon. This past year has been a really fun and exciting one for camp. We had one of the best summers at camp that any of us can remember. We had a truly outstanding staff which consisted of a combination of extraordinarily experienced veteran counselors and staff, as well as one of the finest crops of first year staffers that any of us can remember. We had a truly awesome group of campers that were truly there for all of the right reasons. They were there to connect with nature, they were there to connect with generations of boys that preceded them at camp, they were there to connect with each other, they were there to connect with themselves, and they were there to connect with their own individual potential. We also all shared some wonderful experiences at camp this summer. Whether it be the introduction of our new waterskiing program that was such a huge success, or the second ever Grand Pursuit that united us in fun, strategy (I know...not a word!), and competition, or the big storm that passed through camp one night and resulted in the most moving collaborative clean-up effort that I can ever remember, the summer of 2014 was an amazing one for sure.

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NEWS OF THE CAMP FAMILY



December was a wicked sweet month. Yes, I got into some sweet (but very cold) steelhead fishing in western New York. While it was a slow start getting a bite, after switching flies around and adjusting the depths on the indicator I was able to dial it in on the Lake Erie steelhead. As the day went on the temp began to drop and the eyelets on the fly rod began to freeze up solid with ice. To top it off there was a mix of freezing rain and snow that made being outside only so much fun, so I decided to call it quits.

That was just the second day of the road trip to start our east coast reunion tour. Thankfully I had another day and a half until I picked up Adam Kaplan in Newark, which was just enough time to get the smell of wet waders and fish slime out of the camp car. The rest of the east coast tour was fantastic...Statue of Liberty and great reunions. The D.C. tour was extra special for me this year. In addition to our traditional late night walk of the mall I was able to take a tour of the East Wing of the White House. It was awesome! Exiting out the north entrance of the White House was incredible. This year we were joined by Tom Elson, John Nevins, Larry Held, and Jake Kessler. Walking the D.C. Mall at night is truly an amazing way to experience D.C.

So far the reunions this “off season” have been awesome! Thank you for taking the time to join us in your respective city! You’ve shared some great news that I have been able to put in print on this page. With that said, I still have a couple of months to report news of the camp family, so keep on sending me info via email (fornear@campnebagamon.com), snail mail or the telephone (208-345-5544)! Till next month, have a great holiday break!

IT MAY INTEREST YOU TO KNOW that **Luke Herzog** (Pacific Grove, CA) has just published his second book, a 300-page fantasy novel called *Griffin Blade and the Bronze Finger*. Luke mentions that he is donating a portion of the proceeds to the Camp Nebagamon Scholarship Fund and Camperships for Nebagamon. You can read an excerpt and order a copy (paperback or e-book) at *WhyNotBooks.com*. In New York we learned that **Ben Platt** stays active with squash. **Sam Mellow** wrestles for Montclair High School. **Harrison Reichert** is a point/shooting guard for his school’s basketball team while his brother **Sam** is also busy with basketball. **Eli Hecht** plays bass for the band called Animation. **Tommy Kagan** plays center for his hockey team and also plays squash. **Daniel Heller** keeps busy with tae kwon do. While in New Wilmington (near Pittsburgh) we learned that **Bryce Endrizzi** stays active with basketball and that **Jordan Gray** had a great football season.

IN THE WHERE-ARE-THEY-NOW DEPARTMENT: **Cody Zalk** (Boulder/NYC ’91-’96, ’99-’01, ’03-’04) is a licensed architect in the state of New York. **Jeremy Werthan** (Nashville ’79, ’83) was named as one of Nashville’s 2014 Most Admired CEOs by the Nashville Business Journal.

IN THE BIBS AND DIAPERS DEPARTMENT: It’s a boy, **Dylan**, for **Shana** and **Max Gerson** (Cleveland/Denver ’94-’95, ’98-’02).

BAR MITZVAH CONGRATULATIONS go to **Ben Platt** (New York City) and **Tommy Kagan** (New York City).

THE YEAR THAT WAS (Continued from Page 1)

In addition to having the chance to reflect about the year just passed, this time of year also beckons for us to think ahead to what will be in the coming year, and what things we would like to do differently. This is such a common practice that we give these forward-looking promises a name. They are called our New Year's Resolutions.

(Admittedly, it would be tough to come up with more of a cliché article for the Arrowhead than a New Year's Resolution article! And, while it is certainly a bit cliché to discuss the whole New Year's Resolution thing, I actually believe that it is a very healthy thing....and since I get to choose the Arrowhead topics....you are just going to have to deal with it!) In my experience, the New Year's Resolution gets a bad rap. The entire concept of the New Year's Resolution is the butt of jokes, and more so, simply something that people say they don't have the time, energy, or desire to deal with. This leads us to develop and ignore bad habits. The group put-down of the New Year's Resolution concept gives us all an excuse to avoid the introspection necessary to uncover what we need to do better.

I think this is a mistake. Virtually any successful person, whether they are a successful athlete or a successful business owner, will tell you that one of the keys to their success was to be able to evaluate themselves and identify areas which needed improvement. When Michael Jordan came into the NBA he had a decent outside jump shot, but it was certainly unremarkable. After he identified this as an area in which he could improve, he worked hard at it and eventually turned himself into an excellent outside shooter, thus dramatically improving his game. Also, whether it be a restaurant, a hotel, or a pet sitter, almost every successful business uses tools such as customer surveys and internal evaluations to evaluate itself and identify areas for improvement. Without this introspection, there would be very little growth.

Certainly we all know that success, when it comes to our professional lives, is dependent upon us casting a critical eye on our operations and making the changes necessary to improve. So why is it then that we sometimes resist applying the same concepts of introspection and active change to our personal lives? Much of the time we simply fall back on excuses. "I am too busy." "I never follow through with my resolutions anyway, so why start?" "I am already stressed enough." "I am who I am; there is no way I can change that." "How could I ever hope to become chiseled enough to compete with that camp director I read about in Camping Magazine's year-end edition?" Admittedly, I often adopt one of these lines and therefore successfully avoid having to take a hard look at myself.

Not this year.

This year I resolve to make some New Year's Resolutions! The nature of these resolutions is best kept to myself. (The editors of Camping Magazine begged me to do whatever I could to keep the illusion alive!). Though I think it unlikely that the result of these changes will garner me my own line of tennis shoes, I am hoping that I will have the willpower and stick-to-itiveness to actually affect these changes and continue to grow.

All of us here at the Off-Season Camp Nebagamon Headquarters (ok...my basement!) wish you a great holiday season and a New Year filled with happiness, exciting adventures and successful introspection.

MORE REGISTRATIONS FOR SUMMER 2015!



It's 2015, and registrations continue to roll in to our inbox! If you are planning on returning to Nebagamom this summer, please register soon so we can make sure you have a spot for the 2015 season.

Parents, you can enroll your campers by heading to the online form at <https://nebagamom.campintouch.com/v2/camper/application/app0.aspx> ! 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), *Jasper Braunschweiger (Katonah, NY), Addison Burvall (8), *Joel Fisher (Chicago, IL), *Hudson McConnell (Hilliard, OH), *Sam More (Chicago, IL), *Owen Rosenthal (Charlotte, NC)

4th Grade Campers: Sebastian Alderman, Michael Cohen (8), Nick Fleisher, *Emmitt Gerstein (Washington, DC), *Ben Hackney (Memphis, TN), Thomas Harrison, Jacob Laytin, Simon Mann (8), *Josh 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), 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, *Jacob Powers (Chicago, IL), Harrison Reichert (8), Brady Rivkin, Jack Rivkin (8), *Ben Shacter (Chicago, IL), *Jason Shacter (Chicago, IL), *Gabe Sloan-Garcia (Albuquerque, NM), *Solomon Wexler (Evanston, IL), Nate Woldenberg (8)

6th Grade Campers: John Bellaire (8), Asher Burvall (8), Grady Clark (8), Matthew Garchik (8), Owen Goldsmith, Benji Gourdj, Alex Greco, Ben Hanson-Kaplan (8), Oliver Held (8), Zachary Herman, Orion Kornfeld, Philix Lin, Owen Marchant, Ben Montag (8), 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, 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, Coby Keren, 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, Ethan Stern, Nate Stern, Nathan Susser, Oliver Swack, Simon Topf (8), Ari Weiss, *Peter Whelan (Midlothian, VA)

8th Grade Campers: Eli Amshel, Drew Aronoff (8), Tommy Bellaire (8), Michael Berler (8), Jake Druckman, Bryce Endrizzi, Andrew Frisch, Matthew Grosman, Eli Harrison, Eli Hecht (8), Luke Herzog (8), Daniel Hochberg (8), Lenny Kaznachev (8), Max Kornfeld, Simon L'Tainen (8), Will McCreary (8), Charlie Moog (8), Joey Rivkin (8), Christopher Rosenthal, Brett Schoppert, Nick Schumann, Eli Smith, Levi Solomon (8), Conor Tierney, Harrison Weinstock, Isaac Weiss (8), Charlie Woodman, Matthew Youkilis

9th Grade Campers: Eli Asher (8), Ben Avigad (8), Carlos Beaujean (8), Ethan Berman (8), Tony Bogolub (8), Jakob Braunschweiger (8), Royce Flacker (8), Max Fleischer (8), Marc Fohran (8), Charlie Gordon (8), David Graber (8), Josh Hanson-Kaplan (8), Chris 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 SLOGS THROUGH WINTER

As I type this on New Year's Day, I am astounded by the fact that despite having over 15 inches of snowfall in the month of November, we will start the new year with a mere five inches of crusty snow on the ground. As abnormally cold and snowy that November was, December was just as abnormally warm and dry! It was so warm by mid-December that only the snow piles survived the 40+degree temperatures and most of camp's open spaces had melted back to surprisingly quite green grass! It was kind of strange out on the lakes and over the rivers in the area to see several inches of water sitting on top of the frozen-over water. The lake had already put on about eight inches of ice by the end of the cold November, and though December stayed above freezing both day and night, the lake ice held up well through most of the middle of the month. It was both scary and cool to see the huge troughs of water that were thrown six feet high from the tires of the ATVs that crisscrossed Lake Nebagamon, ferrying brave (or just plain crazy) ice fishermen to their fishing holes. Thankfully no one was crazy enough to be driving cars or trucks out there on the somewhat questionable ice, as I guess everybody learned the lesson of last year (three vehicles through the ice that seemed thick enough) not to trust ice formed in odd weather. All of the local rivers that were solidly frozen by the end of November are completely thawed now and are raging at spring levels. For me the strangest thing has been that the ground has not frozen up at all yet due to the early snow cover, so all of the December melt down has been going straight into the ground and our basement sump pump has started to run again! It is usually quiet from mid-August and all the way through the winter until the spring thaw in April.

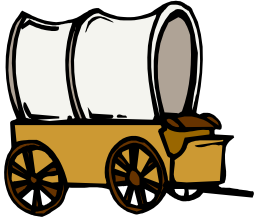


As you can imagine, this year's cross-country ski season has been quite the emotional as well as physical rollercoaster. The excitement of early cold and what appeared to be a great start to the trail base turned to horror as we watched that early base recede to grass! Unfortunately, just as my ski fitness level was coming back all of the snow went away and the trails were too sloppy to get the mountain bike back out. When the much shallower snow we managed to hold on to in the second half of December came, I had to regain my ski legs all over again. On the bright side though, the new bike trails in camp have proved to work well for the skinny skis. However, most of the new trail has to be skied untracked because the tighter curves that are no problem on a bike are not negotiable for my old snow machine that I use to groom the ski trail. So now I just boast to any ears willing to listen that camp has both tracked and backcountry ski trails!

There was a silver lining to the warm weather throughout the month of December, as I was able to get back out into the Axeman village and restart the work of replacing the battered bug screens on the camper cabins that the early cold in November prevented me from doing. I was able to complete both Annex and Axeman 1 with the new screen "system" I mentioned in last month's column. I'm hoping that now that we have some fair ski snow again, it won't be until April that it is warm enough to get back out there!

Praying to the ski gods for five inches of fresh snow a week and low to mid 20 degree temperatures until mid-March (and no later than that please!), it's Caretaker Joe At Camp.

THE ROAD SHOW ROLLS ON



Adam Kaplan and Adam Fornear returned just a few weeks ago from the East Coast; at the beginning of 2015 the Adams will complete the Midwest section of the reunion tour. We can't wait to see more of you in the coming months! Listed below is the entire reunion schedule, which, as usual, is subject to change. A few weeks prior to each reunion, we will email invitations to members of the camp family in the communities we'll be visiting. Please be courteous and RSVP to the host families.

City	Dates	Reunion Details
Detroit	January 14	Topfs', Wed., Jan. 14, 7:00 PM 12750 Vernon Ave, Huntington Woods
Chicago	January 15-19	Heller Nature Center, Sun., Jan. 18, 1:30 PM 2821 Ridge Road, Highland Park
Kansas City	January 20	Bomba-Fromms', Tues., Jan. 20, 6:30 PM 5601 High Drive, Mission Hills
Twin Cities	January 21-24	Snyder-Brimmers', Thurs., Jan. 22, 7:00 PM 11505 W. Lakeview Lane, Minnetonka
Denver	TBA	
Oklahoma City	TBA	
Tulsa	TBA	
Dallas	TBA	
Houston	TBA	
San Diego	TBA	
Los Angeles	TBA	
San Francisco	TBA	
Phoenix	TBA	

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