



THE ARROWHEAD

CAMP NEBAGAMON'S MONTHLY NEWSPAPER

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March 2015

SPRING BREAK

Happy March, everyone! I suspect for many of us, the onset of March is a very optimistic time. For some, it indicates that winter is beginning to release its icy grip on their lives and that warmer weather is right around the corner. (Sorry upper Midwestern folks...for you that hopeful calendar page-turning moment is actually June...but I am talking about people that live below the Arctic Circle!) For some, the beginning of March means that spring training baseball games are about to begin, and that means that once again, the Cubs could maybe, just maybe, have that magical season. I mean, after all, nobody has a better record than them... yet. For others, the arrival of March harkens back to a hopeful time in ancient history in which the reign of Julius Caesar was ended and the era of Augustus began signifying major changes in the Roman Empire. (Ok...not many people fall into this category, but I didn't want to leave anyone out!) But for virtually all of us, the arrival of March means that right around the corner is **SPRING BREAK!!**

I am not sure what it is about Spring Break, but there is just something extra celebratory about this vacation. Sure, the break over the holidays during the winter is a big deal, but Spring Break has a significantly more jubilant vibe to it. (And in fairness, MTV's television programming during the 90's perhaps contributed a bit to this sense of euphoria... but we will set that aside for the purposes of our summer camp newsletter!) In my experience, Spring Break takes a backseat only to the last day of school in terms of kid excitement.

Spring Break looks different for different families. Some families save up all year (or even years) for that big trip over Spring Break. Be it the beach, or skiing, or something cultural, Spring Break vacations abound. Some families go to visit friends and family in different parts of the country over Spring Break. Some folks plan Staycations, in which they stay home but explore their hometown in ways that they don't normally experience it.

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NEWS OF THE CAMP FAMILY



It was another beautiful night skiing across Lake Superior for my second annual *Book Across the Bay* ski “race”. The BATB (as the cool kids say) is an amazing event that has been going on for the past 19 winters in which cross country skiers, snowshoers, and runners/walkers take the 10K course across frozen Lake Superior. This year’s race was a tad bit cold with it being 1 degree at the start and – 9 degrees by the time the race ended, but there wasn’t a cloud in the sky and the stars were just as amazing as they are on one of our sweet Boundary Waters canoeing trips. Sadly at the 5K mark of the race I lost my balance and fell on one of my ski poles breaking it in half. Luckily for me I wasn’t out there to break any record times as this was my first ski of the year. If you are ever in the Ashland, Wisconsin area the second weekend of February I highly recommend you sign up for this sweet *Book Across the Bay*!

Now I feel a little bit guilty about writing about the Birkie once again this year but we had so many Nebagamon folk do it I just have to give them props for their awesome achievements! This past weekend was the 42nd *American Birkebeiner*. I’ve skied this in the past but this year I was again a volunteer with my folks at the 18K Aid Station. Surprisingly, handing out 10,000 cups of energy drink or water to all the skiers is a ton of fun. The big news of the day, though, was the strong Nebagamon representation with Emily Prud’homme, Chris Willett, Joe Crownhart and Amy Mack all crossing the finish line. Junior counselor, Paul Willett, finished the *Kortelopet* ski race (23K) the same morning. It’s quite the accomplishment, a 50K ski race through some pretty difficult terrain, so congratulations go out to Emily, Chris, Joe, Amy and Paul! The excitement surrounding these two events can easily be compared to Paul Bunyan Day and The Grand Pursuit. Giant crowds, great competition, and positive energy make for great camp events that people cannot wait to participate in next summer!

With the reunion tour season wrapping up for the season I’m going to need your help. Please send me news of yourself via snail mail, wagon train or email (y’all still do that right??). I promise to make you famous in next month’s Arrowhead! Till next time, enjoy the day, and get excited for PBD and The Grand Pursuit!

IT MAY INTEREST YOU TO KNOW: that in San Diego, **Ben Effress** played center midfielder for his soccer team “The Champions of the Presidio League”. His dad **Rich Effress** (Minneapolis/San Diego ’80-’85) remains a suffering Minnesota sports fan. **Eli Smith** stays active with competitive rock climbing. **Addison Burvall** participated in his community’s production of the *The Nutcracker*. **Amber Burvall** (The Dalles, OR/San Diego ’99, ’12-’14) works in the NICU at a hospital in San Diego. **Adam Hirschhorn** (Los Angeles) was in his school’s production of *As You Like It*. In San Francisco we learned that **Jesse Herzog** won his school’s spelling bee, advancing to the county finals. His brother **Luke** won a Scholastic Writing Silver Key Award for a short story he wrote. **Ethan Strull** is on a mountain biking team and plays center back on his soccer team. **Leo Preiser** is point guard for his school’s basketball team and also plays lots of tennis. **Nathan Susser** plays basketball for his school’s team. **Eric Portillo** is playing soccer at the wing position. While in Denver, we learned that **Billy Galpern** plays baseball for the Sluggers. **Grady Clark** stays busy with skiing, along with mixed martial arts.

IN THE WHERE-ARE-THEY-NOW DEPARTMENT: **Reid Chukerman** (Chicago/Denver ’01-’06, ’08-’10) is working in logistics as a freight broker in Denver. **Steve Addison** (Los Angeles ’71-’75, ’77, ’79-’82, ’12) ran in the Xterra WC race in Hawaii recently and is also very active in Aids Project LA.

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NEWS (Continued from Page 2)

Michael Wolf (Chicago/Los Angeles '91-'93) has been a Navy flight surgeon for the past 5 years at Point Mugu. **Danny Cohen** (Washington, D.C./Los Angeles '95-'01, '03-'07, '10-'11) wrote and produced his own show at the Upright Citizens Brigade, titled *Danny Cohen, Genius Genius*. **Jason Hirschhorn** (Los Angeles '00-'02, '08-'13) will be bringing the Computer Science 150 class that he taught at Harvard to Yale in the fall as a teacher. **Michael Freeman** (Denver/Seattle '98-'03, '05-'09) is teaching a web design course at the University of Washington in Seattle.

BAR MITZVAH CONGRATULATIONS go to **Nathan Susser** (San Francisco).

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SPACES STILL AVAILABLE FOR THIS SUMMER

The summer is getting closer, and enrollments are still rolling in to the office. We still do have some spaces available in each session for 2015. If you know of any prospective new campers, please have them contact the camp office soon to ensure that they can register for the summer. Listed below are boys that registered in February. New campers have an asterisk before their names, and their hometowns are in parentheses.

3rd Grade Campers: *Ben Wolf (Kansas City, MO), *Harrison Herbert (Atlanta, GA), *Lawson Weeldreyer (Arlington, VA)

4th Grade Campers: *Jacob Brown (St. Louis, MO), *Jonathan Delgado (Chicago, IL), *Rolando Martinez (Bedford Hills, NY), *Justin Munoz (Bedford Hills, NY), Zack Troeller, *Steven Weeldreyer (Arlington, VA)

5th Grade Campers: *Jonathan Bjorge (Washington, DC), *Adam Lewis (Chicago, IL), *Joshua Naranjo (Bedford Hills, NY), Justin Pagan

6th Grade Campers: Daniel Delgado, Wyatt Fox, *Henry Freilich (Kansas City, MO), Noah Keim (8), Andrew Kuria, *Aidan O'Donnell (Wilmette, IL), Aron Pacalso, Jonathan Raclin, Jashua Sanabria

7th Grade Campers: Dylan Fox, Bryce Johnson (8), Peter Pfisterer

8th Grade Campers: Matthew Campbell, Lucas Jalenak, Ben Lassetter, *James Myer (Creve Coeur, MO), Eric Portillo

9th Grade Campers: Nathaniel Arkin, Graham Brimmer (8), AJ Edelman, *William Gorski (Creve Coeur, MO)

PARENT PREPARATION PACKET COMING YOUR WAY!

One certain sign of spring is the arrival of the packet of information to help you plan for the summer. This year all the paperwork for you camper will again be available in an online-only format. We will still be mailing the Parent Handbook and the official Nebagamom luggage tags, so please look for them in the mail. (If you want to go ahead and contact Travel One, Camp Nebagamom's official travel agency, please call them at 800-245-1111.) This important mailing will leave camp's winter office by the end of March. In the meantime, don't hesitate to contact us at 208-345-5544 or emily@campnebagamon.com with any questions you may have about getting ready for a wonderful 2015 season!

At Camp

COLD WEATHER IS FOR THE BIRDS

It's been rather amusing for us here in the north woods of Wisconsin to watch the weather reports coming out of the New England area over the month of February. As the saying goes, "Welcome to our world!" I admit, though, that the 65+ inches of snow received in the Boston area is a bit absurd for a one-month snow total, even for us here in the country's Snow Belt where it is not uncommon for us to get 30-40 inches per month during what we would call a good winter. But as overwhelming as winter has been for you out east this February, it has been just as underwhelming for us here in Lake Nebagamon. We have had only six inches of snow this month, and with the largest snowfall of the whole season having come way back in November, we have only 10-12 inches on the ground. Unfortunately, the temperatures have been holding steady in the below normal range all winter with an average of 10-20 degrees below normal. We have spent most of the month with single digit highs and lows well below zero, with -10 to -20 degree mornings not uncommon. I had to laugh at the poor "Easterners" the other day when they had made all of the national news reports with several days below freezing (32 F) for their lows, and we had just come off a string of days with single digit highs and didn't get a mention.



There has been just enough snow around camp for me to get the old 1976 Arctic Cat snowmobile out and groom the ski trails! Though I haven't been able to log as many kilometers as I would like, due to the high number of super cold days we had this month, all things considered the ski season has been tolerable. Unfortunately, with the low snow levels, some of the trail has had to be bypassed at times and my ski's bottoms have been taking quite a beating due to exposed roots and shallow spots under the trees. I tried going out the other night for a tour through camp when it was about five degrees with a light fine-grained snow falling and experienced what seemed like skiing on sand paper. Not a lot of fun, but it counted as a workout! The After Hours ski trail over at the Brule State Forest, where many Camp Nebagamites have pitched a tent, has been in fair to good condition most of the month and I have been getting over there for longer skis most weekends.

There has been one interesting phenomenon that has come with the cold dry February: hundreds of goldfinches and pine siskins, along with a few house finches and redpolls, have shown up at the back yard bird feeders. Both Caretaker Andy and I have had huge flocks of the little birds in our yards at the same time, and seemingly out of the blue. We had both been commenting all summer and fall about the lack of these species of birds at our feeders, and suddenly they showed up, along with the really cold weather. It's nice to hear their bright twittering in the trees, but it baffles me how these tiny little birds can tolerate -20 degree temperatures. It's normal for chickadees and a few small flocks of finches to spend the winter with us, but this month the numbers have been huge and they are emptying the feeders daily.

Looking forward to the promised warmer weather ahead in March, it's Caretaker Joe At Camp.

19TH ANNUAL ICEBREAKER CONTEST STARTS NOW!

It's time for the annual icebreaker contest! We're hoping spring will soon be upon us, so when exactly will the ice break? That's the question facing us as we begin this year's contest. Congratulations once again go to last year's winner Jake Kessler with his guess of May 7th.

In 2012 Lake Nebagamon experienced its earliest icebreak on record, falling on March 21st. The latest ice breakup was on May 14th in 1950. The Official Lake Nebagamon Ice Recorder is none other than our own Andy Mack. He is already monitoring the lake for the village and will let us know as soon as the ice disappears, whether it happens mid-afternoon or at 3 a.m. Yes folks, Andy spends every waking moment (eating, sleeping, and working!) on the very shores of Lake Nebagamon to let us know EXACTLY when the ice breaks up (correct up to the second)!

To enter, simply send an email with your guess of when you think the ice will break up to emily@campnebagamon.com. **All entries must be received by April 1.** Of course, it would be wise to read the fine print below before making your guess. Winners could be contacted by Bravo TV, the Cartoon Network, VH1, the Discovery Channel, and other major networks and also will receive prominent mention in *The Arrowhead*. So don't wait until the last minute. Send us your guess right away!

No purchase necessary. To enter the Icebreaker Contest promotion outlined above, follow all directions published in the offer. The Grand Prize will be awarded in one installment and will be notified by certified mail. In the case of multiple entries the grand prize winner will be selected by a random drawing among all eligible entries received. Estimated odds of winning: 1:30.

THE FOLLOWING APPLIES TO THE SWEEPSTAKES ABOVE:

Sweepstakes begins on the day you receive this Arrowhead and all entries must be received by April 1. Sponsor is not responsible for lost, late, misdirected, damaged, incomplete, illegible or postage-due mail. Entries become the property of Camp Nebagamon LLC and will not be returned or acknowledged. Any prize notice that results from a printing, production, typographical, mechanical or other error will be void. If due to an error, more than one prize notice is issued, the prize will be awarded in a random drawing among all such notices issued and received. Sweepstakes open to the residents of the United States and Canada and to residents in selected parts of Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia, Mexico, North America and South America, where made available and where permitted by law. Employees (full-time) of Camp Nebagamon LLC and members of those employees' immediate families are not eligible. Select camp dogs permitted to submit entries; cats prohibited. This offer is subject to all applicable federal, state, provincial and local laws and regulations and is void whenever prohibited or restricted by law. Winner selection and random drawings are under the supervision of Ostrow Reisin Berk and Abrams Ltd., an independent accounting firm whose decisions are final. Random drawings will be held within 5 days of the ice breaking, no later than 5:00 p.m. at 877 Chardie Road, Boise, ID 83702. Winners will be notified within 10 days of the selection/drawing. Any prize or prize notification returned to the sponsor as undeliverable will result in the awarding of that prize to an alternate winner in a random drawing. Prize is not transferable except to a surviving spouse. Substitution for the prize may be necessary due to unavailability, in which case a comparable prize of equal or lesser value will be awarded. In countries where cash prizes are prohibited, substitute merchandise of comparable value will be awarded. Taxes (and any expenses not specified herein) are the responsibility of the winners. Entry and acceptance of the prize constitute permission (except where prohibited by law) to use the winner's name, hometown and likeness for purpose of advertising and promotion on behalf of the contest sponsor without further compensation. If you've read this far, congratulations! The fine print is a joke, but the contest is for real!

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STAFFING NEEDS REMAIN!

Know someone looking for a great Summer 2015 experience? Below you will find a list of positions that remain open. As always, the best source for new staff is the camp family. If you contact the camp office with a referral, we will follow up quickly, or you can have interested individuals contact us directly.

Wilderness Trip Leaders
Senior Cabin Counselors
Nurse Assistant

SPRING BREAK (Continued from Page 1)

No matter how you slice it though, Spring Break marks a break in the routine. And occasionally breaking the routine is important to do. Oftentimes, it is during these breaks in our routine that our most indelible memories are created.

As a camp director, I am well aware that it is imperative to quickly establish a predictable routine for the entire group up at camp. Our newest boys, nervous about leaving home for the first time, need to know that this is a safe place, which is facilitated by knowing what to expect on a daily basis. Our returning campers need to know that their second home is, in fact, still their second home; things have not changed and it is still the same place that has become so important in their lives. Our staff needs a predictable framework to most effectively enable them to help our campers grow and have a great time. With all of this in mind, we work very hard at the beginning of camp to establish a very stable and reliable routine for all.

While the establishment of this routine is important, it is also really important to shake up that routine sometimes so that camp life is not static. Camp needs to be dynamic. It is with this in mind that our Wednesday Cruiser Days were invented. On those days we cancel our routine activities and engage in totally different and creative days planned by our amazing staff. So too, there are special days, and special evening activities peppered throughout the sessions. Whether it be Paul Bunyan Day, or The Grand Pursuit, or turning the Upper Diamond into grass tennis courts for our own Wimbledon tournament, or Guinness T. Nebagamous, or All Camp Capture The Flag, or whatever brand new activity we come up with this year (!), these events serve to break up the routine, and also provide us all with truly unique opportunities to have fun and make memories that really last. **SPRING BREAK!!!**

So, with the arrival of March and Spring Break right around the corner, let's all be sure that on some level we seize this opportunity to do something different, something out of the ordinary, something to break up that routine and make some memories. To be clear, this doesn't have to be that massive and incredibly expensive vacation. Rather, that routine can be broken up in many other ways. Engage in new topics of discussion, eat different foods, play different games, explore a new part of town....so many possibilities to have a different experience than what you have been doing in the preceding weeks....or maybe years. So many new memories waiting to happen.

Enjoy!!

(Sorry everyone....this article is a bit self-indulgent. The winter routine is starting to get to me and I needed an excuse to transport myself to the world of Cruiser Days, Paul Bunyan Day, and The Grand Pursuit. I needed to break up the routine!)

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