

# The Kippy Alumnae Gazette



## A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

"Friends, Friends, Friends, we will always be...whether in fair or in dark stormy weather, Camp Kippewa will keep us together, the brown and white, we will always be... Love will pervade us to death separates us we're friends, friends, friends..."

These words (along with many other songs!) still echo from the voices of Kippy girls at our weekly campfires and from the lodge during every meal. Ivy League cheers from opposing teams reverberate across the fields and the Ice Man still comes to visit each summer, supported by his lovely "loon maidens".

Welcome to the Fall 2009 edition of the Kippewa Alumnae Gazette! We would like to start by introducing ourselves. After 50 wonderful years running Kippewa, Marty and Sylvia decided the time was right to retire. In 2008 they handed the reigns over to us, Ginger and Steve Clare. We had previously spent many years working at a successful girls' camp in Massachusetts. Marnie Cerrato was also hired as our associate director in 2008. Marnie had previously been a camper, staff member and eventually director of another established girls' camp in Maine.

As the new Kippewa team, we hope to rekindle that special Kippewa spirit we know is inside all of you. If you received this newsletter please let us know that we have found you so we can continue to keep you up to date on everything going on at camp! We continue to run Kippewa with that unique and special blend of fun, nurturing, skill-building and values that Marty and Sylvia created, while threading our enthusiasm and spirit throughout everything we do at camp. We also emphasize the importance of memories and traditions. While camp is evolving, we believe Kippewa remains true to the traditions and that special Kippewa feeling created by the Silverman family more than 50 years ago.

Some of you may not have been back to Kippewa since your camping days. Marty and Sylvia were leaders in programming at camp and had some exciting and unique buildings constructed over the years. In an effort to maintain these wonderful facilities, we are spending a great deal of time and resources on upgrading and renovating as needed. We have detailed some of these improvements in this newsletter and hope that you have the chance to come see them for yourself.

There are very few organizations that have the heritage and traditions that Kippewa has. In 52 years many thousands of young women can look back and truly say "some of the best memories of my youth are from my time at Camp Kippewa for Girls."

We hope that you enjoy reading this Alumnae Gazette. We invite you to share with us reflections of your time at Kippewa so that we, in turn, can share them in future editions of this newsletter.

All our best,  
*Ginger & Steve*

WHAT'S INSIDE	
Camp Updates .....	2
Kippy Goes Green .....	2
Equestrian Program .....	3
Art Program .....	4
Tadpole Tales .....	5
Brother/Sister Camp.....	5
Family Values.....	6
Family Camp .....	6
Alumnae Connections.....	7
Theater Review .....	8
Where Are They Now .....	9
Trips Galore .....	10-11
Important Dates.....	Back

# CAMP UPDATES



➤ In 2008, the new purchase of our giant "RAVE" water trampoline, complete with 20 foot "launcher" made Lake Cobbosseecontee the place to be. Campers jump for joy after their swim lessons as they bounce around with their friends.

➤ Our maintenance crew is working hard to restore and stabilize our beautiful and historic Main Lodge.



➤ We have added Sunfish to our fleet of sailboats so girls can learn to sail on their own earlier.



➤ Our adventure program recieved the first of many new ropes course elements in 2009. More elements will follow this season!



# KIPPY GOES GREEN



As a summer camp, we have a tremendous opportunity to engage our camp community in the challenge of enjoying camp while maintaining the lowest possible environmental impact. We all know of the power of connecting our campers with the natural world, and have long been practitioners of simple and sustainable living. Summer camp gets kids outside and promotes a way of living that uses fewer resources than in their lives at home. Camps have always been at the forefront of the green movement, long before it was as practical and popular as it is today. As leaders and educators, we celebrate and try to incorporate practices into our camp operations that promote greater sustainability and ease our burden on the planet. Yet we always look for ways on how we can do more!

In 2009 we introduced our new and improved Eco Program at Camp Kippewa. Some of our initiatives included having recycling bins, using eco friendly cleaning products, using recycled paper, creating more e-bulletins (sign up online to get this newsletter emailed to you!), starting our own composting program for dinning hall waste and using energy saving light-bulbs. Next year we plan to expand the program to include our own garden as well as selecting a Green Representative from each bunk to be part of our green committee. We plan on having incentives for the cabin that has the most successful week following our eco program. We hope that by doing our part in Monmouth, ME, the girls will learn and bring some of their new eco friendly behaviors to their home towns and communities.

*Spotlight on our...*

# **SPECTACULAR EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM**

## **Safety, Learning, and Fun with HORSES!**

Whether your daughter is a beginner, intermediate, or advanced rider, Kippewa's riding program is for her. We provide skilled instruction for girls at all levels. Our beautiful mahogany barn, formerly part of the Woolworth Estate, has 29 stalls.

Our program includes strategies for practicing and learning about riding. We emphasize appropriate skills as outlined by the U.S. Pony Club. Our goals include mastery of basic riding/conditioning/care (Levels D and C) and incentives to move on to higher ratings (B, H-A, A). Beginning riders learn how to approach, lead, groom and bathe a horse as well as tacking up/untacking, and mounting and dismounting. They learn halt to walk/walk to halt, sitting trot, rising trot, changing the reins, trotting poles, jumping position/walk, trot, canter, jumping cross rails, and eventually will master a course of jumps. One day a week the girls assist in stable management. This includes feeding, mucking stalls, care of tack, and learning the anatomy of the horse. More advanced riders specialize in disciplines such as eventing, showing, dressage, and more.



Our certified equestrian instructors share their knowledge, love, and enthusiasm for riding and horses with the campers. Their passion for this program is contagious and after spending just one day with them the girls develop an even deeper love for riding. Our equestrian coordinator, Jim Saindon, has run Kippewa's equestrian program for 30 years. Jim lives next to the stables and trains his own horses year round. Jim strives to ensure that the staff and campers gain "the enjoyment of horses for a lifetime with safety and confidence."

# Spotlight on our... **ART PROGRAM**

What makes Kippewa's art department so spectacular? Perhaps it is the extraordinary array of professionals on our staff that teach our campers the skills they need to grow and develop into young artists. From our 12 studios dedicated to the arts to the natural beauty of camp, the environment and our facilities provide a natural enhancement to our program. Where else can girls enjoy the accessibility of grabbing an easel and going down to the lake to sketch, or sit in the breeze enjoying the view of the tall pines while glazing a pot? Campers are able to choose from our many fine art activities on a daily basis. We offer ceramics, beading, jewelry (silver and copper), stained glass, painting, drawing, fabrics, silk screen, woodworking, leather, photography and knitting. Whether it is your first time throwing a pot on the wheel, making a silver ring, painting an abstract, or figuring out the sewing machine, there are so many opportunities for our girls to explore their creativity and learn while having a blast!





# TADPOLE TALES

Our first session 8, 9, and 10 year old campers love spending a morning in July on the Otter II, the floating classroom, with Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed. Being part of their Tadpole Patrol allowed our girls to experience the ecology of the lake first hand through exploration, observing wildlife (eagles,

fish and zooplankton) and learning the basics of water testing by using professional equipment. Attendees earn a Tadpole Patrol badge, t-shirt and prize grab bag. The campers raved about it so much that we ended up adding Tadpole Patrol to our second session.

In 2008, friends of the Cobbossee Watershed worked with Kippewa's Oldest Campers (OC's) and Cobbossee's Sachem crew (15 year olds) to clean-up the public beach in Winthrop, Maine. The campers picked up waste, and learned about the importance of clean water and beaches.

We are really proud of our campers who participated in both projects. Bravo to our future environmentalist!



2008 "OC's" Rebecca Frankel, Brianna Allen, Jamie Mercado and Alana Silverman helping clean up a local lake.



## THE BROTHER/SISTER CAMP RELATIONSHIP

We often hear about brother/sister camp relationships, but what does it mean? Every relationship is different depending on the set of camps you are looking at. Camp Cobbossee and Camp Kippewa are located just a half a mile apart on Lake Cobbosseecontee, the perfect setup for our brother/sister pairing.

The camps enjoy two separate identities with our own philosophies, traditions, and culture. Girls and boys enjoy all of the benefits and special bonding that takes place in a single-sex environment. In addition, the close relationship and convenient location of the two camps allows us to schedule shared activities in order to enhance our camp programs. We schedule activities between the two camps that allow siblings to reunite and other children to make friends in a non-threatening environment. Kippewa and Cobbossee spend 4th of July together, share fun-filled Carnivals, play dates, socials, and brother/sister luncheons.

For parents with siblings at the two camps, coordinated session times allow for easier and more convenient travel plans. We share camper arrival/departure dates and pickup points. For many campers, just knowing that a sibling is nearby may help ease the anxiety of leaving home and friends for the summer. The brother/sister camp relationship also allows children to share in the joy of going away to camp and traveling to Maine, while still having their own independent camp experience.

**CAMP KIPPEWA FOR GIRLS AND CAMP COBBOSSEE FOR BOYS -  
WHAT MORE COULD A FAMILY ASK FOR?**



# KIPPEWA FAMILY VALUES



As a member of our Kippewa Family you will often hear us talk about our family atmosphere and traditional values. This sounds great, it's probably part of why you chose Kippewa, but what exactly do we mean?

At Kippewa we really try to go back to the basics and focus on the things we feel are important in life.

Everything we do is geared towards creating an atmosphere where girls can feel comfortable to just be themselves without feeling pressure to conform to a certain standard, dress a certain way, or fit into any specific group or clique. We stress the importance of respecting differences and valuing people for who they truly are. We know about the pressures at school, not only academic but social and emotional as well, and we strive to be a place where girls can leave these pressures behind and have a stress-free, pure camp experience. Instead of worrying about what their hair looks like or what type of clothing their friends

are wearing we want them to focus on the things that really matter – creating real, honest friendships, feeling comfortable to go out on a limb and try new activities along with improving skills in activities they already know and love, and gaining the self-confidence to feel comfortable with who they truly are.

These values are something we communicate to our staff members, our campers and parents from the very beginning. We plan and offer activities we feel are important to have in a camp experience. In addition to all of our in-camp activities we have hiking trips along the Atlantic seaboard and in the beautiful mountains of Maine. Girls have opportunities to sleep out in tents and cook s'mores under the stars on our own Horseshoe Island. We offer special activities where we mix the age groups so young girls get to know older girls, who in turn gain experience acting as role models. Our Camp Sister program creates lasting bonds between campers of different ages and different camp experiences.

When children attend summer camp the experience is one they will never forget, it has a lasting impact on them and influences the type of person they grow up to be. At Kippewa we want to help them become a person who feels valued for who they really are, and who knows what it means to be part of a summer camp family.

## Don't Forget **Family Camp**

Our Family Camp is the perfect opportunity for families to enjoy a fun and exciting, all-inclusive vacation together. Children and parents share in a unique bonding experience through participating in our wide array of activities, enjoying lakeside cookouts (including our lobster and clam bake!), spending the afternoon hiking or just hanging out and enjoying the fresh Maine air.

Our program includes shared parent-child activities along with adult-only/child-only options. You have the flexibility to be as active or as relaxed as you like and select the activities you want to participate in. We offer a different program each night. All of our cabins have electricity and attached bathrooms & showers. Families rent their own cabins or can choose to share with friends.

Three delicious meals are served daily in our beautiful, historic main lodge. Our award winning chef offers nutritious meals that adults and children will gobble up.

Prices are per person and include ALL activities, meals and lodging. 2009 Family Camp was a blast. We hope to see you at Family Camp in 2010.

August 15- August 22 contact Marnie for more information-  
[marnie@kippewa.com](mailto:marnie@kippewa.com)

A graphic for a postcard titled "Family Camp at Kippewa". At the top, it says "Kippewa and CAMP COBOSSEEE Present...". Below this is a collage of photos: a family sitting together, a person on a horse, a group of people in a boat, and a group of people sitting on a bench. The text "Family Camp at Kippewa" is written in a large, stylized font, with "Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> - Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>" underneath. At the bottom, it says "2009 Family Camp Postcard".

**Family Camp at Kippewa**  
Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> - Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>

2009 Family Camp Postcard

# Camp Kippewa Alumnae Connections

Welcome Back Kippy Alumnae!!

This is an exciting time for Kippewa – our newly launched alumnae network is exploding with names and people from Kippewa’s past. This is also an exciting time for us, personally. We enjoy helping people reconnect, and are pleased to see that the alumnae network is growing all of the time. We would love for it to grow even faster! As of press time, we have made contact with approximately 250 alumnae and have over 3800 names in our newly launched online guestbook! This was achieved by painstakingly entering all the camper data that Marty had collected over the last 50 years into the online guestbook and sending an introductory postcard to all those addresses. Amazingly, despite the passage of the years a lot of people (or their parents!) still live at those addresses! Unfortunately, as you would expect, many do not, therefore there are still many alumnae out there that are “MIA” and we need your help to find them. If you are in touch with any old camp friends, please direct them to the alumnae section of the Kippewa website: [www.kippewa.com](http://www.kippewa.com) where they can sign the “Alumnae Guestbook” and update their contact information. The alumnae Guestbook will also form the basis of our alumnae mailing list, so make sure you and all your Kippy friends sign up for future alumnae updates and events we have planned.

You can also forward other alumnae’s contact information to us directly at **1-800-KIPPEWA (547-7392)** or [alumnae@kippewa.com](mailto:alumnae@kippewa.com).

For all you young (and not so young?) Kippewa alumnae that are users of new social networking platforms, please let all your Facebook Kippewa groups and friends know that we are looking for the Kippy alumnae!

We are building this alumnae network for your use. Our website allows you to safely contact and be contacted by other alumnae. **Kippewa will never directly share your contact information without your permission.** When you locate someone in the alumnae guestbook you can click a link to send that person a “blind” email. The sender does not have access to the recipient’s personal email address until they offer it. The site also contains a message board that you can use to share stories, reminisce about summers past and reconnect with old friends.

We hope this network helps you revive your old connections and helps keep your Kippy memories alive.

We love hearing from you and look forward to sharing your news with our extended alumnae family.

Keep in touch and stay tuned for more news, and other alumnae events.

All our best.

*Elinger & Steve*



*Kippewa Circa 1962*

# 2009

# THEATER REVIEW

## **MUSIC. MAGIC. MAYHEM AND A HINT OF MURDER.**

The summer season at the esteemed Kippewa Playhouse had it all.

All four of our rousing productions left campers and counselors clammering for more. ONCE UPON A DIME (a world premiere created expressly for Camp Kippewa) took a handful of beloved fairy tale characters and shook their stories up. The Princess's Pea had some serious attitude, Cinderella was like totally valley girl, for sure, and Little Red and the Wolf got chummy over Kung Po chicken. FREE TO BE YOU AND ME explored the vast world of possibility that each and every one of us is. The actresses showed us with heads high, shoulders back and voices strong that anything is within reach. Session Two unveiled a brand new story theatre version of THE LION KING, told as a campfire tale, with back flipping lion cubs, terrifying hyenas and a full wildebeest stampede live on stage. The playhouse walls still echo with the mighty wake up call of "remember". To close the season, Dorothy and her friends journeyed down that well trod Yellow Brick Road in TO OZ, which explored just what it means to wish "If I Only Had..." Accompanied by a solo trumpet and performed in front of a dazzlingly beautiful backdrop, this OZ will live on in every camper's memory.

**Don't miss out on all the fun. Book your seats early for the 2010 Season!**

**THE KIPPEWA PLAYHOUSE IS THE PLACE TO BE ON A SUMMER NIGHT!**



**THE LION KING**



**ONCE UPON A DIME**



**THE WIZARD OF OZ**



# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

**SUZIE (NACHMAN) MERCADO** and **JILL (KAPLAN) FRANKEL** are two alumnae who both had daughters finish their OC year with us in 2008. Both their girls went to Kippewa for 7 years. We interviewed them and found out where they are now...

**Q. I understand you were campers at Kippewa for many years. How old were you when you started at camp and how many years were you there?**

**Suzie:** I started at age 7 and was there for 8 years from 1972-1979.

**Jill:** I started when I was ten, and spent seven summers at Kippewa.

**Q. What were your favorite activities and traditions at camp?**

**Suzie:** Tennis. Waterskiing. Canoe trips. Drama. Clambake. Color War. Pixie Pals.

**Jill:** I really enjoyed all the activities. I spent a lot of time at the waterfront and loved the arts classes. One of my favorite traditions was the campfires. The opening camp fire was a time of much anticipation about the summer, and the closing campfire was a time to reflect on all that had happened in a relatively short time.

**Q. What is your fondest memory of camp?**

**Suzie:** Playing tennis and my oldest camper year.

**Jill:** It is hard to pick one. I remember getting up on waterskis for the first time. I remember the first time I sailed solo. I remember making up songs with campers from Canada as we canoed the Rangely lakes in perfect weather. I still remember songs from Ivy League. I remember sitting behind the Slimnasium with a friend and talking while staring at the lake. I remember all the singing every time we were on a bus. No memory stands alone as a favorite; they are all connected.

**Q. Your daughter just finished her final year as a camper at Kippewa.**

**What was it like having your daughter attend your alma mater?**

**Suzie:** It was comforting and exciting to be able to share the Kippewa traditions.

**Jill:** It was a wonderful way to share something special to me with my daughter. I loved watching how she made the place her own and found the things she wanted to do. When we came to visit, I also connected to my child. It still feels the same walking around camp or eating in the the Lodge.

**Q. When you come back to camp to visit can you still find your bunk plaques or any awards with your name on it?**

**Suzie:** Yes, all of my bunk plaques, the paddle hanging in the playhouse, the waterski in the lodge and the callboards.

**Jill:** I was able to find almost all of my bunk plaques, as well as my name on the Mighty Paddler canoe paddle in the year I became one.

**Q. What has changed, or stayed the same, about Kippewa since you were a camper here?**

**Suzie:** Some of the bunks have been relocated and there have been many new bunks added but the feel of the camp has stayed the same. Campers attend for only half of the summer now. There are no longer outside tournaments with other camps. Arts and crafts and water sports have grown. There are some new traditions such as Ice Man.

**Jill:** Overall, Kippewa looks and feels the same. New traditions have arisen. Iceman was an important part of my

daughter's experience, but did not exist when I was there.

**Q. Tell us a little about yourself now – Where do you live? How many children do you have? What type of work do you do? What do you like to do for fun?**

**Suzie:** I live in Fairfield, CT with my husband and two children, a daughter, 15 and a son, 12. I spend my time as a volunteer on the PTA and as a youth sports coach in multiple sports. I still love to play lots of tennis and ski.

**Jill:** I live in Temple, Texas, which is a small community about an hour north of Austin. I have two children. My younger child is a boy. I am a licensed attorney with a small estate planning practice. I also teach Introduction to Business Law at the McCombs School of business at the University of Texas. Although, I did not play a lot of tennis at camp, as an adult I play twice a week. I am also involved in community activities. I am president of the High School PTO. I also sit on the local orchestral society board.

**Q. If you could tell the current Kippewa campers anything at all, what would it be?**

**Suzie:** Enjoy your years as a camper. Try as many new activities as you can and take advantage of the wonderful opportunities at Kippewa.

**Jill:** Enjoy camp -- it will be one of the most memorable and pleasant experiences of your childhood. Although you do not realize it, camp will shape you as a person. It is hard to live in such a small community and not learn to take responsibility for your actions. Once you learn to do that you never stop.

# TRIPS GALORE, THERE'S SO MUCH TO EXPLORE!

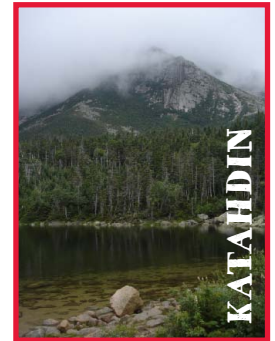
Current Kippy girls carry on the proud tripping traditions at Kippewa. All trips (apart from the OC, Quebec trip) are included in the base tuition. Check out the trip selection we send to our current campers.

## MT. KATAHDIN - BAXTER STATE PARK, MAINE



Do you love hiking? Think you have seen it all? Well, this trip is for you. Come join our Kippewa hiking team as certified Maine Trip Leaders lead you up Mt. Katahdin, the highest point in Maine and say you have been to the start (or end) of the Appalachian Trail. You will sleep steps away from the beautiful mid-mountain Chimney Pond and see the most gorgeous 360-degree vistas as you scramble along Knife's Edge. The girls will sleep over in lean-tos, eat smores, and hopefully see a real, live Maine Moose. Please note, singing and story telling is a must in order to make the trip complete.

**Ages:** 7th grade and older



## WHITE WATER RAFTING - KENNEBEC RIVER, MAINE

The Kennebec River is renowned for its breathtaking wilderness setting, exhilarating high-volume whitewater with 6 to 8 foot waves and large holes in rapids that live up to their names like Rock Garden, Big Mama, Whitewasher and the power of the infamous Magic Falls. We often stop to explore streams, waterfalls and swimming holes the gorge has to offer and have lunch along the river. The adventure is complete as we stay in Cabin Tents and enjoy a night around the campfire. Magic Falls Rafting Company has certified guides that lead us through this adventure guaranteeing safety and fun for all.

**Ages:** 8th grade and older

## SCHOONER TRIP - PORTLAND HARBOR, MAINE



**SCHOONER**

Sail with us on an authentic sailing vessel steeped in history — and have the experience of a lifetime. The schooners - Bagheera and Wendameen - provide the perfect vantage point to enjoy some of Maine's most beautiful sights and sounds. Girls enjoy the sights from the deck of one of these storied wooden schooners built in the early 20th century. This overnight windjammer adventure takes place in Portland Harbor through the pristine waters of Casco Bay. Portland Schooner Co. takes care of it all. This trip is for the sailor who wants to be part of the crew, a Kippewa Favorite!

**Ages:** 6th grade and 7th grade only



**SCHOONER SALUTE**



**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**

## QUEBEC, CANADA

This is the trip that all the girls wait for...our exclusive trip to Quebec City for our Oldest Campers. The OC gals will spend 4 days and 3 nights in the historic and beautiful city of Old Quebec. The girls enjoy the spectacular views of Quebec City along the St. Lawrence River on a luxurious boat ride, view the changing of the guard at the active military garrison (The Citadel) and witness the magic of the famous church/shrine Sanctuaire Sainte-Anne de Beaupré and Waterfall. The girls will stay in the heart of old Quebec. This is a special bonding experience for our oldest campers as they are immersed in the culture through hearing live musicians, browsing boutiques, and eating crepes with best friends in Canada!

**Age:** Oldest Campers.



In addition to these wonderful overnight trips, we offer many day trips that do not require reservations in advance. There will be opportunities to take day hikes up amongst the Camden Hills, enjoy shorter hikes up Bradbury Mt. with a picnic at Bradbury State Park, or more vigorous climbs in the White Mountains in NH. We also offer canoe trips along the Saco and Androscoggin Rivers. There are also opportunities to canoe on our very own Lake Umbagog and spend the night out on Horseshoe Island. This is especially a great way for our younger campers to be introduced to overnight camping; enjoy flashlight tag, giggling in your tents, and of course making meals over an open fire.

Each session the entire camp takes a one-day adventure to either Popham Beach or Reid State Park. Popham Beach is one of the finest and longest sandy beaches in Maine and Reid State Park is an 800 acre park with 1.5 miles of sandy beach, and views of the ocean, islands, and lighthouses. Body surf in the Atlantic Ocean, collect seashells to bring to your next art activity at camp, bury your counselor in the sand, and enjoy frisbee, a cookout lunch, and ice cream with everyone. A day at the ocean- truly the way life should be in Maine!





15 Myrtle Avenue  
Westford, MA 01886



# IMPORTANT DATES

## Summer 2010

<b>1ST SESSION</b> .....	June 24- July 18
<b>2ND SESSION</b> .....	July 21- August 14
<b>FAMILY CAMP</b> .....	August 15- August 22

*We are planning our calendars for the upcoming year.  
We are excited to visit new campers in the following areas:  
Boston, Chicago, Florida, Maryland/DC, New Jersey, New York,  
and Philadelphia.*

