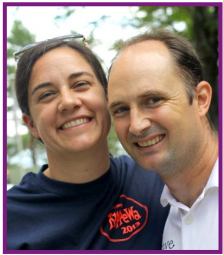


# THE KIPPY GAZETTE

Winter 2017

## A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS



Greetings, Kippewa families!

Numbers, numbers, numbers! Numbers are bouncing around our office a lot at the moment. 2017 is Kippewa's 60th summer in operation as a camp. It's a milestone year we are excited to celebrate this summer. 2017 is our 10th summer as the directors.

This is a personal milestone that is exciting and hard to believe! It's also hard to believe there are only 4 months until the start of our first session. Steve will be heading up to Maine to oversee the opening of camp mid-May, and that's only 3 months from now! Every year we are blown away by how fast the time flies by. It seems like we just finish wrapping up one season and the next one is suddenly upon us. It's part of what makes this work and lifestyle so fun for us. There is a flow to the seasons and the years that is consistent, yet at the same time every year is different and unique.

On the theme of uniqueness, we were just looking over our current enrollment and where our campers live. We have always been proud of the mix of families who choose Kippewa. We bring together girls from a variety of different backgrounds with wonderful diversity in a variety of ways: geographical, cultural, socioeconomic, ethnicity, faith and more. One of the easiest things to put to numbers (more numbers!) is the geographic mix. As of today we have campers & staff from 5 different continents, 19 different countries, and 25 different states here in the U.S. When we say we have girls from all over, we truly mean it! The world has become a smaller place and with technology it is now so much easier for girls to maintain their camp friendships all year round. We always love hearing the stories as our campers get together, often traveling to see each other, or even running into each other while away on vacation! (Good time for another reminder to keep sending us those photos!)

This newsletter contains some updates about the coming summer. We are excited about the program additions. We are looking forward to our anniversary celebrations, and pleased about the number of returning staff looking forward to summer 2017! We would love to ask for your help in placing some reviews and helping us spread the word about Kippewa. It's amazing how much that little difference online can help. We would also like to take a quick minute to remind you to get started on your camp forms if you haven't done so already. As we mentioned above, the time flies by and there are less than 3 months until your forms (8 required plus 5 optional) are due!

We hope you enjoy the final weeks of winter. Let us know if there is anything we can help with as you work out your plans for camp!

WARMLY,

*Dinger & Steve*

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## myKippewa Reminder

**Camper Forms are due on May 1st.** To complete your daughter's forms, please login to your myKippewa account and submit them to us! When filling out your daughter's Travel and Baggage form, please be as detailed as possible. We want to make sure that we know exactly how she will be arriving at camp! If you have any specific details that you need to discuss, please feel free to contact us.



# RETURNING STAFF

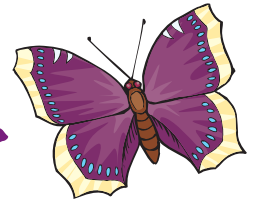
Check out who's joining  
us again so far!

Mike Davis  
Claudia Davis  
Matt Mandel  
Jackie Mandel  
Renee Kenney  
Mary Paige Kowalski  
Kaylee Spencer  
Meisha Booth  
Katie Van Loon  
Niamh Phelan  
Maggie Ludwig  
Kyra Cushing  
Gemma Short  
Erin McCaffery  
BG Ferner  
Nicole Miller  
Alan Clare  
Alex Morait  
Lissa Bragg  
Sarah Lopez  
Jocelyn Dowling  
Ailsa Ritchie  
Hannah Jenkins  
Sam Scheer  
Niamh Simpson  
Ciara Ryan  
Lara Seltzer  
Hayley Bristol  
Lauren Craner  
Larry Snider  
Jessy Ramirez  
Daniela Jojoa  
Carlos Contreras  
Giovanna Alavez  
Maritza Narvaez  
Dyanna Guzman  
Karl Pease  
Zak Aguirre  
Jairo Ajpop  
Kimberly Paris  
Gina Richards  
Debbie Vilardi  
Richard Stegman  
Ella Brakefield

...and us of course,

**GINGER, STEVE & BRITTANY!**

# SPRING FLING 2017



**HEY KIPPEWA! - HEY WHAT?!**

**HEY KIPPEWA! - HEY WHAT?!**

The Spring Fling is coming soon! We can't wait to see both new and returning girls in just a few months! If you are getting ready to attend Kippewa for the first year, and don't know anyone yet, don't worry, there are a bunch of other girls just like you. If you are a returning camper we hope you will join us to reunite with old friends and help show our new campers what our Kippy family is all about!

When you arrive at the Spring Fling, you'll get a name tag that's a special color to help you find other girls who will be attending camp the same session as you. You'll have a chance to sit with other girls, do an art project, play a few camp games, enjoy a pizza lunch, and look at pictures of Kippewa. Our experienced Kippy girls are happy to answer any questions about the summer! Don't forget, they were once brand new to Kippewa too, and they love talking about camp!

Not only will you have the chance to meet new friends and reunite with old friends, but some of our incredible staff will be there as well! This is the perfect time to meet some of our counselors, talk to Mike about the tennis program, hear all about our health center from head nurse Debbie, meet Matt our amazing program director, ask Jocelyn all about our beautiful Lake Cobbosseecontee, and learn even more about our Kippewa family.

So mark your calendars and tell your parents! We can't wait to see you at the Spring Fling! (Parents and Siblings are invited too!)

**DATE: Sunday, May 7th      TIME: 12pm to 2pm**

**PLACE: FunFuzion in New Rochelle, NY**

*\* If you don't live in the area, don't worry, you won't be alone. You will still have plenty of time to meet new friends while traveling up to camp and upon your arrival!*





# CAMPER AND STAFF GET-TOGETHERS

WE LOVE SEEING WHAT OUR KIPPY GIRLS AND STAFF ARE UP TO DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR!  
CHECK OUT THESE EXCITING PICTURES, AND OF COURSE FEEL FREE TO SEND US YOUR OWN.



**Emma R.** and **Nicole M.** play some hoops in Miami!



**Aggie S.** and **Ellie K.** reunite at a Bar Mitzvah!



**Ellie K.**, **Hannah B.**, and **Lily M.** meet up over the Thanksgiving holiday.



**Sadie** and **Stella G.** share laughs over dinner with **Kendall** and **Charlotte A.** in DC!

**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...**



# CAMPER AND STAFF GET-TOGETHERS

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE...



**Remy W.** and **Casey G.** get some skating in at the rink!



**Samantha E.** and **Natalie T.** perform together in the Nutcracker ballet. Check out that Kippewa lunch bag too!



**Elizabeth K.** and **Hannah B.** run into each other at the Equine Affaire expo in Massachusetts!



**Waka** and **Hana H.** enjoy some time on the slopes!

# PROGRAM ADDITIONS & EXPANSIONS

- 1 We are so excited about our **new gymnastics facility!** While we have always provided gymnastics as one of our program areas, we are moving it to a newly built space and will be adding a sprung floor for tumbling and a tumble-track (trampoline)! In addition, BG Ferner is returning (staff 2014) to head up our gymnastics program. We can't wait to see this already popular program provides even more excitement and skill development for everyone!
- 2 Our **dance program** is also receiving an upgrade! Dance is moving into what was previously our gymnastics building, and with a few renovations and a new dance floor we will now have over twice as much space for girls to learn their moves. Our dance instructors can't wait to have all that room for teaching leaps and spins across the floor! It will also provide wonderful space for our yoga classes.
- 3 **High Ropes** is also expanding. We are converting our current system to a self-belay system, and adding two more high bridges. This means more campers can walk around high up in the trees at one time, testing their limits as they walk on wires and step between wooden platforms. All under the careful guidance of our certified staff, of course!
- 4 Our waterfront is also expanding its fleet as a **new sailboat** will be added this year.

***We can't wait to enjoy all of these new additions with you this summer!***

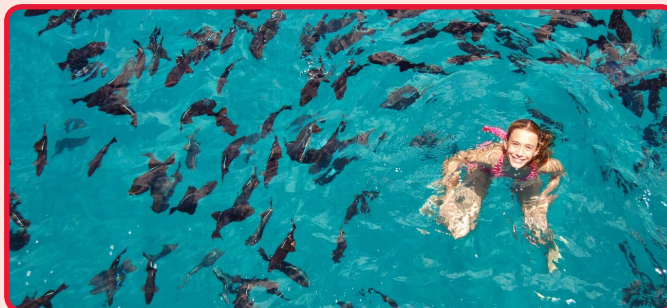
## ZEAL Adventure and Travel

Calling all adventurers! Our great friends at Zeal Adventure & Travel have some great summer programs that we want to let you know about. If you have surpassed your OC year at Kippewa and are looking for another great opportunity, Zeal has just that. Zeal offers trips for young people ages 15-18. Think surfing on Oahu's fabled North Shore, scuba diving in marine protected areas full of tropical fish, hiking into sensitive protected forests, and working with animals like sea turtles and severely endangered monk seals. In addition to these active pursuits, they incorporate sight seeing, cultural immersion, and tons of other fun activities. You can also complete 25 hours of impactful and fun community service while on the trip. Each trip incorporates a small group of participants (12-20 people) with 2-3 group leaders, all at least 21 years old with medical and outdoor training and a large summer camp background.



***With these great trips, the summer fun with your camp friends doesn't have to end!***

You can find out more by visiting Zeal's website at [www.travelwithzeal.com](http://www.travelwithzeal.com).





# OVERCOMING HOMESICKNESS: Getting Back to the Magic of Camp

Dr. Michael Thompson discusses the magic of camp in his book, *Homesick and Happy: How Time Away from Parents Can Help a Child Grow*. A place where there are new rules, risk, exotic adults, wild creatures, and fascinating adventures may seem like themes made only for the storybooks, but these are exactly the things that happen inside the world of summer camp. Camp is a place where kids are on their own, navigating their own friendships, choices, skills, and gifts. Yes, there are still structures, rules, and authority in place to ensure boundaries and safety, but those controls don't get in the way of an entirely new world for young people.

Camp Kippewa sets itself apart even further by allowing campers to choose their daily activities based on interest, and we believe that autonomy is a valuable tool given to them for the summer.

Sometimes, however, there is work to be done before a child even gets to camp. Homesickness and even chillsickness (what parents go through in terms of withdrawal from their children) are issues that, at times, take some prep work. As Dr. Thompson states in his book, "children do not have a lot of life experience. They need you to help them anticipate both their pain and their strengths." One of the first things a parent can do is have confidence in the child's ability to manage the challenge of being away. If a parent has anxiety about his/her child going away to camp, that child will usually sense that worry fairly quickly.

At Kippewa we have seen many children deal with homesickness and we are well-equipped to handle it. And we have also seen those children beat it. We know they can overcome it and go on to have one of the best summers of their lives. Parents should also believe that their children have the ability to defeat homesickness.

I once talked to a camper who said that her biggest worry was being worried. That cycle is hard to break and sometimes kids view homesickness as a failure. They feel they have failed at something and worry that it will happen again. Perhaps Samantha was supposed to spend the weekend with her grandparents or at a sleepover and couldn't last the first night. That situation sticks with her and the idea of going away to camp for weeks at a time is now a chunk of anxiety stuck in her thoughts. Getting kids used to shorter overnight



experiences may help prepare them for longer ones. Camping trips. Sleepovers. Field trips. These can slowly build their confidence so that they can overcome those shaky feelings of failure if the first few tries aren't successful or just to prepare them in general for extended stays.

It is also possible to turn the corner on the negatives of homesickness and spin it in a different direction. The fact that children miss home means that they have a home to miss. They have parents with whom they love and a place where they know they are cared for. The more that parents build their own confidence about their child's departure, the stronger the foundation is for that child to branch out on his/her own.

Once on that branch, children can experience the full magic of camp. Choosing activities, balancing structure and flexibility, learning personal space and shared chores, and forming friendships completely independently are not only great skills at camp or as an adolescent. These ventures will follow the child to college when he/she is a freshman in a dorm and knows

what it's like to share space, make a bed, and meet new people. It will follow the child to job interviews and relationships well into adulthood. And the memories... oh those magical memories of s'mores and polar bear swims and scavenger hunts and bunk spa nights and campfire songs and on and on and on.

**To read the entire article, head to Kippewa's blog located on our website at [www.kippewa.com](http://www.kippewa.com).**

# 60<sup>th</sup> YEAR CELEBRATION

~ July 27, 2017 ~

This year marks Camp Kippewa's 60th Anniversary! We are very excited in sharing this important milestone with our whole camp family. Over the last 6 decades, many campers, staff, and families have enjoyed spending a summer on the shores of Lake Cobbosseecontee, singing songs by the campfire, performing plays in the Playhouse, dancing in the Lodge, and most importantly making lifelong friends and memories. Alongside Kippewa's 60th Anniversary, 2017 marks Ginger and Steve's 10th year as Directors! Over the past decade, they have worked hard to continue the spirit and traditions of Kippewa while also bringing their own unique experiences and backgrounds with them. To commemorate these camp benchmarks, Kippewa will be having two birthday parties this summer, one each session! During our second session celebration we will be inviting all alumni to celebrate with us on July 27th for an afternoon Carnival followed by a cookout and fireworks over the lake. Whether you joined our camp family in 1958, 1985, 2009, 2017, or somewhere in between, we are excited to celebrate this exciting time with you!



## Brother Camp Update

Cobbossee is thrilled to announce that they have added a new member to the year-round team!



In January, Josh Holland and John Hawk were joined in the office by Assistant Director, **Katie Goodman**.

Katie holds a BA from Trinity College (American Studies and Human Rights Studies) and a Masters of Education in Community Development with a concentration in Youth Development from Vanderbilt University. Katie also grew up at Camp Walt Whitman, alongside her three siblings. She has camp in her blood.

After graduating from Trinity, Katie went to work for WE, a large international children's organization that focuses on the empowerment of young people all over the world. Katie worked with hundreds of youth and adult volunteers overseeing safety, volunteer, and learning programs in the Maasai Mara region of Kenya.

Katie is excited to spend her first summer at Cobbossee in 2017!

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***If you are interested in learning more about Camp Cobbossee for your son, please visit [www.cobbossee.com](http://www.cobbossee.com), or call 800-473-6104. We'd love to speak with you!***

## Camp Reviews Online

***Do you love Kippewa as much as we do!? If so, we would love for you to post an online review of your experience. You can review us on Facebook, Google, Yelp, and various other online sites.***





Suite 102, #218  
265 Turkey Sag Trail  
Palmyra, VA 22963



## IMPORTANT DATES SUMMER 2017

**1st SESSION** ..... Thursday, June 22 - Sunday, July 16  
**FIRST VISITING DAY** ..... Sunday, July 16  
**2nd SESSION** ..... Wednesday, July 19 - Saturday, August 12  
**SECOND VISITING DAY** ..... Saturday, August 12  
**FAMILY CAMP** ..... Sunday, August 13 - Friday, August 18

 **Get Ready for Another  
Awesome Kippy Summer!** 

[www.kippewa.com](http://www.kippewa.com) • 1-800-547-7392