

THE KIPPY GAZETTE

Spring 2023

A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS



Greetings, Kippewa Families!

Just two months until the start of first session! "Ice Out" has finally taken place, meaning our beautiful Lake Cobbosseecontee is starting to warm for the summer. It's amazing how much takes place between now and the start of camp. Not only is nature doing its part to make

sure camp is ready, we have staff arriving at camp in the middle of May to help us start with early camp prep. It's a busy, and exciting time of year as we all look forward to welcoming everyone to Maine!

The point of this newsletter is to share some updates and help you prepare for the summer. We know you are thinking about packing and travel plans - please also make sure to take care of your camper forms asap if you haven't done so already. It is essential they are all completed by May 1st to help us in our camp prep and planning.

As always, don't hesitate to reach out with questions. We are ready and happy to help as you prepare for the summer ahead!

Warmly,

Elinor & Steve

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Spotlight on Jes Mandel and Niamh Simpson from co-counselors to head counselors

Jes Mandel and Niamh Simpson both started working at Camp Kippewa in 2015. Jes started as a junior counselor and taught archery while Niamh was a bunk counselor teaching sailing. Now 8 years later, Jes and Niamh are Head Counselors!



Jes: "I'm so excited to be one of the head counselors. I get to still hang out with all the juniors, but I now get to work with older campers who were once juniors! It's been so wonderful to watch them grow, and I can't wait to see them more often this summer.

"I'm also Thrilled with a capital 't' that I get to do this with Niamh. I can't think of anyone else I'd rather share this position with. We've been working side-by-side since Overlook, 2015, and she literally cannot get rid of me now. My advice for everyone would be to try to stay present and take everything one day (or one minute) at a time!"

Niamh: "I'm excited for the role of head counselor and couldn't have picked a better counterpart than the one and only Jes Mandel! I think having worked together as Bunk Counselors and as Division Heads we truly know how to work together.

"My advice to both campers and staff is to truly embrace the opportunity to disconnect from the outside world and be present in everything that you do at camp. Take every opportunity to try something new and to push yourself out of your comfort zone. "



Returning Staff

Look who's joining us again at Kippewa!

Ailsa Ritchie
Alex Atock
Alex Monks
Allie Reilly
Astrid Velasquez
Bianca Zani
Brenda Larkins
Celeste Carlson
Claudia Davis
Cynthia Minero Garcia
Daniela Jojoa
Diana Garcia Guadalupe

Emily Mann
Emma Tinley
Erick Herrera
Gemma Short
Gwen Power
Hannah Stainsby
Heather Boehnke
Javier Ramos Anzaldo
Jackie Brethal
Jagoda Grupinska
Jes Mandel
Jessy Ramirez

Jocelyn Dowling
Karl Pease
Kelly Rojano
Kerry Cunningham
Maddie Bryant
Marissa Lopez Ramirez
Mary Paige Kowalski
Megan Haggerty
Melissa Ruiz
Michelle Mejia Martinez
Moises Galvez
Nat Gantz

Niamh Simpson
Oscar Oregon
Paula Almonacid Lovera
Roberto Medina Hernandez
Ruthy Penhos
Sara Nathalie Aceves Maldonado
Steph Callen
Sydney Bozeman
Tessa Kishbach
Vincent Radford
Williams Merlin Trujillo

Winter Wiggle Recap



Thank you to everyone who joined in on the fun!

KIPPEWA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Kippewa's scholarship program is funded by donations from individuals, families, alumni, and friends of Kippewa. Our goal is to help as many children as possible, from a diverse range of backgrounds, ethnicities, cultures, and regions, experience the magic of Camp Kippewa.

We partner with the American Camp Association to help us manage our scholarship funding. All donations are tax deductible and can be submitted through the scholarship page on our website or by mailing a check made out to "American Camp Association" with Camp Kippewa Scholarship Fund in the memo. Checks should be sent to our camp mailing address: Suite 102, #218, 265 Turkey Sag Trail, Palmyra, VA 22963.

CAMPER GET-TOGETHERS



Camper Corner

"Summer Camp"

A poem by Lilah A.

I have arrived to my favorite place of all

A place with a glistening lake that I swam a mile in

A place I'd love to spend my years

But it only lasts until summer ends

Then I come back to where it ends

I go to baking then to swim

Then the sunset starts to come in

I savor my time with my friends

On the last night we hug our friends

Eat our favorite foods and maybe even dessert too

I love them all to bits

I wish I could take them with

I hope I will see them again

Even though I'm still here with them

Color war starts and then it ends

I love my camp until it ends

Kippewa is my home

I will forever love you and keep you in my heart

Until the next year starts



You may have heard a bit about Kippewa Point, our brand new, two-week camp! It is on the same property as Kippewa but located in a different area and will run separately with its own bunks and activities. Kippewa Equestrian Academy also works this way - running adjacent to Kippewa with everyone having their own camp experience. Kippewa Point will function in the same way. We are excited for this opportunity for more girls to experience the joy of Kippewa!



KPT Director



We are really enjoying partnering with Jackie Brethel as the Director at Kippewa Point. Returning campers and families may remember her from summer 2022, or even from when she first worked with Ginger and Steve at Kippewa. She first joined us in 2010, and then after 7 wonderful summers at Camp Kippewa and Camp Cobbossee, Jackie went on to further her decade-long professional camp career at another all-girls camp in the Berkshires. She is thrilled to have returned home to the sun-kissed shores of Lake Cobbosseecontee to direct Kippewa Point!

ADDITIONS TO CAMP!



✓ A sparkly new Malibu Ski Boat



✓ New built-in Gaga pit

✓ Continued bathroom renovation on select bunks



✓ New, bigger windows in lower arts building allowing for improved ventilation



Searching for a water bottle this summer? We've got you covered!

This 16 oz. Nalgene water bottle is perfect for all campers on the go. Features purple body and white loop attached lid. Printed with Kippewa logo and features camp activities on the back. This can be purchased on [Amerasport](#) (our camp outfitter)! Thank you, second session camper, Avery C. for this fun idea!

Hello from Camp Cobbossee! •

Summer is approaching fast and we can't wait to see everyone back in Maine!

The Cobbossee camper experience is centered around three core values: **Brotherhood, Community, and Sportsmanship.**



- **Brotherhood** is experienced each day on the field and court, and often in the tiny moments between the action. Meals, rest hour, evening bunk rituals- these are all times when Cobbossee boys often laugh the hardest, smile the widest, and make the friendships that will have them dreaming of returning to camp for 11 months of the year.
- **Community** is the sense of membership that everyone in the Cobbossee family is extended. The Rovers (2nd, 3rd, 4th graders), Warriors (5th and 6th graders), Council (7th and 8th graders), Sachem (9th graders) and all of the amazing men and women who are members of the staff every summer, community is the overarching feeling that is being described when someone says "I had the best summer of my life at Camp Cobbossee."
- **Sportsmanship** occurs throughout regular programming. Camp involves many wins and losses, and all of this competition happens through the lens of sportsmanship. Picking up teammates, sincerely congratulating your opponent, and playing the right way is what sportsmanship means at Cobbossee.

Keeping Our Lake Healthy and Beautiful

One of the most precious natural resources at Kippewa is our lake - Lake Cobbosseecontee. For many of our campers it is a cornerstone of their experience at camp. It provides us with non-stop fun, not to mention the constant breathtaking views! It is important to us to do whatever we can to help keep this amazing resource healthy and clean.

We previously shared information with you about our Beauty Counter account and how excited we are about this ongoing partnership. We set up this account with two goals in mind.

- 1** Commit to using, and promoting usage of, mineral based sunscreen (and other products). We strongly believe in the benefits of using products that are good for the environment and for our bodies as much as possible. And we use a lot of sunscreen at camp!
- 2** Supporting our local watershed foundation - Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed. This organization promotes and protects the quality of our precious lake and the surrounding watershed district. They provide programs to educate the community (including our campers!) about the watershed and promote initiatives to keep our water clean.

100% OF ALL PROCEEDS through our Camp Kippewa Beauty Counter account (for any products purchased) ARE DONATED to Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed foundation.

Since we started this partnering spring 2021, our Kippewa community has raised almost \$2500 for the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed. This past summer we also collected cans and bottles for recycling, and donated those proceeds as well. Between these two programs we are providing meaningful support to help protect our beautiful lake. We hope you will join in to help us raise even more funds this year!

We appreciate your support and partnership as we continue doing our part to keep Maine beautiful!



To access Beauty Counter visit: www.beautycounter.com/campkippewa

Be a Part of The Green Team

Spending time outdoors, appreciating nature, and learning to care about our environment are all important and ingrained parts of camp. We make an effort at Kippewa to thread sustainability into our day to day operations. We know this is important to many of our families and staff and wanted to share some of the things we do at camp!

- Several years ago we replaced all of our lightbulbs with LED (energy efficient) bulbs. We have timers on lights in larger communal buildings so they will turn off automatically, and we teach our staff and campers about the importance of turning off lights when leaving a building.
- We use low-flow showerheads to reduce the amount of water that is used.
- As we remodel our bathrooms we are switching to tankless, instant-hot, hot water heaters. They consume much less energy than conventional systems.
- Most of our meals are served on reusable plates & utensils, and when we use paper goods we use compostable plates, napkins, and silverware.
- We have our own compost at camp and when possible partner with local pig farmers - they love our food scraps!
- We are partnering with Ampion community solar, joining a local solar field system to tie camp into, and support, more of a sustainable energy grid.
- Recycling is automatic in the town of Monmouth (where camp is located). We also have separate paper, cardboard, can and bottle recycling at camp.
- We teach our entire camp community about the importance of keeping the environment clean (picking up trash!), and build appreciation for nature into our hiking and nature programs.
- The Green Team is a popular activity where campers can get involved in specific sustainability efforts around camp.

Reduce, reuse, recycle is an overall mindset we try to thread throughout the way that we live our own lives, and the way that we run camp. We know there is always more we can, and will do, and we will also continue involving our campers and staff in whatever way we can.

We welcome you to join us!



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



Important Dates for Summer 2023

FORMS DUE	Monday, May 1
1st SESSION	Thursday, June 22 - Sunday, July 16
2nd SESSION	Wednesday, July 19 - Saturday, August 12
FAMILY CAMP	Sunday, August 13 - Friday, August 18

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