



The Pine Cone

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE YMCA CAMP OF MAINE

Volume 6: November 2009



Greetings from the YMCA Camp of Maine

From the Director: The 2009 camping season will officially end October 24, 2009. Camp opened on May 16th with a wedding. Our last event will be wedding held October 24th. This is the latest date camp has been open. Sandwiched in between was one of the busiest summers camp has ever had. We had 24 different groups, organizations or individual wedding groups use our facility this year. The camp program itself served more than 650 different campers including campers from France, Spain, Canada, Mexico, England, Russia, Israel along with a host of States and towns and of course children from Maine. We were very fortunate we were one of the camps in Maine that didn't have the H1N1 Virus. We did have the effect of the H1N1 Virus as one week before camp opened we had 70 campers cancel their reservations from China because they were afraid to fly to America and would catch the H1N1 Virus. Camp lost 20% of our working capital and we will not recover in the 2009 camping season. Some sessions filled to capacity and we had to turn campers away, so don't wait reserve your child's spot by applying on line November 1, 2009. It is exciting to see how the YMCA Camp of Maine can be used by so many different groups for so many different functions. We are doing our best to be a community resource for so many individuals and groups.

New this year the YMCA Camp participated in the state wide Maine Youth Camping Association "Spelling Bee." We sent five campers and finished fifth out of 15 competing camps. The campers were: Rose Segal, Kaitlynn Morse, Courtney McGorrill, Crystal Archibald, and Alexa Pennavaria We are very proud of the campers who represented the YMCA Camp of Maine. We look forward to send a team in 2010 as well!

There is also more excitement to talk about as the State YMCA Board of Directors has entered into Phase 2 of the capital campaign for renovating all of our camp facilities. The campaign is called the "Director's Campaign." The campaign is under the direction of a Capital Steering Committee made up of Board Members, Alumni and Volunteers. Every dollar raised so far has gone to benefit the YMCA Camp. The campaign goal is \$ 1 Million Dollars. The campaign has

already raised \$ 260,000. Several capital improvements have taken place thanks to the generosity of many alumni and friends. I would like to invite each of you to participate in this Phase 2 Campaign. We have plans to build a totally new shower facility on the boy's side of camp. There are many more improvements needed including mechanical and electrical upgrades to many of the camp buildings. The camp road needs to be completely rebuilt to stop the erosion into the lake. You can view our total capital campaign brochure by going to www.maineycamp.org and click on the "Director's Campaign" link. I would encourage you to donate to this very worth while and needed, campaign, especially when your child can benefit from the upgrades while he or she is at camp. Please help us to keep the momentum going as we move into our next phase of improvements. Won't you please consider a gift to this very important campaign? Any and all size donations are important as we continue with this very important capital improvement program. The YMCA Camp of Maine has touched so many lives and has truly made an impact on the campers who have attended. This campaign deserves your support as the Y Camp of Maine continues to provide an experience that will truly last a lifetime.

See you this camping season,
Barry Costa
Executive Director



Our "Spelling Bee" Team!

Calling All Alumni

Our Alumni family continues to grow. Have you registered as alumni on our alumni page yet? What are you waiting for? What a great opportunity to re-connect with a fellow camper or staff. By registering as alumni you also stay connected with camp. Camp alumni are very important to the health and well being of the total camp operation. Each summer the Y Camp has an alumni reunion day. This celebration has gained momentum for the past three years. In 2009 we had alumni attend from 1934 through the present. What a great opportunity to return to camp and get reacquainted with campers and staff from years past. We hear time after time how much Y Camp was such an important part of many campers and staff lives. Why not get re-connected?

**For the most current news and information please visit:
www.maineypcamp.org**



To small for supper

Camp Scholarships

The YMCA Camp Annual drive for Camp Scholarships is always in need of your support. The announcement of a capital campaign has significantly affected our annual drive for scholarship funding. Consequently, the Y Camp was unable to provide as much scholarship support in 2009. The Y Camp has always provided scholarship support for families of campers in need and will continue to do so. Scholarship support may be reduced in order to serve all the families in need.

We did have some good news in the scholarship department. For our second consecutive year we have successfully secured scholarships for 50 military family members to attend one week of camp at no charge. This grant was supplied by the Armed Forces YMCA. We will apply for additional funding for 2010. Contact the YMCA Camp for details.

The Y camp is always appreciative and willing to accept donations for our scholarship program. Campers who need support should contact the YMCA Camp office for a scholarship application. You can contact the office by e-mail or call direct at (207) 395-4200.



ARRrrrrrrr matey... (pirate weekend)



Oh snap! M.J. is back!



LIT volunteers at soup kitchen

2009 Boy & Girl Camper of the Year!

There were some exciting debates held this year before one boy and one girl were chosen as camper of the year. Each session one girl and one boy are chosen as camper of the session. At the end of the year staff select one boy and one girl from the ones chosen from each session to be camper of the year. Each camper of the year is recognized with a miniature canoe paddle that is engraved with their name on it. Another paddle with their name and year is mounted on the dining hall wall.

2009 Nominees – Camper of the Session:

- Session 1A: Clarle Daxon (F) & Philip-Antoine Breau (M)
- Session 1B: Anne-Sophie L'Esperance (F) & Wilson Vickers (M)
- Session 2: Ali LaBonte (F) & Nick Pelletier (M)
- Session 3: Lily Whitehouse (F) & Mohammed Awale (M)
- Session 4A: Caroline Hinckley (F) & Ben Wyman (M)
- Session 4B: Sabrina LaPointe (F) & Connor Kneeland (M)

2009 Campers of the Year:

Lily Whitehouse (F) & Nick Pelletier (M)

Congratulations to all the nominees and also to the Campers of the Year! We look forward to their return in 2010.

2009 Early Bird Contest Winners!

We would also like to congratulate **Audrey Grey** and **Cameron Frecker** for being the early bird winners of a new iTunes music card from the YMCA Camp of Maine. Audrey and Cameron's names were drawn from all campers who registered and paid in full before March 15, 2009. Hope you enjoy your new iTunes card Audrey & Cameron. Watch the web site for a similar contest in 2010.

Website Update

Registration for 2009 opens November 1, 2009.

Sign up now! We have had many inquiries as to when campers can enroll. This past year enrollment was up and many of our sessions were full. We would encourage you to register early. It is really easy to register on line. Just go to our web site at www.maineypcamp.org and click on the register for camp link. Follow the directions and you will have your place reserved the very day you register.

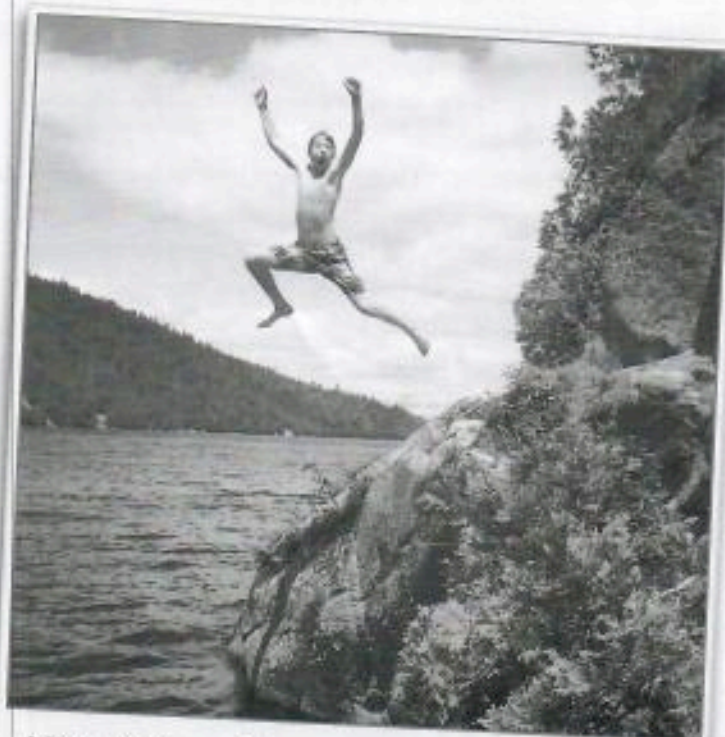
**REGISTER
ONLINE
NOVEMBER 1ST
2009**

Give a child a Christmas present that lasts a life time, a camp experience at the YMCA Camp of Maine!

Once again, interested staff will be able to apply for a position on line. Sign onto our website and go to the employment icon. The YMCA Camp Job Application will appear. Fill it out and send it electronically to the Y Camp Office.

Check out the photos for 2009. Just click on the photo gallery link. They are all on the web site by session. Show your favorite pictures to your friends. You can also download the photos to be suitably framed!

Individuals who have questions or need additional information can e-mail the camp at: info@maineycamp.org



Nice Form... 9 out of 10!



YMCA Camp of Maine

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YMCA Camp Wish List

The Y Camp is always in need of items that are still in good condition without missing parts. The Y camp is a 501c3 organization so individuals can receive a tax deduction on items donated. Check out those basements, attics, garages and storage sheds. You may have something you are no longer using anymore and may want to donate it to the camp.

Here is a list of items the camp could readily use:

- Sunfish or similar type of sail boats (\$ 2,800.00 new)
- Canoes or Kayaks
- Life jackets
- Board games
- Tables & Chairs for the Auditorium
- Pottery Wheels could use 1 or 2 (\$ 600.00 new)
- Good used furniture - Chairs, Tables, Chester Draws, etc.
- Sports Equipment - softball gloves, bats, tennis rackets, street hockey sticks etc.



New this summer - Yoga Class!

Hope to see you this summer, "Where It's Always 72 Degrees & Sunny!"