



# WISH LIST

As a 501-c-3 Charitable Organization, donations to YMCA Camp of Maine are tax deductible. Check out those basements, attics, garages and storage sheds. We are looking for the following items:

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

- Sunfish or similar type of sail boats (\$ 2,800.00 new)
- Canoes, Kayaks & Paddle Boards
- Board games
- Water Skis
- Pottery Wheels could use 1 (\$ 800.00 new)
- New Commercial Kitchen Stove
- Good used furniture – Chairs, Tables, Chester Draws, etc.

- New Two Way Radio System
- Life Jackets
- Sports Equipment
- Legos
- Books (Young & Adult Reader)

**HOPE TO SEE YOU NEXT SUMMER,  
“WHERE IT’S ALWAYS 72 DEGREES & SUNNY!”**



YMCA CAMP OF MAINE  
305 Winthrop Center Road, P.O. Box 446, Winthrop, ME  
04364

# THE PINE CONE



**YMCA CAMP OF MAINE**  
305 Winthrop Center Road, Winthrop ME  
Fall 2015  
maineycamp.org

A newsletter for members and volunteers of the Y

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

**By Barry Costa**

From the Director: The 2015 camping season officially ended October 3, 2015. Camp opened on April 21, 2015 with a four day nature camp, sponsored by the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed. Our last event was a wedding held on October 3rd. Once again we have been able to stretch out the time camp has stayed open. Y Camp continues to serve a variety of groups and organizations. Camp hosted a total of 34 organizations and other groups this year. Summer Camp served more than 600 individual campers from all over the United State, France, Spain, Canada, China, Saipan, Italy, Germany, and the Netherlands. Maine is still our number one served state! Sessions are filling to capacity with some campers going on to a wait list.

Greeley and Lisbon High Schools held their Project Graduation celebrations at camp in June. Hill View Montessori School from Haverhill MA, Park Elementary, Sherwood Heights and Walton Elementary from Auburn and the Windsor School all returned to camp this year for outdoor education and recreation. The Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed held their annual two weeks of Environmental Day Camp. The YMCA Camp was the catalyst for training staff to work in other camps by offering a Certification School, covering trainings in Basic Wilderness First Aid, CPR/First Aid and Archery.

Several milestones have been reached in 2015. YMCA Camp Celebrated 100 Years of operations with a grand party on Saturday August 1, 2015. The opening parade was led by the Claddah Mhor Bag Pipe Band and the Maine Army National Guard Honor Guard. Two-hundred YMCA Campers and International staff carried flags from around the world. The parade ended at the flagpole where an American flag that Senator Collins donated (which was previously flown over the Capitol Building in Washington) was raised along with a Maine State flag and our Anniversary Flag.

Following the flag raising, dignitaries spoke about the power of YMCA Camp of Maine and the impacts our Alumni have on Maine and those we encounter. Present dignitaries included: Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Commissioner Woodcock, Local Representative Craig Hickman, Commanders from the National Guard, State Senator Susan



Camp director Barry Costa back in 1994

Collins' Representative, Winthrop Town Manager Peter Nielsen, Y-USA Representative Kellie Wardman, Board President Tom Christensen, Retiring Camp Director Barry Costa, and Incoming Camp Director Jeff Gleason.

Dinner music was provided by the Southern Maine String Camp Quartet with music director Anne Wilkinson. Following dinner, a Jazz Band played from the Auditorium stage. The day ended with a spectacular fireworks show launched from the lake. The entire day was marked with Alumni sharing their camp stories. A quickly passing storm forced everyone inside and the time was well spent connecting current and past campers. 2016's Annual Alumni Gathering will be Saturday August 6. Please attend and help us carry camp in to another successful 100 years.

Another significant milestone was a personal one for me. I announced my retirement from the YMCA movement after 38 years of service with a total of 17 years working at the YMCA Camp



New Director Jeff Gleason and his family. Left to Right: Kim, Josie, Jeff, and Charlotte.

of Maine. I want to thank everyone for their support as we all worked to bring the YMCA Camp of Maine into the 21st century. The vision "Uncle Jeff Smith" brought to the YMCA Camp has lasted 100 years and I wish the camp another 100 years of service!

Yet another significant moment – The \$1 million Capital Campaign has been surpassed with \$1.3 million donated. THANK YOU to everyone who helped us reach our goals! As we look at the projects that have been completed and what is yet to be, the Board of Directors closed the campaign. Facility development is far from over. Stay tuned as future projects are announced.

Meet the new Director and his family: It is with great excitement that Kim, Charlotte, Josie and I move in to the Director's Cabin and assume the roles of Camp Director and Camp Family. We took opportunities this summer to meet campers, families, alumni and staff members. Attending the Anniversary Event was an awesome opportunity to learn the stories, magic, and significance of YMCA Camp of Maine. We are excited to be a part of history as we being another century of camping on Cobbosseecontee. We are looking forward to meeting you all and making new memories together.

## CAMPER REGISTRATION

2016 dates are on the web site. Registration for 2016 opens December 1. Because sessions are filling, avoid the wait-list and register early. Register online through [www.maineypcamp.org](http://www.maineypcamp.org) Session 1 starts June 26 and Session 4 ends on August 13. Emails will be sent to returning families on Tuesday December 1 as a reminder.



# 2015 BOY & GIRL CAMPER OF THE YEAR!

At the end of the summer, staff members select one boy and one girl who were voted "Camper of the Session" to be "Camper of the Year." Exciting debates were held this year before one boy and one girl were chosen. Those selected will be 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.

## 2015 Nominees – Camper of the Session:

- Session 1: Ashlyn Poulin (F) & Isaiah Pacholski (M)
- Session 2: Olivia Cunningham (F) & Ben Payson (M)
- Session 3: Dina Mulual (F) & Alex Kane (M)
- Session 4A: Rosalie Attal (F) & Alex Stratis (M)
- Session 4B: Rose Jones (F) & Carter Bradford (M)

Congratulations to all the nominees and also to the Campers of the Year! We look forward to their return in 2016.

## 2015 Campers of the Year:

Olivia Cunningham (F) & Carter Bradford (M)



## CALLING ALL ALUMNI

Our Alumni family continues to grow. With the Alumni database updated after our big celebration, we want to stay in touch with everyone. Increased opportunities for Alumni to be engaged in camp are becoming available. Join YMCA Camp of Maine on Facebook and Instagram to stay connected. Periodic emails are being sent with dates of gatherings outside of camp.



## HELP NEEDED

Interested counselors should return the Staff Application to the office early. The application will be available on the website or by emailing Jeff ([jeff@maineycamp.org](mailto:jeff@maineycamp.org)).

Volunteer opportunities exist year-round at camp. Whether painting cabins, clearing trails, raking leaves, or serving our Board of Directors suits you most, contact Jeff for more information on how you can be involved.

Robert Acheson, a former staff member and alumni, painted a night scene showing the dining hall. Orders can be placed through the YMCA Camp office at 207-395-4200.

# 2016 EARLY BIRD CONTEST WINNER!

We would also like to congratulate Carly Woollard and Jacob Membrino for being the early bird winners of an iTunes gift card from the YMCA Camp of Maine. Thirty-four names were drawn from all campers who registered and paid in full before March 15, 2015.



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# CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

The Annual Support Campaign needs your help. Campers who would not otherwise have the chance to come to the YMCA Camp of Maine are able to create lasting friendships, build leadership skills, and increase their confidence because of the support provided by Alumni, community members, companies and camper families. Scholarships are offered to everyone who applies and no one is ever turned away because of an inability to pay.

The Candace Beesley Jamison Scholarship Fund has supported YMCA Camp of Maine since 2006. Two campers are selected annually to receive a full one-week campership in Candace Beesley's memory.

The Cobbossee Yacht Club renewed the Herman Boas scholarship for a needy camper this summer.

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.

# MILITARY SCHOLARSHIPS & MATCHING GIFTS

Military Families have always been support at camp. Through generous contributions, we are able to provide scholarships to 46 campers of Military Families in 2015. THANK YOU to the following Posts and Individuals for making a difference for the families of military personnel:

- Frank Mitchell Post 3335
- Todd & Kimberly Fuller
- MacCrillis-Rousseau LAVFW 8835
- John & Pamela Blamey
- AMVET Post # 33



## GIVE THE GIFT OF CAMP

Stuff a stocking, or really big box, with a YMCA Camp of Maine gift certificate toward camp tuition. Certificates can be purchased for any amount. Talk with Grandparents or other family members to get them involved in this Gift of Camp. Contact the Office to secure your gift certificate in time.



# NEW "ADOPT A CABIN"

In an effort to provide care and necessary updates to our cabins, the "Adopt A Cabin" program was born. Annual donations support maintenance projects and interior furnishings to keep the cabins in tip-top shape. Cabin Adopters are recognized with the hanging of a custom canoe paddle outside of "their" cabin. Twelve cabins are already adopted. Contact the office to secure yours.

**THANK YOU to everyone who is supporting a cabin!**

## Cabin Sponsors:

- H. Allen & Dianne Ryan (2 Cabins)
- James & Persephone Ditzel (2 Cabins)
- Hayden Marshall Inman
- Ray Cook CPA
- Hartley Palleschi
- Dennis Ring
- Smart Eye Care
- Matt Cairns
- Capital Tree Services
- Blake O'Connell



## BOARD MEMEBER OPENINGS

The Board of Directors has announced a few openings on the Board of Directors for the Y Camp. Board members provide recommendations, oversee the organization, and support camp. Parents, Community Members and Alumni are all welcome to participate. Serving on the Board is a powerful way to give back to YMCA Camp of Maine. If interested, contact the Jeff at 207-395-4200 or [jeff@maineycamp.org](mailto:jeff@maineycamp.org).

