



From The Heart

News For The Strong of Heart

Fall 2009

Summer 2009: Another Great One!

Summer 2009 saw us with the largest number of campers, most number of eight-week campers, and half of our staff made up of former Songa campers. We also had the most Verendrye trippers ever with twenty girls returning for their senior trip. It was fortunate that with this large number of trippers we had moved the location of the Willoughby Longhouse to its permanent site on the west side of the "Great Lawn." This was made possible by the construction of the Willoughby Fort – a full service facility designed with our oldest campers in mind. We added a new tent, and in keeping with our pattern of naming cabins and tents after indigenous plants, this one is called "Queen Anne's Lace."

We had a great tripping season this summer. With so many returning campers on our staff there was a new depth to the quality of trips as staff returned to places they had gone as campers and shared their passion for tripping with our campers. We added a new whitewater trip for our most experienced trippers – Petite Nation. With this addition we were also able to add another Duposte River trip to the lineup. With 20 "senior" campers we had three groups head to Verendrye – the yellow, green and

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The new Willoughby

Reflections on a Forty Six Year Friendship

As I began putting this newsletter together I knew that I would be including some pieces written this summer about camp friendship by some of our Mattagami campers for a Sunday Circle. After meeting and talking with Martha Klingbeil Coates and Molly Mills Bruch at Keewaydin's 100th I thought their piece about long friendship would be a great illustration of the ideas the girls wrote about. In response to my request for a piece from Martha and Molly, Martha let me know that her mother, Susan Slocum Klingbeil, had an even longer camp friendship that dated back to her days as a Songa camper. I'm glad to

share the stories of two great friendships that started at Songadeewin and continue to this day.

A life-long friendship that started at Songadeewin

Dorothy Ann Negus Gentil and Susan Slocum Klingbeil first met in 1939 or 1940 at Songadeewin on Lake

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Summer 2009
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purple crews were ably lead by Elsie Lynn, Meaghan Turner, Katie Burton, Ali Hare, Grace Burton and Kate Ward. Eight of last year's Verendrye trippers returned for a Wilderness trip. For the first time our trip went to the Mistassibi River in northern Quebec. This was our first wilderness trip with an all-female crew and it was a huge success. Kate Connell returned to lead the trip and we were delighted to welcome Cecelia Allende, longtime Temagami camper and staff, as the trip assistant. This was a great opportunity for sharing information and skills between two of our Keewaydin camp programs.

We welcomed 32 new campers and staff to the ranks of the Old Timers this year. In the first month, a group led by Meaghan Turner completed a set of posts that were used with yellow chains to mark off the parking area for parents. In the second month, a group led by Steve Wack and Christina Liudvinaitis made sandwich board signs for Rustic Lane to direct those needing more accessible parking.

After many years without a curtain for our Saturday Spectaculars we were delighted to finally hang the "Burton



Claire Gentil and Ali Hare – the first staff for our new tent – Queen Anne's Lace



The Burton Curtain

Curtain," named in honor of Lolly Burton's 80th birthday. The curtain features a central painting of Lake Dunmore and Mount Moosalamoo which is surrounded by the handprints and names of all the campers and staff (and a certain little dog) who were at camp in the summer of 2007 when we began this project. Alex Germek painted the central image. It's a wonderful addition to Beenadeewin and especially to our weekly shows. We can now have fillers in front of the curtain while the stage is being set for the next skit or presentation.

What remained central to all of us at camp this summer were the connections we made with one another, the friends we made, and time spent with and growing alongside one another. These connections happen in our cabins and tents, on trips, and in our day-to-day contact with one another, whether that is on the path to a meal, in an activity period, at the table in the dining hall, around a tetherball court, at the swings, sharing space while roasting our hot dogs, or around the picnic tables in our Longhouses. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will read about some friendships that started at Songadeewin and have held fast for decades.





Lolly Burton and the Burton cousins who were campers or staff last summer – l to r, Kathy and Emily Burton, Maggie Bastidas, Lolly, Katie Burton, Laura Graham and Grace Burton.



The 2009 Verendrye Crews after their celebratory dinner at the Waybury Inn.



The 2009 Wilderness Trip ready to paddle out from camp

Friendship

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Willoughby. It was to be the start of a long friendship that continues to this day. The year they met they were in the same cabin in Senior and both were on the Green team. Susan was one of the camp buglers – playing reveille and for daily flag raising.

One summer at camp they went on a canoe trip to Sherbrooke, QC and Lake Memphremagog. Their time at Songadeewin overlapped only a few years and after that they mostly stayed in touch through Christmas cards as Susan lived in Michigan and Dorothy Ann lived in Richmond, Virginia.

However, in the last fifteen years or so these former campers have been in more immediate contact, traveling and visiting one another with their spouses. It started when Dorothy Ann and her husband Kenneth were living in France. Susan, who spent her summers at the Sequanota Club on Lake Charlevoix in Michigan, let Dorothy Ann know that a summer cottage at the club would be available for a month. With no home to return to in the States, the Gentils decided to go to Michigan for part of the summer. That led the couples to spend time together in the Everglades where the Klingbeils had a motor home and boat slip. On one of the trips to Florida they connected with Ann Rush Cook, another former Songa camper who at the time was living in the Naples area. They connected with Ann because she and Susan's brother Bill, who had attended Keewaydin Temagami, served on a Board together and had made the Keewaydin connection. While together they spent an evening around a campfire singing all the old Keewaydin songs, including

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Friendship

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Making the connection between two generations of Songa friendships pictured here are Martha Klingbeil Coates and Dorothy Ann Negus Gentil. Dorothy Ann has been friends with Martha's mother since their girlhood days at Songadeewin.

Goodbye Abitibi, one of Dorothy Ann's favorites. Later there was another trip, to Lafayette, CA, where both families had relatives. Today the women are regularly in touch by phone and with an occasional visit.

This past summer Dorothy Ann and Susan's daughter, Martha Klingbeil Coates, both attended the celebration for the 100th on Lake Dunmore. During the traditional P-rade Dorothy Ann's son Steve (father of current Songa staff Claire) and Martha discovered that they had both started camp the same year, one at Dunmore and the other at Songa on Willoughby. They marched and cheered together doing a great job representing 1963.



When asked to write about their long friendship, Martha wrote the following:

Little did I know when my mother drove me to from Detroit to Cleveland in June of 1963 that I would eventually meet a girl at camp with whom I would remain friends for the next 46 years. My mother dropped me off at the train station in Cleveland to meet the group of Laurel School girls who were being chaperoned to camp by Miss Millie Holt. It would be an overnight trip to Songadeewin on Lake Willoughby.

My first summer I got terribly homesick, but as began to feel better I became friends with Judy Armington. The next year her friend Molly Mills came to Songa. Through Judy, Molly and I became fast friends and would

visit each other during the winter. Our friendship continued for four summers through our CIT years, but after that we drifted apart.

What a coincidence it was when we were assigned as roommates at the University of Colorado! I was taking my junior year there from Smith College and Molly was transferring into the university. This reignited our friendship. While we have never lived in the same city since then we have shared in life's milestones, joys and losses. In the past we have travelled together to the west coast, Arizona and Idaho. I have also visited Molly in Denver where she's lived for thirty years.

Most recently, Molly came to visit me in Boston. We attended Keewaydin's 100th, but also spent a fun day on



Martha Klingbeil and Molly Mills are pictured here along with the rest of the 1968 CIT's: top- Margaret Cooper, Martha Klingbeil, Carol Swift; middle - Lucy McKeon (current Songa parent), Barb ???, Gaile Greenwood; bottom - Prell Tirell, Jackie Hantz, Judy Armington, Molly Mills, and "Buttons" ???

Lake Willoughby - testing the frigid waters, peeking in the old cabins, reminiscing around the old campsite and trying to retrace our steps on the old Songadeewin property. We both were in awe of the magnificence of that spot. Did we fully appreciate the beauty and grandeur when we were campers? A highlight of the day was visiting Dick Harter and his wife, Mari, in their lovely home above the "cove".

Our forty-six years of friendship is built on our shared summers at Songadeewin. I have no other friend with whom I share so many memories and so many years.

In response, Molly wrote this:

Martha has been an unbelievable friend. When my oldest son died unexpectedly last January, she arrived within hours and spent a full week with me. I couldn't have gotten through that awful time without her. She was wonderful in getting necessary things done, as well giving me such comfort. The friendships that you make growing up at a camp are, as they say, "priceless". Martha and I are very lucky in that respect.

Martha Klingbeil Coates currently lives in Boston with her husband, Ted. She has two sons ages 24 and 27 and three step-daughters ages 24, 26 and 29. In addition to her mother, Susan Slocum Klingbeil who attended Songadeewin, her uncle William W. Slocum and brother Bill Klingbeil, Jr. attended Temagami. She is working part time for Winston Flowers as well as taking a Master Gardeners Course. From her Songa days she continues to enjoy hiking, sailing, canoeing, and fly fishing. Songadeewin really instilled in her a love of the out of doors. In her twenties she went to Alaska for three months - hiking in



In August Molly Mills Bruch, Ellen Flight, Dick Harter and Martha Klingbeil Coates were at Keewaydin Dunmore to celebrate the 100th. Dick Harter was a Keewaydin Dunmore camper in the 1940s and later followed in his parents' footsteps as one of the directors of Songa on Lake Willoughby.

Denali National Park, and canoeing and kayaking in the Brooks Range. This past summer she and her brother took her sons canoeing. She went fly fishing for a week in Montana with her 87 year old father and one day she went horseback riding into the backcountry of the mountains. She thinks perhaps the 'nature' classes at Songa started her life-long love of flowers and gardening.

Molly Mills Bruch has lived in Denver for 30 years. Molly works with a financial planner, which has been challenging lately! She and her husband Michael have three children, ages 19 to 23. Her children have all played lacrosse, a sport she was first introduced to at Songadeewin. Her mother, Jenot Warner Mills, attended Songa many, many years ago. She is now 93, and has very fond memories of camp. Molly's sister, Dolly Mills Lager, also attended Songa and her father attended Temagami.



What is the difference between a camp friend and a school friend?

The following were written and delivered by some of our Mattagami campers at a Sunday Circle this summer.

Camp Friends

You might say that you're closer to a friend at school simply because you see them every day or you can talk about things that happened at school that day. But I disagree. Only a true friend like those you make at camp could uphold a friendship with you during the eleven months of separation. But why? Maybe it's because your camp friends become your sisters. You live with them, eat with them, you see them through the good times and the bad. You

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Friends

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see them accomplish their goals and if they don't you push them to try again. After sleeping a foot away from someone for eight weeks how could you not finish her sentences? Know when they want to have a shaving party? Or, remember the smallest details about them like which shoes they prefer to wear to an eighties-themed dance party.

How would we not keep in touch with these "soul sisters" so to speak? We all have our ways. Some use email, some use IM-ing or video-chatting, and some talk on the phone. But, you always know with a friendship made at camp that no matter how far away you are, or how long it took to reply to an email, that friendship is there – unmoving and undying. ***Andrea Begleiter***



I wait every year to see the friends I only see one or two months a year. The friendship never breaks even if you don't see them for most of the year. You are always glad to see them and they are always glad to see you. That is the beauty of camp friends. ***Sophie Basseches***



Camp friendship for me is when my friends and I sling our arms around each other's shoulders and walk aimlessly around camp talking about anything and everything. ***Jordan Stepaniuk***



What camp friendship means to me is maybe not having a best friend, but instead daring to love many people with all your heart, and to be daring enough to express that love. ***Emma Vorenberg***



~ Come join the fun in Boston this Spring! ~

On April 25, 2010 Keewaydin alumni will meet on the shores of the Charles River to take part in the 29th annual Run of the Charles canoe race. We're looking for "tall, strong Songa women" to paddle in the event. There are five legs to the race, each needing two paddlers. Last year Songa paddlers entered as half of a coed Keewaydin team and for 2010 we'd like to have an all women's team to represent Songadeewin.

Boats from Keewaydin Dunmore and Temagami will be entered – let's show them what Songa can do!! Moms, daughters, students, aunts, and grandmothers are all welcome, as are spectators for the picnic at the end of the race.

For more information contact Ellen Flight at ellen@keewaydin.org or call 802-352-9860.



Former Songa Campers and Staff Help Celebrate Keewaydin Dunmore's 100th

Almost 500 people came to Lake Dunmore the week after camp to celebrate the century that Keewaydin Dunmore has been a summer camp in Vermont. Former campers, staff and their families started arriving on Thursday, August 27th for the weekend event. Folks traveled in family groups, with friends and alone, some with children not yet campers and others with several generations of their families with them. In addition to regular camp activities there were special events including a Four Winds Ceremony, a Friday Frolics, a Parade and some special nature activities. Songadeewin hosted a hot dog cookout on our campus for lunch one day and over 100 people paddled or drove over to have lunch and see our beautiful campus. Throughout the weekend Songadeewin was well represented by generations of former campers. Pictured here are just some of the people with Songadeewin connections who were on hand to join in the festivities.



John McPhee and Dick Harter. John is the brother of Lolly McPhee Burton, former Songa camper and mother and grandmother to former and current Songa campers. Dick's parents were the directors of Songadeewin on Lake Willoughby and later he was one of the camp directors. Both men attended Keewaydin Dunmore as boys and worked on the staff.



Sally Margolin Thomas and her daughter, Hannah. Sally attended Songa on Willoughby and this past summer worked as the Camp Mother at Songa on Dunmore where Hannah was a day camper. For two summers in the 1980s Sally worked as the bookkeeper at Keewaydin.



Peggy Breed Marsh and Dorothy Ann Negus Gentil went to Songadeewin as young girls when their fathers, General Breed and Sid Negus, were directors at Keewaydin camps.



Songa was well represented when 1999 came out to give their cheer at the P-rade.

Here are Alex Germek, Corina Pardo (all the way from Venezuela with her family), Amy Vorenberg, Laurel Domenick, Ella Vorenberg and Claire Gentil.

Here are just some of the Songa staff from last summer who stayed to help out at the 100th celebration: Steph Tubb, Christina Liudvinaitis, Alex Germek, Frances Jones, Lelia Yerxa and Jocelyn Hughes



Hannah Solis-Cohen and Kelsey Barry



Lily Bell



Sarah Winn, Ellen Flight and Claire Gentil

Songadeewin Health Center Undergoes Major Renovations Thanks to Keewaydin Forever Campaign

A number of people came together to plan and design renovations for the Songadeewin Health Center, which is undergoing a complete renovation thanks to capital funding provided through the Keewaydin Forever campaign.

In preparation for renovations to the Songa Health Center, the Dunmore Site Committee members Joe Feely and Pete Hedlund, Executive Director Pete Hare, Camp Director Ellen Flight, and Head of Facilities Lee Randlett met. Prior meetings with

current nursing staff including Lona Gabree and Anne Cluss and other camp personnel, occurred to discuss the needs of the camp and the health center staff. Once all the needs were identified, interior designer Victoria Gutfreund (mother of Songa camper Willa and staff Charlotte) came on board to work out the details of making the existing space meet those needs. Every detail of this renovation is designed to make the Health Center more user-friendly and efficient for campers and staff alike, while maintaining many of the unique

historical features of the building. These include huge sliding doors from the days when the building was a carriage house, original birch floors, and beautiful bead-board wall finishes.

Songa Director Ellen Flight said, "In a typical camping season, every camper makes several visits to the Health Center as she checks in and out for trips. These are in addition to camper and staff visits for regular medication, illness or injury. With 118+ campers and 60+ staff, that is a lot of visits to the Health Center in a single



summer. We have been thinking for a long time about how to make the center more comfortable with a better configuration to separate the dispensary part of the Health Center from the infirmary part and allowing privacy for the residential nurses and staff who also share the building. We are thrilled that these changes will be ready for campers and nurses in the 2010 season."

Work began following the end of this year's camping season. Renovations included reconfiguring space to create an isolation room for those who are contagious; creation of a bathroom solely for use by those needing services in the Health Center; a more private exam/treatment room; a quiet isolated space for those needing rest; a separate entrance for those living upstairs in the building so as not to disturb those who are staying overnight or resting for a day; and a separate "public" bathroom with an outside entrance. Additional amenities include installation of a washer and dryer and

an intercom system for alerting the nurses of needs in the night. The renovations are part of campus wide capital improvements being made possible through the Keewaydin Forever Campaign.

The campaign's goal is to raise a minimum of \$15 million and a maximum of \$18 million for



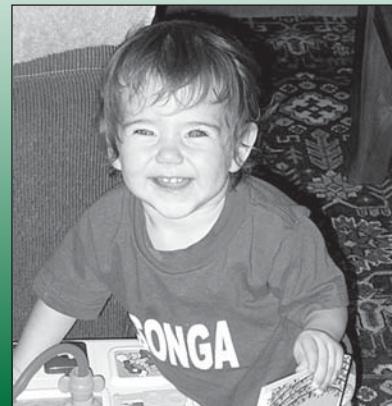
facility improvements, scholarships, preservation, and endowment funding.

For more information about the campaign, contact Tom Oxholm at tom@keewaydin.org



Future Songa Campers

While celebrating Keewaydin's 100th we meet some future Songa campers who are already showing their Songa Spirit – Meet Ellery Rettinger, daughter of Dave and Julie, and Annika Hedlund (being held by Songa Director, Ellen Flight) daughter of Pete and Maile. Ellery and Annika were just two of more than a dozen potential Songa girls who attended the reunion in August.



Alumni News Notes

Jessica Malone just moved to Denver, CO to take a job as a hydrogeologist with an environmental consulting firm – as she said “basically, my dream job! I get to work on groundwater pollution and all sorts of water problems in the Western US. I’m so excited that I get to move to Colorado as well.” When she was in Denver last spring for an internship she was able to see **Kirsten and Erica Harlow**, and their cousin **Emery-Kate Tillman** (see notes below.)

In October 2009 she saw **Eliza Giles** at Coors Field for Game 3 of the NLDS between the Phillies and the Rockies. Eliza and her family (in town from California where they live) were sitting one section over from Jess. She sent this picture adding, “we were freezing cold but we had so much fun!”



After a year of training, hard work and dedication, **Emery Kate Tillman** secured the second berth on the TEAM USA Freestyle Whitewater Kayak team in the Junior Women’s division. Her spot was secured while competing in Team Trials in Colorado in the spring of 2009. Cheering her on at riverside, in addition to her parents, were her cousins and Songa staff **Erica and Kirsten Harlow** along with former Songa staff Jesse



Malone. During her semi-final ride commentators called her “the up and coming women’s paddler to watch and a true ambassador for the sport.” This summer she trained in Ottawa, Canada in preparation for the World Championships.

In August she traveled to Thun, Switzerland to compete at the World Championships with paddlers from 20 other countries. She placed 13th in her division. She is hoping to go to her next international event in Germany next summer. She is currently a

sophomore at Middlebury Union High School which she attends with her sister, **Kira Sage Tillman**. She also sees **Kelsey Barry** everyday at school. Congratulations, Emery Kate!

Congratulations to **Megs Titchner Doull** and her husband **Logan Doull** on the arrival of their son Gabriel on April 29, 2009. When he was three weeks old Megs wrote: “Gabriel is a little honey and we’re loving having him in our family. The nights can be tough, but I just look down at his gorgeous little face and don’t mind



being up for hours making him feel better!" Six months later Logan reports that Gabriel is "rolling, laughing, and catching balls! We are gearing up for teeth, solids and maybe crawling."

Congratulations are also due to **Stacy Allen Ryder** and her husband Simon on the arrival this summer of their second son, Jamie. Older brother Harry "just adores his little brother." While Simon is back to teaching

Stacy is home with the boys working to establish a routine with a toddler and an infant – after running the waterfront at Songa we're sure it won't take long.

Susan McMillan, Songa's first Camp Mother, is now working full-time for the American Cancer Society's Hope House in New Orleans, Louisiana where women and their families who are dealing with Breast Cancer can stay for free while they

are undergoing treatment. She brings the same energy, graciousness and her open heart to her work at Hope House as she did at Songa. A breast cancer survivor herself, Susan recently participated in the ASC Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K walk along the shore of Lake Pontchartrain. Susan's daughter, former Songa staff, **Meg McMillian**, recently announced her engagement. She'll be getting married in Vermont next October.



Courtney Mulcahy Rent was married July 11th this summer in Vermont to Jagga Rent. Songadeewin and Keewaydin were well represented at the festivities – **Lexie Kuser** and **Jordan Mangus** were in the wedding party. Other guests joined the happy couple for this photo:

Standing: Hunter and Greg White, Liam Murphy, Mick Bacchione, Ellen Flight, Jagga and Courtney Rent, Lexie Kuser, Jordan Mangus, Hannah "Hazel" Stauffer, kneeling: Carmen Epstein, Erica Harlow, Meaghan Turner, Lindsey Schumann, and Lindsey "Tony" Anthony.



Purple Crew

Purple Crew: Amelia Littleton, Molly Mepyans, Ana Anfruns, Juliana St. Onge, **Katie Burton**, Annabel Coleman, **Ali Hare**, Wei Wei Magnuson



Green Crew

Green Crew: kneeling, Hannah Iversen, Nicole Brookman, Dakota Kashchy, standing, **Grace Burton**, Helen Stillwell, Helaina Peck, Mary Gens, **Kate Ward**



Yellow Crew

Yellow Crew: kneeling, Sami Briggs, Lindsay Arader, Eleanor McCabe, Maggie Bastidas, standing, Jordan Fragen, Lauren O'Connor, **Elsie Lynn**, **Meaghan Turner**, Sam VanWees, Hayley Arader



FAITHFUL AND TRUE

100 Years of Keewaydin on Lake Dunmore

BY MIKE VORENBERG



A rich history of the first century of Keewaydin Dunmore, one of the oldest and best-known summer camps in North America. Here is the story of a legendary institution for everyone in the Keewaydin family and everyone interested in the history of American camping, boyhood, and exploration.

“When a real historian writes a history of his summer camp, as Mike Vorenberg has done for Keewaydin, great fun and valuable information are the happy results.”
Abby Fenn, former Associate Director, Keewaydin Dunmore, and author of
The Story of Keewaydin: 50 Years at Dunmore

Mike Vorenberg (Keewaydin Dunmore '72) is Associate Professor of History, Brown University.

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The Keewaydin Annual Fund

Ensuring Keewaydin's Lifelong Impact

Keewaydin is but one experience in life, but its impact is profound. For over 100 years, Keewaydin has been on the forefront of providing canoe explorations and camp experiences for kids that have a lasting effect.

Annual gifts from alumni, parents and friends make a huge difference in the breadth and depth of the programs Keewaydin offers each summer, and provides scholarship opportunities for children to attend camp.

Please do your part to ensure Keewaydin's lifelong impact by giving to the Annual Fund.
Thank you!



2010 KEEWAYDIN CALENDAR

April 5	Board of Directors' Meeting
April 25	Run of the Charles Canoe Race in Boston
April 26-June 4	Keewaydin Environmental Education Center - 35th Year of Program
June 4-6	John Watson Work Weekend - Dunmore and Songadeewin Campuses (All Welcome)
June 27-August 21	101st Keewaydin Season on Lake Dunmore 12th Songadeewin of Keewaydin Season on Lake Dunmore
June 27-August 11	117th Keewaydin Season on Lake Temagami 85th Ojibway Season on Lake Temagami
July 30	Board of Directors' Meeting at Temagami
August 26-29	Alumni Family Weekend at Keewaydin Dunmore
September 13-October 8	Keewaydin Environmental Education Center
November 1	Board of Directors' Meeting
November 1	Keewaydin Alumni Reunion in New York

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