



*"Share the Gift of Summer Camp!"*



# THE GULL ROCK GAZETTE



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visit us at [www.amicicharity.org](http://www.amicicharity.org) & [www.kilcoo.com](http://www.kilcoo.com)

## A REMINDER OF WHAT KILCOO IS ALL ABOUT

*Quite frequently alumni from every decade ask if the values whose influence they remember from their days at camp are the same as those being embraced by the camp today. The best possible response to that question "jumps out" in this letter written by a parent in October 2009*

Dear Lub and The Kilcoo Family,

It is with sincere appreciation that I write this letter to you regarding my son's experiences at Kilcoo Camp. Luke attended for the month of July, 2009 and it was in his words "the greatest summer" of his life. We marvel at the growth and maturity that we see in him each day and we can attribute much of it to the opportunities and life experiences that he was provided at Kilcoo.

As a family, we decided to register Luke as a camper at Kilcoo because of the values that Kilcoo upholds and the commitment to supporting boys in becoming the very best they can be. We established a very positive connection from the very first new camper session in Toronto. Luke felt an immediate comfort and excitement about camp and we decided to register him for a month rather than just two weeks.

Luke had a wonderful time with his cabin mates, but we are amazed at how connected he felt to his counsellor and many others in leadership positions. One senior staff member continued his support of Luke and visited him regularly despite being the leader of another section. He also went above and beyond by arranging a sunrise paddle with Luke on the last day of camp. They went for a paddle at 6 am and Luke was shown some of the special places at Kilcoo, including the Look-out. Luke still talks about this time and we are grateful for all the care he received throughout the month.

*Luke has succeeded in many things in his life ... but this summer you helped him find his passion...the traditions of Kilcoo Camp.*

Though he has always been a little scared of heights, Luke conquered the high ropes and while it takes him 10 minutes to ease into the warm 75 degree water in our backyard pool, he joined the Polar Bear Club and took a frigid dip every morning during a "silver clouded" and cool July. Though a little shy at first, he developed the confidence to connect with a number of Kilcoo campers and staff in what has been an unforgettable experience for him. These personal accomplishments and demonstrations of courage and character were made possible because of the culture of care and inclusion at camp and the commitment by everyone associated with Kilcoo to support each camper in becoming a better person.

It should be noted that this culture extends beyond the physical boundaries of Kilcoo. Luke ran the Highland Yard 5km run in Minden this year following his July session and was treated so very well by the Kilcoo staff who were volunteering at the race. Tingles was cheering him on, Terrance gave him high 5s as he ran past and "Reesor" actually gave Luke his coveted orange Kilcoo headband that Luke tied on immediately and wore with great pride to the Gull Lake Regatta the following day. He wore it all summer and Luke has

displayed the headband proudly in his room at home.

As a principal of an elementary school, it is my role to establish a safe, positive and caring learning environment for all students. Your parent day theme of courage and

every day heroes resonated with me. Not only did your message further reinforce and validate our decision to join the Kilcoo family, it has contributed greatly to the vision of my school. Tingles cited a very powerful statement from Charles Schultz about true heroes and I have used portions of that same speech at assemblies and at parent council meetings this year. My vision is to develop a school where students run to school and walk home because of the great things that happen there and the sense of belonging they feel. Lub, you have certainly accomplished this at Kilcoo!!

We hear camp stories endlessly and Luke can't wait to return. As educators, we work every day to ignite the fire within kids; to find their passion and maximize their potential. Luke has succeeded in many things in his life ... but this summer you helped him find his passion...the traditions of Kilcoo Camp and all the opportunities that come with being a part of the storied history.

In closing, I will share a story of the day we picked Luke up from camp. We arrived by boat and figured it would be a quick in and out as we would gather his bags, load up the boat and head back to the cottage. As we tied the boat at the dock, we heard the rumble of table banging, chanting and singing coming from the lodge as the final gathering was coming to a close. There was such energy!! We connected with Luke and THREE hours later we untied the boat. He introduced us to his friends. Though we were familiar with many of these places, he showed us woodcraft, ceramics, tuck, chapel, and the canoe and sail docks. We fired pucks at the Shader Dome and climbed to the Look-out that he had learned about earlier in the day. We met many of the staff and took pictures of everyone we saw and one with Lub as he and Luke compared leg wounds and battle scars. Luke didn't want to leave!! It was almost like what we see come to life each year in the World Series or Stanley Cup playoffs. The champions reluctantly leave the field or ice and remain in their gear for hours after because they don't want it to end. Luke really didn't want the July session to end!!

Thank you for all that you do. We look forward to many exciting summers and a strong friendship with the Kilcoo Family.

Sincerely,  
Mike and Lisa



## EDITOR'S MUSINGS

This has been a strange winter: much less than the usual amount of snow in southern Ontario where the majority of alumni live, some unexpected sustained rainfall in the Vancouver area leading up to the Olympic Games, and for those alumni who live in or travel to the southeastern United States, prolonged unseasonably cool weather. Let's hope things improve in time for the 2010 camping season.

Kilcoo's summer plans are well in motion with Kim and Tingles perhaps even busier in the office than normal. A slightly higher than usual turnover in staff will occur in 2010 as 22 of the staff from 2009 have shifted to the ranks of alumni, a transition many of us tried to delay in our time. For those of you from earlier decades, however, this is not as significant a change as it would have been in the days when there were half as many staff members.

We continue to add alumni, the most recent addition being Mac Langford (1953-56) who happened upon the Kilcoo website on a whim from his home in the State of Washington. When I contact alumni I always get a very positive response concerning their enjoyment of the Gazette and the connection it helps them feel with camp. Yet, getting submissions for articles continues to be difficult and too often I worry about "What am I going to include in the next issue?" As I keep repeating, if you have ideas please, please get creative and send them in. The Gazette will only be as good a read as you the alumni make it.

I am happy with this issue to be introducing a series of articles that will appear authored by some of the women who have graced Kilcoo's staff over the years (perhaps weathered the storm is a more appropriate use of words) and an article by Ken Jones and the parent letter (cover story) to the camp certainly reassure us all that Kilcoo is still as good as it has ever been.

In a future issue I would like to write about Kilcoo's buildings through the years and I ask those among you who were at Kilcoo in the 40's to send in your comments. I am particularly interested in the origin of the sail cabin, the three cabins close to the waterfront that were named after native tribes, and a few

buildings located quite close to the lodge. I have a picture I could send to anyone who wanted to identify them.



On the subject of pictures, if any of you have old pictures of Kilcoo, send them on. We are trying to build a meaningful camp archive. Too often historical details of places and events are lost and there is much about Kilcoo in pictures that tells a good story. If you can scan your pictures to a computer e-mail them to [gazetteeditor@kilcoo.com](mailto:gazetteeditor@kilcoo.com) or mail them to the camp office if you don't mind parting with them. If you plan a get together with alumni from your era, wherever you are, send us a report and we will include it in the following issue. We are collecting alumni from the Peterborough area on May 29th for lunch followed by a free tour of the Canadian Canoe Museum. If there are those among you who live in the Oshawa, Peterborough, Haliburton area who want to join up please let me know and I will send you details. There will be a couple of cars driving up from Toronto as well and the specific decade in which you were at Kilcoo does not matter.

Finally, I offer advance notice that **the next alumni reunion weekend at the camp will be held in September, 2011.** If you have ideas about activities you would like to see included in the weekend or you would like to help out some way in the planning process drop us an e-mail. You might also want to send your e-mail address because we will use that medium to help communicate information about the reunion after initial invitations are mailed out.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the Gazette. Have a great and healthy 2010.

 **PAUL CHAMBERLAIN**

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In his article entitled "Kilcoo's Most Remarkable Canoe Trip Routes" [Gazette, Fall 2009] Bob Dameron reflects on the trip which marked the "beginning of Kilcoo's decades long love affair with Temagami". There are some Kilcoo trivia items that follow. First Bob does not mention the counsellor who took the first trip. That would be Peter Dixon. Peter's Dad Mo attended Kilcoo in the 30's and Peter's younger brother Jim was camper and staff as well. Peter was a well known tripping expert, at least in my era.

That summer Chief designed the Temagami program for 2 weeks such that for each month, two voyageur cabin groups alternated their time out on a trip and back in camp. So that means there was another Voyageur counsellor who took Temagami trips that year as well. He was not as well known a tripper as Dixon and folks are not as likely to guess it. That counsellor was Bill Bobier.

Wonder if Dameron knows the year? As he stated early 70s it was. My recollection would be 1971. But I could be off a year.

 **BILL**

### Tim Magwood (Kilcoo '79-'90)

has just launched a new CD of original music entitled **Zig Zag Bridge.**



It is a fresh, soulful, acoustic blend of original tunes.

Check out [www.timmagwood.com](http://www.timmagwood.com) for a taste of these tunes and for ordering information.

Email Tim at [tim@fusionlearninginc.com](mailto:tim@fusionlearninginc.com) to be added to the distribution list.



## FIRESIDE CHAT

*From Lub, Tingles, and the entire Latimer Family*

**L**ife is a funny thing... So often in times of tragedy the very best in being human emerges from our collective spirits. We see that spirit every day in our responses to the disasters in Haiti and Chile; in response to our troops across the world; and in times of celebration over heartbreak like we've seen at the Olympics. Closer to home, I was reminded how strong the spirit of our greater "Kilcoo family" can be with the passing of **Dave Graham** to cancer and **Kelly Pace** to a car accident. In this very tough time for the families, I was overwhelmed by the support and compassion that was demonstrated by so many of our Kilcoo friends. I received some very touching notes that spoke to the importance of this bond and how the tough times can bring out our very best.

There are many events like these that help put this crazy life in perspective, but it shows me again how lucky I am to be a part of the Kilcoo family. I am amazed to see your friendships and bonds that began on Gull Lake continue and strengthen through the years. In February, Jeff Bradshaw (from Camp Wenonah) and I did a session at the OCA conference on camp Alumni and the role they play. After the presentation many people commented on how lucky we are, as it was so easy for me to demonstrate the many benefits that our Alumni bring to Kilcoo. Tingles (our assistant director in his 4th year) said to me while organizing the presentation, "The guys you drive with to the reunion, are probably the same guys you took the bus with on your canoe trip as a kid." Truer words were never spoken.

As I go into my 26th year as Director I can tell you that Kilcoo is in great shape. We are almost full, which is great for this time of year and our rate of return is very strong (90%). It's also cool to see so many of the Alumni sending their kids to Kilcoo and receiving many of the same important life lessons that their fathers did when they were at camp. This year is a huge "capital investment" for Kilcoo with new A-Docks & Sail Docks, new LIT Cabin, new Cabin 4 – yes we saved the names. We bought

two new sailboats including one Hobie-Cat and the biggest, but most boring, is a new septic system...Good-bye Longhouse Lagoon!



**I also want to invite you and your families to our 1st Family Camp.** So many people have asked about this and we are proud to open this opportunity to both our Alumni and our current families. Please join me, your host, and relive your days at Kilcoo and finally show your families some "Kilcoo Magic". Please see the enclosed flyer for more information.

Finally, please know that you are welcome to visit Kilcoo any time. We will be on site from May 1st through Thanksgiving and you, the Alumni, one of our huge keys to success, are welcome any time. Mrs. Chief, Beth, my kids TJ & Charlie (going into year 3 as campers) and Brooke, my brothers Jeff and Mike, Kim and Tingles in the office, all wish you the best. As I said at the start, the Kilcoo Family is one of the best you will ever meet. Thank you all... Rip Ram Razzle Scram!

**DAVID "LUB" LATIMER**  
& **PAT "TINGLES" TINGLEY**

## PEOPLE MAGAZINE

*Who's this guy in the Kilcoo t-shirt?*

**A**s you would have read in previous issues of the Gull Rock Gazette, Kilcoo has become a bit of a Hollywood North, North! Joe Jonas (one of three brothers who are teenage heart-throb singers) was photographed in Santa Monica in March doing a beach workout. These photos appeared in the April 5 issue of People Magazine. You will notice that he is wearing his favourite Kilcoo t-shirt favourite Kilcoo T-Shirt, given to him by Lub in the Fall of 2009 during the filming of Camp Rock II. We welcome him back to Kilcoo and to the tuck shop whenever he wants!

If you have an interesting photo displaying Kilcoo clothing or other paraphernalia, send to [gazetteeditor@kilcoo.com](mailto:gazetteeditor@kilcoo.com).

**FLIPPING OUT**  
Santa Monica, March 20  
Getting superbuff! Joe Jonas mixes up his Muscle Beach workout with a run in the surf and some acrobatic aerobics. Watch the blood to the head. Joe!

16 April 5, 2010 PEOPLE

## LIFE AFTER KILCOO

A brief comment on what some of you have done since your summers at Kilcoo. More will be included in future issues of the Gazette. For alumni who have not submitted anything we invite you to send us details about yourself; to others, please update us if these reports or what you sent before is out of date. Send any information to [gazetteeditor@kilcoo.com](mailto:gazetteeditor@kilcoo.com).

**DON CRAW (1953-65)** After many years in the ministry in the Stony Creek area of southern Ontario Don and his wife Sandee resettled in Brantford in 2006. Don now works with churches experiencing difficulties by serving as an interim pastor where he “sets a new course” for the church and helps to locate a new pastor. He recently worked his magic in Kitchener-Waterloo and is now busy with a church in St. Catharines that will benefit from his skills.

**LARRY GILL (1964-74)** Larry served as Vice-president/General Counsel for Bell South Business in Atlanta for two decades and in 2006 took early retirement and is now living with wife Lee in a beachfront condo in Naples, Florida. They have 3 adult children. Looking back Larry states, “My memories of Kilcoo and my Kilcoo friendships have always provided me with an inner strength and they will be cherished with gratitude until I draw my last breath.”

**MICHAEL HILL (1981-87)** Michael is a neurologist working in Calgary where his focus is on research into improving care for stroke victims. He is an associate professor at the University of Calgary and Associate Dean of Clinical Research in the Faculty of Medicine. Married with two children Michael has taken them canoeing in a limited way but hiking in the mountains has been the more prevalent activity. He is presently giving some thought to a trip on the Nahanni at an as yet undetermined time.

**DEAN CHAMBERLAIN (1956-63)** After a long career as a lung pathologist with the University Health Network in Toronto and much time serving as a tenured professor at the University of

Toronto, Dean now works part time certifying doctors for the province. Married for 46 years he has four adult children, and when he and wife Mary-Jane are not travelling the world much of their time is spent with their grandchildren.

**DAVE MINNES (1969-79)** Dave has lived in Kitchener married to “the love of his life” Sandi for 29 years. They have two adult children. Dave is a long time teacher, now head of Guidance at Kitchener-Waterloo Collegiate. He enjoys much pleasure with his Minto canoe which he purchased from the camp in 1976 and he was a member of the “anonymous” group that continues to convene for a weekend at camp every year and was featured in the fall, 2009 issue of the Gazette.

**MIKE MACDONALD (1970-82)** Mike lives with his wife Karen near San Francisco where he teaches surgery at the University of California-San Francisco and serves as Director of the Aesthetic Surgery Centre. His specialty is Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. He has two stepsons. In the summer of 2009 he joined brothers (and former Kilcoo campers) Jeff and Peter for a canoe trip near Huntsville with their families where Kilcoo songs prevailed.

**JAMIE DELAMERE (1983-95)** In the first ten years after his Kilcoo days Jamie volunteered extensively for Amici and during this time he got married, had two “amazing” daughters, and became president of the company his father had led for 38 years. He comments that he continues to feel very connected to Kilcoo and that he will never forget how much camp and the Kilcoo community has shaped his life.

**JAMIE MACINTOSH (1969-83)** Jamie lives in Toronto with his wife Ingrid. They have four children, three of them boys (Angus & Jack) who have “gone through” Kilcoo. Jamie is President of Innovium Media Properties Corp. investing in digital media. He also serves on the boards of some junior mining and oil and gas companies and gives time to help Amici’s fund raising committee.



*The Macintosh boys: Ian (Rob's son) '02, Rob - '77, Angus '04, Jack - current, Don '73, Jamie '83 and Geordie '08.*

**HARRY CREASE (1959-64,81, 2001)** After a 35 year career in teaching where he became an outdoor education specialist, Harry has retired to pursue other ecological goals. Married with 4 adult children “Skid” has now returned to the Inspirational Speakers’ circuit campaigning for environmental literacy in business, industry, and politics

**ANDY MUIR (1970,74-83)** Andy is Chief of Pediatric Endrochronology at Emory University in Atlanta and spends considerable time researching the problems of childhood obesity. Andy has four children, the youngest two in their final years of high school. He claims to support Thrashers hockey games when the Leafs are in town and spends his spare time tasting good wine and missing short putts.



### BABY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR DAVID TURNBULL (1977-87) AND WIFE DEMI

We are pleased to announce the arrival of our first child, Andrew Christopher Ross Turnbull. He was born 2 1/2 weeks early on March 29, 2010 at 12:45am weighing 5 lbs 13 oz. Despite some challenges, both Demi and Andrew are now at home and doing well.

# THE SPARK

## BECAUSE OF CAMP...

*Kate Horton, Executive Director  
kate@amicicharity.org*

*"I developed lasting friendships...  
I learned self-esteem...  
I became a team player...  
I learned how to care...  
I became a counsellor..."*

Are you one of the 57,000+ people who have already viewed the amazing online clip, "Because of Camp"? If not, it's worth a visit to YouTube ([www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)) to spend a minute or so to check it out. This wonderful short film was created by the American Camp Association and features celebrities and notable personalities sharing how their lives were forever changed...Because of Camp. They confirm what many of us already know: camp is beyond a vacation, beyond a beautiful wilderness setting, it's so much more than an escape from the fully-wired, concrete urban jungle.

Camp is all these things...and so much more. Camp is an emotionally different

planet where children grow by leaps and bounds, a safe place where they learn independence, grow into their own identity, discover who they really are, and decide who they want to become. In short, camp is a place for kids to invent their best self.

Through Amici, children have an opportunity to grow a little bit more each year at camp, for as many years as they want to return. This year, our rate of Amici-sponsored campers returning to partner camps is over 90%. For these kids, camp is a stable path where positive role models lead the way to a brighter future.

So much is possible Because of Camp.

At the start of another summer season, perhaps you'll take a moment and think about your "Because of Camp" achievements, lessons, friendships and skills. Who are you today, Because of Camp?

In this issue, Amici supporters, volunteers, campers and parents share what camp means to them, and why it's so vital to provide this unique experience to children and youth who need it most.



Because of Camp...140 young lives will be changed this summer through Amici. Because of you, so much is possible. Thank you for sparking a change.

*Because of Camp...our partners, supporters and donors give generously so that more kids can go to camp each year.*

## JAYS CARE FOUNDATION WILL SPARK A CHANGE FOR KIDS THIS SUMMER

Jays Care Foundation is partnering with Amici in 2010, providing much needed funding to send deserving children to camp this summer!

As the charitable arm of the Toronto Blue Jays Baseball Club, Jays Care Foundation is working to provide children and youth in need with access to programs and facilities that support physical activity, education, and life-skill development.

"Jays Care is committed to providing opportunities for kids in need" says Danielle

**jays**<sup>™</sup>  
care  
foundation



Silverstein, Executive Director of Jays Care Foundation. "Amici provides access and support to summer camps around the province for children that would not otherwise be able to enjoy the healthy recreation, challenging activities, learning opportunities and new friends that camp provides. We are excited to partner with Amici and give more kids good camp fire stories this year."

Thank you Jays Care Foundation for making a difference in the lives of so many kids this summer!



*Image courtesy of The Toronto Blue Jays*

## BECAUSE OF CAMP...CAMPER'S PAST AND PRESENT ARE INSPIRED TO SPARK A CHANGE!

**The Donor:** Matt Gibson, Kilcoo Camp alumni

**The Gift:** \$5,500, half of the winning prize in the 2010 RBC Capital Markets United Way staff beard-growing contest

**The Quote:** "A month of incessant scratching and painful public appearances was worth it in the end!" The winning photo of Matt (and his beard) appears below. Congrats Matt!



*Matt Gibson making a delivery with his itchy beard!*

**The Donor:** Sydney Wilson, current camper at Camp Manitou

**The Gift:** \$500 made by Sydney in honour of her recent Bat Mitzvah, held at Camp Manitou where Sydney's Dad Jeff is the Co-Owner and Director.

**The Quote:** "If I could think of one thing that every child should have, it would be the chance to be independent and get to experience all that camp has to offer. Camp is truly the best place to learn to grow as a person and experience this amazing sense of togetherness."

I feel this when the whole camp is in the dining hall standing on the chairs singing and dancing. Everyone knows the same song and even if they don't, they dance and sing anyways. It is then that the realization that everyone in the room is my family truly hits me.

I can honestly say this is my favourite feeling in the world and to be able to help a place that provides this to other children means so much....Once you experience this feeling, there's no going back...

I know that if the roles were reversed, I would want someone to do the very same for me so that I could learn what it's like to be part of something so special and important."



*Sydney Wilson at Camp Manitou for her Bat Mitzvah*

## THREE THINGS YOU CAN DO TO SPARK A CHANGE AND SEND A KID TO CAMP THIS SUMMER!

### 1. JOIN OUR MONTHLY GIVING CLUB

Your gift of \$25 per month provides a child with four unforgettable days at an accredited partner camp. Giving monthly allows more of your gift to go directly to helping even more children, by reducing Amici's administrative expenses. To donate monthly online, visit: [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org) and search "Amici".

### 2. RUN YOUR OWN FUNDRAISER

The next time you get together with camp friends for a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion, ask attendees to support Amici in lieu of other gifts or party favours. Celebrate sharing the gift of summer camp! Contact our office for more information: [info@amicicharity.org](mailto:info@amicicharity.org).

### 3. BECOME AN AMICI VOLUNTEER.

Whether it's helping at an event, assisting in the office, or joining one of our many board committees, there are lots of opportunities for volunteers at Amici and everyone is welcome! For more information, please contact George Wright, Volunteer Director: [george.wright@cibc.ca](mailto:george.wright@cibc.ca).

**Would you like a Copy of Amici's 2009 Audited Financial Statements?**

Amici Camping Charity's 2009 Audited Financial Statements are now available. If you would like to request a copy, please email:

[info@amicicharity.org](mailto:info@amicicharity.org)

or call 416-588-8026

## BECAUSE OF CAMP.... LIVES HAVE BEEN CHANGED FOR THE BETTER!

February 20, 2010.

Dear Amici:

Along with this check go my heartfelt thanks for what you are providing my son: a sure-thing dose of acceptance, inclusion, fun, outdoor activity, development of all kinds through physical challenges and growth in a very positive direction.

I am so happy that Amici exists and cares about kids like mine.

Thank you!!

Sincerely,  
Heather

Amici parent since 2007

I want to thank you very, very much, for accepting my daughter's applications for funding. This means so much to me and I can hardly wait until they get to go to camp. They are very excited. So am I, for them. You have made the impossible come true. Thank you so much for caring.

Sandra

I really appreciate you people giving me and my brother the opportunity of going to camp, it was insanely fun! 😊



Thank you for sending us to all these fun camps and helping us make new friends

Thank you Amici  
from all of us

XOXOX

Thanks to you all so much for the joy you bring to so many children.

Your Sincerely  
Stephan

## THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING PARTNER CAMPS!

The Amici campership program would not be possible without the generous support of our 27 partner camps. Thank you for your commitment to sharing the gift of summer camp!

**Camp Arrowhead**  
www.arrowhead.on.ca

**Camp Awakening**  
www.campawakening.com

**Camp Bellaleo**  
www.campbellaleo.com

**Camp Can-Aqua**  
www.canaqua.ca

**Cedar Ridge Camp**  
www.cedarridgecamp.ca

**Camp Couchiching**  
www.campcouchiching.com

**Frontier Trails Camp**  
www.frontiertrailscamp.com

**Glen Bernard Camp**  
www.gbcamp.com

**Camp Kandalore**  
www.kandalore.com

**Camp Kawartha**  
www.campkawartha.ca

**Camp Kennebec**  
www.campkennebec.com

**Kilcoo Camp**  
www.kilcoo.com

**Camp Kirk**  
www.campkirk.com

**Camp Medeba**  
www.medeba.com

**Camp Mi-A-Kon-Da**  
www.miakonda.com

**Camp Oconto**  
www.campoconto.com

**Onondaga Camp**  
www.onondagacamp.com

**Camp Otterdale**  
www.campotterdale.com

**Camp Tanamakoon**  
www.tanamakoon.com

**Camp Tawingo**  
www.tawingo.net

**Camp Wabikon**  
www.wabikon.com

**Camp Wenonah - NEW in 2010**  
www.campwenonah.com

**Camp Winston**  
www.campwinston.com

**YMCA Camp Kitchikewana**  
www.kitchi.com

**YMCA Camp Pine Crest**  
www.camppinecrest.ca

**YMCA Camp Queen Elizabeth**  
www.campqueenelizabeth.ca

**YMCA Camp Wanakita**  
www.ymca-wanakita.on.ca

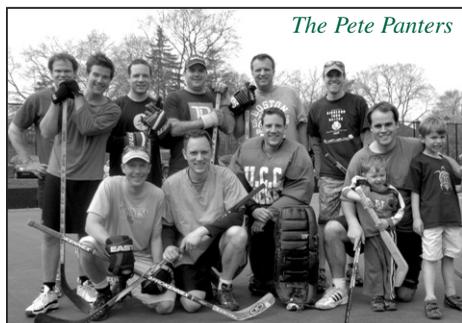
## BECAUSE OF CAMP...CAMPER'S PAST AND PRESENT ARE INSPIRED TO GIVE BACK AND STAY CONNECTED

### JOIN US AT AN AMICI EVENT THIS SUMMER!

#### Ball Hockey Tournament

Sunday, April 25th  
Upper Canada College

The only battle for the cup in Toronto this spring! For more info, contact Ryan Krausz: ryan.krausz@rbc.com



*The Pete Panteras*

#### Peter Taylor Art Show

Wednesday, May 19th  
Women's Art Association

Stunning original works inspired by the great Canadian landscape: Georgian Bay, Creemore, Canadian shield. For previews and more info, contact Peter Taylor: www.petertaylorpaintings.com

#### John R. Latimer Classic Golf Tournament

Tuesday, June 1st  
Lakeridge Links Golf Club

It's time to swing your clubs for kids and share the gift of summer camp! See www.amicicharity.org for more details and to register your foursome. Draw prize for early birds!

#### Canoe Head for Kids

Saturday, June 5th  
Toronto Waterfront

A group of brave souls and former summer camp pals will once again portage and paddle a total of 40 km along Toronto's waterfront (Victoria Park to the Humber River and back). Sign up to follow their progress in real time at www.amicicharity.org

#### The Highland Yard 5K, 10K, 2K

Friday, July 30th  
Minden, Ontario



The 'Yard is a 39 year tradition for Haliburton Highlands cottagers and residents, camp alumni and running clubs across Ontario. The Team Challenge 5K, 2K Family Walk, and post-race party are back for another year. See you there!

#### Tees & Tiaras

Wednesday, September 1st  
Angus Glen Golf Club

T & T is back! The 2nd Annual Women's-Only Nine and Dine for Amici, includes an evening 9 holes with cart and a tasty meal at Angus Glen Golf Club. Tickets to the dinner and silent auction only are also available, and we are looking for volunteers! Please contact Heather Navis for more info: heathernavis@rogers.com



#### The Amici Mile

Wednesday, September 22nd  
Woodbine Racetrack

Join us for Amici's night at the races! Evening includes buffet dinner, track-side tent, betting voucher and a full card of exciting thoroughbred action.

#### A Day at Camp

Saturday, September 25th  
Sponsored by NSA Juice Plus

Your chance to be a camper for a day! NSA Canada has a full day of camp fun planned to support Amici. For more info, please contact Victoria Stewart: vstewart@nsacanada.net

#### Would you rather receive this newsletter by email?

By reading this newsletter on-line, you can help us reduce our paper and mailing costs, and direct more funds to our campership program. To receive the spring and fall newsletters by email, please send your name and contact email to: info@amicicharity.org (subject line: e-newsletter).

#### Amici Camping Charity

204-150 Eglinton Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario, M4P 1E8  
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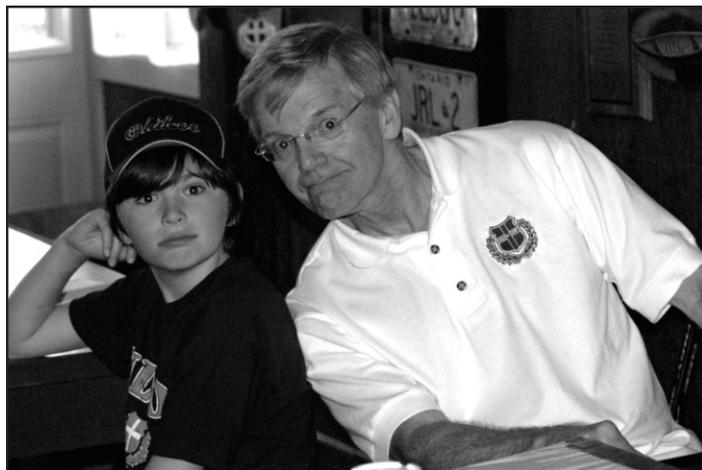
*Ken Jones pens this mildly humorous but revealing comparison between Kilcoo in 1964 and 2009 when, after a long absence, he returned as the music man at camp. Now, 46 years after he was first hired by John Latimer Ken looks forward to returning again in 2010.*

## KILCOO...THEN AND NOW!

Once upon a time in 1964 there was a grade 12 student who played the piano. He met a handsome young camp director who wore a leather jacket and aviator glasses and drove a convertible, and was hired to be the music man at camp. Every Sunday he had to play the big electric organ that was carried out to Chapel Point in the spring by three huge staff members (probably all named Chamberlain) and back in the fall. He loved the quiet moments at Chapel Point where he could sit on the rocks and talk to the Peace Tree. During sing songs he would play the big upright, out of tune piano and watch the director raise his hand for the downbeat. Murray and Bob held the song sheets on bamboo poles that came from somewhere no one knew of. Sing songs were loud. We're All For One was the rallying cry and cheer. When You Walk Through A Storm was the heart-pumping dramatic song. Maker of Men was the reflective one. Titanic was the one with two-part harmony, and Sunshine was exciting. The Rec Hut didn't exist, but the hill to the Infirmary did. Braeside was owned by evil persons who always hated the noise of the ski boats and the mortars. Ma cooked peanut butter cookies as a special treat that were so hard you could use them as lacrosse balls. Girls were at another camp called Gay Venture which, unless you drove one of the few cars, was a mysterious place down a very long and dark road up near Haliburton. Canoe trips for the younger boys were to exotic places such as Bob Falls and Trout Rock. The waterfront was a busy place with sailboats with funny names like Ackroyds and Norbergs and the evacuation horn was a wind up thing called a Claxon that sounded like a cow stuck in a fence...but we ran as fast as we could when we heard it because one of our friends might be in trouble. And at the end of the summer, returning to civilization, we found out about the cold war and how poorly the Leafs and the Argos were that year...and we wished we could have a baseball team.

And that was then!

Once upon a time in 2009, there was a grandfather who played piano. He spoke to the son of the handsome young camp director. The son wore basketball shorts, t-shirts that were too small and a backwards baseball cap and sometimes drove a blue golf cart. He hired the grandfather to be the music man. Every Sunday he set up the sound system, ipods and CD players for the Senior Staff with the funny names like Bumpo, Tingles, and the Boss. He loved the quiet moments at Chapel Point where he could sit on the rocks and talk to the handsome young camp director by the Peace Tree. During sing songs he would play the electric piano and watch the son raise his hand for the downbeat. Tim and John held the song sheets on their strong shoulders since the bamboo poles had disintegrated or been washed away in a tsunami. Sing songs were loud. We're All For One was the rallying cry and cheer. When You Walk Through A Storm was the heart-pumping dramatic song. Maker of Men was the reflective one. Titanic was the one with two-part harmony, and Sunshine was still exciting. The Rec Hut was an important spot and the hill to the Infirmary seemed a bit steeper. Braeside was now a quiet place for staff and LITs to be. Chris and his great staff made nutritious meals with salads. Female staff had their own quarters (most of the time) and Gay Venture no longer existed as a camp, but as something else completely in many minds. Canoe trips were to the



wilderness of Northern Ontario and beyond. The waterfront was dotted on a windy day with sailboards and lazars and the evacuation horn still made us run as fast as we could when we heard it because one of our friends might be in trouble. And by the end of the summer, having watched CNN and CBC we were not surprised to find out about all of the wars and how the Leafs and the Argos were doing this year...and we still wished we could have a baseball team. And that was now!

 **KEN JONES**

## KILCOO FAMILY CAMP

Watch for flyer enclosed with this issue of the Gazette or look on-line at [www.kilcoo.com](http://www.kilcoo.com)

For the first time ever...  
**Come and Relax at Kilcoo**  
 during the last few days of the summer  
**at the 2010 Family Camp!**  
 Wednesday, September 1st to Friday, September 3rd

- There will be lots of great food & snacks provided by Chris and the kitchen crew. We should be able to accommodate any dietary needs your family has.
- Costs: \$165 for adults; \$125 for kids 6 to 16; age 5 and under free! Invite your "non-Kilcoo" cousins, friends, and neighbours - the more the merrier!
- Camp program areas will be open including archery, biking, canoeing, kayaking, sailing, outward challenge, tennis, Arts & Crafts and much more!
- Parents only cocktail party with special programming for the kids!
- The chance to stay in one of your old cabins (1 family per cabin, or two if you wish)
- The tuck shop will be open and of course we will have a chapel on Friday morning.
- Sing and laugh around the campfire and there will be no bugs!

*Share the Kilcoo Magic with Kilcoo and non-Kilcoo people alike!*

## PETER TAYLOR'S ANNUAL ART SHOW

One rite of spring for me is the arrival of Pete's message asking me to write something for his upcoming art exhibit in support of AMICI. Included in the message's ramblings and details was his assertion that this would be the 10th show, but that's what I wrote last year! Since we both just turned 40, I can only assume that we've entered a timeless phase of life where everything happened "about 10 years ago".

Detailed camp records reveal it has been much closer to 20 years ago that we were last at Kilcoo. While most of us do not leave camp on a definitive career path, Peter's calling was crystal clear to all. Beyond the artistry of cabin signs and being Lub's go-to-guy for Polar Bears Club signs and the like, many of Peter's first sketches and paintings were completed at Kilcoo. He chuckles about the painting of "Beach Slide in Winter" (given to Jim "Piggy" Ludwig as a leaving gift about 10 years ago) and comments "camp is the most important thing I've been a part of. It's where you shape yourself for what you choose in the future."

Recently, a small group of Kilcoo alumni known as the KSC made a winter pilgrimage to camp. In between a snowshoe-assisted round of disc golf, and a lengthy session of rhetoric atop the tower, I snuck away and launched off that beach slide in winter. The thrill was still there, and its reflector-oven surface can still burn thighs, through snowpants, on a sunny winter day. It's times like these that really make one feel youth wasn't so long ago, after all. What an incredible gift camp is: friends, memories, skills, and aspirations to last a lifetime. It's an investment that keeps on giving, recession or not!

Peter has been incredibly productive this past winter and is hoping that you'll come to see his work. This year, in the spirit of looking back, Pete has been working a variety of canvases containing his favourite visual memories from Ontario to the East Coast: fire-swept northern Superior, rivers of Georgian Bay, coastal



Newfoundland, and his new backyard, Simcoe county. A portion of all sales goes to AMICI to help share the gift of camp and, hopefully, spark other creative souls to pursue their passions.

Please come and enjoy a mini-reunion evening of friends, food, and art in support of AMICI. Children are more than welcome, and there is space to "be a kid" in the rear garden.

**One night only  
Wednesday, May 19th, 2010**

**5-11 pm**

**Women's Art Association Gallery  
23 Prince Arthur Avenue, Toronto  
(one street north of Bloor, just west of Avenue Rd)**

From May 10th onwards You can view Peter's work for pre-sale at [www.petertaylorpaintings.com](http://www.petertaylorpaintings.com). He can be reached via email at [petertaylorpaintings@hotmail.com](mailto:petertaylorpaintings@hotmail.com) or directly at 705-466-5424.

 **MICHAEL BAIN ('80-'95)**



*Can you identify any faces from this picture taken in August 1953? If you look carefully some of you will see John Reynolds, Jon Grant, Brian Jenkins, Morley Johnson, Brian Field, Ken Thom, David Spratt, Mo Bent, Al Renner, Bill Greenwood and Bill MacRae. Alumni from that era, send the names and locations of those you remember and recognize.*

### 2011 is Kilcoo's 80th year!

There will be many celebrations - keep an eye on the Gazette and the Kilcoo website for more details!

The next staff reunion will be held on September 23rd, 24th & 25th 2011.

## KILCOO'S WOMEN ON STAFF...A STRONG INFLUENCE

*Through Kilcoo's past, women have played important roles in its operation. It began with Charlie Plewman's wife, who assured parents that their children were being nurtured with motherly care, and in the 40's the youngest campers, the Preps had female counsellors. In the 50's and 60's, other than the office and nursing staff, the kitchen featured 4 women who usually found themselves surrounded by more than enough potential suitors among the male staff. Beginning in the 70's many staff returned to Kilcoo accompanied by wives who assumed various positions in the day to day operation. Then, more recently, females have appeared as instructors in canoeing, swimming, ceramics and crafts. This submission from Joan Smart who worked in the office at camp for three years from 1974 to 1977 is the first in a series of articles which will offer the quite different female perspective on Kilcoo. Comments and submissions from other female alumni will always be welcomed at gazetteeditor@kilcoo.com.*

**M**y grandmother and Mrs. L were long time friends who lived in the same apartment building at 4000 Yonge. They both had great senses of humour and were members of the Happy Hookers – a group that met to talk and hook rugs!

They decided that I should work at Kilcoo Camp in the office with Mrs. L for the summer. I was SHY, had never been to camp before, and I am sure that they thought this experience would loosen me up! Chief interviewed me too, but Mrs. L had the last say.

So I arrived at camp in June for precamp. I was shown to my summer quarters where I met my roommates, Sally Kilgour the ceramics instructor, and Ellen, the babysitter for Tom and Gail, whose cabin was next to ours. The cabin was simple: two bedrooms, a sitting area and a two piece powder room. Showers were to be had at the infirmary. Sally offered to take me there before dinner to meet the nurses, Debbie Bain and Rosemary Bowen. Then the dinner bell rang and we walked down to the lodge.

To this day I remember the shock and surprise at realizing that Kilcoo was an all boys camp, and that the 4 girls that I walked into the Lodge with that night were 'it'! I don't know why it had not registered with me when I met with Mrs. L. She talked about the fun of camp, the crazy staff members, pranks, and of course the campers. But she never came out and actually said that it was a boys camp. I am glad that she didn't – I might have chickened out!

As the Office Manager, my job was to answer the phones, organize the mail, look after petty cash, type – on a typewriter, without a correction strip – any letters that John dictated, make copies on the Gestetner machine, and type up the log. The Log was an amazing thing to me. I sometimes could not believe what happened behind the scenes at camp – and John always seemed to know. But the one place, as a girl, that you did not want to get mentioned in was the Razzle Dazzle Scoop Shovel. Anything was fair! No holds barred!



*The Kilcoo Prep Section paddling in Braeside in the 1940's. The Preps had female counsellors.*

The girls' cabin was usually the target for pranks at least once a summer: usual time – after last call at the Rockcliffe Hotel. My first year we had "wild beasts" grunting and scratching along the side of the cabin. We never saw who it was – but they thought they were funny!

Another year we were "hinged in". The pranksters would take one hinge off and attach it to the other side of the door, so that in the morning we could not exit – and had to climb out of the windows!

Mrs. L loved to get involved in pranks! Getting mail was a big thing. Getting a letter from a sweetie was exciting and usually the girls would scent the letters – which made them really stand out from the crowd. The recipient would be embarrassed, but glad about receiving a "love letter". So we decided to send love letters to a staff member who had complained about not getting any mail. We wanted to show him some love!

CH received the letters off and on for two weeks. He went crazy trying to find out who 'Lovie' was – and succeeded. One morning as I walked down the hill for flag raising – CH had posters in Lodge windows: "Mrs. L is Lovie". She had a good laugh!

The friendships made among the small groups of females during the summer were long lasting. We would hang out at Chief's cabin before staff feed. Mrs. Chief had some great records that we would listen to over and over while we lay on the floor with the dogs. I remember Lou Rawls and "I am Woman" by Helen Reddy, in addition to opera. An eclectic mix!

Of course, the coolest place to hang out was the High-Rise with the waterfront staff. They had the best speakers!!! "Taking Care of Business", "Rock the Boat" and "Tubular Bells" were all popular selections. On our half days we drove in Debbie Bain's VW bug to watch the Bala Bay Water Ski Show – and then to the Bala Bay Inn after to 'enjoy' the evening. It was a long drive from Kilcoo, especially on the way home with Dave Jamieson driving on the wrong side of the road at times.

Looking back, the best thing about being lucky enough to work at Kilcoo was growing up with such a great group of guys. My son attends Kilcoo now and the Kilcoo staff personality is the same today as it was 30 years ago. We were all young kids going off to university, dating, and figuring out what to do with our lives in the midst of all of the energy and crazy fun that camp had to offer. Chief pulled the magic strings with a mischievous twinkle in his eye. How how!

 **JOAN SMART**

## FAVOURITE CANOE TRIP TO ALGONQUIN PARK

*Our last issue featured Bob Dameron's account of Kilcoo canoe trippers' "love affair with Temagami." (See the letter to the editor on page 2) But many alumni from the 50's and on will remember trips to Algonquin Park most fondly, especially those far removed from the commercialized areas around Canoe Lake. Jamie Macintosh recalls one such favourite trip.*

**M**My favourite canoe trip was as a Voyageur camper in July 1975. Our counsellor was Geoff Vernon and our CIT was Ray Lyons. I was in Tents C & D (Kilcoo once had tents - 4 campers and a staff member per tent) and we went to Algonquin Park with our tripper Geoff Seaborn. We loaded the canoes on the trailer, piled into the back of the camp truck (we sat on old mattresses), and were driven up to the northeast part of the Park near an old lumber town called Kiosk. We paddled and portaged our way down through Big and Little Cauchon Lakes then through Cedar Lake to the Petawawa River, which runs down through numerous lakes along the eastern boundary of the Park.

On the second day, I was in the camper canoe, and we were lagging behind a little as we paddled into Radiant Lake. From our position at the back as we looked far ahead, it looked as if the campers and Geoff (in the lead canoe) had gotten out of their canoe and were walking on the water. However, as we got closer we realized it was just that the eastern two-thirds of Radiant Lake is essentially a large flood plain that is not more than a foot deep. The sandy bottom was covered in fresh water clams, so we stopped and cooked some up to supplement our lunch. We then set out to paddle, portage and/or shoot a series of rapids to get us to the Algonquin Radio Observatory.

One of these portages I will remember forever. One of the smaller campers was assigned the bread pack and in those days it was essentially all the bread in a cardboard box and some sleeping bags, one of which was wrapped in a nylon groundsheet. I was carrying a canoe and this camper was not too far behind with the bread pack and a couple of paddles. Coming out of the woods there was a short section of railway track and then the end of the portage where I put the canoe down by the water. As I started to head back I noticed the bread pack sitting by the tracks and then Ray and I heard a train whistle. Ray put down his canoe to go for the pack; however, the train was going too fast to slow down and the conductor raised his hands in an "I'm sorry I can't stop" kind of way. As the train passed the pack, it was sucked to the edge of the rail. The pack split along the seam and the pressure fired out the nylon-wrapped sleeping bag like a cannon. I will never forget watching the conductor look up as the sleeping bag rose at least twenty feet in the air. Needless to say, the bread was squished almost flat.

We continued on downriver to Lake Traverse and the Radio Observatory, where one of the Geoff's arranged for us to get a tour of the facility and its 150 foot radio telescope - amazing. Later we camped up on a flat area overlooking the lake we had reached. After we finished a delicious meal (campfire meals are always the best), Geoff and Geoff went out in the canoe and started doing wolf calls. After a short while a wolf, or maybe a couple of wolves, answered them and we all heaped lots of firewood on the fire. The following day involved more rapids and short portages downriver where we eventually met the truck from camp for the ride back to Kilcoo. It was an awesome trip with lots of great memories.



**JAMIE MACINTOSH (1983)**

## A CANOE TRIP TO REMEMBER

*This could have been a "Favourite Canoe Trip" article, but in light of the remarkable timing of events I preferred to place it as a flashback. Welcome back to August 5, 1945.*

**I**t was a relatively easy 3 day trip from Kilcoo to Norland and back. It was considered "easy" because there were no real portages, just the liftover at Moores Falls. I had my group of seven kids. We were known in the 40's as the "Oocliks" and Ed Devitt had assigned a steward to assist me instead of the usual CIT. The stewards in those days were teenagers who waited on tables and did odd jobs around camp but had no real camping experience. So, they were given the opportunity of going out on one canoe trip over the season.

We headed south on Gull Lake and crossed Highway 35 at Moores Falls and on to Moore Lake in beautiful early August weather. We had decided to camp the first night on the east shore of East Moore Lake where there was a fine sandy beach. After supper the weather in the west looked a little "iffy" so we put up the fly as we did not have a tent. We put six of the kids under the fly and the other three of us were each under a canoe. All went well until about 2a.m. when the storm hit us. It blew down the fly and the wind and rain prevented us from putting it back up, so we used it like a blanket with six kids under it with their six heads sticking out and held it down with rocks. The three of us under the canoes were fine.

In the morning, we awoke to a beautiful day and spent some time getting dried out and reorganized. The steward was having second thoughts about the "privilege" he had been given to go on a canoe trip. Then off we went back to Moore Lake and south on to the Gull River. It was great going with the current and winding our way through interesting countryside. We stopped for the night at a campsite on the west side of the river just north of Norland. After supper we were quite close to Highway 35 so I suggested we take a walk into Norland to get ice cream cones and that is exactly what we did.



*Norland Baseball Diamond*



*Norland, Ontario 2009*

However, as we approached the town walking along side the highway we noticed very little activity, in fact nothing other than an occasional car passing by. There did not seem to be anyone around and we began to wonder what was wrong. When we got to the General Store, which was closed, we read the notice on the door: "VJ Day Celebration at the Ball Park." It was August 5th, 1945 and the war had ended while we were on our canoe trip.

After some discussion we decided not to go to the ball park. We were very tired from the lack of sleep the night before, so we went back to the campsite and the next day we paddled back to Kilcoo so we could participate in the celebration of the ending of the war.



**CHUCK SHARP (1939-1947)**