



# The Pines Post

NW Monthly News Letter



## Director's Discussion

By Matt Jago



We have some exciting news to share with our North Woods Camp community. The board recently held a retreat meeting to discuss our plans for the upcoming summer season, and we have made significant progress in several areas. At the board retreat meeting, we reviewed the feedback from our previous summer and identified areas where we could improve our programs and facilities. We also discussed the goals we have set for the upcoming season, including enhancing the camper experience, increasing our outreach efforts for work weekends, improving the waterfront and creating new alumni relations. One of our significant successes this year has been our efforts to reach out to new families in the Boston area. We held several "Director's on Tour" events at the YMCA Boston branch locations to introduce ourselves to families and provide them with information about our programs at camp. We are thrilled to report that our efforts have been incredibly successful, with a large number of families expressing interest in sending their children to North Woods Camp this summer. I want to thank all the volunteers that helped make these events successful. We are still looking for a PVC Waterski Boat Driver, an Equestrian Director, an Assistant Chef (exciting news- Abiel is now our head chef as Brent has decided to give Sandy Island a go), and lastly, we need one more for the Maintenance Crew. If you know anyone who fits the bill and is passionate about working on our camp team in a fun and educational setting, please don't hesitate to refer them to us. Finally, we are excited to announce that we have completed our staff hiring process for the upcoming season. We received a record number of applications from talented and enthusiastic candidates, and we have assembled an outstanding team of counselors, program specialists, and support staff. We are confident that our staff will provide our campers with a safe, nurturing, and engaging environment in which to explore the outdoors and make new friends. In conclusion, we are excited about the progress we have made in preparing for the upcoming summer season at North Woods Camp. We look forward to welcoming new and returning campers to our beautiful facility and providing them with a summer full of fun, adventure, and personal growth.

"No man stands taller than when he stoops to help a child"

## Announcements!

### OPEN HOUSES

SUNDAY, APRIL 16TH (VIRTUAL)  
SUNDAY, APRIL 30TH  
SUNDAY, MAY 7TH

### 2023 Camper Session Dates:

Session 1: June 25 - July 8  
Session 2: July 9 - July 22  
Session 3: July 23 - August 5  
Session 4: August 6 - August 19

### NW AND PVC FAMILY CAMP

AUGUST 20TH-26TH

### 95th Reunion

September 1st-3rd



Board Retreat



Director's on Tour



603-569-2725



CampingServices@ymcaboston.org



North Woods Overnight Camp for Boys  
Pleasant Valley Overnight Camp for Girls  
Sandy Island Family Camp



## The Board Report

By Dan Daniluk

My name is Dan Daniluk. I started out as a 15 year old Senior Section camper in 2008 and worked my way up to the Assistant Director and Camp Administrator in 2016. During this time, I joined the LIT program in 2009, the CIT program in 2010, was an Assistant Counselor in 2011, a Head Counselor in 2012, the first North Woods Assistant Waterfront Director and a LIT co-counselor in 2013, and the Waterfront Director from 2014-2015. Making the choice to not return to camp had been one of the most difficult ones in my life, so you can imagine that joining the North Woods Board was one of the easiest. I yearned for a way to continue serving the camp community so I eagerly accepted the board position. My camp passion has always been serving campers and staff members in an attempt to make their camp experience better. Since joining the board I have worked on the camp's "equipment refresh" list as well as improving the Memorial Day Work Weekend experience on the Facilities Committee. The equipment refresh list was put together using feedback from all of the activity heads to find out what they believed would be the best items bought for each activity to maximize the camper experience. After attending my first Memorial Day Work Weekend in 2012, I realized how impactful these two days were to the camp experience. I had never thought about the important work projects that occur in the pre-season and without them staff week would likely involve many more work projects than valuable staff training. Docks get put in the water, cabins are painted, wood gets split, and so many parts of camp are cleaned! Not to mention the incredible work projects completed by the Todaros on a yearly basis. Since I haven't been able to attend a work weekend since 2019, I find much motivation in advising Mark, Jago, and Beth on how to improve the work weekend experience as I believe it is a vital part of the off-season. I love being on the board because it allows me to connect with and serve the camp community despite living across the country in Oregon. I hope to continue serving in this capacity for years to come.

## D.I.V.E

### Question of the Month

Which T.V or Movie universe would you want to live in and why?

### Camper's Corner

with Andrew Lane

My name is Andrew Lane and this year will be my 9th year at Northwoods Camp. My experience at camp has been nothing but great. I enjoy seeing old friends every year and having the opportunity to make new friends. This year will be my LIT year and I'm excited to be able to take the LIT program and learn to be a good leader. Last year during riflery I was able to achieve the series high award which is the highest score of all camp throughout the session. I'm hoping to do that again this summer and also continue to climb through the ranks of the riflery awards. I am also excited to be able to waterski this year and finally learn to get up on one ski after completing all the other challenges. I have taken up waterskiing after my dad who has been very good at waterskiing all his life and he has been teaching me and others during his time at camp. This summer will also be my first time staying for two consecutive sessions and I'm excited to be able to experience that for the first time. I love going to camp every year and I cannot wait for summer to come so I can go to camp.



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# Off Rock

"The Summer Staff Update"



## Radio Check

Returning Executive Council Member:  
Dan Edmunds



Hello there. My name is Dan Edmunds. I spawned in the United Kingdom, living a little South of London. I currently dwell in a town close to Nottingham (pwtang) as I finish my degree in Psychology. When I'm not studying I'm at the gym, playing the guitar, or engaging in shenanigans. I started my NW journey in 2018 as an HC in the Senior Section, then took a lengthy detour to Woodside to act as LIT Assistant Director, followed by LIT Director. And now I find myself returning to my roots as I take on the mantle of Senior Section Head. When I first started working at North Woods I was taken aback by how energetic and extraordinary the property and the atmosphere was. It is an area of outstanding natural beauty due to the towering pines, the hot weather, and how clearly you can see the stars at night. It is also full of life and laughter between the campers and counselors alike, where you can have fun and express yourself. For these reasons and many more, I keep returning to camp. It is a place like no other I have ever seen, and I cannot wait to return this Summer.

## Welcome to our 2023 EC Staff Team

Matt Jago Director

Scott Campbell Assistant Director

Ethan Beatty Camper Liaison

Robert Pearce Program Quality/Mentor

Brad Stocklin Junior Section Head

Nate Russell Trail Section Head

Dan Edmunds Senior Section Head

Sam Underhill CIT Director

Matt Goodwin LIT Director

Caleb Gilbert Waterfront Director



## Camp is a Special Place

By Ken Abrahams



Years ago, singer songwriter Joni Mitchell performed a song Big Yellow Taxi. There is a line in the song that talks about paving paradise and putting up a parking lot. Luckily the steamrollers have stayed far away from Northwoods / Pleasant Valley, and you can still visit paradise. As a matter of fact, it is less than 3 hours from Boston but a world away from the cement and steel of most cities. If you have kids, grandkids, nieces or nephews or you have friends with kids there is no better place to spend a summer than at these two magnificent camps. Unfortunately, I found camp when I was too old to attend as a camper but worked 4 wonderful years as a staff member. Both of our sons went to camp there and for more than 40 years it is where I spend Memorial Day weekend.

Where else can you swim in a beautiful spring fed lake that offers a whole host of other activities. Learn to sail or take a kayak out. Go waterskiing or simply sit on the beach and take in the incredible scenery. Camp allows kids to be kids. It is a place where they can learn, grow, make new friends, get their hands dirty and create memories that will last a lifetime.

If you are an alum come back and see the place. Yes, it has changed but for the better. What hasn't changed is the lake is still cold, the Loons can be heard at night and the stars are amazing. You are always welcome to visit and even more welcome to lend a hand. During the summer I am a frequent visitor and love meeting new staff and seeing campers doing some of the same things that the campers I worked with were doing more than 40 years ago. Camp is a special place and I am lucky that I have great memories from my time there in the 70's and 80's and more memories as recently as last year. Yup, camp is a very special place.

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# Maintenance Slips

## "North Woods Camp Improvement Fund"

North Woods Camp is launching the North Woods Camp Improvement Fund. This fund will be used to finance improvements around camp but also to fund three key projects that will enhance the safety, comfort, and overall quality of the camp's facilities.

### Project 1: Finishing the Annex in Founders Lodge

Founders Lodge is one of the most iconic places at North Woods Camp, and the Annex is a vital part of this historic building. The Annex provides additional space for campers and staff to gather, relax, and socialize. Unfortunately, the Annex has not been fully finished, which limits its functionality and detracts from the overall appeal of the lodge.

### Project 2: Converting an old LIT Cabin into a Staff Cabin

One of the challenges that North Woods Camp faces is ensuring that there is enough housing for all of our incoming staff.

### Project 3: Trail Cabin's Stairs/Porches

After the success of the new junior section porches, we plan on continuing the process by giving the trail section cabins the same treatment.

### Conclusion

The North Woods Camp Improvement Fund is an important initiative that will help to ensure that North Woods Camp remains a vibrant, welcoming, and safe place for generations to come. By supporting these three key projects, you can help us to provide the best possible experience for our campers and staff. Thank you for your support!



Donate Here



If you would like to donate to the fund, please use the QR code

# 95th Reunion

September  
1st-3rd

We are thrilled to announce that registration is now open for the 95th North Woods Camp reunion! This is an exciting opportunity for all of us to come together and celebrate the rich history and legacy of our beloved camp.

For nearly a century, North Woods Camp has been a place of growth, learning, and friendship for thousands of campers and staff. This reunion is a chance to reconnect with old friends, share memories and stories, and rediscover the magic of camp.

The reunion will take place on September 1st-3rd. We have planned full days of activities and events that will allow you to relive some of your favorite camp experiences and create new memories with old friends. You can look forward to:

- Hiking and exploring the beautiful grounds of North Woods Camp
- Participating in classic camp activities, such as archery, canoeing, and arts and crafts
- Enjoying a delicious barbecue and Great Hall dinners
- Sharing stories and reminiscing with fellow campers and staff from all eras

Registration is easy and can be done by following the QR code link provided in this newsletter. We encourage you to register as soon as possible to secure your spot and ensure that we have an accurate headcount for planning purposes.

The cost for the reunion is \$115 per person, which includes all activities and meals. Other options on pricing is available, please check the link.

We cannot wait to see you all at the 95th North Woods Camp reunion. This is a special occasion that you won't want to miss, so register today and spread the word to your fellow campers and staff!

# Registration is Open!



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