

# How ‘bout dem GEMS!

## Welcome To Winni!

2-4 PM Scoop Shop Open (Also 8-10 PM)  
 3-5 PM Waterfront Open  
 5:30-6:30 Dinner (Inn Lower Level)  
 6:30 -7:00- Ed School open house in class rooms  
 7:15 - 7:45 - Dancing on the Green with Barb  
 7:45 - 8:00 - Evening Watch:  
 In the Meeting House  
 8:00 - 9:00 – Opening Ceremony/Orientation  
 In the Meeting House  
 9:00 - 11:00 - Dancing in the Big Ol’ Barn  
 with Barb Siftar

## Your Winni 2011 Theme: Celebrating Differences

*What’s so good about appreciating things  
that make you feel uneasy?*

**Welcome back to Winni!** We’re glad you’re here, you’re glad you’re here – so how come you feel so uneasy? Well, anytime you come back to a familiar place – even your own home – it is never the same way that it used to be when you left – life changes, all the time. That is the crazy thing about families that want a little stability in their lives; life is never the same because people (especially kids) are changing all the time. One day you have an infant, next a toddler, next a pre-schooler, and then before you know it – somebody with facial hair and a deep voice is wanting to borrow the car. (At first you think it’s your wife and then realize to your dismay, it’s your teen.)

How does Winni change when it is the place you have learned to love over the years? Well, the first thing you will notice this year is that a bunch of trees are gone. Remember that GPC did not just decide to give the grounds a haircut, they were practicing a little arboreal Darwinism – cutting down trees that were infected and dying – and trying to stop the rot from spreading. No matter the reason, you will notice the difference and it will make you feel a bit uneasy until you get to your “new normal” – when you start to re-remember that it looks normal without the trees.

This happened when they built the Meeting House or removed the Well House – your mind first fights it and says it will never be the same, and then you acclimate to the changes and can’t remember when it was ever any different. This remarkable process of adaptation is what allows us to change along with a changing world but that process of change is always difficult. This is why, year after year, the first day can be so hard even if you have been here for 50 years. You are adapting to a new Winni each year, striving to figure out the people and the landscape – which is why it is especially tough if this is your first year.

So what’s a camper to do to help make this transition easier for themselves and others? Well, it just so happens that I have a theme for you: **Celebrating Differences!** That is, take time to appreciate how change and difference can be something that *enhances* your experience. The Dalia Lama says the reason you don’t step on ants or you should take a wayward spider outside your cabin rather than squishing it is not just because you value life, it is because the process of being mindful and kind to something makes **you** a better person – you feel better about yourself.

Winni gives us a week to feel great about ourselves because there are countless opportunities for kindness. Welcoming friends, especially welcoming strangers, helping folks get their living space set up, sharing a drink, taking a walk together, asking someone to dance, and (*especially*) eating with someone. Jesus made a whole name and reputation for himself by the mere act of eating with anybody and everybody (and remember his famous line “*Blessed are those who do not complain about the food –or at least who don’t complain a lot...*”).

So when you are feeling uneasy or perhaps noticing someone else who is – take a moment to reflect about the differences that are apparent in that moment- whether they are missing trees or an unfamiliar face. Remember that your gift of appreciation and kindness not only helps the situation but makes you feel better so you get to the new normal – where you value the new view or perspective, or get to make a new friend.

# The Dean Checks In

*Plus Da' Deans Do's and Dean's Don'ts*

Hello folks, and welcome to Winni! I am so pleased that we have such a great turnout this year. It is wonderful to have so many returning campers, and a special "HELLO" to those of you who have come for the very first time! We have a tremendous week planned that will be filled with educational opportunities, recreational release, spiritual expression, fabulous entertainment and more. Please share your talents, stories, gifts and lives as we begin this week of "Celebrating Differences."

It is of great importance that we remember that we are guests of Geneva Point Center and, for the week that we are here, we are members of a community. I ask that you take care of each other, respect the people and property here, and adhere to all GPC rules.

## **What are the GPC rules?**

- Please unload your car and then move it to the parking lot for the duration of the week. If you must drive after unloading your car, the posted speed limit is 5 miles per hour! (This is about as fast as you can walk).
- Recycling is encouraged and practiced at GPC. Pick up any trash you may find, and please carry out what you have carried in to camp.
- Swimming is allowed only while a lifeguard is on duty. Swimming hours are: (Morning Dip) 7:00 AM to 7:45 AM., 9:00 AM to Noon and 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM each day.
- If you are riding a bike, you must wear a helmet.
- No open flame is allowed in any of our campus buildings. Smoking is allowed only outside in designated smoking areas. Look

at all the wood around you and you'll see why this rule is so important.

- Shoes are a must as most of our accidents seem to be related to foot problems while barefoot or wearing flip flops or open shoes.

- In case of an emergency, call 911 and give 108 Geneva Point Road as your location. Then notify Peter Claypoole, the Camp Director. Peter's number is [omitted for web version].

- Please observe the quiet hour after lunch (1:00 PM – 2:00 PM) so families with young children can get their little ones to nap. GPC's all campus quiet time begins at 10:30 PM and applies to adults as well as children.

- While everyone is encouraged to star gaze, dance, sing, converse and enjoy the beautiful campus 24/7, please talk with your children and set reasonable curfews with them. If they are still up, you should be also. You are responsible for their actions and safety. Plus, your Dean needs sleep! And remember that GPC has an alcohol policy that tracks with NH state law. No one under the age of 21 may consume alcoholic beverages.

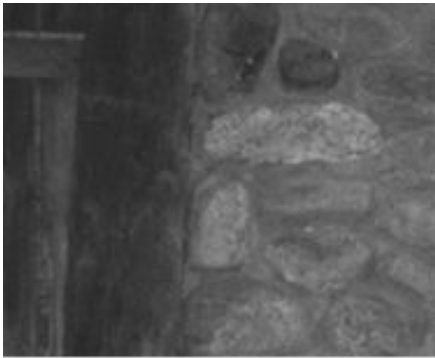
If you have any problems or if you observe any unsafe behavior, please report it immediately to me or to Peter Claypoole, the Camp Director. We want to ensure that your stay here is pleasant and safe. We want your week here to be special and we hope that you will come back again and again. If there is anything that you need, please come and see me and I will do what I can to help you. And I invite you all to come and share a meal at the Dean's table sometime during the week so we can get to know you better.

Again, welcome! Now – go have some fun!

Dean Tom

## Top Ten Differences You Can Celebrate At Winni

10. Mmmmm, is that paprika in the green bean casserole?
9. Mike Nisthan – well, he is still wearing the same shirt but it looks like he brushed his teeth, at least since last year.
8. The bats are friendlier and more concerned about you and your comfort.
7. Complimentary botox shots at Gibbes celebrate how you are growing younger!
6. Waterfront staff reduced down to a guy named “Smitty” with a pair of binoculars on the Inn Porch.
5. What’s that nice fresh skunk smell in my cabin?
4. The Inn Porch Potatoes have been downsized to the Tuneful Tater Tots
3. Can the Dean get any more tan?
2. Barn Dancing now receiving commercial sponsorship: “YMCA” funded in part by Comfort Suites
1. New S’Mores Recipe: Less chocolate, more tuna!



### ATTENTION 2<sup>ND</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADERS!

Welcome to Winni everyone, but especially 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Ed School! This week during our Ed School class, we will be exploring what it means to look at things from a different point of view. In this case, we are going to be looking at things around the wonderful GPC. Each day, we will share a picture with you in the best informational source in the world – the Gems! If you can figure out what it is, or where it’s from, come find Matt, Diane Soper, Charlie Soper, or

myself (Alycia) to get a special reward. We welcome anyone else who wants to participate to join with our class and earn a sweet treat for yourselves as well! We started out with an easy one this time, but be forewarned, they will increase with difficulty as the week rolls on. Good Luck!

## Writin 4 DA GEM\$ RAP

Make yourself pretty,  
 Straighten up yo’ collar,  
 If Georgie’s in the house,  
 Then give a hoot n holla!  
 Say Yeah! (Yeah!) Yeah! (Yeah!)  
 Yeah! (Yeah!) Yeah! (Yeah!)  
 I’m here to give a pitch,  
 For your new vocation,  
 Come write for the GEMS,  
 In the chapel’s,  
 Our location,  
 Writing is a breeze,  
 There ain’t nothing to it,  
 All you got to do is just,  
 Walk in and do it,  
 It’s the bestest lil’ paper,  
 In the entire nation,  
 Just cozy to the keyboard,  
 N’ let loose imagination,  
 Write up some poetry,  
 Free verse or haiku,  
 Interview your kids,  
 Any copy will do.  
 Get the scoop ‘bout your neighbors,  
 Who live in College Row,  
 Or gossip about Chapel Line,  
 They’re easy prey, I know.  
 All is fodder for production,  
 For the GEMS daily rag,  
 We finish by 11 am,  
 When all the copy’s in the bag.  
 Then we cut n paste,  
 And do a spill chick or two,  
 To create a quality paper,  
 Thit ish rittin jess fer yew,  
 So join us in the office,  
 For some laughs and cups of joe,  
 The stakes could not be higher,  
 Nor the bar set so low..... word.

*Din Stevens n’ Bill Milford*

## **The Daily Deal**

*This here is where what happens when!*

**7 – 7:45 AM Morning Swim – Located for your convenience at the beach.**

**7:45 AM Morning Watch – In the Outdoor Chapel near the Inn**

**8:00 to 8:45 AM BREAKFAST**

**8:30 to 8:45 Kid's (Pre-K and Older) Sing-a-long at the Outdoor Chapel**

**8:50 - 12:00 Adult Ed. School**

**8:45 – 10:50 Kid's Ed. School**

**11 to 11:45 AM – Kid's Swim at the Beach**

**12:00 Kid Pick-Up at the Flagpole**

**12:01 Kid Put-Down about 10 feet from the flagpoles. Them kids is heavy!**

**12:15 – 1:15 PM LUNCH**

**1 – 2 PM QUIET TIME (your digestion is going to need all the help it can get)**

**2 – 5 PM Free swim at the beach!**

**2 – 4:00 Scoop Shop is open!**

**5:30 – 6:30 PM DINNER  
(with Your New Geneva GEMS)**

*(It is with the greatest of confidence that we predict that the GEMS will be the highlight of your dinner. You will have to decide whether that says more about the GEMS or less about the food!)*

**7:00 to 7:30 PM Evening Watch**

**7:30..... Evening Activities  
See tomorrow's GEMS for a listing of Evening Activities and their location.**

**8:00 to 10 PM - Scoop Shop Open!**

## **Be Like Me!**

### ***Stuff You Should Know Or Oughta Do***

- Wear a nametag! Be known! It's easier for somebody to say hi to you and then tell you your 3 year old just ran into the woods.
- You should wear footwear. There is stuff living in the grass that you don't want on or eating your feet. And besides, the ants have been complaining about the toejam.
- You should try to buy canned beverages instead glass. They recycle easier and cause less bodily injury when you throw them to a friend.
- You should slow the heck DOWN! Don't drive on campus or if you have to – goooooo sloooooooow! This is camp, what's your hurry? Believe me there is no reason to rush to dinner....
- Even when you haven't got a prayer, if you should still have a grace that you would be willing to share at a meal, see the Dean, Tom Weston.
- You should see Doug Hawthorne if you are interested in leading or helping out with a Morning Watch Service. Morning Watch is a beautiful, brief service held every morning at 7:45 am at the Outdoor Chapel by the Inn.
- Pick stuff up and throw it out! Even if you live in a dump, you don't need to make camp one. So clean up after yourself and thy neighbor.
- Respect QUIET time
- If you have a birthday or anniversary during the week, you should tell the Dean. He'll be happy to make you the focus of attention for your 15 seconds of fame!
- Say thank you to people. Most everybody is volunteering to do something around here and could use a pat on the back. Most especially the camp family and yo' GEMS editors!
- You should feel free to help with Vespers planning. Daily meetings for Vespers are held after lunch on the Inn Porch with Chaplain Bob Fellows.

## She's back.....

***Barb Siftar is Leading A Class  
On International Folk Dancing  
Homeland Security Alerted!***

For those who have requested on their evaluations that Barb Siftar's class return, we are going to make you happy campers.

Sadly, Kevin Kane has had to withdraw from teaching at this year's conference. Many thank yous to Barb who agreed to step in and offer an International Folk Dance course.

Here is her description for what you may expect: Wake up and move! We will learn together traditional and more recently composed dances from many countries and cultures. We will incorporate many styles, energy levels, formations, beautiful and interesting music. Some familiar dances and some brand new to NNESRE. Some very simple and some with challenge.

This is a wonderful way to start moving in the cool of the morning and experience community in a different way. This is also an excellent way to warm up your dancing legs for our night time Dancing in the Barn. Come stamp, jiggle, bounce, leap, turn and glide. No partners or experience necessary as everything will be taught. Please arrive on time so we can begin together. Wear your dancing shoes and some folks are happy when they bring water.

**Tell A Tale,  
While You Spin A Yarn**  
***Gloria Hoda Wants To Be Crafty...***

If you are interested in Yarn works or hand crafts, come and meet with me on the Meeting House porch afternoons at 2:30.

***Gloria Hoda***

## News From The Rev.!

***Chaplain Bob Fellows Speaks...***

### YOUR OFFERINGS

Please see me during the week or join us in our Evening Watch Planning Meetings after lunch on the Inn porch with your offerings of music, stories (remember we heard some wonderful inspirational stories last year in Evening Worship), and other ideas for worship at Winni this year.

### WINNI CHOIR

Susie Hawthorne has most generously offered to do whatever she can to bring music to our worship experience. How important music is! Music carries the message into the soul, and sings gratitude back to God. Please look for postings for the Winni Choir and come join the vocal chorus! Thank you Susie and the Winni Choir.

### LITURGICAL DANCE

Cynthia Campbell is eager to gather people who like to *move*, and will visit with the Winni Choir as it rehearses to find opportunities for folks to join her in the Winni version of "liturgical dance." Movement expresses our feelings where words sometimes fail. Please see Cynthia if you would like to join her in expressing yourself through dance!

### EVENING WORSHIP

***Sunday Afternoon Communion Offered  
Shabbat Celebration To Be Held Friday***

Please join us on Sunday afternoon for Communion in the Pines. Christians and non-Christians are invited to participate at your level of comfort in this Vespers Service. On Friday night, our Evening Worship will be a Shabbat Celebration in the Pines led by Bari Prince. Of course, we invite people of all faiths to attend this event.

***Reverend Bob Fellows***

## Class Notes

### Difficult Sayings of Jesus

*As if "Love Your Neighbor" Wasn't Tough Enough  
(Ever lived by Chapel Line?)*

For this class, we will be looking at various scripture passages – the ones that don't get embroidered on pillows. It does my heart good to see people cracking open their own Bibles, so I invite you to bring yours. However, I will have the scriptures on handouts for those who come without one.

Beyond that, just bring a writing utensil, paper and a thirst for knowledge...all of which can be picked up at JoJo's on the way.

*Eric Dupee*

### 7 Habits of Healthy Kids

*(NOTE: GEMS Editors could only come up with one)*

1. *They live in somebody else's house.*

What would we do without habits in our life? Our brain would be overwhelmed with math problems to solve without knowing our math facts. Reading Ulysses would be herculean without the automatic decoding of the words. No one could play a Chopin waltz without that muscle memory in the fingers over the keyboard. How would Bill play Stars and Stripes march on his guitar without memorizing the notes? How would we drive?

When we read and discuss, *The 7 Habits of Happy Kids*, *The 7 Habits of Effective Teens*, or *The 7 Habits of Effective People* we will spend some time on the wisdom of Steven and Sean Covey but mostly we will try to work out how we build habits. I am a student in this conversation, despite my years of teaching. I can see where I stumble in life because I don't directly go to a 'win-win' path.

What challenges are our children facing that would benefit from them feeling empowered?

How can they find their leadership, their gifts, their strengths? How can we go from this place and make a better world?

I will have some books available but feel free to bring your own or use handouts.

*Deb Eskra*

### Team Building

*Red Sox Need Not Apply*

This class will be great, it is true,  
But don't come in no open toed shoes,  
It would really be goodt,  
With sneakers or boots,  
And your toes will thank you if you do!

*Jen Shoemaker*

### I'd Rate This Meeting a 10!

*Program and Evaluation Committee  
Meeting to be Held on Thursday 1 PM*

Thy Program Chair, Cynthia Wilcox Smith would like to put in a save the date request for Thursday afternoon @ 1:00 for a meeting of the Program and Evaluation Committee. The meeting will take place on the screened porch of the meeting house.

*In Other Words.....*



## WINNI FOOD

### Can you find: sweet, tasty, fun, green, delicious?

(Answers can be front, backwards, sideways, spelled in Hungarian, etc.)

f e g z g h n r i p x w v q c y d  
 y o c o b r e u e h a g m o s e e  
 h t s o p g e r f r u u o w i m l  
 t a j b b h c e t v t k n p h i i  
 l s v r o o e s n i i o k z t r c  
 a t e h l g a r l n o h e r s g i  
 e y x a w t g a g p j c y w i y o  
 h t t n o k t i s u z s m u t s u  
 o e b g s e m a b k t m e v a a s  
 d f e w d p f p d t k s a f h e p  
 c v e z a o w t t i a n t g w r i  
 i e p i d g e o n f e e t p w g t  
 t i r s s e r t s i d o r t s a g  
 j e t u o h t i w l l a q g o y t  
 d y o u k i d d i n g d e a d l y  
 y c r e m e v a h z k x n a i i a  
 n h h x w m f r f t u a z b c r p

Find all of the hidden words in here (there are a few others than those listed....) and get a  
 "WAY TO GO! From the GEMS Editors!"



**Duck Itch Update:** Not so bad – Peter Claypoole reports only one mild case back in June. Nonetheless – taking a shower and keeping clean is the gift you give everyone, let alone yourself!

**YOUR WINNI CLASS SCHEDULE**

	Period One	Period Two	Period Three
	8:50 - 9:45	9:55 - 10:50	11:05 - 12:00
Barn	International Folk Dance	Team Building	Team Building
	Barb Siftar	Jen Shoemaker	Jen Shoemaker
Chapel		7 Habits of Happy Kids	7 Habits of Happy Kids
		Debbie Eskra	Debbie Eskra
Gibbes Main	7 Deadly Sins	7 Deadly Sins	
	Lillian Daniel	Lillian Daniel	
Meeting House Main	Fundamentals of Financial Wellness	Fundamentals of Financial Wellness	
	Gail Nickse	Gail Nickse	
Meeting House Screened Porch	Governance		Governance
	Steve Fontana		Steve Fontana
Meeting House Class rm 4	The Future of Religion	Praying the Psalms: Words, Music and Movement	Praying the Psalms: Words, Music and Movement
	Trevor Davis	Rochelle Stackhouse	Rochelle Stackhouse
Meeting House Class rm 6	The Difficult Sayings of Jesus	The Difficult Sayings of Jesus	The Future of Religion
	Eric Dupee	Eric Dupee	Trevor Davis