

# YOUR 2011 POST GEMS!

## GET OUT YOUR DATEBOOK!!!

### WINNI WEEK DATES

### CHANGED TO

### JULY 28TH TO AUGUST 4TH

*The Loser in this GPC Beauty Pageant is.....  
Miss Communication.*

Within the categories of "I'm Not Kidding" and "Please Take This Change Seriously" – Geneva Point Center has assigned the week of July 28th to August 4th as the designated week for the Northern New England School of Religious Education (ie US!).

Previous communications during our Winni Week gave NNESRE the clear impression that our week was to be August 4th through August 11th. Apparently GPC's Director Peter Claypoole miscommunicated the August 4th date as the *end* of the week rather than the beginning, leading to the dual assumptive realities held by GPC versus NNESRE.

Admitting the miscommunication to be his, Claypoole was unable to renegotiate the August start date for NNESRE despite being informed that the ACCU-GEMS statistical poll we took earlier in the fall indicated that it was the preferred week for many campers.

Both out-going and in-coming Deans have been consulted and involved in the date juggling communications and have been deeply concerned about its impact on NNESRE campers.

Lame Duck Dean Tom Weston noted that the strong ties between NNESRE and GPC allowed him to be frank about his disappointment in this miscommunication and to request a clarification regarding future dates.

Dean Elect Lou Weeks noted that despite the *faux pas* on GPC's part – he was confident in NNESRE's ability to create a great week whenever it is held.

If you have already made plans for the 7/24-8/4 week and wish to attend Winni, Weeks also offered to provide official documentation from his Deanly Desk (noting the change in dates) if it may assist you in changing your plans from a previous agreement.

### Your Evening Schedule

**6:30 Evening Watch** – Sit for a ½ hour and watch and see if the schedule changes again

**7:30-9:00 Facebook Dance** - Get on Facebook – Complain to friends

**7:30 Fireside Chat:** Make a fire, sit around and complain about the change

**9:00 Coffeehouse** – Write a poem complaining about the change, make some coffee, read it.

**9:00 Movie** – "The NNESRE Date Change" *True docudrama about the date change.*

**11:00:** Deal with it, Get over it, Move On.

**DA ` NEW DEAN CHECKS IN....***Dean Lou Weeks Waxes Poetic  
About Tom Weston*

I clearly remember the first year that we went to camp as a family. I felt like we had discovered a gem. I know we don't know the origin of the title of our Camp Newsletter (the GEMS), but maybe someone long ago had the same experience that I did. This week is unlike any other time that I have in my year. Generally speaking, people look out for each other. Generally speaking, kids are treated with lots of love and respect from everyone. Generally speaking, the adults act extremely silly. My wife, Lillian, and I have people that we can really talk to at Camp. We don't have to worry about keeping up appearances. I know that's true for our kids, also, because I see them clumped in groups of teenagers all over camp, all week, just talking and listening to each other. I look forward to seeing everyone next year, (except for some of the GEMS editors, who I heard conspiring against me on the green at the end of Camp this year).

I know that the date snafu with GPC may pose some real obstacles to some of us, and I regret that we weren't able to have our traditional time slot. I think that to avoid this problem in the future it may behoove us to plan a few years out, and I will be working on this with everyone's help. Looking forward to seeing everyone!

**Lou**

PS. I have included poetical response to our outgoing Dean's rhyming report!

Ode to Tom Weston (in Limerick form)

There once was a man named Tom Weston  
Whom campers regarded with such affection  
That when he stopped Deaning  
The people were so loudly keening  
That he had to go into witness protection

**DA ` OLD DEAN CHECKS OUT...***Dean Tom Weston Waxes Poetic  
About Everybody Else in his  
Goodbye Tome of His Final  
"Off the Dean's Bean"***Off The Dean's Bean**

It really was a special week  
The weather most serene  
Those nice beach days, blue skies, warm sun  
It's good to be the Dean.

Perhaps I should recant for  
It was I who went extreme  
And wished aloud we'd have "no wet"  
A bad call by this Dean.

But Chapel Line and State Line  
And all those who lived between  
With understanding and with grace  
Made due with nare a scream

Cynthia planned the program well  
The list I'm sure you've seen  
From Deadly Sins to Future Faith  
Financial Wellness scene

Difficult Saying, Seven Habits  
And How to Build a Team  
Government, Dancing, Praying Psalms  
It's good to be the Dean

Joann and Leslie again cared for  
Our youth from tot to teen  
So many kids, our future's bright  
It's good to be the Dean

Bill, Din and Jim with help from  
Faye and Abigail did lean  
On all the camp to print Da GEMS  
It's good to be the Dean

Business Manager, Ron, is  
 The man behind the scene  
 Your hours invested paid off well  
 Great thanks from this your Dean

Mike and Sue, oh, how you've served  
 To make our evenings gleam  
 And Reverend Bob, my thanks to you  
 It's good to be the Dean

Doug Hawthorne's been a driving force  
 An engine powered by steam  
 Grateful thanks to Trustees all  
 It's good to be the Dean.

Robert Campbell, business chair  
 Did truly lead a team  
 To make sense of our Mission  
 Understanding what that means

Our treasurer, Hans, keeps the books  
 In good times and in lean  
 Chuck, Ed and Al investment guys  
 They keep us in the green

So many thanks to all you folks  
 Like Barb, our Dancing Queen  
 To Bill, Chris, Einar, Fred and Gail  
 Who made the concert scene

To Susie and the Winni choir  
 To Gail who hosts the grand Bazaar  
 To Jon who sent us off with grace  
 A blessing as we leave This Place

Thank you evening worship readers  
 Shabbot and Morning Watch leaders  
 And those who at the council ring  
 Helped with so mores after the sing

And thank you all who took the time  
 To pick up trash or rake the pines  
 Or left a credit at the Scoops  
 Or graced the Green with Hoola Hoops

And thanks to all who accompanied

On guitar, drums and boards with keys  
 Or helped to find the things we lost  
 Or joined to play ultimate toss

And circled us 'round for percussion  
 Or led a fireside discussion  
 Or made amazing sounds beside  
 The maze of labyrinth as our guide

Or took folks for a tour by boat  
 Or shared by GEMS the things they wrote  
 Or sat through meetings getting done  
 The things we must to ensure fun

Or those who hung the plaques just right  
 Or touched the soul with bag and pipe  
 Or shared a memory etched in time  
 Ere present in our heart and mind

To Jennifer who helps us bend  
 State Line musicians play and blend  
 To teacher/staff who for our young  
 Provide for learning, play and fun

To Bob who gets us in the swim  
 And all the swimmers who joined in  
 To Kevin for the Coffee House,  
 The Hoot, Concert a big shout-out

I thank the kids who sang with me  
 About the skunk and picolameni  
 And all who on the porch would go  
 Sing all verses of the Rushes Ho

And Joe who works to field the teams  
 To compete upon that field of dreams  
 The nominating committee led by Don  
 NNESRE's future we depend upon

And last, my thanks and best to Lou  
 Who answered "Yes" to next serve you  
 May you understand just what I mean  
 When I say "It's good to be the Dean!"

**Dean Tom Weston**

## Eat This: Exclusive Dining Club Opened Online by Faye Hess

In a note that even the most techno-savvy of GEMS Editors couldn't figure out – Faye Hess states:

"Hi you guys, I have started a "Winni eats" dinnerlist on <http://dinnerlist.com> . If you want to join up, I can invite you to the group, and we can stay together all year by keeping in touch via what we had for dinner last night!!

Xoxo Faye

## Graeme Blackman Blows It Big Time and Ends Up A Winner!!!!

*At the WORLD championship for Bagpipe Ensembles – His Group Had the Highest Marks in Piping!*

In a report fielded by our Accu-Winni Great Britain Correspondent Hamish Blackman, we have learned the exciting news that:

"Graeme's band swept the grade 2 qualifier in their heat: 1st across the board. In the finals they were 5th. They won the piping, but took lower marks in Ensemble and Drumming. Best pipe corps and 5th overall for their first time at the World's - very cool!"

In an unrelated story, demand for hearing aids in Scotland plummeted during that week.

## Winni Accu Spitti Results:

### Ben Hawthorne and Griffith Jagel Rule!

*On A Clear Day,  
You Can Spit Forever....  
Over Cast Days...Not So Much...*

Just shy of a half hour later after the last seed was spat – the heavens opened up and dumped a Winnifull o' rain oer' the campus. So the heavy humidity prior to the pouring lay pressure upon the expectant tongues of spitters awaiting their chance at glory at the annual Winni Spit Off.

A record number of spitters waited patiently in line as spectators, fashionably attired in protective goggles and rain gear waited their chance to cheer on their favorite salivatic spewwer.

When the dust cleared and drool tabulated, Griffith Jagel took 1st prize in the youth category earning the respect of his peers and puzzling his father as to the earning potential that might be acquired as a professional.

The big surprise of the event was long time Winnite Ben Hawthorne taking home the gold for the adult spitting. As a newlywed, nobody thought he had it in him to spit his seed so far.

Congratulations to all and special thanks to Nishmans for providing watermelons with seeds this year.

### ***An Ode to This Year's Winni Spitti Winners***

*In Reflecting About This Year's Spitti,  
To our Winners We Thinkst It A Pity,  
That Amidst Of Our Drought,  
The Water You Spat Out,  
Shoulda been recycled and then put back in ye!*

## Top Ten Statements That Need to Be Re-Examined from Our Winni Week as to Whether They Were Truly Accurate or Not....

1. "See you next year on August 4, 2012"
2. "If you see any water spouting out of the ground, let us know..." (Perhaps not a paranoid pipe dream but already a reality?)
3. "I think we've got the water problem solved..."
4. "I think we've really got the water problem solved now."
5. "Flush toilets are highly overrated..."
6. "Meet our friendly lifeguards."
7. "Food is tasty, nutritious, and delicious."
8. "The handsome and talented Mike Nissan"
9. "I promise a short Hoot this year."
10. "People at Chapel Line need water because they want to shower."

### **NOV 5<sup>th</sup> – This Date Won't Change! MARK YOUR CALENDARS AGAIN**

*Adler & Hearne in Newton, MA*

On **Saturday, Nov 5<sup>th</sup>**, Winni's own Lynn Adler and Lindy Hearne will be performing at Din Stevens and Ed Cunningham's home in Newton, MA. Come, bring a dish to share and a modest contribution for our hardworking musicians and enjoy an evening of great music. Check out Lynn and Lindy at [adlerandhearne.com](http://adlerandhearne.com).

Contact Din at [diane.v.stevens@gmail.com](mailto:diane.v.stevens@gmail.com) with any questions about the house concert – like how to get there, where the fine china is kept, and which of the cats you can actually pet. Hope to see you there!

## TOP TEN WATER CONSERVATION HABITS YOU'VE MAINTAINED SINCE THE GREAT WINNI DROUGHT OF 2011...

1. You "Shower" with Wet Naps- Always handy, always clean, always fresh smellin'.
2. You have secretly pocketed a courtesy size bar of soap in the off chance that an afternoon rain shower offers a chance for *al fresco* bathing.
3. You enjoy crunching that mouthful of Taster's Choice for your morning eye opener.
4. Whenever you drink tap water, you're adding a twist of Purell – just in case.
5. You leave the windows open when you are at the Super Suds car wash (tis' a nice shampoo lather – and the hot wax is great for the legs)
6. All beverages: strictly on the rocks.
7. You confiscate your kids' SuperSoakers and instead suggest they have an "eye dropper fight" out in the yard.
8. You can't get *Bring Me Little Water*, Sylvie out of your head.
9. Can't brush? Tic-Tac'll do ya.
10. That bucket by your bedside ain't for shoes...

## From The Ed.School

*Special thanks to our wonderful teachers who provided a great week for our kids this year. Watch for an email in the Spring about teaching opportunities for next year!*

**Leslie Ganley and Joann Milford**

# Winni Work Week-End Rocks Thanks to Fabulous NNESRE Volunteers!!!

## *Special to the GEMS from Barb Siftar*

Here are the hi-lights and a list of attendees to thank for the Columbus Day Winni Work Weekend.

It was fantastic! We had:

27 adults

4 teens

8 kids

We did:

255 hours of labor (Well on our way to getting a reduction in some GPC costs for the conference.)

Incredibly gorgeous weather

Wood splitting by hand with axes and hydraulics

Clearing brush to increase view below Lakeside Dining Room

Clearing & cutting brush from the vista, around Outdoor

Chapel and in front of Lakeview Lodge & Cabins

Hauling boats, benches, picnic tables and lifeguard chairs into the Barn

Digging 4' deep holes for fence around dumpster

Putting the millions of items in the Inn kitchen to bed

Picnic table painting

Scraping & painting back of Lakeview Lodge

Fair attending

Barn Dancing

Swimming

Campfire sitting

Chatting, snacking, playing

The golden machete award goes to Reinaldo Cruz for his amazing skill and productivity with that tool!

The golden volunteer award goes to Hans Seitz for spending several weeks at GPC this Fall volunteering and performing very skilled jobs!

The golden teen-wrangler award goes to Kate Fioravanti for organizing her middle school choir and chaperones to volunteer for the 3rd year!

Peter Claypoole, Greg Widman, David Barnard of GPC and Bryan Gould, chair of the GPC trustees were all effusive in their thanks and appreciation for our work. The Gould family participates in the work weekends and donates their work hours to NNESRE. THANK YOU!

## Special Thanks to Our NNESRE Volunteers! You May Write Your Thank You Notes to:

Beth	Siftar
Eva	Alciere
Simon	Alciere
Julie	Siftar
Dan	Nicholson
Celia	Nicholson
Sonia	Nicholson
Cathy	Jones
Reinaldo	Cruz
Naldi	Cruz
Eland	Cruz
Bryan	Gould
Andrea	Gould
Cate	Gould
Skylar	Gould
Taylor	Butler
Sue	DiTucci
Leslie	Ganley
Barb	Siftar
Julia	Ganley
Allie	DiTucci
Melissa	DiTucci
Rose	Ganley
Robert	Cummings
Meredith	Smith
Stacie	Finlayson
Kelsey	Morrissey
Kyle	McNeill
Terrance	Lear
	Wilcox-
Jamie	Smith
Tim	Rago
Ethan	Brooks
Trevor	Morrissey
Jen	Leaf
Amy	Bruch
Calvin	Weeks
Abby	Weeks
Ken	Cheek
Jane	Cheek

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR NEXT YEAR!

We are aiming for 2 Spring Work Weekends on May 5 & 6 and Memorial Day Weekend 2012

Join us!



**WORK WEEKEND PICS!!!**

### ***Late Breaking Additional Dates for Lynn Adler and Lindy Hearne***

#### **Saturday, November 5**

At the home of Din Stevens (of the famous Geneva Gems) and Ed Cunningham [address removed for web version].  
Casual potluck starting around 7:00pm and music starting around 8:00.  
Suggested donation is \$15 RSVP to [address removed for web version]

#### **Sunday, November 6**

United Church of Christ Norwell, MA  
Sunday AM service 10:00 AM worship  
[address removed for web version]

#### **Sunday, November 6**

New Haven Folk Consortium, New Haven, CT All Ages \$15 Suggested Donation  
RSVP to host Barbara Shiller at [address removed for web version] for reservations and directions to this Sunday house concert in New Haven, CT. (Not a NNESRE person but if a lot of folks contact her maybe she'll become one!)  
Right now the time frame is to gather at 5 p.m. for potluck dinner, with concert at 6 p.m. But this time frame may change a bit, so contact B. Shiller.

#### **Monday, November 7**

At the Home of Gail Nickse and Fred Griffeth (NNESRE first timers last summer) [address removed for web version]  
Start at 6:30 with casual refreshments  
Concert 7 to 9pm Suggested donation \$15  
Because of limited seat must respond to Gail at [address removed for web version]



### ***Space Filling Free Verse***

Post-GEMS done...ahhh.  
Red Sox lose....ugh.  
Autumn leaves...wheee.  
Toilet flushes...whew.  
Clean water to drink...yeah.  
Missing campfire smell...aww.  
Missing campfire friends...yeow.  
Facebook Winnites...phew.  
Kelsey Morrissey 200 pics!!..wow.