

# The Geneva GEMS

## Star Gazing Tonight - NOT!

*High hopes to see Mars, Milky Way, Justin Bieber, Erik Estrada - dashed*

Be sure to join our Evening Coordinators as they once again cancel plans for an expert star gazer who is reportedly knowledgeable, skilled, articulate, and notoriously accompanied by inclement weather. Go to your cabin, gaze at your navel, and that humming sound you hear is not your mantra, it's the sound of the water pumps straining to maintain pressure as campers far and wide continue to flush while they can.

## Sweatin' to the oldies with "The Dean"

Tickets were going for a premium last night for the shady side of the campfire: an ice cream cone with all toppings, a 4G connection, or the exclusive use of a flushing toilet. Never to be bought, our dean got stuck in the sizzling smoke, leading us through tongue-twisting, bear-burning, rabbit-hunting entertainment. We sang, we stood, we signaled, we sat back down, and we kept a close eye on our roasting sticks.

It was a heck of a sunset made sweeter with the exceptional s'mores.

### Tuesday Night Schedule

**6:30 Evening watch – Outdoor Chapel**

**7:00 Games on the Green with Tim Siftar and friends.**

**7:00 Labyrinth walk** (to music by Bernadette, Larry, and friends)

**9:45 Bonfire singing – Camp Ground**

### Thank-Youz

*From Your Evening Coordinators!*

- Thank you to the Weston Family for an energetic singalong, and for supplying us with s'mores.

- Thanks and kudos to Barb for fun in the Barn!

## MEMORIAL SERVICE TOMORROW

The annual Memorial Service will be held at the Council ring tomorrow (Wednesday) after lunch. This is a service of remembrance for those who have passed away this past year. Many of us will be remembering Dotti Siftar this year; campers are encouraged to honor any of their own loved ones who may or may not have been part of the Winni community. If you wish to help gather pine needles for the service, please meet in the Pines at 1:15. Transportation to the service will be provided for those who need it.

## From the Floating Money-Pit Files:

The GEMS was saddened to learn of the untimely (and hopefully temporary) disabling of Wes Gunderson's pleasure craft—another victim of Lake Winnepesaukee's well-documented penchant for befouling the electronics of visiting speedboats. Thankfully, Wes was able to call for a tow from the corner of Gilligan's Way and Bermuda Triangle Boulevard. Once the second mortgage was approved, the boat was successfully returned to shore to await diagnosis at a local marina. Condolences and contributions may be left at Chapel Line 4.

## Department of Corrections

*Faye Hess does not care what you're reading*

Due to a standard miscommunication in the GEMS office yesterday, we incorrectly identified Faye Hess as someone who is curious about what you're reading this summer. This is false: she is interested in what you're *eating* and in fact is preparing to launch a social media site to find out. Regarding literary matters, it turns out that Faye was just a hired hack here in the office told to punch out a few words asking about the reading habits of Winni folk. *Someone* out there told us they're interested in what you're reading, but we're just not sure who. We think it might have Kathy Pike. So feel free to tell her. Or Faye. Or whomever happens to be sitting next to you at the moment.

## HOOT SIGNUP ON INN PORCH

Please remember to sign up for the Hoot if you're planning to perform. Signups should be complete by tomorrow morning. Also remember: you can sign up as principal performer in only one act and acts should be kept to 3 minutes. You don't want to be the 41<sup>st</sup> act that comes on to an audience that's been trapped in seat-numbing chairs for 3 hours.

## Dinner Tonight?

Caramba! It's the Mexican Fiesta. Tacos with sophisticatedly spiced delicately ground beef, grated neon orange cheese, freshly de-canned kidney beans, garnished for our protection with Beano. (Suggested beverage pairing for dinner—Lake Water.)

## Winni Weather

Tonight: A shower or thunderstorm in spots this evening; otherwise, partly cloudy.  
Tomorrow: Periods of clouds and sunshine with a shower or thunderstorm around. Ditto overnight (minus the sunshine), low 58.

## 2nd & 3rd grade challenge of the day:



I hope you are all set to think,  
Because this one might make you sink!

## Water Update

*It's still leaking.....*

The transition from aerobics to Kegel exercises is still paying off for most of the camp while the persistent and draining water leak remains elusive. Water was again turned off for part of the camp from midnight to 6 am in order for the system to refill and repressurize itself. Emergency water was delivered to select premium locations throughout campus. Amy Bruch reports that a particularly symbolic gesture was provided to the pampered residents of Malden. A 5 gallon bucket of water was delivered to their mini Xanadu – once brought inside, it was discovered that the bucket itself had a leak in it. Once the source of water was identified, the bucket was quickly removed from the premises and apologies were proffered to Allie Bruch – the previously accused source of the water. Hopes are high for a discovery of the busted pipe and a remedy to keep us all flowing smoothly for the rest of the week.

## FOMO vs FOBZ

The following was submitted to the GEMS this AM:

The Fear of missing out is a driving force here at Winni. Exhaustion be damned!

Last evening I dragged my tired self to the Weston family sing-a-long. With eyelids half open, I faced a raging fire while the setting sun blazed upon my back. In the sweltering heat I learned at once what it feels like to BE a s'more: all sticky, sweet and melting hot. I'm so glad I didn't miss that!!

But then, I was overtaken by a need to just lie down and sleep. I retreated to my cabin for little nap before barn dancing...my FOBZ (fear of being a zombie) getting the better of me. Ten hours later I awoke, more refreshed than I've been in weeks! FOBZ...ZZZZZZZZ....

## Winni Horrors

Winni may seem like a calm peaceful place... If you've never been here. Walking around during the day may seem scary but it gets worse at night. Don't read these directly before going to sleep due to the chilling facts you are about to discover.

### The Frights of Winni

Although not spotted this year. It does exist. This fright is not sneaky, not fast, never comes near humans, and won't hurt you unless you bother him. You probably wonder why this would be a fright then when it's so easy to avoid. Because people don't try to steer clear of it but actually make an effort to go near this beast. And no not Mike Nisson, the famous Winni porcupine. If ignored than no harm done. But if you have the Winni ignorance that most of us are victims of, then please try to only poke it once.

The chipmunks you see at the playground may be cute and innocent. But these are just lures

to pull you into the forest and meet the parents. These unusually large rodents have teeth larger than Harrison Leap. They are also the leading suspects in the missing water. We fear they will drain the lake next.

If you hear the horrible sounds of "Roll Tide" ringing in your ears then these brutes are approaching. The monsters usually have short hair, loud voices, and sideways hats. If you can see the designs on their boxers as they try and keep their pants up while running to fetch a Frisbee then this is them. These not so matured college boys will be sure to offer you a drink if approached. Please avoid at all costs.

When at home the wait for dinner can be exciting and wanted once you hear that first growl of your stomach, at Winni that first gurgle is dreaded as you realize you know have to plug your nose and take a bite of something that will be hard to keep down. The serving line for dinner is similar to standing on the deck of the titanic as you await your fate. Not knowing what shape your grub will be in tonight but knowing it will taste similar to that accidental gulp of lake water is the killing suspense. But do not be afraid, Jo-Jo's is always an option.

Duck Itch. An editorial decision has been made to not discuss this topic.

This is one of the scariest things at Winni. The sight is the worst early in the morning. Try to keep away from this terror whatever it takes. The monster you'll see when you look is something never seen before and you will never want to see again. This is the mirror. The person seen when looking at this, yes that's you. Don't worry once you go home with many showers and a few weeks of rehab you will start to look normal.

The new lifeguard. A.K.A. Ms. Sunshine. Due to fear of banning from water and beating this fright has been saved for the article below.

If caught by any of these fears and you don't know what to do then just grab your handy bullhorn. I promise everyone will listen.

- By Abby Weeks

## Heard on the Lake....

The dulcet tones of courting loons have recently been overpowered by the somewhat harsher notes of amplified redirection emanating from atop the main beach lifeguard tower. We are all for maintaining an atmosphere of safety and order on the waterfront, but there have been times in recent days where the choice of words seemed unnecessarily confrontational and even bordered on the condescending. Let us, for our part, redouble efforts to obey the rules, and also hope for a more temperate discourse from on high. In that spirit, we give you...

### Top 10 Inappropriate Comments Made by New Lifeguard with Bullhorn

10. Get that head underwater!
9. Those aren't muffin tops, they're donuts.
8. Just say no to the tankini, ma'am.
7. Hey, white pasty man – suck in that gut!
6. Stop that floating - give me 20 lengths butterfly, now!
5. Sonny, that dog paddle is an insult to dogs.
4. Get your eyes off my tattoo!
3. Stop fighting in the water or I'll kick your \$#(#!
2. Speedo? What are you thinking?
1. Water cold today, sir?

## More Good News

### Sonja Whipp

*I attended 3 home Green Bay Packers games, won runner-up for 2 Best of the Milwaukee Web Awards, and had the pleasure of attending the beautiful wedding of Ben and Julie Hawthorne.*

### Marilyn Kendrix

*After finishing my first year at Yale Divinity School, I spent July in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania taking a course entitled Catalysts for Social Progress: The Quest for Social Justice Through Music, Theatre and Religion with 3 professors and 7 other students from YDS and Yale School of Drama. As a result, I will be no more than a day late, I hope, arriving at Winni.*

## Rafter Alert

Hewing to our tradition never to be encumbered by the facts, the GEMS staff is intrigued by the many rumors "flying" about regarding the identity of the non-human occupants of the barn ceiling. It's claimed the previous occupants succumbed to a bat-specific illness, leaving the micro-ecosystem available.

What are those, then, crawling amidst the rafters? We've heard sincerely-held claims of everything from flying squirrels to barn owlets to sasquatch hatchlings. Have you an opinion, informed or otherwise? We'd like to know. Photographs or artists' renderings are encouraged.

## Swimmi sign up

The annual Dennis Courtney Winni Swimmi will be held Thursday at 2:30 PM. Signup sheets for swimmers and boaters will be posted on the Inn Porch this afternoon. Participants should check in at the Council Ring Beach at 2:15 on Thursday. Come join in as a swimmer, a boater, or as part of the throng of wildly cheering enthusiasts lining the shore with the thought cloud "better them than me" floating over its collective head.

## Top 10 uses for Jo-Jo's NNESSRE profits! (Beer sales only)

10. Buy Wes a new boat
9. Send twelve grandchildren to college.
8. Give a cash bonus to your buddy who sabotaged the GPC water system, resulting in even larger than usual ice sales.
7. Develop a cure for fatal bat fungus.
6. Donate money to University of New Hampshire to build a football powerhouse that rivals the University of Alabama. Roll Geese!
5. Sell business and move to Marseilles.
4. Buy a helicopter to spy on Camp Robindell.
3. Fund new Tea Party radio station for Meredith metropolitan area.
2. Repair the Inn.
1. Resolve national debt crisis (less expensive than repairing the Inn).

## Innovative Merger of Two Classes Expected to Reduce Debt Ceiling

In an effort to reduce the national debt and save water, Winni trustees have merged the two classes "The Seven Deadly Sins" with "The Seven Habits of Happy Children."

Forthwith, parents will be instructed in how to foster greed, pride, envy, gluttony, sloth, anger and lust in their children in order to build a better world. To accommodate this merger of two philosophical schools, children will be allowed to push ahead of adults in the scoop shop line, eat as much sugar as they want and steal from other camper's coolers, but only if they have the energy to do so. Temper tantrums are to be rewarded with heaping praise, in order to boost the self-esteem of children who might otherwise feel remorse for their behavior. Any teenagers who have not yet had their first kiss, please report to the inn after hours where we will be celebrating differences by sharing showers.

- By Lillian Daniel

## ARE YOU A FAMILY OF ONE OR MORE? THIS IS FOR YOU.

The 7 Habits of Happy Kids class would like to invite you to have a conversation with your family over rocks. If you were to create a family mission what are some of the big ideas, the priorities that your family values? Find a large (apple size?) rock, or 2 or 3, and bring them to the inn side porch where you will find paper and paint. It will be ongoing, unscheduled, so fit it in whenever.

Step 3: (step 1 was getting the rock, step 2 was coming to the porch) talk about your family's priorities. Listen to every family member's ideas.

Step 4: - draw on paper a plan for how you could represent your ideas. They are

important enough to do the best you can and making a plan is the first creation.

Step 5: - place your rock(s) on a sturdy paper plate (provided) and add pebbles and other little things that will represent all the other things in your life (the stuff that often seems to crowd out the important things in our lives.) Now you have begun to practice the habits of being proactive and putting 1<sup>st</sup> things 1<sup>st</sup>.

Please put your family name on your plate, leave it on the table, leave your plan, too. *Thank you for sharing.*

## 7-12<sup>th</sup> Graders – Chill Out... With An Evening Swim

All 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade young people are invited to go for an evening swim down by the water front tonight. Meet at the beach at 7 PM and it would be great if you brought your swimsuit, preferably on, and most preferably, your own.

## Joe's Corner

While the rest of camp was dutifully attending classes, Wes Gundersen and I decided to play hooky and go for a boat ride. It's that kind of reckless go-for-broke attitude that makes Wes and I the babe magnets we are. Well, as sometimes happens to those of us who live on the edge, God decided to punish us for our indiscretion and when Wes and I were about 20 minutes out, the good Lord decided to mess with the boat's ignition system and we were soon at His mercy floating dead in the water in the middle of the lake. After 3 hours adrift, we were towed in to shore and now Mike Nisson keeps calling me Gilligan. Man, I can't wait for that pain in the butt to leave camp.

While on the water, Wes was able to phone Greg (the head maintenance guy at GPCC) who said he would tow us but needed to fix the camp's water problem first. Now, I know this isn't very Christian of me but the heck with the rest of camp. Don't you people realize that it's all about me? (That's next year's camp theme

by the way, "It's all about Joe"). Anyway, it made me think about how water is overrated. Jesus didn't change wine into water, you know. With that thought in mind, here are my top 5 reasons why water is overrated:

- 1) Nobody ever pumps water *into* their basement.
- 2) It just falls from the sky. Bird droppings fall from the sky but we're not all running around complaining when we're out of bird droppings.
- 3) If water was so great, fish would rule the world.
- 4) Nobody ever says "Congratulations! Let me buy you a glass of water." (At least nobody at Chapel Line.
- 5) It's unreliable. It's cold when you want to take a shower (at least in our cabin), it makes you sit at the ball game until it's good and ready to stop falling on your head, and it strands you in your boat for hours so you miss lunch at camp. Oh wait, that's a good thing isn't it?

- By Joe Morrissey

## Insights From Morning Watch!

*Three notes from today's morning watch with Jean Peters:*

### 1. From members of the Hopi Tribe:

"You have been telling the people that this is the Eleventh Hour. Now you must go back and tell the people that this is the Hour. And there are things to be considered;

Where are you living? What are you doing? What are your relationships? Are you in right relation? Where is your water? Know your garden. It is time to speak your Truth. Create your community. Be good to each other. And do not look outside yourself for the leader.

This could be a good time! There is a river flowing now very fast. It is so great and swift that there are those who will be afraid. They will try to hold on to the shore. They will feel

they are being torn apart, and they will suffer greatly.

Know the river has its destination. The elders say we must let go of the shore, push off into the middle of The river, keep our eyes open, and our heads above the water. See who is in there with you and celebrate.

At this time in history, we are to take nothing personally. Least of all, ourselves. For the moment that we do, our spiritual growth and journey comes to a halt. The time of the lone wolf is over. Gather yourselves!

Banish the word "struggle" from your attitude and your vocabulary.

*All that we do now much be done must be done in a sacred manner and in celebration.  
We are the ones we have been waiting for."*

2. The round sung from the last two lines was written by Kate Munger, of the Threshold Choir.
3. The meditation had three parts :
  - a. **Mental alternate nostril breathing**—to balance the two hemispheres of the brain.
  - b. **Imagery for Healthy Boundaries**—Belleruth Naparstek. The script appears in her book, Staying Well with Guided Imagery. She also uses it on many of her excellent meditation/visualization cds, available at [www.healthjourneys.com](http://www.healthjourneys.com).
  - c. **Future Self Visualization**—This was adapted from the Future Self visualization of Laurie Pearlman and Karen Saakvitne, developed for trauma professionals to combat vicarious traumatization. This can be found in their Handbook on Vicarious Traumatization and can also be found in an upcoming book by Mark Weisberg and Jean Koh Peters, The Teacher's Reflection Book. Theirs focuses on asking your future self about your work life; this morning's version changed just a bit of the wording to focus on asking your future self about your daily life generally

## Last Year's Concert is Next Year's Scholarship!

### *2010 Barb n Chris n Bill Concert CD on Sale*

To listen to a little Winni on the way home, you can purchase the 2010 Barb'n'Bill'n'Chris concert that was expertly recorded by Kevin Weston and mixed by Bill Milford. These happy memories are all yours for an ample donation to the NNESSRE scholarship fund: Barb Siftar, Bill Milford, & Chris Peters.

1. Down The Road
2. If I Knew You Were Coming I'd A Baked a Cake
3. The Secret of Life
4. The Changing Garden of Mr. Bell
5. The Recovery Round
6. Let Music Surround You
7. A Life Full of Time
8. Help Somebody
9. In Loving Memory
10. Revolution Waltz
11. Probably Not
12. Now Let Us Sing/When the Saints/Marching to Zion
13. Come Together

## Diary of a New Camper: Day 3

Dear Diary,

I had really had high hopes for the day. But when I made it to the inn for breakfast the first person I saw was the mean lady. So I decided to avoid the steam table line and I went to toast some bread. I missed the first two class periods trying to toast that bread. I am so jealous of the people that actually made it to the class on envy.

When I finally made it to a third period class they were discussing the Tea Party. At first I thought the class was based on Alice in Wonderland, because some of the stuff they were saying was so crazy. Like I learned that George Bush was on vacation for a third of his presidency. Someone else pointed out that Obama has played more golf while in office than Bush did. Then a bunch of people had an

argument in a really nice and friendly way. Some people raised their hands to be called on, but other folks just started talking. Then all the people who had been arguing went to have lunch together.

Lunch was ok—but a lot of people were complaining that they couldn't hear the announcements. The people that ate in the main Dining Hall said they definitely could hear the announcements, but didn't understand them. I just wondered why all the announcements were read by Charley Brown's teacher.

I was really tired after lunch because I had been having so many nightmares this week about the corn children. So I went back to my room for a nap. I must have really been tired, because I woke up several hours later in a pool of my own sweat and drool. Oh great, I missed another dinner. But somebody said there might be s'mores being served down by the lake.

I couldn't believe I was so gullible. This was a full on corn children horror-show. Leaping flames, people speaking in strange languages waving sharp sticks around, unnaturally cute children smeared in black and brown and white stripes walked up to me. I started screaming and ran as fast as I could back to my room.

I sit here in the dark now. Shivering with fear. Daylight can't come fast enough. I really hope I get out of here one day. I have lost track of which day of the week it is so I have no idea how much time I have left here.

## From the Book of Winni Records

It seems the Ramond-Eskra-Saint Louis-Fioravanti clan can lay claim to both the oldest and youngest campers at Winni this year. Allen Raymond and Emilia Fioravanti provide the chronological bookends to our community. Congratulations!



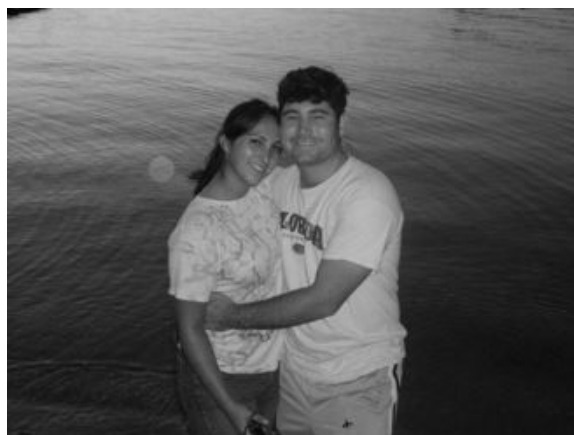
**Folk Dancing In the Barn!**



**Harrison Leap makes his debut in the GEMS, with his proud mama, Carrie!**



**Eyes n ears n mouth n nose – heads, shoulders, knees, and toes....**



**Ana and Chris Sanders - happily married this past year after having last year's Winni proposal!**



**Beautiful sunset after the Weston Singalong**



**Jen Leaf chillin' on the Inn Front Porch**



## Houghtalings Check In

Hello Winni Friends! We sure are missing all of you and hope you are having a fantastic week at camp. Sending all our love Heather, Jay, Duncan, Tessa, Scott, Hilary, Sarah, Carl, Eva and Elsa.

### Update from Albuquerque:

Hilary and Scott are married! We had a wonderful weekend in Washington where we were wed. We were so grateful to have Heather officiate the ceremony. We were also blessed to have Barb and Julie Siftar lead us in an evening of dancing. We enjoyed our honeymoon on the island of Kaua'i and trekked along the Napoli coast. Here's a link to Kaua'i pics: <http://tinyurl.com/3hgs2r8>. We're still in Albuquerque where Hilary has finished her internship and has applied for licensure in NM. Scott is wrapping up his postdoctoral training at the Univ. of NM. Our Ultimate team is called Red or Green and Hilary is a captain. We wish we could be relaxing at Winni. We'll miss connecting with old and new friends, dancing, and singing!

### Update from Seattle:

- Jay is still making tons of games at Bungie Studios and will miss barn dancing at camp.
- Heather has kept busy with lots of acting and directing. She will miss singing around the campfire.
- Duncan loves middle school, his alto sax, the piano, and will miss playing D&D with Max
- Tessa starts 5<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall and spends most of her days tap dancing and reading books. She wishes she was at camp to perform in the HOOT (with an under 3 minute routine) and show off her feather extensions.
- We barely survived a house renovation this summer.
- We spent 2 weeks in NYC and D.C. this spring where Heather peed next to Anna Wintour (editor of Vogue Magazine) at intermission for the play War Horse.
- The best thing ever this summer was Scott and Hilary's wedding weekend

complete with a taste of Winni thanks to Barb and Julie leading Barn Dancing after the rehearsal barbecue.

And...Sarah's weeping, emotional toast complete with camp songs and a Winni back-up choir.

### Update from Berkeley:

Sarah, Carl, Eva and Elsa love life in California. The girls are getting so big and are oh so busy! Eva turned 5 this summer and she is looking forward to starting kindergarten in the fall. She loves the outdoors especially the beach and enjoys riding her bike with no training wheels! Elsa is three and loving everything related to babies! *Speaking of babies, we are expecting Baby Schroeder #3 in early January!* Carl is busy with work as a physicist at Lawrence Berkeley National Lab here at UC Berkeley and Sarah is enjoying time at home with the girls and supervising student teachers on a part-time basis. Sending love and hugs to you all. We will be singing many camp songs this week and thinking of you all!



**Scott and Hilary at their wedding reception**

## Things You Might Have Seen or Experienced While Star Gazing Tonight!

Can you find... MilkyWay, ShootingStars, Moon, BigDipper, North Star and 31 others!

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