

Yer Geneva GEMS

S'More Weston Campfire

The Weston clan once again impressed a capacity crowd at the Council Ring last night with an evening of great family sing-a-longs and rounds. Weston niece and newcomer, Bethany Lord, demonstrated that the leadership skill around the campfire is indeed nature not nurture as she handily assisted in a number of Weston standards with poise, composure, and volume. Joanne Hammil ably stepped into the fray to lead "Smokey The Bear" and "Tse-tse Fly," not only demonstrating her skill in round leadership, but knowledge of the local fauna.

The weather cleared just in time to make for a muddy walk to the ring, but the warmth from the fire and friends at the Council Ring made it the wise choice for the venue. The s'mores capped off the evening with enough calorie boosting goodness to get campers back up the darkened trail and into the barn for another wonderful evening of dancing with delightful Barb Siftar.

Morning Watch is A Joke!

Liz, Chris, and Jean Peters presented a Morning Watch service this morning that focused on how we can incorporate play and humor into our lives. It provided many wonderful suggestions for adding levity and perspective to what can be busy and preoccupied lives.

Mark Brady added a "stand up perspective" from a sitting down position by speaking about the minister who was checking out the microphone and started tapping it and stated "There is something wrong with this thing." And then immediately heard from the congregation, "And also with you."

The GEMS office noted that it overheard three Winni Chaplains discussing how their monetary gifts to GPC at the end of the week are inspired by God's providence. Ruth LeBar Bates said "I draw a large circle and throw my money up in the air and whatever comes down in the circle, I give to GPC and the rest I keep." Charlie Soper said "I draw a straight line on the ground and throw my money up in the air and whatever comes down on the other side I give to GPC and what falls on my side I keep." Current Chaplain Jim Peters stated "I take my money and throw it all up in the air, what God wants, God keeps, and whatever comes down is mine."

Tuesday Night Schedule

7:00PM Vespers - *Outside the Chapel*

7:30PM Squam Lakes Natural Sci. Center
"Creatures of the Night" - *Barn*

8:00PM Drumming Circle - *Chapel*

8:30PM Story Time - *Meetinghouse Child Care Room*

9:00PM Bonfire singing - *Tenting Area*

9:00PM Family Movie: "Hoot" -
Meetinghouse Main Room

Ed.School To The Rescue!

Special thanks to Allison Milford and Hayley Nisson for helping during first period with the Pre-K class and to Bethany Lord and Jonathan Leaf for helping out during the second period.

Accu-GEMS Weather

Winni Weather ... Or Not

Tonight: Mostly cloudy. The part where it is not cloudy, it may be clear or it may be raining. It all depends on where you are and your attitude. Guaranteed darkness except in the Chaplain's cabin where the light is always on.

Tomorrow: Mostly rainy until about 3 pm. Then you have a slight chance of things clearing up and becoming less wet but the humidity, oy the humidity, it will make your sheets feel like 97% damp rather than the previous night's moisture content of 95% damp.

Wednesday Menu

Breakfast: French Toast, sausage

Lunch: Grilled Ham & cheese, soup

Dinner: Chicken BBQ, Grilled burgers, veggie burgers, salads, etc...

EMAIL ROSTER POSTED! MAKE YOUR CORRECTIONS NOW!

If you have not been receiving e-news from your beloved GEMS editors during the year, then it is probably because your email address has changed or is not correct in our exclusive Accu-Winni Email File. A print out of the file is on the Inn Porch bulletin board so now is your chance

to add, delete, or edit. Also, if your address is missing or incorrect in the roster, you can add it this list. The final copy of the email list will be emailed out to all camp participants (with an email address) a week or so after camp. Thanks!

Top Ten Winni Courses We'd Like To See

(from Joe Morrissey and the Pink Flamingo Writers Cooperative)

1. How to sing with your mouth full taught by Tom Weston.
2. Trash talking for young people taught by Abigail Weeks.
3. How to change your looks - the Extreme Chaplain Makeover by Jim Peters.
4. Getting your wife to do work for you – taught by Joe Morrissey and Jim Peters.
5. The Plumber's Crack as a Fashion Statement – taught by Kyle and Weedge "Work It" Nisson
6. Long Road to Nowhere: Boat Navigation – taught by Jim Nolan
7. Scared Straight for 6th Graders – "Shirtless" Gordie Holstrom
8. Learn to Play Guitar in your Sleep – Wes Gundersen
9. Last Toilet Standing: Feng Shui in the Bath House- taught by Kate Poole
10. How to Win Friends and Influence People to Drive You to the Airport- Ginny Houghtaling.

Gardening God's Way

Submitted by Giulia Paladino

Plant three rows of peas:

Peace of mind, peace of heart and peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash:

Squash gossip, squash indifference, squash grumbling, squash selfishness

Plant for rows of lettuce:

Let us be faithful, let us be kind, let us be obedient, let us love one another

Plant three rows of turnips:

Turn up for meetings, turn up for service, turn up to help one another

Water freely with patience, cultivate with love.

There is much fruit from your garden because you reap what you sow.

To conclude our garden, we must have thyme:

Time for God, time for study, time for prayer, time for each other.

Author unknown but thanks to Giulia Paladino

Greatings from Winnsboro, Texas!

A special phone call was in the voice mail for GEMS office today from Lindy and Kate Hearne and Lynn Adler in Winnsboro, Texas. They wanted to let all Winni folks know they were thinking of them during this special week and to be sure to stop by the Crossroads Café that they run in Winnsboro, if you are ever in the area. Lindy's new CD of Spirit Centered songs is available from Barb Siftar.

A War of Minors or A Minor War?

The GEMS has been inundated with minute by minute updates of a competitive challenge between the 5th and 6th grades (known to the GEMS office as the Marshmallow Mafia who popped us unceremoniously with the white puffy projectiles yesterday) and the 7th and 8th graders who have been dubbed the "Paper Pirates." After being puffed by the Mafia (which the Pirates now call the "Marshmallow Munchkins"), the Pirates retaliated by papering the classroom door and then pelting them with paper projectiles upon their emergence. The Munchkins retaliated in kind with more paper and a truce has been called until an official meeting of the mighty can be held in a kickball game or a war to end all wars of a water ballon battle to be held Friday. Where is the Chaplain in the midst of this chaos? WWGD?

"HOOT"-The Movie Not the Event

Come to see the movie "Hoot" (PG) tonight at the Meeting House at 9:00 pm. This is a terrific suspenseful and fun drama about the new kid in town who tries to save an endangered group of owls in Florida town. It has lots of great messages and will be fun for kids and adults alike – Come and enjoy!

STORY TIME FOR KIDS!

In an offering parents and their children, Frances Sink is providing a story time for families at 8:30 PM in the Meeting House. This can be a great way to wind down with your kids at the end of the day! Ready your rocking chair and the first one to snooze, wins!

DEAN TALKS TRASH

Dean Tom Weston, citing former Chinese Emperors as his role model for leadership, has called upon the campers in his Westondom to be inspired to pick up 5 pieces of trash each day in his honor. Apparently a former Chinese leader told his people to dispose 5 flies each day and by the end of his reign there were no flies in China. If we did the same here at Winni, we could probably have the grounds pristine and Chapel Line disposed of by the end of the week.

CHANGES TO NURSE'S SCHEDULE

Be aware that the nurse's clinic hours for the remainder of the week will be from 9 – 9:30 AM daily. Otherwise, she is available for emergencies only, at (603) 630-3185.

Off The Dean's Bean

Voices in a Choir

OK, who remembers the "Summer of Love"? Me neither, and not because I wasn't there! My birth certificate belies that fact. And while every summer at Winni is a summer of love, the original "Summer of Love" came during the late 60's. Simon and Garfunkle had a hit song called *The Sounds of Silence*. And though that may sound like an oxymoron, it calls to mind the importance of silence. We often pray in silence. In a Quaker Meeting, the focus of the meeting is a shared silence that is only broken when someone feels a need to speak. (Chaplain Jim, I am not suggesting anything here.)

There is no applause after an anthem (usually), because the music is presented

as a gift to God and not as a performance for the glory of the singers.

My favorite silence is the wonderful moment at the end of an exceptional performance as the last note fades away and before the explosion of applause. Believe me, a performer is more moved by that reverent pause than by all the applause that follows.

With music, each note in a composition is important. But, just as important are the rests. The breaks, called "rests", are the moments of silence placed between certain notes to give music meaning and purpose. Imagine the Blue Danube Waltz performed without rests. While the notes may still be correct, without the proper timing it loses something, doesn't it?

As voices in a choir, we might consider ourselves as a page of sheet music. The notes represent our presence here and now, while the silent "rests" represent those who are no longer with us but remain a part of us. Our song is not a song at all if we don't have both notes and rests.

Tomorrow, we hold our annual memorial service and we remember those members of our Winni Community who have died. These people have touched our lives, have made us better and are alive in the spirit of this very special place.

A fundamental element in music is to observe the rests. Tomorrow please come to the council ring as we honor the rests.
- Tom Weston

From the things you might not notice department...

Over the fireplace in the Meetinghouse main room there is a beautiful scene made from solid hardwood depicting the GPC Lake reflection and an evocative sculpture of a family gathering around the warmth and glow of a fire. This work was commissioned by Ron Baker and GPC in 2003 and finished in 2004. A plaque intended to unify the theme with biblical verse was to be added shortly thereafter by GPC, but was never completed. Yesterday, during the bazaar, it was installed by the artist, and East Moultonbough resident, T. Sammy Wakefield (no relation to the pitcher!). I was fortunate to have an opportunity to chat with her about her creation and work.

This piece utilized a walnut veneer plywood for the lake image and solid walnut for the shoreline, trees and birds. The image of the family on the left was fashioned from a traditional Catholic scene, Father, Mother and child. The one on the right is also a traditional scene and if one looks closely, they too will be with child soon! They are hand made carvings made from solid Cherry wood. The fire is also hand carved and made from exotic solid ebony. Ebony, for those who do not know, is extremely hard and the dust is toxic. The detail in the fire scene is amazing. She commented that she had to be very careful not to injure herself on the sharp points of the flames. Both pieces are finished in natural tung oil and several coats of polyurethane. The new sign is a laser engraved image on solid dark American walnut.

I encourage all campers to take a closer look at this work. Oh, and by the way, she is a huge Red Sox fan too. Oh well...

-- Jim Dockendorff

POLITE CONVERSATION

Who among you might have claimed the following?

- *I once aspired to be a nightclub jazz singer.*
- *I swam in the Zambize river with crocodiles.*
- *I went to Spelman – historically Black women's college.*
- *I used to be obsessed with ballet.*
- *I am a bombing raid survivor.*

Yesterday's identities revealed:

- *I can't eat shrimp* – Chris Peters
- *I've had more than a dozen children* – Susie Hawthorne
- *I was Smith College ping-pong champion in 1969* – Joanne Hammil
- *I was an undefeated tomahawk-thrower, when I was a Redcoat during the Bicentennial* - Mark Brady
- *I once "borrowed" books from a library without permission* – Allen Brosious

Asian Medicine Class

Kate Poole will be discussing Feng Shui in tomorrow's Asian Paradigms class. Energy (among other things) not flowing optimally in your cabin? Too much water, not enough fire? Too much firewater? Please bring these and any other Feng Shui problems to tomorrow's class for discussion.

Dateline GEMS

Several punctilious campers pointed out that the GEMS banner yesterday, while correct on page 1, gave the date as Saturday, August 5th, 2007 on page 2 and beyond. They couldn't help pointing out that yesterday was neither Saturday nor the 5th. But did they appreciate the deeper irony that Saturday hadn't even *been* the 5th anyway? We at the GEMS feel it's our duty to foster the kind of dislocation in time that occurs here at camp. Apparently, our gesture was misinterpreted by fault-finders as a mere inattentive typo rather than a subtle existential strategem. As if the GEMS were some error-riddled, hastily assembled rag. Well, we never!

Chaplain Chat

Thank you, Beth LeBar, Kevin Weston, Jean Peters and Amelia Carr LeBar for a stirring performance of Lui Collins' "Blessed," at last night's Vespers. Thanks also to Ron Kittel, Hamish Blackman and Leslie Ganley for reading.

As we move into the middle of our time together, I would like gently to urge us all to think again about the intention with which we began our journey on Saturday evening. There is still time to walk the labyrinthine walk, to find and connect with that special friend, to listen to the lake lapping, to savor a ginger cone by the light of the silvery stars.

- Chaplain Jim

Where's Paul?

To answer your many kind queries, Paul Stillwell moved from Granby, CT to North Andover, MA in June. After this move he had a bad spell and is now spending a couple of weeks in rehab (*not* the same one as Lindsey Lohan) healing a bruised hip. He will return to his gorgeous new apartment in a week or two. See Leslie Ganley if you would like to sign a card here, or feel free to send him a note: 575 Osgood St., #7507, North Andover, MA 01845.

Letter to the Editors

What ever happened to the days in which you would stumble and then be relentlessly skewered in the GEMS? Where is the GEMS that attacked Dennis Courtney when he was the Dean? Does the GEMS realize that camp started 3 days ago? The chaplains have not been zinged since Lillian "Fornication" Daniel or the days of giving Charlie "Chaplain" Soper a high "three-and-a-half?" Has Mike Nisson finally learned how to spell his own name correctly?

We at Chapel Line have decided that the kissy touchy feely days of the GEMS need to stop. We have historically been the most frequent targets of attack. Frankly, we miss the attention.

Therefore, in an effort to liven up the camp, we at Chapel Line vow to embarrass ourselves (and by association, all of you) daily and with incidents that will be frequent and worthy of attention but hopefully will fall short of social disfavor and possible incarceration.

Very truly yours,

- Chapel Line

Up and Coming Events

- The HOOT! Signup sheet is on the Inn Porch. Remember: 3-minute limit for acts. NOTE: Trevor Davis has kindly offered the use of his drums for any Hoot act that would like to use them.
- Kid's softball game – Wednesday at 1:00 on the Green.
- Bobbie Davis declares that there shall be a soccer game to end all soccer games at 2:30 pm Wednesday on the green. This is an intergenerational game where all ages are welcomed and encouraged, and there is a very good chance you will have a ball.
- The Swimmi –Thursday afternoon at 2:30. Signup sheet for swimmers and boaters is on the Inn Porch.
- Adults softball game Thursday at 1:00 on the ball field.

More special Thank-Yous

- To the extended Weston family for bringing us a superb sing-a-long at the Council Ring last night.
 - To Bob and Leslie Ganley for the yummy S'mores.
 - To Trevor Davis for hosting *An Inconvenient Truth*.
 - To Barb for leading us in another incredible evening of dancing in the Barn.
- From the Evening Coordinators and your appreciative fellow campers

Thump a Goat Tonight

Come join the Thundering Herd Drum Circle tonight, at 8:00 – 10:00 in the Chapel. We'll rouse the Spirits, raise the roof, and rattle the residents of Chapel Line! Bring drums (and other percussion), hot hands, and happy feet. Any questions? See Larry Kern.

News From The LeBars

Frank and Dorothy LeBar would like to extend greetings to all their friends at Winni. They regret not being able to be here this year, but Frank's health continues to decline and Dorothy is needed at home. After radiation, a couple rounds of chemotherapy, some exploratory brain surgery, and other less traditional kinds of therapies that were not stopping the aggressive brain cancer, Frank decided to let the disease take its course, while he concentrates on living his last days to their fullest. Among his projects is the publication of a book of poetry *To Life: Poems by Frank LeBar 2002-2006*, which captures memories of his youth, and expresses his witty, observant, and great-hearted view of life around him. Correspondence is much appreciated. (Write to them at 87 Camphill Road, Copake NY 12516). Here's one of Frank's poems to share:

Spring at 86

*So hey. Sun is out
Robins are back
Iris is up.
So wash those windows
Clean out that flower bed
Rake those leaves.*

*As for me –
I'm just happy to make
It through for another year.
And yes to once more feel it,
Hear it, smell it, thank
God for it.*

GREEN GROW THE RUSHES, OH !

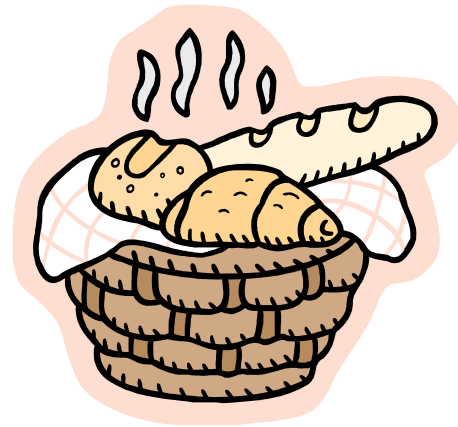
1. I'll sing you one, oh!
Green grow the rushes, oh!
What is your one, oh?
One is one and all alone,
And evermore shall be so
2. Two, two the lilywhite boys
Clothèd all in green, oh!
3. Three, three the rivals,
4. Four for the Gospel makers.
5. Five for the symbol at your door.
6. Six for the six proud walkers.
7. Seven for the seven stars in the sky.
8. Eight for the eight bold rainers
(or rangers).
9. Nine for the nine bright shiners.
10. Ten for the ten commandments.
11. Eleven for the eleven that went
to heaven,
12. Twelve for the twelve apostles.



NOW LET US SING

Now let us sing
Sing to the pow'r of the Lord comes down
Now let us sing
Sing to the pow'r of the Lore comes down
Lift up your head, Life up your head
Don't be afraid, Don't be afraid
Sing to the pow'r of the Lord comes down.

- 2) Now let us pray, ...
- 3) Now let us preach, ...
- 4) Now let us shout, ...
- 5) Now let us sing, ...



Father We Thank Thee

Father we thank thee for the night
And for the blessed morning light
For rest and food and loving care
And all that makes the world so fair

Help us to do the things we should
To be to others kind and good
In all we do at work or play
To grow more loving every day

Amen