

The Geneva GEMS

Dave Ebert returns to WINNI

The **GEMS** had the pleasure of having an extended conversation with the former (1978) **NNESRE Dean Dave Ebert** about some of his recollections and reflections on this week. Dave noted that one of his goals as a camp leader at that time was to help the community to be a little more about "being rather than doing," to help us move into a consciousness of being a community *together* made up of unique individuals. He said he was well pleased to see that NNESRE still has this wonderful mix of an active community that is committed to "being with and for" one another.

Dave also noted the similarity in feelings that he had when coming up here this year and years ago. When he was Dean, it was amidst the end of the Vietnam War and the Watergate crisis (Winni longtimers will recall watching President Nixon resign on a tiny black and white TV that was situated on the front steps of the Chapel while a mostly stunned community watched from the gravel and grass) and Dave now returns amidst this seemingly endless Iraq war with a crisis in confidence in our leadership. Despite looming world problems, Winni still provides an important space for reflection, recreation, and re-dedication to values important to us as a spiritual community.

Now retired after many years as an international Human Resources Consultant, Dave's interests still lie in important political issues such as the proposed **Matthew Shephard Act** which extends the Hate Crimes Act to gay, lesbian and transgendered individuals. Thanks, Dave, for coming back and being the Deanly man you are – hope we will see you and other past Winni alumni back again soon.

Dave noted that one of his inspirational moments toward returning to camp was the rumor that he was indeed, dead. As energy mounted toward creating a plaque for him, he thought it wise to stem the tide of his demise by making an appearance here. Although the plaque was not completed, anyone named Dave and whose last name begins with "Eb" may now purchase a discount plaque at the GEMS office. The only rub is you should probably plan on "moving on" during 2007 lest you suffer a surcharge for additional editing.

Wednesday Evening Schedule

6:30PM The Hoot! - Chapel

9:00PM Barn Dancing – Barn

9:00PM Fireside Chat –

Meetinghouse Screened Porch

A Riddle from Len Raymond

What, when up-side-down, is really sideways? Hints elsewhere in this GEMS.

Rain Dampens Towels, Not Spirits

Editor's Musings

I supposed it had to happen sometime during the week where you get that unambiguous rain that says "sleep in or get wet," and that happened this morning. How lovely it was to hear the pitter patter on the roof (and the drip-drip somewhere in the cabin, all I know is that it wasn't on me). However, it held off long enough for us to have had a lovely **Bonfire Sing-A-Long**, ably coordinated by **Luanne Wilczynski**, with an incredible plethora of players; **Chris Peters**, **Adam Brosious**, **Paul DiTucci**, **Stefan Livsey**, **Jon Arnold**, **Kevin Weston**, and **Ben Hawthorne**. One Winni faithful, **Jen Hanrahan** states that sing-a-long is one of her favorite parts of the week. (She also is interested in someone who can "scat", that is, identify the varmint that is running around her cabin by the clues it is leaving.)

Me thinkest the narcissistic railings of the **Chapel Line** crew for a more venomous **GEMS** is a point well taken and perhaps reflects what happens to us all when we get too busy in our life and forget our priorities; like making fun of people who have no intellectual or emotional capacity to defend themselves or to articulate even what is remotely likeable about themselves. Their attempts at self-medication in order to justify how they feel "bad" about themselves in the morning can best be treated by Goody's Headache Powder than a psychodynamic treatise which is both a waste of our intellectual

prowess but their hard earned beer money. As always, GEMS staff is available to help any Chapel Line readers with the big words proffered here. However, for your kids, you may mostly summarize this as a generalist expression of "bite me."

- Bill Milford

MEETING MADNESS

Planning for Winni 2008

Please come to the Meeting House screened porch @ 1:00 PM on Thursday. There will be a brain storming session for next year's morning program for adults. Bring your calendar's (planners, PDAs, etc.) with you so we can set a date for a follow-up meeting.

- Cynthia Wilcox

Trustees Meeting

Please note that there will be a Trustee Meeting on Thursday at 2:00 in the Meeting House.

- Victor Olsen

What, when up-side-down, is really sideways?

Hint 1: It is close to your heart.

Polite Conversation continues.....

OK, campers. Get your chat on and figure out who submitted the following tidbits about themselves:

- I was born on an island in the East River
- I help senior citizens “hear” better, every day with the awesome, new, *talking* hearing aids.
- I won an agriculture competition with 4-H in high school.
- I sang a solo love song to the President of India.
- I read too much for [my] own good.
- I was a truck driver.

Yesterday’s identities revealed:

- *I once aspired to be a nightclub jazz singer – Betsy Lewis.*
- *I swam in the Zambize river with crocodiles – Abby Davis (On **purpose**?? – ed)*
- *I went to Spelman – historically Black women’s college – Piper Williams*
- *I used to be obsessed with ballet – Abigail Weeks*
- *I am a bombing raid survivor. – Hans Seitz*

Thursday Menu

Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, Western scrambled eggs, homefries, maple walnut muffins.

Lunch: Our 8-Ball reads: *Situation unclear. Try again later.* In any case, “lunch” will be served.

Dinner: Baked ham with pineapple sauce, scalloped potatoes, veggie lentil-spinach sauté. Hot apple crisp.

Thanks to:

Luanne Wilczynski for facilitating the song swap/singalong – and thanks to all who added their instruments and voices to the choir.

Gordie Holstrom for building and tending our bonfire.

Larry Kern and Bernadette Golden for putting together the drumming circle.

Frances Sink for sharing the perfect bedtime stories for our young ones.

Mark and Sherry Brady, Jonathan Leaf, Jon Arnold, and Trevor Davis for running the Scoop Shop last night.

- *From the Evening Coordinators*

Chaplain Chat *Isn't that special?*

On Friday, during the Candlelight Service, it has been our tradition to begin with the Jewish Sabbath blessing over bread and wine. I would like to invite anyone in camp who knows the rite and would like to help lead this portion of our service to speak with me between this evening and Friday. It would be wonderful if we could convene a small (or large) group to do this; we will proceed in a spirit of ecumenical open-heartedness, and in that spirit this invitation is extended to the entire community.

- *Chaplain Jim*

What, when up-side-down, is really sideways?

Hint 2: It only happens at Winni.

MUSE VISITS RUSSETT

Just as Samuel Taylor Coleridge's "fevered dream" gave rise to *Kubla Khan*, Cynthia Russett found herself inspired to compose the following poem at about 3AM this morning.

Prayer

Sleepless night
Morning light
Hits the sight
Way too bright.

Must arise
Utter sighs
Prop the eyes
Hope time flies

Till the night
Dims the light.

Shut the blind
Calm the mind,
Better still
Take a pill.

Pray I might
Slumber tight

- Cynthia Russett

Creatures of the Night Delight

The Squam Lakes Science Center delighted young and old last night with their "Creatures of the Night" presentation. Special guests included a geriatric big brown bat, a de-stunk skunk, and a Great Horned Owl who disappointingly said "Wrak!" instead of "Who-who," but was otherwise very impressive. Eric and Jenna, our hosts, were very informative and answered many questions from the crowd.

HOOT TONIGHT!

Get your acts, your spirits, and your doughnut pillows ready for tonight's HOOT. The festivities start at 6:30 in the Chapel and will end some time before the closing ceremony on Friday night. Be there!

"Wish They Were Here" Department

We bring you greetings from a few campers who weren't able to join us this year;

- Bob LaCamera sent a card with the message: *Play in the warmth of the Sun, Dance in the light of the Moon*. "This sums up Winni," he says. "Jean and I will be with you in our thoughts this week. Just enjoy each moment at this very special place and take home great memories."
- Hesung Koh sends her love and regrets: "I will miss you all very much and being the part of our special family. I will be going to Korea to give two talks at the World Women's Forum."

"I send my love to all of my NNESRE friends and hope to join you in 2008. My thoughts will be with the Raymond family on Wednesday. Barbara gave so much of her time and expertise in a loving way in developing materials for NNESRE history.

"May you all have a wonderful week. Love to you all."

Peg Whittemore sent greetings also: Just a note to say "Hi!" to all the old friends. Sorry, I can't get there anymore without some help. It seems strange not to be planning for the big August week. Be assured I will be thinking of you all.

What, when up-side-down, is really sideways?

Hint 3: It involves letters.

Local Trivia from Ben Eskra

Question: What is so unusual about the airplane landing facility at Alton Bay at the south end of Lake Winnepesaukee?

Answer: It is usually a seaplane base, but during the winter when the ice gets thick enough, an ice runway on the lake is plowed, marked, and provided with a taxiway and parking area for use by land planes. Braking action varies from poor to nil.

Thank Yous from the Pre-K School

Lots of hands have made life much easier for the Pre-K teachers in the Siftar Cottage. Special thanks go to Hayley Nisson, Meredith Smith, and Emily Seaman.

What, when up-side-down, is really sideways?

ANSWER: Your name tag necklace. When wearing it, flip it left or right and your name will be up-side-down.

Special Rooms for Healing Hands

Cynthia Campbell has been kind enough to set up a **Meditation Room** in the **Chapel** (first room to the right) with a floor level mat that can be used for Reiki, meditation, or massage, etc. If you have items that will help to enhance the *chi* of the room, please feel free to drop them by. You are free to use the room for yourself or to serve others.

Also, a professional massage table has been located and generously lent to NNESRE for the week by a Centre Harbor massage therapist. The table is currently located and set-up in **Amherst in College Row**. Please feel free to use the table to serve yourself or others, however, please bring a clean sheet to cover it with before use and/or to ask Cathy Smith or Cynthia Campbell if you are unfamiliar with the use of these tables and how to treat them correctly and respectfully. Please do *not* interrupt massage or Reiki sessions going on in these spaces, please wait patiently till they are completed.

Weather

Oy. Not so nice.

Tonight: If the weather has cleared up by the time you read this then yes, mostly clearing. If not, scattered pessimism that this will never end.

Tomorrow: Believe it or not, not so bad. Cool, sunny in the AM and some clouds and cooling down tomorrow night to around 55°.



Water Carnival Fun



BBQ – Good for the soul!



View from the Porch

Winni Pics

Compliments of Charlie Smith

Spiritual Therapy

Compassionate hands,
 Gifted with love,
 Can bring healing to hurt bodies,
 A hug,
 A handclasp,
 "Let's keep in touch",
 Souls too can touch,
 Bringing life in full abundance.

In turning to nature with awe
 and wonder,
 We can experience eternal being,
 In turning with compassion
 to one another,
 We can experience
 transformational love.
 In minding our daily task
 with joyful devotion,
 we can strengthen
 our soul's resolve.

Frank LeBar

RISE AND SHINE:

*the Lord said to Noah theres gonna be a
floody floody (X 2)
get those children outta the muddy muddy
children of the Lord*

*chorus:
so rise and shine and give God your glory,
glory (X 3)
children of the Lord*

*Noah he built them he built them an arky,
arky (X 2)
made it outta Hickory barky, barky
(chorus)*

*the animals they came on they came on by
twosies twosies (X 2)
elephants and kangaroosies, roosies
children of the Lord
(chorus)*

*it rained and rained for 40 daysi, daysies
(X 2)
drove the animals nearly crazy, crazy
children of the Lord
(chorus)*

*the sun came out and dried up the landy,
landy (X 2)
everything was fine and dandy dandy
children of the Lord (chorus)*

*the animals they came off they came off by
threesies threesies (X 2)
must've been those birds and beesies,
beesies
children of the Lord
(chorus)*

*now this is the end of the end of our story
story (X 2)
everthing was hunky dory, dory
children of the Lord
(chorus X 2)*

SARASPONDA

(boys)
Boom-da, Boom-da, Boom-da, Boom-
da, etc.
(girls)
Sarasponda, Sarasponda, Sarasponda
Ret-set-set
Sarasponda, Sarasponda, Sarasponda
Ret-set-set
(all)
Ah-do-ray-oh, Ah-do-ray boom-day-oh
Ah-do-ray boom-day ret-set-set, Aw-say
paw-say-oh!

**Word Search
(see next page)**

This is an advanced word search with sometimes multiple responses for the various inquiries. Nonetheless, the first person to come to the GEMS office with even a decent response to the various clues will win an ice cream of their choice at the Scoop Shop. Granted, it is at a date of our choice. Note that most of the answers should make good sense but always, please, consider the source. Note: there is one misspelling of a prominent Winni location.