

Da Week's Last GEMS

Coffeehouse Steams with Talent

It is Le Hoot Part Deux Venue

As if we weren't impressed enough with the talent from the Hoot, the Winni Coffeehouse provided another opportunity for voices to sing, talkers to talk, and most importantly for coffee drinkers to score a late caffeine buzz that made for particularly boisterous campfires later that night. Hosted by **Kevin Weston** (who donned an impressive Seinfeldian puffy shirt for the occasion) and **Sheldon Soper** (in a dapper button down shirt with jeans), the night was a comfortable occasion for less stressful, more thoughtful performances.

Included in the night's mix were **Ruth Lebar** with a moving dance tribute, **Leslie Hawthorne** and **Gabe Johnson** doing a croon-o from Juno, **Dom Paolillo** (with Chris Peters – guitar) with a somber Broadway vocal treat, **Rose and Julia Ganley** (piano) on "15" – an ode to teenage angst, **Liz Peters** (with Chris Peters – guitar) with "They Can't Take That Away From Me," The Winni Gospel Quartet (**Susie Hawthorne, Tom Weston, Joel Garret, Carrie Leap**) did a marvelous sacred a capella piece, **Allie Bruch** (with Luanne Wilczynski) with a tune called "Cycles," (though some in the audience heard it as "Seagulls.").

Chris Peters (with Chris Peters on guitar) on his bassy n' tasty original tune "Darkroom", **Heather Hawkins** delighted with a song about dieting that came from the gut along with a moving rendition of "Infinite Joy." **Sam Kern** and **Ivan Carija** presented an original folk tune with power and feeling, **Hannah Hall** scared

Courtney Stewart, Lili DiFucci, and Julia Ganley belted out a terrific "I'm Yours," **Tad Brennan** channeled the great Herb Albert with "This Guy's In Love With You" (Chris Peters and Bill Milford on guitars), **Madeline Blackman** made her solo stage debut with a vocal rendition about a "Fairy Tale", **Sam Kern** did a fine solo performance of a Rise Against tune, along with **Stacie Finlayson** presenting a wonderful Gospel a capella number.

The spoken word highlight of the night (the only, hence the highlight) was **Wes Gundersen's** recantation of the 12 Things One Should Try to Forget Before Falling to Sleep – such as 12 Gracious Swans Ducking Underneath The Midgets on the Titanic Which Is Sinking in Sea of Bleu Cheese Dressing Under the Tutelage of Umberto Eco and His Band of Tunisian Crooners.

However the huge hit of the night and soon to be a YouTube favorite was the knockout rap performance of 3 year old **Ben Garrett** slamming out "Taking Care of Business" like it was nobody's business. He hasn't started phonics yet but he has mastered Bachman Turner Overdrive already!

Friday Night (High)Lights

6:30 Watermelon seed spitting contest

- *Front of Inn*

7:30 Vespers & Closing Candlelight Circle

- *Barn and Green*

9:00 Barn Dancing – *Barn*

Last Email and Address Reminder!

Be sure and update your email address on the list on the porch bulletin board. Also, if you have not spoken with Joann Milford yet to update your current address on the roster, please see Joann or you can email her at [address removed for Internet version].

Thank-yous from the Evening Coordinators

- Thanks to Barb for dancing with the little ones
- Thanks to Kevin Weston and Sheldon Soper for technical support at the Coffeehouse and to the many performers who stepped up to the mike.
- Thanks to Joe Morrissey for running the movies day in and day out.

EVALUATE WINNI

Be the first to get the dirt...and the gold

If anyone would like to help Joann and Kate Milford compile evaluation results the month after WINNI, please let her know before Saturday morning. (Note: these are overall evaluations, NOT course evaluations.) This involves entering data from the survey into Survey Gold online so results can be tabulated. Remember the Milford family motto: "If everyone does a little, no one does a lot."

And It's (Course) Evaluation Time

Course evaluations were handed out today in the Adult Ed. Classes. Please try to fill them out before you leave camp. There is a box on the Inn Porch for completed forms. It also has blank forms.

If you would like to help collate completed forms, please see Cynthia Wilcox tomorrow at breakfast.

Tonight is All About The Scholarship Fund

Please note that the bowls on the table tonight are to help bolster NNESRE's Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship Fund provides financial support to campers who would not otherwise be able to afford to attend Winni. Your support will help to keep old and new friends coming to NNESRE for years to come. The week has already yielded about \$500 for the Scholarship Fund from the Bazaar and other sources. Let's go higher!

Obama Speaks

Report on Obama Discussion

Great bipartisan and hopeful conversation was had by a variety of Winni-ites. Hesung Koh shared stories of her sons' confirmation processes that were educational and exciting. Steve Fontana spoke of attending the Democratic convention in Denver. See you next year for the follow-up conversation.

Lou Weeks

Tell Me Why

Tell me why the stars do shine,
Tell me why the ivy twines,
Tell me why the sky's so blue,
And I will tell you just why I love you.

Because God made the stars to shine,
Because God made the ivy twine,
Because God made the sky so blue,
Because God made you, that's why I love you.

I do believe that God above
Created you just for me to love;
He picked you out from all the rest
Because He knew that I'd love you the best.

Do Lord

Chorus: Do Lord, O, Do Lord, O do remember me,
Do Lord, O, Do Lord, O do remember me,
Do Lord, O, Do Lord, O do remember me,
Look away beyond the blue.

In the beginning was the word and the word was with God...

I've got a heavenly father who hears and answers prayers...

I've got a home in glory land that out-shines the sun....

I took Jesus as my Savior, You take Him too....

2009 SOFTBALL GAME

Nostalgia was the buzzword for this year's softball game as the venue was changed from the baseball field, which is undergoing a new multi-million dollar facelift (or is being used as a dumping ground for various construction material, one of those things) to the Green. Attendance doubled (I counted: 12 fans for this year) and the crowd was treated to yet another thrilling game as the team led by Chris Dockendorff defeated the team led by his dad 7-6. I'm sure the lack of arguments and the absence of Charlie Soper this year were merely a coincidence.

Jim, who despite protests from wife Leslie, not only played but roamed centerfield like The Mick of old. Just remember, Jim: next time you make a catch on a long fly ball, don't take a victory lap tipping your hat to the crowd. Just throw the ball in and perhaps the runner won't be able to tag up and score from 2nd base.

The all-around play of Trevor Morrissey earned him the game's MVP award and contributes to the mounting evidence that he must be adopted. However, excitement was not confined to just one person, as fine defensive plays were turned in by Gabe Johnson (a catch for the ages in left field), Matt Brady, Kyle McNeil, and Kyle (good thing I don't have to hit to get a baseball scholarship) Nisson.

John Dockendorff's homerun and adventurous play in left field points to a future career as a designated hitter. The fine hitting of Meredith Smith and Emily Seaman prove once again that beauty is not skin deep.

Special thanks go out to Kristen Fellows and Monica Seaman whose timely delivery of cool water helped avert the possibility of heat stroke (and the burdensome paperwork that would accompany it).

So as another softball game goes into the books, I would like to thank all those who participated in this year's game. I wish I could mention all who played. Next year if you want to get in the GEMS, remember: I'm partial to Moose Tracks ice cream. - **Joe Morrissey**

Swimmi Shocker

What was setting up to be the most pleasant GPC mile swim in recent memory was marred yesterday by multiple allegations of results manipulation. Stefan Livsey powered to a personal best of 30:19 to take the winner's towel, only to see his crippled mother accosted at the finish by an angry Hans Seitz, winner of this year's towel as the fastest finisher in the over 65 category.

Campers were appalled to hear Hans's story of a conspiracy instigated by two innocent-seeming southern belles. "Since she couldn't be there herself, Denise paid off Joann Milford to ensure her son would win" said a seething Seitz. Apparently as Seitz approached the turnaround spot, which was a canoe manned by Milford, he realized that her boat was drifting toward Moultonboro.

In a press release Milford's defense attorney would only say the following: "My client is just as nice as she seems. The camp-issued anchor was defective." In a further controversy Dennis Courtney's new course record of 2 minutes 10 seconds was called into question when it was reported that he was seen leaping from a boat right before the finish. In a press conference this morning his coach Rosie Ruiz mounted this defense: "Courtney has been hounded by the GEMS for years now. This is just an attempt by Bill Milford to cover up the evidence of underhandedness on the part of his wife." As if that weren't enough, first place women's finisher Julie Siftar filed a protest of Ed Cunningham's second place finish. Witnesses saw her throwing towels and heard her shouting angrily "His hand never touched the raft!"

When asked about his foot-first finish, Ed could only say this, "We've really got some manipulative women here at Winni. Not satisfied with being the fastest woman, when Siftar heard what I consider to be a baseless rumor that Livsey cheated, she figured that she could get into the books as the overall winner on a pure technicality."

Swimmi Results!

Here are the results, in alphabetical order:

Carolyn	Allenby	1:08:29
Hamish	Blackman	0:50:37
Ed	Cunningham	0:41:00
Sue	Ditucci	0:56:15
Leslie	Ganley	0:48:56
Rich	Koh	1:15:22
Kathleen	LaCamera	0:41:40
Stefan	Livsey	0:30:19
Mary	Offutt	0:43:17
Liz	Peters	0:43:14
Bari	Prince	0:54:08
Hans	Seitz	1:04:46
Julie	Siftar	0:41:12
Laura	Thomas	0:50:41

After Midnight

This place at night,
 From light to light,
 From moon to loon,
 It ends too soon,
 The fire's sure sign,
 To come on by,
 And speak the tone,
 Of welcome home,
 The drink and snack,
 And glad you're back,
 The how's it been,
 And remember when,
 The guitars that strum,
 And the friends who come,
 Just for a sit,
 To talk a bit,
 The listening part,
 That's from the heart,
 With words that heal,
 To create the feel,
 Of a life that's free,
 In community,
 A pause and gaze,
 To reflect the day,
 Then off to bed,
 With full heart and head.

Jose Dijaseethatloon

WINNI WEATHER

...has been fabulous! More of the same
 tonight and tomorrow! Hallelujah!

Winni Mini-Mart

Our cups runneth over and so does our
 inventory. Please see the following people for
 purchase of their wares:

Bernadette Golden's "Unless" \$10 and all
 proceeds go to the scholarship fund.

The 2008 Bill, Barb, Chris, and Trevor concert
 is available for \$5.00 and all proceeds go to
 the scholarship fund.

A few copies of Bill Milford's "Shadows On The
 Wall" are available for \$10 and all proceeds go
 to the scholarship fund.

Chris Peters' "California Someday Soon" is
 available for \$5.00 – see Chris for autographed
 copies

Keeping up with the Quinlans

This has been an eventful year with the
 Quinlans.

In June, Colin graduated from the University of
 Chicago, and has been working and studying
 in Washington, D.C

Olivia Campos Quinlan was born August 22nd
 2008 in São Paolo, Brasil.

Matthew Quinlan and Marina Campos Quinlan
 formalized their marriage in June at Becket
 MA, June 27, 2009. Matthew had received his
 MBA and Master's in Forestry at Yale in June
 2007 and Marina Campos Quinlan received
 her Ph.D. from the Yale School of Forestry and
 Environmental Science at the same time.

Olivia has discovered she loves Winni,
 especially the lake.

CHEEK UPDATE

Ken Cheek is feeling much better and should
 be home from hospital Friday. Both Ken &
 Jane miss Winni and say hello to all their Winni
 friends.

FOMO* Circle

I am so fomo'd.
I find myself wishing for
fear of missing out.

** For those who 'missed out' on this GEM from last year, FOMO is "Fear of missing out" -- a term coined by our own Scott Houghtaling. We thought it bore reprinting*

NNESRE SEEKS FINANCIAL GURU

Do you work in the financial service industry? Have experience with financial/portfolio analysis? If you do, then your conference needs you.

The Board of Trustees has formed a committee to review the investment of NNESRE's funds. The committee will look into such things as the allocation of funds (Is there adequate diversification? Are the investments providing a competitive return?) and whether the investments meet our expectation for socially responsible investing.

Al Fontana is acting as convener for the committee. Tim Fioravanti, the current treasurer, and Chuck Bates, a former treasurer, have also agreed to serve on the committee. But one or two more Winni-connected individuals with investment experience are needed.

If you wish to volunteer or have someone to recommend, please contact Al Fontana or Doug Hawthorne.

- Doug Hawthorne for the NNESRE Board of Trustees

From (Deep in) The Archives

Please see today's special GEMS insert for a reproduction of the very first Ur-GEMS (known then as the Campus Scoop) from 1938

What are you Doing Oct 3rd?

Save the date and come to the 90th anniversary of Geneva Point Center. You will get to meet folks from other groups who come here and they will get to meet us. It is a beautiful time of year here so come for the day or make your reservations (early) to stay overnight. It will be an all day event with booths for each group, barn dancing and celebration – even a ride in a 1910 car or an antique launch – steam driven – on the lake. Hope to see you here for a Mini-Winni!

From the Archive...

Thank you for all your support with this project this week. There has been such a great outpouring of ideas and appreciation which has been greatly appreciated. We have only begun to scratch the surface of what the Archive is and will become. Please remember as you return home to look for pictures and especially VIDEO footage that could be either copied for or donated to the Archive. As it pertains to video, do not worry about trying to evaluate the footage; thanks to the glories of editing, even the mundane can become enthralling with a little creative media manipulation.

Submissions may be sent to:

Sheldon Soper
105 Woodhollow Dr.
Marlton, NJ 08053

...or

[email address removed for Internet version – find Sheldon on Facebook]

If you choose to go the traditional "snail-mail" route, please send an email as well (if possible) so that I know to expect a delivery.

Thank you all so much once again! I look forward to returning in the Fall to get back to work preserving our past and finding new and fun ways to cultivate the Archive and N.N.E.S.R.E.'s past to our future.

- Sheldon Soper on behalf of The Archive

Coffee Talk

Dock Roaders offer a fully caffeinated "Thank You!" to Denise Livsey for once again gracing our home away from home with delicious early-bird coffee service complete with all the fixin's. That she undertook this ministry with one foot in a walking cast is further testimony to her generosity of spirit. Without you, Denise, morning watch for this camper would have been less watch and more doze. So, doze...ns of thanks for the java.

- *Jim Peters* (Loudly seconded by many other Dock Road Campers.)

Corrections

While we hesitate to open the exceedingly large can of angry worms that represents potential GEMS corrections, we do wish to apologize to Jimmy Shoemaker and Ferdinand Stirling, who were heedlessly lumped into the accolade "Nice job you gals" in yesterday's Hoot Review. The GEMS neglected to comment on the rich baritone resonance lent to the Doughnut number by the gentleman in the group. Great job Jimmy and Ferd!

While we're at it, we'd also like to apologize to Calvin Weeks, whose first name is in fact Calvin and not Kelvin. Wea culpa.

We would also like to correct our anniversary math: $21 + 31 + 15$ in fact = 67. Who is keeping the books in these households?

WHERE OLD GEMS GO TO DIE...

What to do with those leftover GEMS once all the spills have been cleaned up, all the furniture legs shimmed, and the campfire set ablaze for the final night of Winni? There will be an office paper recycling bin on Inn Porch tonight. Pitch in your unwanted GEMS and any other stuff printed on office paper that you would otherwise throw out.

\$Kick In For Coffee\$

If you've been partaking of the "free" coffee in the Inn Lobby, please consider kicking in a few dollars to help cover expenses. It costs GPC about \$100 a day to provide this service to conferees. Belly up the bucks for the brew!

Thank YOUS!!!!!!!!!!

-To our Business Managers old and new, **Jon Rowe and Ron Offutt**, the Trustees, and all of them thar committees that meet before, during, and after Winni!

-To our great **Ed. School Teachers**. Thank you so much for your dedication and love for our kids. We know that this is your vacation also – and that you have put great energy and passion into helping our kids to know Winni as a community that cares. Thank you to **Joann Milford and Joe Morrissey** for steering this very important program.

-To **Cynthia Wilcox and all the Adult Ed. Teachers** – thank you for a great selection of stimulating classes and great instructors. Your offerings help to keep the campus abuzz in ideas and conversation! And some of them simply enable us to have the muscular strength to get out of bed in the morning.

-**Mighke and Susan Nisson** – for being the face and inspiration of so much fun here at Winni.

-**Barb Siftar** – for many of us, our intergenerational games and dancing in the Barn is the heart of our Winni experience. Thank you for the love, lightness, skill, and play that you have offered this community every night.

-**Chaplain Jim Peters** for Vespers that were a great landing place for our bodies after dinner to help our souls soar in fellowship.

- Thanks to **Susie Hawthorne and Carrie Leap** for their efforts organizing the Vespers choir. And thanks to the singers who participated. You all enriched our Vespers experience.

- Renate Seitz would especially like to thank all those who helped to plan and conduct this week's Morning Watch services

-And last but not leastly, **Dean Tom Weston**. Thank you for being the up-front persona of enthusiasm, spirit, and leadership that has shaped your 55 years here and defined your legacy as our Dean.

Friday Greetings from Chaplain Jim!

Thanks to Bobbie Davis and Jim Nolan for reading in chapel last evening, and to Chris Peters and the Winni Choir for helping once again to bring beautiful music to our worship service.

Tonight's service will begin later than usual – at 7:30 in the barn as we gather for our traditional candlelight communion service.

* * * * *

As I write this, I'm aware that this is my last chance to communicate in the GEMS in my capacity as camp Chaplain. These last three years have been a wonderful journey for me. I am grateful beyond words for having had the opportunity to lead worship in this amazing community, and also for the immeasurable spirit of supportive, loving engagement demonstrated by the many, many folks who offered their gifts during Vespers over that period of time.

I am especially grateful to Jean Peters, who worked tirelessly these last three summers to help coordinate music during our services, and to Liz and Chris Peters who were always willing to help teach or lead or play music for a song. Sue Hawthorne's leadership of the choir this year added a very special dimension to our time together, and I hope that the enthusiasm for choral music during Vespers continues for a long time to come.

May God enduringly and abundantly bless each of us and all of us, and may God's abiding presence remain with us until we meet again.

Yours in the Spirit,

Jim Peters

NNESRE Staff 2010

The nominating committee has been hard at work and is proud to announce NNESRE staff for next year.

Dean – Tom Weston
Chaplain – Bob Fellows
GEMS Editors – Bill Milford, Din Stevens
Program and Evaluation Chair – Cynthia Wilcox
Program and Evaluation Assistant – Ginny Houghtaling
Ed School Chair – Joann Milford
Ed School Co-Chair – Leslie Ganley
Evening Coordinators – Mike & Sue Nisson
Business Manager – Ron Offutt
Business Committee Chair – Robert Campbell

Trustees

Term ends 2010

Timothy Fioravanti	1st term	Treasurer
Robert Campbell	1st term	
Lisa Coleman	2nd term	
Bobbie Davis	2nd term	
Lee Lowery	2nd term	
Courtney Mason	2nd term	

Term ends 2011

Charlie Soper	1 st term	
Debbie Eskra	1 st term	
Barb Siftar	1 st term	
Doug Hawthorne	2 nd term	Chair
Bernadette Golden	2 nd term	
Marianne Fontana	1 st term	Secretary

Term ends 2012

Al Fontana	2 nd term	
Kate Fioravanti	1 st term	Vice-Chair
Hans Seitz	1 st term	
John Hoda	1 st term	
Charles Smith	1 st term	

2010 Nominating Committee

Don Quinlan, Mary Courtney, Jon Leaf, Bernadette Golden, Jennifer Hanrahan, Lisa Coleman

Program Committee To Meet in October

The Fall meeting of the Programming & Evaluation Committee will take place on 24 Oct. in Connecticut. Please send course proposals to Cynthia Wilcox via email at: [address removed for Internet version] or snail mail at PO Box 492, Glastonbury, CT 06033-0492. Proposals must be received by 17 Oct 2009 to be considered. Look for an update in the Post-GEMS for locations details.

Your daily dose of HAIKU

Beauty's in your eyes
Ever so comfortingly
will whisper its love

- Linda Sacco

Beauty Thursday

Walks labyrinth at dusk
Finds faultless glowing air
Mosquito finds too

- Len Raymond

MILESTONES AND HIGHLIGHTS

Weedge Nisson will leave Wednesday to start his freshman year at University of Alabama. He's sure to succeed, especially as he comes with a ready-made frat nickname. Good luck, Weedge!

Where to Next? - Sheldon Soper will be leaving for New Jersey under veil of darkness late this evening in order to meet up with his Sr. High Youth Group Mission Team by 10:30am Saturday morning. They will then be traveling to the Red Bird Mission in Beverly, Kentucky for a week to rebuild damaged and deteriorating homes in the nations most impoverished rural community. Prayers for safe travels, safe construction, and some road-trip sanity would be greatly appreciated!

July 31st or August 7th Next Year?
You decide! Tell Tom, Doug H. or Ron O. your vote!

WWSIWYG – TTYL

Thanks from the GEMS Editors

Never so true as with the GEMS, that what we see is what you get. The news of the day, the plans for the night, the demeanor of the campers who come in and out, and the desired inspiration for us to live out our life together here intentionally, spiritually, and perhaps most importantly to these editors – lightheartedly – all go into the makeup of these pages.

We have had another great week here at the GEMS. Lots of content and most notably, lots of friends who have stopped by to give it to us, key it in, and this year – to help us make sure the final product was made. This was our first year of being responsible for our own copying and reproduction of the GEMS. It got off to a rough start with the rental machine running out of toner but after that glitch, it has been smooth sailing. Special thanks to **Steve Kaye** who provided the patience, skill, and persistence to keep the copier on the straight and narrow, and got the final editions to the dining hall.

Our office stalwarts were our style editor **Faye Hess** who made the food appear tasty and appealing right up until the time you got your plate, our chatty Chaplain whose wit sharpens all written words – **Jim Peters**, our 100% proofed proof reader **Ed Cunningham and his trusty nephew Nathan Cunningham**, and most especially **Jonathan Leaf**, who did absolutely nothing but volunteered everyday to help right after he saw that we had completed our work. But the biggest thanks goes to a community that makes news and thank goodness for you and us it is almost always positive news that we so hunger for when we return home.

I am personally indebted to my co-editor Din Stevens for her logical mind that makes quick work of the root canal-like process of formatting the GEMS amidst magical fonts and margins that disappear at times of emotional frailty. However, the true gift of her presence is the good humored support and encouragement that has been the backbone of the success of the GEMS these many years and our friendship for many more.

Many thanks to all for a great week!

Your GEMS Editors: **Din Stevens and Bill Milford**

PS - If you are actually reading this, then stand up and shout "I love this place!"