

THE GENEVA GEMS

Barb n' Bill n' Chris Folk Out Potty humor dominates concert

Barb, Bill, and Chris delivered another tour de force performance last night. Again the recession was evident in the no-frills encore, which dispensed with the exit, intervening applause, and re-entry to the stage. We all screamed heartily for ice cream just the same.

The Concert Set List:

For those wanting to relive the tunes from last night's concert – here's what Barb, Bill, and Chris performed with your help!

Big Yellow Taxi: "tearing the down the barn, takes a lot of guts, rebuilding as a restaurant – Mike Nisham's Pizza Hut!"

Honey in the Rock: "For all God's Children, Honey in the Rock, Honey in the Rock!"

California, Someday Soon: "Got to learn to drive, got to meet a girl and forget I'm alive."

Oh, Lonely Peas: "So green, so round, so small. Oh, lonely peas, nobody loves you at all."

Brown Baby: "When out of men's hearts, all the hate is hurled, and you are going to live in a better world."

4th of July: "Can I tell you again.... How we started as friends... who would run into one another now and again..."

Mend These Bones: "Let the peace of this life flow around me, Let me gather up my breath till I let go, Let me welcome in the journey of the mystery, Let it be alright that I don't know..."

Hard Times: "Tis the song, the sigh of the weary, hard times, hard times, come again no more. Many days you have lingered, around my cabin door, oh hard times, hard times, come again no more...."

7 Old Ladies Got Stuck in Lavatory: "Oh dear, what can the matter be, 7 old ladies stuck in the lavat'ry, they were there from Sunday to Saturday, nobody knew they were there." Ask Barb about getting tar on her pants at GPC and her becoming attached to her potty seat at Lakeview Lodge.

Love Thy Neighbor: "I'll sing a song 'bout a girl that I knew, And I warn you this story, it's basically true..."

Remember: "I guess I never sang a love song, I never sang one true, Cause what I've known for so long, I want to be you..."

Jimbo's Gone To Zimbabwe: "Awareness has its price, Of insight and sleepless nights, And I have the choice to be more aware or more alone."

Water is Wide: "Oh love is gentle, and love is kind. The sweetest flower, when first it blooms...."

Peace, Love, and Healing: "My friend I pray for you, peace, love, and healing...."

I Scream: "You scream, I scream, we all scream for ice cream!"

Tonight's Schedule

6:45 Vespers - Chapel

7:00 Pie-eating contest, picnic area

7:30 Weston Family Campfire – Council Ring

8:00-10:00 Scoop Shop Open

9:00 Dancing in the Barn with Barb

9:00 Movie - "Bolt" Meeting House

9:00 Drumming Circle - Chapel

9:00 Fireside Chat – Laine Harris on Sustainability - Tenting Area

Thanks-Yous from the Evening Coordinators

- Thanks once again to Barb, Bill, and Chris for a spectacular evening of song. Chris, your fan club continues to grow!

- Thanks, Barb, for the Dancing – Thanks for getting us up on our feet! A great way as always to round out our day.

Take Time In Life

What a wonderful theme for our 2009 conference! Kudos once again to Chaplain Jim Peters for coming up with this one. Why, it even comes with its own theme song! Each year as camp ends and we leave This Place, we take a part of Winni. Our camp experience becomes a part of us. It influences what and who we are. Hopefully, we remember what we have learned here and incorporate those lessons as we merge into that other life of ours with its many challenges and frustrations.

This year, as I watched my retirement fund collapse, I started to worry about my future. I was reminded of my "Godspell" days, and that verse in the Bible where Jesus says, "And seek not you what you shall eat, or what you shall drink, neither be you of doubtful mind." A small voice questions, "But what are we going to eat?" And the other followers harshly respond, "Shhhh, You're not supposed to ask that!" We are simply reminded that God will provide.

Well, I'm going to let you in on a little secret about your Dean. There is a Mini-me that isn't always the Winni-me. True. Mini-me is there to remind me that when I start to feel righteous about starting my seventh gallon in blood donations, that in fact, I am most likely there for the free cookies. Mini-me justifies my staying home on a snowy Sunday afternoon to watch the Patriots football game, rather than be at the soup kitchen with the other volunteers from my church. All too often, away from camp, I let my Winni-Me become the Mini-Me.

Winni-me reminded me that I am blessed to have my family, my friends, my work, my health and my home. In these times, that cannot be said of many less fortunate folks. So, Winni-me pushed Mini-me out of his comfort zone, and I found myself volunteering at a homeless shelter in a local Concord church. Our shelter is one that does not turn anyone away. We frequently have guests that are sick, hurt, drunk, addicted, and a majority

suffered from mental illness. Our guests come to the shelter at night after enduring cold winter days, trying to find food and trying to keep dry and warm until they may re-enter the shelter. Here is a community of homeless folks that know each other and look out for each other as best they can, while enduring really harsh weather bravely and with surprisingly good humor. Some hold day jobs and often bring food to the shelter to share with others. They share their stories and their last cigarettes. And while there are often tense moments and uncomfortable situations, they compromise and work out their differences for the benefit of all. In the early winter weeks, we had 20 guests. As the winter ended, that number had more than doubled.

Once your eyes have been opened, it is no longer possible to ignore the homeless. You now know their names. You see them sleeping in the seats at the library, drifting among the racks at Borders and hanging outside the Market Basket. A most disturbing image was printed in the local paper of a mother with her two children, standing by the dangerously slippery, icy banks of the swollen Merrimack River in February. The mother was washing her kids up, getting them ready for school.

How often do we find that by taking time to give time, we are the ones who actually receive the most? This was certainly the case for me. Please remember to Take Time in Life to welcome in all our brothers and sisters.

- *Dean Tom Weston*

Ed school thank-yous

- To Brynna Golden for helping with the toddler class
- To Tucker and Joel Hemphill for building the teen campfire last night.
- Dan Nicholson for volunteering with the teen class.

Tuesday Menu

Breakfast: Every morning here at Winni, we have a breakfast, and the choice is yours. Why limit yourself? There are cheesy scramblers, hashed and relaxed spuds, and lively, lemon muffins, made even better with poppy seeds.

Lunch: Every afternoon the bar theme (on a plate) continues: A classic combination of creamy, dreamy tomato soup and oozy beazy grilled cheese sandwiches. If cheese alone leaves you wanting more, you can have a piece of ham with that. To accent the ooze, tuck into some tots. For dessert it's all about sugar that you can keep in your pocket or your purse: sugar cookies.

Dinner: And tonight.....A COMPETITION!!!! on the origins of Stroganoff. There will be an entry sheet at the door. We have the Stroganoff beefed or unbeefed, with seasoned rice, dilled carrots, and for dessert, another COMPETITION: enter your recipes for strawberry shortcakes and/or brownies. Taste the first entries by the dining hall bakers right here in Juicy Geneva Point. There is no bar at dinner, (and please don't ask—remember that no one is allowed past the swinging doors, so don't go looking.)

Accu-Winni Weather

Monday, Aug 3

High: 85 °F RealFeel®: 87 °F

Mostly sunny

Monday Night, Aug 3

Low: 54 °F RealFeel®: 56 °F

Cool with patchy clouds

Tuesday, Aug 4

High: 86 °F RealFeel®: 88 °F

Partly sunny and warm

Tuesday Night, Aug 4

Low: 61 °F RealFeel®: 65 °F

Partly cloudy and humid with a shower or thunderstorm in the area, mainly early

Monday Greetings from Chaplain Jim!

Many thanks to those who helped with last night's vespers, including Diane Smith, Leslie Ganley, Liz, Chris and Jean Peters, and of course the choir who sang beautifully! I know I speak for the whole camp when I say that we're all looking forward to hearing the choir this week.

Here's today's time-themed poem, brought to you by the bard himself:

William Shakespeare, Sonnet CXXIII

NO, Time, thou shalt not boast that I do change

Thy pyramids built up with newer might
To me are nothing novel, nothing strange;
They are but dressings of a former sight.
Our dates are brief, and therefore we admire
What thou dost foist upon us that is old;
And rather make them born to our desire
Than think that we before have heard them told.

Thy registers and thee I both defy,
Not wondering at the present nor the past,
For thy records and what we see doth lie,
Made more or less by thy continual haste.

This I do vow, and this shall ever be;
I will be true, despite thy scythe and thee.

Bats and Mats

The GEMS has heard that the aura of bat guano in the barn is interfering with the smooth flow of asana for participants in Jen Brosious's yoga class. According to ancient wisdom, conditions for yoga are best when students are not hesitant to breathe in. We respectfully suggest that perhaps a change of venue is in order...

Reception Honors Volunteers, Donors

The sound of Hamish Blackman's bagpipe summoned campers to the Inn Porch yesterday afternoon for a celebration to honor the efforts of those who have helped so generously with labor and financial support in the building of the new Staff Cabins. Honorees were pinned with a button picturing the new cabins. Wear them with pride, and thanks to all!

Please stay tuned for further updates. We are exploring dates for more work weekends in the fall. And remember that donations of ANY size are always welcome. (BTW, thanks to Tucker Hemphill for his donation last night.)

Special thanks to Barb and to Deb Eskra for organizing and to Deb for making the donation thermometer. Thanks to Hamish for playing, and special thanks also to Ian Blackman and his company who volunteered their time and did a lot of the original site construction last fall.

Leslie Dockendorff Sniffs out Aging Boomers....

Kudos to Leslie Dockendorff, who correctly ID'd all the 1959 babies turning (or turned) 50 this year. (Which comedian was it who noted that people "hit" 30 but they "turn" 50, kind of like milk going bad?)

For those who are curious, the Senescent Seven are:

Deb Gundersen
Kim Holstrom
Bill Milford
Joann Milford
Sue Nisson
Barb Siftar
Din Stevens

Milestones and Highlights

Danielle Moehring graduated from Warner College in Lake Wales, Florida and returned home to Massachusetts.

Kate Milford started a budding career as a paparazza in NYC where she snagged photos of Matt Lauer, Meredith Viera, and Al Roker. Check out her Facebook page for pics. Kate would appreciate any tips on the whereabouts of Jason Mraz.

Style Editor Faye Hess is broadly bragging in the GEMS office that she has cooked for many luminaries. Among those she named were Yoko Ono, Arthur Sulzberger, Bill Cosby, Prince (he won't eat cooked food, but she opened packages for him), the Dalai Lama, and the Pope.



The cabins line the road and sit,
Small, old, and delicate.

The fresh Meeting House across the way,
The place we gather on pie eating day.
At the heart of the camp sits a large field.
Where we smash baseballs on the infield.
The aging, worn playground towards the tents,

I go alone without my rents.
The inn, the place we sit and eat,
Most things in there include things like people's feet.

The ice cream store, the best place of all,
Where the line accumulates like the Great Wall.

I love camp, no doubts about it,
It's my life and I commit.

Rachel Gundersen - Written in April, 2009

Old Gems from the N.N.E.S.R.E. Archive

Thursday August 9, 1973

Weather: "Muggy" followed by Tuggy, Weggy, & Thurgy

Wednesday August 9, 1977

TO BARBARA SIFTAR -

To you, who is strong and makes others strong, BARB-ell

To you,, who possesses almost perfect beauty, BARB-ie doll.

To you, who protects the ones you love, BARB-wire

And to you, an actress full of wild inner strength, BARB-aric

Tuesday August 3, 1999

Perhaps some musicologists noticed during Bill and Barb's concert that one song was musically incorrect (some critics noticed numerous errors but we won't elaborate...). The chorus to the song "As Long As We're Singing" was DO-RE-ME-FA-SO-LA-TI-DO. However, a careful study of the musical scales will indicate that we were singing something completely different. Bill promises a free ice cream to the first person who can tell him what the lyrics really ought to be.

GEMS EDITORIAL GUESS:
DO – GI – ME – A – GEE – EN – TI?

From the Archive...

Due to some Bazaar events in the Meeting House today, the N.N.E.S.R.E. Archive Committee presentation has been rescheduled for **1pm on Tuesday** in the main room of the **Meeting House**. Drop in after lunch for a quick look at how the archive has come alive and the premier of the Nostalgia Night II trailer. For all you history buffs: just think, now all the materials will be even older!

Peace, Love and Healing...

Here are the lyrics to the round sung at the concert last night in honor of Joanne Hammil.
My friend, I pray for you,
Peace, love, and healing,
My friend, I pray for you,
Healing, love and peace.

Breathe in, breathe out,
Peace, love, and healing,
Breathe in, breathe out,
Healing, love, and peace.

Step by step,
We move through love toward healing,
Step by step,
Our healing brings us peace.

The Art of the Open Campfire

One of the most important gifts that we can experience within the Winni Community or in any community, is inclusion – we belong. That sense that you make a difference to the community and the community makes a difference to you. To get to that place is a long process of building relationships and that can happen in many different places – workshops, vespers, on the beach, and especially sitting down at meals.

However, a most wonderful place to start getting connected with people you may not know well is through the nomadic journey of visiting the various campfire communities that are scattered around camp. Some have campfires, some have pseudo fires but all are worth checking out. They include:

1. The Inn (porch or inside) – often a gamey and playful bunch
2. Chapel Line - Welcoming, warm, always up for a party and a new friend. Well organized and lit, creative munchies and libations
3. The Camp Ground – This is the most recently renovated campfire area and is just gorgeous, friendly, and inviting. Recently inhabited by guitar strumming, full throated

singing, teens – campers are always appreciative, friendly and wet.

4. Dock Road – Life doesn't get any more basic than Dock Road. Grab a chair or a rock, start your conversation, and eventually a "feed bag" or can of something will come your way. Occasionally a lull in the ambient chat may lead to a party game or in previous years – the infamous Joke Off on Friday nights.

5. The Council Ring - For those willing to make the trek through the darkness via moonlight – the council ring is great place to sit by the shores and pine over the laments in life. While the location often makes participants wary to make it back to their cabins, parents will encourage teens to bring flashlights to assure their timely return.

6. Lakeview and Gibbes Common Areas: These are areas of relaxed, non-raucous, civil conversation where the buzz of conversation never reaches a din lest you receive a rebuke from sleeping occupants.

7. Stateline: Here you can find friendly folk with strings attached. Mostly guitars, dulcimers, mandolins, perhaps an occasional bass. Conversation is sung and welcoming.

So once you are there – the trick is to make your entrance into the mini-community to make some new friends. Here are some suggested ways to do this:

1. BYOM – Bring your own munchies. A friend with food is always welcomed. Make it crunchy, cheesy, and fattening and you are a best friend.
2. BYOB – A libation says "let's sit and talk for a spot". Alcoholic or not – an interesting beverage is a conversation starter.
3. BYOS - Bring your own story – come prepared with something to talk about to get the conversation started. Something about you, or the camp, something you want to learn about, something you have learned, or something interesting about anything.
4. Introductions First: Make sure to introduce yourself or to introduce others to get the ball rolling. Conversation is so much easier when you know people's names.
5. Massage Anybody Anywhere: The quickest way to make a friend, especially

anybody sleeping on a substandard mattress, is to massage some sore shoulders. Ask first, don't stop till they droop in relaxation.

YOU CAN'T GET THAR FROM HERE WITHOUT GETTING MUDDY!

How to Get to the Beach Without Getting Mucked Up

If you are wanting to get down to the beach for the Weston Family Sing-A-Long, here is the best route to take:

1. Go to College Row.
 2. Go down to the Labyrinth area from College Row.
 3. Go down to the Beach Road from the Labyrinth.
 4. Follow to the Council Ring.
- Be sure and bring a flashlight for the return trip or s'more flambé on a torch.

WELCOME NEW FRIENDS

I would like to introduce so many of you here to the person my Dad (Allen Raymond) has brought up to camp this year, Patricia Broderick. They met when they were both working at Crowell, Collier & MacMillan Publishing Company, years ago. (You can ask Pat just how long ago that was!) When my Dad decided to start his own magazine he asked Pat if she wanted to join the venture. Some of you may know my Dad partially through his magazine, Teaching K-8. Now you can meet the Vice President, Associate Editor of that magazine, Pat. If you get a chance to talk with them, please welcome Pat. (From Cindy Campbell)

Take a turn around the Labyrinth

Just a reminder to visit the labyrinth. It has been newly mowed and trimmed and looks beautiful!

The View From the Chaise Lounge

Comments by Joe Morrissey

Denise Livsey's taxi service has kicked off its initial season @ Winni and been an instant hit with campers. For those who are travel challenged, (like Denise) or just plain lazy (like me) the fees are as follows for transport:

Lake - \$5.00

Dining Hall - \$2.50

Barn - \$10.00

Lakeview Lodge - \$15.00

Dock Road - \$100 (high risk area)

Chapel Line – Priceless

- Celebration of the camp's 90th year is scheduled for October. The next Geneva Point Conference Center Work Weekend is also scheduled for October. Coincidence? I think not. Why else would party favors for the anniversary weekend consist of paint brushes and hammers?
- Mike Nissan showed up at camp a day late this year. Anybody notice any drop in the quality of the evening programs while he was gone? Didn't think so.
- Note to those who have been complaining that there are a lot more bugs than there were last year. That's because it rained enough to float an ark last year. Did you forget already?

Talk about upsetting the Apple Cart – all the new changes this year include:

- Registration ends up @the meeting house instead of outside of the camp office.
- Our first barn dance ends up on the green.
- The food buffet tables are on the opposite end of the room furthest away from the kitchen.
- The opening orientation faced toward the fireplace and not the stage in the Meeting House.
- The food is actually decent (sometimes...)
- The Bill and Barb concert is actually the Barb, Bill, & Chris concert.

I mean, who's in charge around here? At least we can rest peacefully knowing that the toilets still get clogged.

TEEN SWIM

Teens may swim tomorrow morning during first period (9 to 9:55 am). Life's a beach and it's all yours tomorrow!

HAIKU

Long Saturday

Old paths felt again
New paths of old paths calling
All paths walking free

- By Len Raymond with assist by Steve Fontana

Winni Sunday

I found my cousins
I met up with an old friend
Today at Winni

- By Sammy Stauffer with assist by Len Raymond, Dot Sowter and Ron Kittel

Tonight's Grace – Johnny Appleseed

The Lord's been good to me.
And so I thank the Lord
For giving me the things I need:
The sun, the rain and the appleseed;
The Lord's been good to me.

And every seed I sow
Will grow into a tree.
And someday there'll be apples there
For everyone in the world to share.
The Lord is good to me.

I wake up every day,
As happy as can be,
Because I know that with His care
My apple trees, they will still be there.
The Lord's been good to me.

BOOM DE AH DA:

*I love the mountains, I love the rolling hills
I love the flowers, I love the daffodils
I love the fireside,
when all the lights are low*

Boom De Ah Da, Boom De Ah Da
Boom De Ah Da, Boom De Ah Da

THE HAPPY WANDERER

I love to go a-wandering,
Along the mountain track,
And as I go, I love to sing,
My knapsack on my back.

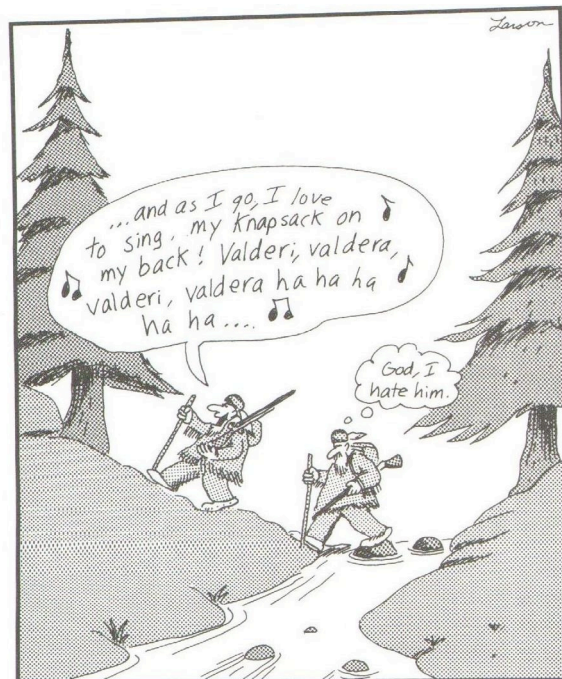
Chorus:
Val-deri, Val-dera,
Val-deri,
Val-dera-ha-ha-ha-ha-ha
Val-deri, Val-dera.
My knapsack on my back.

I love to wander by the stream
That dances in the sun,
So joyously it calls to me,
"Come! Join my happy song!"

I wave my hat to all I meet,
And they wave back to me,
And blackbirds call so loud and sweet
From ev'ry green wood tree.

High overhead, the skylarks wing,
They never rest at home
But just like me, they love to sing,
As o'er the world we roam.

Oh, may I go a-wandering
Until the day I die!
Oh, may I always laugh and sing,
Beneath God's clear blue sky!



More tension on the Lewis and Clark expedition