

Parent Newsletter #4 – 2010

Dear Parents,

Wow! Half the summer is gone! We had a wonderful first session with almost perfect weather and a great group of campers! We look forward to more of the same in the second session. We are full to the max and all preparations are being made for our annual Pemi day this coming Friday. It used to be a day when we had an unofficial parent visiting day, but our friends at Pemi have discouraged parents from attending saying it is unnecessary pressure on their kids, so we have done the same. We will give you full results with photos and a write-up next Sunday.

We had a beautiful thunder storm on Wed. nite to welcome our new group! We huddled in the opera house as the storm swirled around us – safe and sound in that wonderful building. We put on a movie and had popcorn and refreshments; quite a welcome for newbies! The rest of the week was gorgeous as we did our thing with intramural Blue Gray games and outside competition with camps nearby. The Rookies look like a very athletic group – I don't think they have lost a contest in any sport all summer! Our tennis program also looks particularly strong. We've hosted several other camps here for tournaments and we have traveled to camps in New England with great success.

We also added a first to our program last week: a rock climbing expedition to North Conway! You can see some of those photos on the web site. 12 kids and counselors Matt Birch and Matt Poiesz took a group to a rock climbing school and had a terrific time. We are considering adding that to the program next year as a piece of our expanding climbing program. The "Wall" in the barn is extremely popular!

Yesterday we honored several people from the camping world who have had such wonderful beneficial effect on Tecumseh and the camp world, in general. First, were our own medical staff of John and Ellie Smith. We dedicate "Founders Week" to someone associated with Tecumseh who has given years of extended service above and beyond the normal. John and Ellie have been here since 1975, taking care of all of us, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. No one works harder at Tecumseh than the Smiths and they got a thumping round (s) of applause and cheers from all of us when we presented them with the Founders Week Board.

The other person we honored yesterday with a short eulogy and long moment of silence was a gentleman by the name of Tom Reid. He and his family have owned and operated Camp Pemigewasset since its inception in 1908. Mr Reid died at age 94 and was the heart and soul of Pemi for most of those years. He and our own former Director, George Munger, started the tradition of exchanging the Hat at the conclusion of Pemi-Tecumseh Day. Our hearts go out to Pemi and the Pemi family for their loss of this wonderful man who was an institution in the camping world.

The rehearsals for HMS Pinafore continue apace and we head into our fifth week!

We also had a big turnout for the annual Iron Man race today: a ½ mile swim and a 1 mile run! Over 60 kids participated!

I will give you details on closing week-end and all the festivities in the next newsletter. Know that your children are in good hands, playing hard and enjoying life in beautiful New England! There is a full yellow moon over the lake and the loons are singing!

Best from Jim and Nina