



CAMP ABNAKI HERALD

A program of the Greater Burlington YMCA

Volume 109, Issue 3

www.campabnaki.org

Winter 2008

We've had 75 Skipper Shack gifts totaling \$14,500! Thank you to the friends of camp who have provided major support (\$250+) so far to the campaign!

Jack Barret
Bob Becker
Timm Brandhorst
Robert Cain
Paul, Frank & Collins
George Grant
Dorothy E. Pikkarainen
Peter Raymond
Erin Wagg
and Mike Wickenden

Did you know in 2008?

- 635 Campers came from 15 different states and 3 countries
- 53 staff members came from 9 states and 10 countries
- We provided over \$30,000 in financial assistance to 87 campers

Save Our Shack!

In the fall of 2007, Abnaki Alumnus and Odzihozo Ned Pike pledged a \$30,000 matching gift for renovations to our Skipper Shack. The waterfront is one of camp's best programs, but the building is in dire need of repair.

Abnaki Alumnus John Alden designed a new building to replace the current one (see below). The redesigned Skipper Shack will have additional storage space and help improve the waterfront program.

There will also be improvements to the retaining wall. These changes will allow Abnaki campers to enjoy the waterfront for generations to come.

We hope to begin construction this fall, and we need your help. We are half-way towards our goal to raise \$30,000. If you have any questions about this initiative, please contact the camp office at (802) 862-8993 ext. 129 or email jkuyppers@gbymca.org.



Counselors-In-Training Prove Their Mettle

The CITs may not have known what they were getting themselves into when they signed up for the 2008 session at Camp Abnaki.

First things first: camp needs a pig pen and the pigs are coming by the end of the week. Ready to build a pig pen? Ready to do whatever needs doing? Ready to give of yourself whatever camp needs from you?

These are questions everyone working at Camp Abnaki needs to answer before and often during their summer. I'm proud to say that the two sessions of 2008 CITs gave a unanimous and resounding yes to these deceptively simple questions.

I feel confident with the future counseling staff of Camp Abnaki in their very capable hands. The CITs are responsible

for some of the really tough jobs, but that's what makes the program so special -- it's the unique combination of personal growth, challenges, and teamwork within the Camp Abnaki community that lends itself to the character of the participants, just as the participants lend their own character to camp.

By Allister MacMartin, CIT Director

Celebrating 20 Years at Camp

Since being founded in 1901, YMCA Camp Abnaki has had very few campers or staff who have been a part of the Abnaki family for 20 or more years. In 2008, the Albright family joined the ranks of Dad Clark and the Van Gulden family.

Cecile Albright has been the Food Service Director at camp since 1988. In that time, she has worked with six camp directors, and served over 40,000 of her famous chocolate chip cookies.

Jim Albright (Cecile's husband) has served camp in numerous ways, but primarily as groundskeeper and camp historian.

The Albright children (Jamie, Mike, Katie, and Emil) have also worked at camp

in various ways, including maintenance, food service, and administrative.

The Albright family truly demonstrates what it means to "Help the Other Fellow." In 2004 the Albrights adopted Emil, who had attended camp from Romania.

In recognition of the Albright family's long-standing contribution to camp, the Conference Room in the Dining Hall has been renamed for the family. That space shall now be known as the Albright Room.
By Jeremy Plane, Assistant Camp Director



Cecile Albright

Camp Dates 2009

Two Week Sessions:

Session I:

June 28-July 11

Session II:

July 12-July 25

Session III:

July 26-August 8

One Week Sessions:

Session A:

June 21-June 27

Session B:

August 9-August 15

Minicamp:

June 21-June 24

2008 Camper and Staff Awards

Every year, campers and staff are recognized for their efforts to Help the Other Fellow. For campers, this recognition comes in the form of the Honor Camper Award.

Honor Campers are named for each village during 2-week sessions. They are selected by their Village Director, who solicits input from all the staff in the village as well as camp's Administrative Staff. They are presented with their awards during the Candlelight Ceremony, which occurs the last night of the session. Here are the 2008 Honor Campers, by village.

Mehkoa:

James Woolson
Aaron Wise

Tamakwa:

Phillip Holt
Luke Strohhahn
Michael Hladky

Madewehsoos:

Montell Kirkland
Andrew Hobson
Gabriel Peck-Frame

Chippewadchu:

Laurentiu Capatina
Tucker Grant
Dylan Hovey

Staff receive recognition in the form of 3 awards presented by the Camp Director, Jon Kuypers. The Nice Guy Award goes to the staff member who is, by consensus, the nicest guy around. The Rookie of the Year Award is given to a first year staff member who goes above and beyond in all areas of their job. The Spirit of Abnaki Award is given to the staff person who most exemplifies respect, caring, honesty, responsibility, and who goes out of their way to truly Help the Other Fellow. The 2008 staff award winners were difficult to select, as there were a number of candidates for each.

Nice Guy Award: Andrew Cooper

Rookie of the Year: Spencer Wright

Spirit of Abnaki: Greg Baker



Session I Honor Campers receive their plaques. Pictured (l-r): Greg Baker, Laurentiu Capatina, Gari Jones, James Woolson, Brad Calabro, Phillip Holt, Zach Wortzel, and Montell Kirkland

2008 Nidokenak
Inductees

- Alex Brent
- Allister MacMartin
- Chad Edwards-Kuhn
- Charles M. Tousley
- Charlie Cultrara
- Clayton Duclos
- Dan Thiefels
- Dustin Songer
- Dylan Deatherage
- Eliot Crawford
- Ethan Lawrence
- Evan Goodbred
- Fisher Wagg
- Gabe Peck-Frame
- Henry Lawrence
- Jake Dahlgren
- Javin Towers
- Joe Cianciola
- Josh Decatur
- Matt Hennigar
- Max Weltman
- Maxime Page
- Michael Granai
- Nate Limoge
- Rex Iazzo
- Sonny Monteiro
- Spencer Wright
- Tucker DiMasi

Nidokenaks are individuals who have spent 5 summers (or more) at camp

The Director's Corner



It's fall and our rental season is nearing conclusion. One member of a recent group asked me if camp was haunted. He was looking for a good old fashioned ghost story. I told him about Dad Clark, Three Fingered Louie and Barrel Boy, but as I was speaking I realized there was one more powerful force that haunts camp. If you stick your head in a cabin, and listen closely, you can still hear the sound of... laughter.

This past summer was a FUN summer at camp. Chippe village was alive with spirit and song...minicampers were off on village canoe trips...the whole camp marched in the Fourth of July Parade....banana and egg made a messy return to Waterpalooza....campers danced with girls from Camps Brownledge and Hochelaga....all camp played Capture the Flag...the dunking booth at our second annual Sam Fest....sailing trips to Burton Island...Papa Smurf hosted a campfire... the ort report...and so much more!!

A HUGE thanks to all the campers and staff who made this past summer so fun!

By Jon Kuypers, Camp Director

New Prices, New Benefits

There will be some exciting new changes in Camp Abnaki's price structure in 2009. is our historically low rate, and does not reflect the true cost of operating. **Price B** more accurately accounts for our true costs, including wear & tear and depreciation, while **Price C** allows us to cover long term depreciation and growth.

First, rates will now **include money for each camper's store account**. This makes it simpler to pay for camp, eliminating what had been an additional fee. This also allows camp to include camp store funds in campership awards. For a two week session, the amount for each store account will be \$40. For a one week session that amount will be \$20, and minicampers will have \$15. Parents are still welcome to put more money into store accounts. Unspent store money will be nonrefundable.

This program is voluntary and in no way influences the experience children receive, yet it offers the opportunity for families to take an active role in supporting the true cost of their child's camp experience. *Financial assistance will still be available for those who request it.*

For 2009, Camp Abnaki's tiered prices will be (not including Camp Store):

Two Week Sessions:
\$935 - \$985 - \$1035

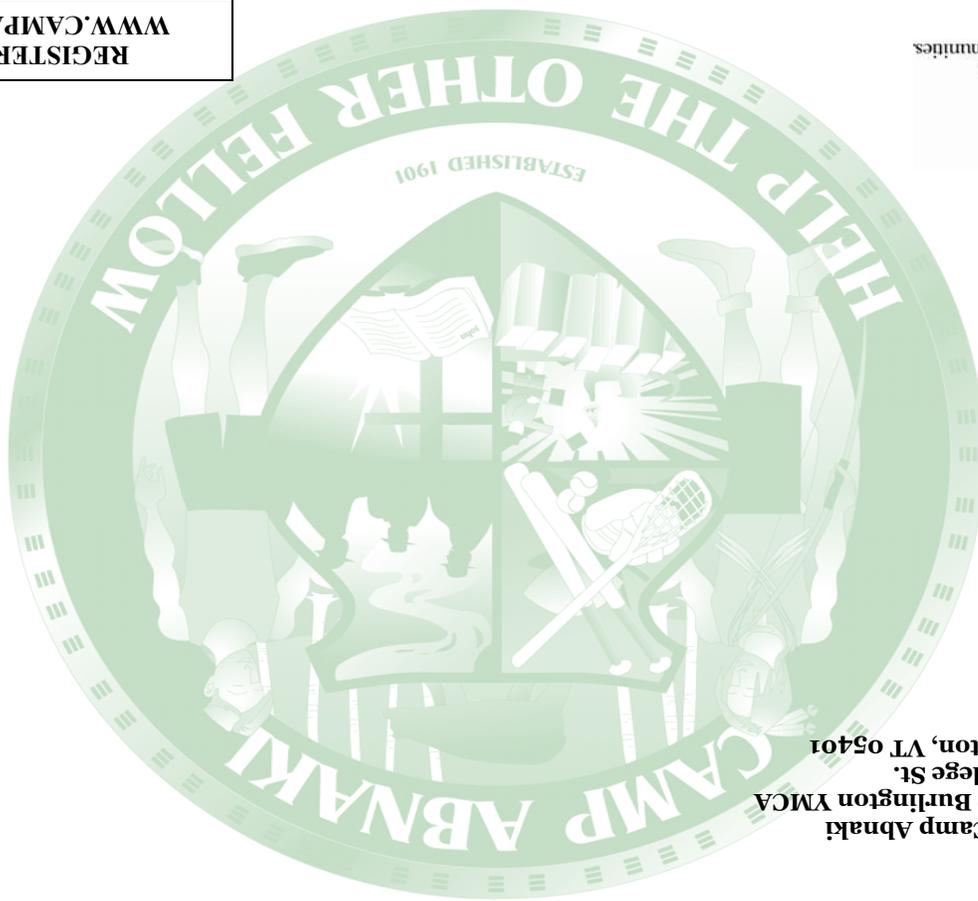
One Week Sessions:
\$530 - \$580 - \$630

Mini Camp:
\$320 - \$370 - \$420

Campers will also receive a **free t-shirt with their paid registration to camp**, and a **snack will be provided** every day between lunch and dinner.

The second exciting change to camp rates in 2009 is the introduction of **tiered pricing**. Realizing that families have differing abilities to pay, we've instituted a voluntary 3-tier pricing program. **Price A**

REGISTER ONLINE BEFORE JANUARY 1, AND GET 2009 AT 2008 PRICES!



YMCAs
Greater Burlington YMCA
266 College St.
Burlington, VT 05401



Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit 82
Burlington, VT
05401

Help the Other Fellow *Camp Abnaki*

Wish List:

1. New Skipper Shack
2. Adult sized lacrosse sticks
3. Gently used tractor
4. Plywood
5. Pick-up truck
6. Guitars/musical instruments
7. Razor scooters
8. 2x4's
9. Dunk Tank
10. Family Board Games/Cards
11. Trees
12. New Lap Top Computer
13. Frisbees
14. Dead climbing rope
15. Rugby balls

The International Flavor of Camp

What would you expect most English University students to do during their summer holiday? Wake up, go to work, come home, and eat chips? However, a handful of students from England and from many other countries from around the world came together this summer to work at Camp Abnaki.

Why did we choose to do this? Not many jobs offer a unique chance to explore new countries, meet so many new people, and help to have a positive effect on the lives of children at the same time. What I liked about camp were the opportunities to be yourself and renew previous skills while learning new ones. Who would have thought that within eight weeks you could learn so much, teach so much, and experience so much?

As well as the experiences of everyday camp life I had the great chance to explore parts of America that I probably would never have visited. The joy of Camp Abnaki is that it is set in one of the most beautiful parts of New England. There was also a fantastic chance to learn about American culture, and to enjoy learning what things I enjoyed as I child again and to see how they have changed for today's children.

Never before have I had a job were I have had so much fun and had so much satisfaction providing a service to young people.

By Andrew Cooper, who came to camp from Liverpool, England