

THE Zingette

April 2014

4th Alumni Reunion a Success!

Last spring, the tradition was kept alive with the fourth alumni reunion.

Every year it grows with this event hosting over 40 people across several generations.



While we didn't have the best weather, it did not dampen our camp spirits and we continued on with our nightly campfires and activities including a lively game of Cards Against Humanity. Some even braved the cold downpour for an intense basketball game.

If you missed this alumni event, then join us for Surf 'n Turf and get refreshed by seeing old friends and checking out the updates to the camp. See page 5 for Surf 'n Turf details.

The next reunion will take place in the Spring of 2015!

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In an effort to maintain our commitment to the environment, we have gone **paperless**. Please ensure that we have your current email address on file. Past newsletter issues are available from the alumni website.

Update your contact information by visiting the website:
www.campkawartha.ca/about-us/alumni

Contact us at
alumni@campkawartha.ca
or through the Alumni Facebook Page.



Kinder Camp!

“Everywhere we go! People always ask us, who we are? So we tell them. We are Kinder Camp! The mighty, mighty Kinder Camp. And if they can’t hear us, we’ll shout a little LOUDER!”

Last summer saw the introduction of Camp Kawartha’s newest program, Kinder Camp. This was designed to help parents and their kids get ready for the full day kindergarten program being implemented across Ontario.



Who better to lead an exciting week with none other than Evac, a teacher and seasoned camp leader with his own little one joining the fun; Igpay, a teacher and Day Camp Director for 6 years; and Dipper, a kindergarten teacher and former Assistant Summer Camp Director. There were also guest appearances by various staff and Bruce who volunteered for the week.

Campers got to experience real camp life by participating in their own theme days in the mornings, swimming at the beach, field games and nature time with the environmental coordinator.

Last year’s program was such a success, that it is being offered for **two sessions** this summer; July 14th -18th and August 4th – 8th. If you have a child or know someone with a child that is 3.5-5 years old and would like to send them to Kinder Camp, please visit www.campkawartha.ca . There are limited spaces available for both camps so register soon!



Where are you now?

My first summer at Camp Kawartha was in 1990 and my last was in 2001. CK was and remains to be an important part of my life. I have attended every alumni weekend since they began and am looking at Kawartha as a venue for my upcoming wedding (I just got engaged a couple weeks ago!).

The most important things I gained from my many years at Camp Kawartha were lasting friendships, a sense of fun and adventure, confidence, a love of nature, and a place to call a home forever.



Krash – Jodie Adams (2000-2001)

I am still close with many of the friends I made from my years on staff and always look forward to an opportunity to catch up with them. We often still refer to each other by our ‘camp names’ which can be very confusing for the ‘interlopers’ around us.

Since my last year on staff at Camp Kawartha, I have finished a degree in International Development Studies from Dalhousie and a degree in Education from U of Ottawa. I taught abroad for while in South Korea, England and Australia. I even met up with a small group of Camp Kawartha alumni in South Korea! I loved the opportunity to live in different countries and learn about the culture from the kids I taught.

Now, I am actually working for a summer camp! I am the Administrator for Camp Kandalore. I know that all my years at Kawartha was a big factor in being chosen for the role. I work Sept – June in the office in Toronto, then move up to the camp near Minden for the summer. I am also currently a volunteer with Amici Camping Charity which provides opportunities for kids of low-income families to enjoy the camp the way we have all done. It is definitely different being the ‘office lady’ at camp as opposed to a counselor but it’s still fun to have camp-life be such a big part of my life.

Being back at a camp this summer, brought back many memories of growing up at Camp Kawartha and I sang a song to the staff and campers during the last night of camp in a ceremony similar to (but of course not as good as) candlelighting. I sang ‘Cradle Song’ and for an introduction, I told the following story: As a 12 year old camper, my cabin had gotten ready for bed and done our check in with roses and thorns with our counselor, Gidget. She left us quiet and ready to sleep, but of course, we were loud and giggling soon after she left.

She came back a couple of times asking us to quiet down and get to sleep. We did not. Eventually we heard the Night Hawks coming and we thought this time we were really in trouble. We were ready to be told off and maybe lose out on tuck or another privilege the next day. The Night Hawk that night was Ludi and Rusty and as they came up to our cabin, they didn't say a word; they simply sat down on the porch of our cabin and started playing 'Cradle Song'. We all quietly listened and then went to sleep without saying another word to each other. Looking back, I remember thinking how fortunate I was to have grown up in a place where instead of being yelled at, I was a sung to.

That is my favourite Camp Kawartha memory.



Pheebz – Stephanie Taylor (1997-1998)

Hello Camp Kawartha - I miss you! It has been a long time, but my love for camp hasn't changed one bit.

Camp absolutely changed me and I loved every aspect of it (I even loved Health Hustle!). I know for sure that camp made me a more confident person, and it created my appreciation for the outdoors. I was so lucky to work with such kind, energetic, creative and wonderful people that made me laugh every day.

The people that make me laugh these days are my sweet girls (Anna, 4 and Lila 1) and my incredible husband. After camp, I went to McMaster University for my undergrad, and then on to Western to get my MSc in Occupational Therapy. I did follow in the footsteps of so many CK'ers and lived in Thunder Bay for a few years, but we are home now in Peterborough to be close to family and friends.

We are looking forward to taking the girls camping this year to carry on with my CK roots.

Hope this finds everyone happy and healthy,
Pheebz.....GRRRRRRRRRR

Surf 'n Turf

Dinner and Auction Fundraiser

The ever-so-famous Camp Kawartha Surf 'n Turf event is back! This year marks the 25th Silver Anniversary of the event. If you were ever going to make it to one, this is the one to be at!

With the purchase of your ticket, you will be treated to delicious hors d'oeuvres, fresh lobster, steak, salads, and decadent desserts. Plus there is a cash bar that serves beer, wine, and mixed drinks as well as a martini bar.



If the amazing food was not enough to entice you, there are many live and silent auction items for you to bid on, plus fun games including a 50/50 draw, CAMPO and much more.



Last years' alumni table was one of the largest at the event with over 20 alumni in attendance! We were also a lucky bunch winning some items in the silent auction, and one lucky alumni won \$1000 cash in the Lobster Trap game.



With the alumni having such a great presence at this event last year, and knowing that many are still in school or just starting their careers, we have managed to arrange a separate ticket price for alumni that are 25 years old or younger.

Tickets can be ordered through Fiona Lasenby (Dipper) or Jason Huffman (Chomski) who can be contacted through the alumni Facebook page. This year, the camp has added online purchasing through the website so after you order your tickets, they can be paid for right away with the click of a mouse. Don't forget that you will receive a tax receipt as the proceeds from this event go to support Camp Kawartha's programming year round.

The details:

Date: June 21st, 2014

Time: 4:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Cost: \$175 (Alumni 25 years old and younger \$150)

Visit: www.campkawartha.ca/event/surf-n-turf-dinner-auction



Helping Out Our Own

On April 27th 2014, camp alumni came together for a fundraiser of their own, one to help out a fellow alumnus, Ingrid Davidson (Bowie) who is suffering from a life-threatening eating disorder. The Ontario Health Insurance Plan does not cover the urgent and life-saving residential treatment and aftercare that she needs and so friends and family have been working to raise the necessary \$60,000 via donations. Around \$22,000 remains to be raised.

The event was held at The Historic Red Dog in Peterborough and featured a silent auction and live bands. Some of the biggest highlights were performances by camp alumni David Lewis (Squeeze) of Maple Jack, Sarah McInnis (Tracker) and Mary Elizabeth Konrad (Grylls) of Trylls, and Adam Iggers (Dutch) in his debuting performance as Advice, with Josh Huffman (Jet) as his DJ. The night turned into a mini camp reunion with about 15 alumni coming together from different camp generations.

A big thank you goes out to all those who were able to make it and those who came from Toronto for the event. This fundraiser brought us over \$2100 closer to our goal. If you would like to make a donation, please email fundraiserforingrid@gmail.com

Summer Camp Report

Summer 2013 seems so long ago, but oh what a summer it was! From the start of pre-camp to the final camper's departure, sessions were packed with new activities and old traditions. Guitar is now one of the growing number of morning activities from which campers can choose, and expansions at the Kawartha Highlands Provincial Park has meant new and improved canoe trips for our older campers. Programming staff have continued the development of new programs, and games like Balderdash promise to become new staples. But of course classics like Zingtong are still going strong - with new twists, of course.

This summer was also marked by further improvements to the camps' facilities: Oak and Willow have been given a facelift including new bunks and porches; the new kitchen proved a great success, and thanks to an anonymous donor, we were able to upgrade both our tripping fleet and our waterfront boats.

