

THE Zingette

April 2015

5th Alumni Reunion May 29th – May 31, 2015



It's reunion time, so get yourself and your family out to the camp for a little relaxation, reminiscing and re-live your camping days.

We're hoping to make this year's reunion the biggest one yet, so we encourage you to spread the word and send a message to your old co-counsellor or invite your partners and family to experience what you have been talking about all these years.

We have taken your feedback from previous reunions and will be looking to bring back some more traditional camp events such as icebreakers, archery, canoe racing, and evening field games. Of course there will a fair share of campfires and singsongs as well!

Haven't been up to the camp in a few years? There have been some exciting new changes! Long gone are the days of the blue cabin cluster, Tuck Shop on the hill, the mudroom and Captain Compost. But the same old CK spirit remains, just with some beautiful upgrades! This event is a great excuse to come check out the changes.

If you can't make it to the Surf 'n Turf event, then this is the best alternative! Register online in the alumni section (<http://campkawartha.ca/about-us/alumni/>) and get your forms in now!

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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 issues are available from the alumni website:

www.campkawartha.ca/about-us/alumni

Contact us:

alumni@campkawartha.ca

or through the Camp Kawartha

5th Alumni Reunion

Arrival: Friday May
29th 6-7pm

Departure: Sunday
May 31st 1:30pm

Winter Showcase

By David Lewis (Squeeze)

It was a blistery, cold afternoon in February (Valentine's Day to be exact) when a crowd of eager campers, parents and staff descended on Toronto's Al Green Theatre for the first ever *Camp Kawartha Winter Showcase*. The showcase was not only a reunion for seasoned campers and staff, but also a chance for prospective campers and parents to get a taste of the warm Camp Kawartha spirit in the dead of winter.

The program featured classic CK campfire skits and songs performed by staff and campers alike. Camp Kawartha's very own musical duo, Maple Jack, played host for the afternoon, and performing some crowd favourites such as "Red Meat," "Fajitas" and "Buggin'." Highlights included a very special appearance from "Nuts," Camp K's favourite elephant and a classic rendition of "If I Were Not a Counsellor." "Nuts" the elephant usually spends his winters in Argentina to avoid the brutal cold, but was willing to make the trip north to help make *CK Winter Showcase* history. Though it could have lingered a little longer, the program ended on a familiar summer note with a lovely rendition of the Candle Lighting classic, "Linger."

The first ever *Camp Kawartha Winter Showcase* was a great way to preview the lively camp spirit that will surely make the summer of 2015 one to remember. It was also a great way to bring the CK community together in the winter to do what we do best - have fun and sing songs about a moose named "Fred!" The organizers wish to thank all campers, staff and parents who attended and performed. We look forward to another successful Winter Showcase in 2016!



Keanu and Squeeze performing 'Buggin'.



Surf 'n Turf

Dinner and Auction Fundraiser

This year marks the 26th anniversary of the ever-so-famous Camp Kawartha Surf 'n Turf event. If you cannot make it to the alumni reunion this year, this is a great way to catch up with others and give back to the camp.

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.

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 and In for a Fin.



The alumni table has made quite the statement over the years as one of the largest groups with more than 20 alumni. We have also taken home our fair share of silent auction items and prizes.

With the alumni having such a great presence at this event last year, and knowing that many alumni 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.

The best way to purchase your ticket is online. Visit the Surf 'n Turf page found under the News and Events section of the website and complete the form to order your tickets and receive your tax receipt. Be sure to put 'Alumni' in the table reservation section, or you may be seated at another table. The online system will be up and running shortly so check back to website regularly. The proceeds from this event go directly to support Camp Kawartha's programming year round.

The Details:

Date: June 20th, 2015

Time: 4:30 pm - 9:00 pm

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

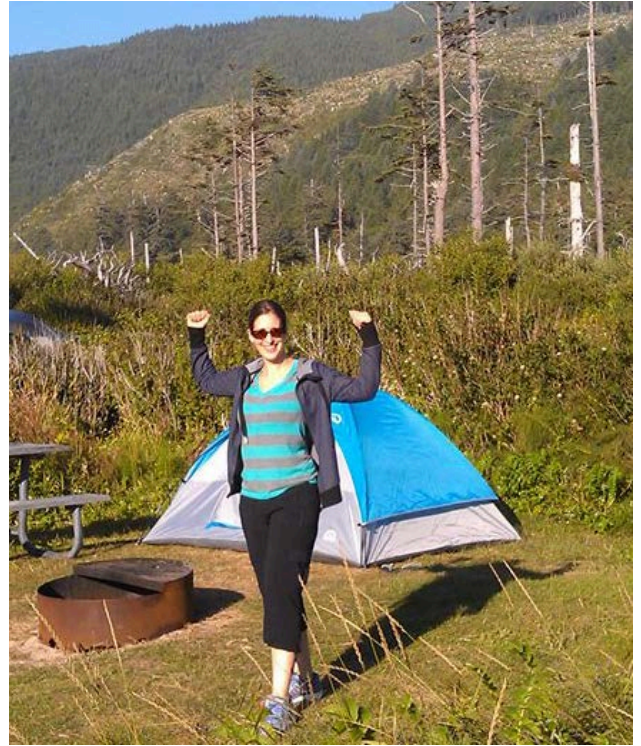
Visit: <http://www.campkawartha.ca/event/surf-n-turf-dinner-auction/>

Where Are You Now?

‘Pryngle’ Haley Shanoff 2000-2002

My first summer at Camp Kawartha was 1996. My friend Katie Lewis (Foxy) and I decided to go to camp together since we no longer went to the same school. From the moment we were shown to our cabin by our counsellor Kruz, I felt like CK was home.

I returned as a camper and became a LIT, then spent three years on staff. Camp was a place that I could be myself, and somewhere that I knew that people would accept me for me even though I could be a bit “out to lunch” sometimes! I learned to trust myself and how to push my limits. To this day, if I find myself in a tough situation, I will think of myself as Pryngle instead of Haley and that always gives me that extra boost to push through.



After camp, I went to Queen’s University where I did a B.A. in history, and then U of T for my Masters in Museum Studies.

Now, I live in Toronto and work at the provincial parliament building at Queen’s Park, curating the historical displays and running programs like our Model Parliament for high school students. Even though I’m not a teacher, I still get to work with kids which is one of the most rewarding parts of my job.

Camp helped me gain the confidence to try things that initially seem scary or uncomfortable. This is a lesson I take with me in my everyday life, but especially when I travel. I try to do one big trip a year, and would travel more if time and money weren’t a factor.

Unfortunately I’ll be missing this year’s reunion, as I’ll be in the middle of a hiking trip through the Balkans. I hope I can make the next one - every time I go back to CK I get that rush of happiness and memories that I think all former (and current) staff experience.

I’ve been trying to come up with a favourite memory to share, but there are just too many to choose from. Endless games of Zingtong, intense games of Gotcha, campfires, Liars Club, the “eclipse,” Evac ready to defend us from a bear with his canoe paddle on our LIT trip...each memory brings another one to the surface.

Have fun at the reunion, hope to catch up with you all at the next one!

Where Are You Now?



‘Austin’ Sean Smith 1997-2000

My first year at Camp Kawartha is in 1997. I had never attended summer camp and really had no idea what to expect, but when a good friend Adam Hughes (Hogan) said CK was looking for a Maintenance Person, I signed up! Initially I was told I could come to camp each day to work a 9-5 shift, but that I should stay for pre-camp to get to know the staff and the routines. It didn't take me long to decide I didn't want to leave. I moved in to the cottage and started getting involved with as much as I could at camp, when I wasn't plunging toilets!

As the Maintenance Guy, I had the privilege of working for and alongside the legendary Jack Frost whose hard work, dedication, and heart of gold I could never forget.

I'm not sure that I can pick a single memory of my time working at Camp Kawartha. That first week of pre-camp was a magical time that stands out. It's times like the alumni reunions, when everyone gets reminiscing and telling stories that remind me of all the great people that made my time at camp so special.

Outside of camp I followed many other alumni and attended Lakehead University where I earned an Honours Bachelor of Kinesiology degree. I worked in the GTA for a couple of years before returning to Peterborough working in a physiotherapy clinic. I'm now in orthopaedic sales and travelling throughout Ontario.

I live just west of Peterborough in a small town called Caesarea close to the water with my wife Krista (Breaker), our 11 month son Evan and our dog and cat. Evan went camping with us at nine weeks of age, and is getting ready for his first canoe trip this summer. He's also counting the days until he's old enough for summer camp!





‘Twist’ Dylan Harp 2008-Present

I came to CK for the first time in 2003 and was immediately hooked. I spent the first two summers as a session C camper, and then upgraded to B as one week was just not enough. I went on to do CSD and WLIT before my first year on staff. This summer will be my 8th on staff as I return to the role of Waterfront Activity Director.

At the end of the summer, I made a break for the west coast having a great road trip filled with awesome sights. I have been working as a Residence Coordinator at UBC in Vancouver this year, and it has been both exciting and very different adjusting to a new university and city. In early May I will head back to Ontario for a day or two before heading off for 5 weeks in Southeast Asia with a fellow counselor, Dolce.

Thinking back to my camper days, it’s tough to pick one memory. That said, WLIT trip in Temagami with Dozer was an amazing experience. Though we had 9 out of 10 days of rain, and countless things go “wrong” such as forgetting most of the fuel, a case of mild hypothermia, and constant cold, the people there made it awesome!



Kinder Camp Report

By Ryan Adams (Evac)

In the summer of 2013, Camp Kawartha introduced a new program called Kinder Camp. It was designed for kids aged 3-5 who had never experienced the joy of camp and were on the verge of starting Kindergarten. The idea was to mix the fun and whimsical joy of camp with the structure and routines of Kindergarten so kids could get a feel for both. The staff would also be a mix of certified teachers and summer camp staff alumni.



That summer the program ran for one week and the kids came for 5 days in July. Staffed by Dipper, Igpay and myself, the campers had an absolute blast and we received many positive comments from the campers and their parents. The program went so well that the camp decided to offer two sessions in 2014, one in July and another in August. The return of the 2013 staff as

well as the addition of Chomski and Tracker resulted in a continuation of the first summer's structure along with an influx of new and creative ideas.

With three successful sessions in the books, the program has evolved into a perfect mix of maximum fun and learning for the campers. Each day has a theme which the campers are informed of in advance so they can dress up if they so desire.

The campers arrive at 8:30 am and play some cooperative games on the basketball court until everyone has arrived. Then it's time to make our way to the Kinder Tent, a platform tent beside Birch. Once bags are dropped off and sunscreen has been applied, we begin our theme day. Then its snack time and campers get to use their creativity as they work on a craft related to the theme. Campers bring their own lunches and have a picnic outside the Kinder Tent. When they have finished their lunch, there is "Quiet Time", which rarely lives up to its name. This time is choice based and the campers are encouraged to find a quiet activity to do in or around the Kinder Tent. While it is almost never quiet, the campers really enjoy the chance to colour, dress-up, play a board game or listen to a book or to Tracker playing the guitar. Once the campers are all fed and rested, it's time to get them moving again, so we head down to the swimming area for some beach fun! The campers have varying comfort levels with the water so they have the option to swim or play on the beach with the many sand toys available.

Once swim time is over and all the campers are dried off and changed, the campers end the day with some experiential learning led by the camp's Eco Skills team. We have been fortunate to have had such knowledgeable and engaging counsellors teach the Kinder Campers a love of the Earth and the importance of ecological stewardship. The campers are fully engaged in games and activities while learning about the natural world. After Eco Time, the campers head back to the basketball court for a final snack and some free time until pickup at 4:00. I can personally attest to the fact that both campers and staff leave each day feeling fulfilled and completely pooped (in a good way).

So, with the summer of 2015 rapidly approaching, I have one question for all you alumni... Who's in? If you have been looking for a way to reconnect with the camp and once again feel the indescribable joy, pride, and satisfaction that comes from watching children experience the magic of Camp Kawartha, then I would encourage you to contact the camp and apply.

Do you have a small child headed for kindergarten? Then get them ready for it by experiencing Kinder Camp! This summer Kinder Camp is running from July 13 – 17 and August 3 – 7.

This will be my third year working with the Kinder Campers and I can tell you that it is the highlight of my summer. To see all the ways the camp has grown and changed while still holding true to its core values and traditions is something all alumni should get a chance to experience.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the reunion in May,

Evac

Summer Camp Report

By Hilary Martin (Glow)

The summer of 2014 was definitely one for the books. An excited new staff, full sessions and several updates around camp kept the energy up all summer long.

One of our most exciting programming updates was the inaugural season of Camp Kawartha's very own radio station! Programming Director Keanu (Steve Motyer) worked tirelessly with Wham and a few other staff members to bring radio to CK, and took programming to a whole new level. We broadcasted shows for parents and campers on arrival day, woke campers up with the morning news, DJ'ed rest hour and read bedtime stories that the entire camp could tune into.

Summer 2014 also saw changes in tripping. The one week voyageur canoe trip program was modified to include a 3 night trip to Algonquin, with rave reviews from parents and campers. The program is going to be run again this summer!

Over the course of the summer, we worked closely with the office staff to provide regular updates about camp life for parents. We regularly shared photos and created posts for CK's blog to let parents know all about our crazy programs, tripping and waterfront activities. You can check out our posts here! <http://campkawartha.blogspot.ca>.

The staff of 2014 played a huge role in making this past summer so special. I was blown away by their enthusiasm and initiative. I can't recall a summer with so many creative programs, theme days and camp plays. The staff remains incredibly dedicated to building the best experience possible for all campers, and I can only imagine that the summer of 2015 will be even better!

