



Camp Lawrence Chatter

January 2015



NOTES from the CAMP DIRECTOR... I am writing January's chatter on the coldest day of the year so far in New England. So cold in fact, that most schools in New Hampshire and Massachusetts were delayed or closed all together. For the most part this has been a very mild winter; Lake Winnepesaukee isn't even frozen yet (at least it isn't as I write this, but it probably will be by the time you receive this in the mail). To be honest, on these extremely cold days in the heart of winter is when I think about camp the most. Perhaps it's because the weather is the complete opposite of what we experience on Bear Island from June to August, and I long for the opportunity to jump in the lake to cool off because it's hot and muggy outside, instead of hoping the freezing temps hasn't made it impossible to start my car. Or perhaps it's because when we turn

the calendar to a new year is when the preparation for the upcoming summer really kicks into high gear. Most don't realize that these next few months is when most of the behind the scene work is done for camp.

Matt Corsetti, Tim Chatfield, Danny Dignan and I have just recently finished up selecting this year's group of First Year CIT's. As always there were tons of extremely qualified applications and every one of them would have made a great CIT. I do want to officially announce and congratulate the 2015 class of First Year CIT's: **Cody Beane, Ben Bodager, Aiden Bolio, Padraic Curran, Ryan Finney, Teddy Fuller, Lucas Gernon, Chris Knauss, Conor Maguire, Josh Parker, Bobby Peterson, Jack Spicer, and Chris Wildman**. I am excited to have these guys on board and am confident that they'll be great additions to future staff teams.

The beginning of the year is when the staff team also starts to take shape. By the middle of February the 2014 staff will have received their returning staff applications for 2015. The staff team for this year is going to be a very different group from the last couple of years. Almost all of our leadership staff have moved on from camp, so it has given us a great opportunity to give the leadership positions to some younger staff. I am really eager to watch the younger staff step up and grow into their new roles with their new responsibilities.

Before we know it, the winter will be over and **Brian Darling** will be making his way to check on camp. We've already heard one report of a down tree that fell right by the camp store. Hopefully that's the end of the winter damage, but all we can do is wait until ice-out happens to know for sure. Speaking of ice out, whomever tweets to Camp Lawrence (@CampLawrence) with the closest guess of the date that ice-out is officially declared will get a \$10 store credit on their account this summer.

Our enrollment for 2015 is shaping up great. We are right in line with where our enrollment was for 2014. Spots are continuing to go quickly, so don't procrastinate getting enrolled for 2015. Enrolling is quick and easy and can be done over the phone or online at camp.mvymca.org. Also, don't miss out on Camp Lawrence's amazing twitter account; be sure to follow us at @CampLawrence. And finally, if anyone is interested in hosting a Camp Lawrence reunion, please contact me at jholmes@mvymca.org or by calling the Camping Services Office at 978-686-6191. Reunions are a great way to get together with your camp friends and introduce camp to someone who's never been before.

That's all for now. Stay warm and don't worry, June 27th will be before you know it.

Until next time,

 (Jim Holmes)



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Check our website for newsletters: www.mvymcacamps.org

DON'T FORGET:



Priority Registration for the 2015 summer began on September 8, 2014. Registration for all began on October 1, 2014.



Sessions are filling up fast and waitlists are starting. Call the Camp Office at 978-975-1330 before it's too late!

If you are interested in hosting a Camp Lawrence Reunion for returning, new, and prospective campers, please contact Jim Holmes at jholmes@mvymca.org.



Host families receive a special gift, and attendees, who bring friends interested in camp, receive camp store credit. Contact us today for more information.



**Merrimack Valley YMCA Camp Registration Office—101 Amesbury Street—4th Floor—Lawrence, MA 01840
www.mvymcacamps.org—Phone: 978-975-1330—Fax: 978-975-7354—campinfo@mvymca.org**