

Kinkegwan:

The Big Chief reports that last summer was another extremely successful camping season. Camper numbers are strong and the staff continue to do an excellent job. Alumni weekend falls on Labor Day this year (8/29 - 8/31), so make your plans early.

Questions? Call 1-800-414-2267 or send an e-mail to tohko@tohko.com. To book a room, call 1-800-373-3754.

See www.tohko.com for information about Camp and the Alumni Association.

December, 2007



Camp Tohkomeupog Alumni Association

20 Years of Katahdin Trips

In 1987 Wolf Clan director Don Barton led the first ever 4 day trip to Mt. Katahdin in Maine. The trip was a huge success and ever since then the excursion up to Baxter State Park has been a rite of passage for second year Wolves. The trip is unique for a number of reasons - the 6 hour van ride with counselors and friends, camping next to Chimney Pond, the copious amounts of food that car camping affords, the beautiful summit of Katahdin, and the Knife Edge ridge that connects South Peak to Chimney Peak. But what makes Katahdin a truly memorable experience is the fact that it happens in your last weeks as a camper and all of your camp skills, experiences, and friendships culminate in this one awesome 4 day adventure. Here are a few memorable moments from Katahdin trips over the years.

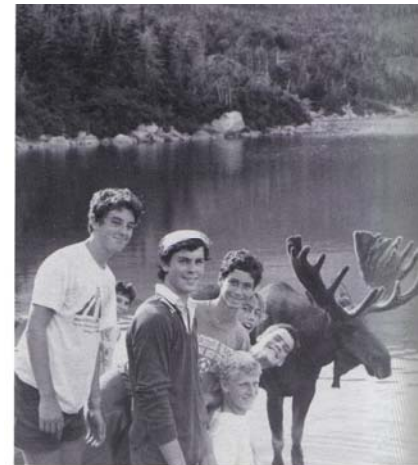
1987: Steve Nigro remembers coming across a moose near the campsite when he was a camper on the trip. Not knowing any better, he and his fellow campers fed this 2,000 lb animal grass from their hands until he stomped his hoof in the water and everyone ran away.

1994: As a counselor, Josh Oberfield led his crew of campers up to the summit with fellow counselor Cyrus Samai. Some of the guys start to head

across the Knife Edge with Josh behind Cyrus. All of sudden, Cy stops and won't move. It turns out that Cy is scared of heights and "the Edge" has him floored. On all fours he crawls back to the beginning and heads back to camp with a group of campers who didn't like heights either.

1996: Mike Barton remembers making the drive in an old blue Dodge van that had a homemade plywood roof rack. Somewhere along I-95, all of Adam Lavoie's stuff blew off the top. They scrounged for some gear and Adam ended up with half a foam sleeping pad and a towel for warmth for the next four days. Mike also recalls feeding a deer some trainwreck - the park ranger was not amused.

2000: Will Darling led numerous Katahdin trips during his years in the Wolf Clan. This year they met up with Waukeela on the top of the mountain. The conditions were not very good, a little rain and some fog, and while they were deciding if it was safe enough to attempt the Knife edge,



Campers from the first ever Katahdin trip in 1987 meet a moose



Campers from the 1992 trip pointing out the Knife Edge.

Continued on next page.

Brad Bradford: 1928 - 2007

Elwood M. (Brad) Bradford, 79, died on Oct. 18 after a courageous battle with cancer. He was born 1/8/28 in South Portland, Maine to Marjorie Racliff Bradford and Peleg D. Bradford. Brad worked at Tohkomeupog throughout the 1950's and 1960's, first as a cabin counselor and then as director of the Uppers (what we now call the Panther Clan).

When Brad came to interview for a job here at camp, he went to the office. Milt wasn't there. Brad was told to go to the waterfront where he found Milt up to his knees in mud, constructing the permanent peer. After a few words, Brad said to himself, "I can work for this gentleman. Any camp director not sitting at his desk, but doing this type of work would be easy to work for." After that first encounter, Brad began his Tohko career and holds the distinction of being Ted Hoyt's first counselor.

In his life outside of Tohko, Brad enlisted in the US Army after he finished high school and served briefly during WWII. He earned a degree from Boston University and spent most of his career teaching in the Bath, ME school district.

Those wishing to honor his memory may make donations to the Bath High School Scholarship Fund, c/o Sally Haggett, Morse High School Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 1030 Bath, ME 04530 or to the Camp Tohkomeupog Alumni Association Scholarship Fund c/o Kevin Thomson, 123 Charles Street, Apt. 2, Boston, MA 02114.

Katahdin Cont'd

the girls from Waukeela headed out across. Will and the boys were intent on not being shown up by the girls camp so they headed out after them. They soon found out that the girls had only gone out to find a bathroom spot and turned around a short way down the trail. But in their moment of pride and stubbornness the Tohko boys were determined to finish what they had started and did the whole Knife Edge, out and back.

2002: Bob Kelly and Jon Quade took a summer off from Camp to hike the Appalachian Trail. Mt. Katahdin is the northern terminus of this 2,175 mile hike. The Wolf Clan timed their trip to coincide with Jon and Bob finishing their hike and they were able to meet up at the summit.

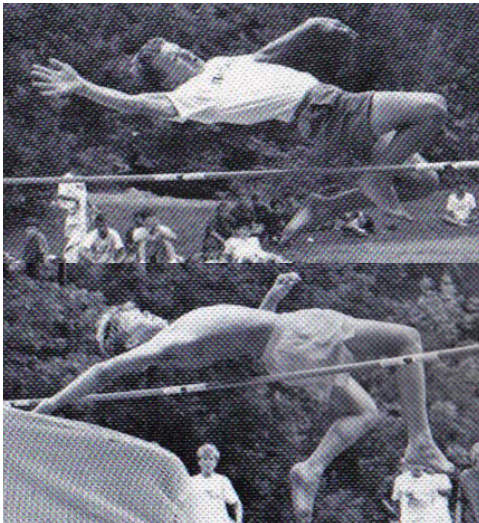


Will Joins Jon and Bob in celebration.

Alumni Weekend Golf Tourney

PROVINCE LAKE GOLF CLUB - We are pleased to report that more than 29 golfers of all ability levels enthusiastically participated in this year's Camp Tohkomeupog Alumni Golf Tournament under clear blue skies and perfect temperatures. Participants, along with some anonymous donors, amassed a total contribution of \$686.00.

Some fine golf was played by all, however our 2006 champions came out swinging to successfully defend their title; the team of Barton, Barton, Roberts and Dodge will hold on to the green jackets for another year. Please mark your calendars for the Friday of Alumni Weekend, August 29th 2008!! We will tee it up again and have a great day of golf to benefit the Milt Hoyt Scholarship Fund. Please email Philip at pp_kest@yaho.com to lock in your spot.



Great Moments in Camp History

August 4th, 1989

Camp Tohkomeupog entered the 1989 camping season as the defending champions of The Camp Tohkomeupog Invitational Track Meet. Tohko had captured the '87 and '88 titles in convincing fashion and were looking to add to their trophy haul. With two weeks of preparation during morning activity under their belts, the boys were ready to take on rival camps Calumet, Marist and Cody. When the games got under way, Tohko's dominance began. From the morning sprints, on to the long and high jumps, and finishing with the long distance races in the afternoon, Tohko racked up the points. At the end of the day, it was Tohko 141.5, Cody 58, Marist 66.5 and Calumet 18. The traditional celebratory swim in the lake followed and Tohko's name was once again etched into the record books. Their run of dominance would continue for another 17 years.

Brothers Phil and Andrew Porter showing perfect Fosbury Flop form in the 1989 CTITM.

Camp News & Notes

♫ **Will Darling** (CIT 1995) and Tammy Tobin got engaged on November 17th. As befits a Tohko man, Will popped the question on top of North Kinsman (elevation 4293'). Both Will and Tammy teach at Arlington High School, where they met. A wedding date and details will be forthcoming.

♫ Not to be outdone, **Marianne Croft** and Tom Gilmore are also pleased to announce their engagement. Tom proposed on December 1st and Marianne happily said yes. They are both pursuing advanced degrees at Temple University in Philadelphia - Marianne will graduate with a Masters in Education and Tom is in his third year of medical school.

♫ **Todd Gochman** (CIT 1992) and Amy Wales were married on December 1st in Waitsfield, VT. Numerous Tohko alumni were in attendance for the ceremony and festivities. Skiing with the groom was offered as a morning activity, followed by rest hour for some, and then the ceremony and reception where everyone was dancing to tunes courtesy of **Doug Gochman** (CIT 1982).

♫ This fall **PJ Morra** (CIT 1989) and his wife Danielle were feeding their new baby daughters, Kylie and Hayden, at 3:30am in their Malibu, CA home when they saw flames on the nearby mountain ridge. After calling 911 and gathering a few important items (presumably including all pan pictures and a large Hobart mixer), they fled the house and began pounding on neighbors doors to alert them to the approaching wildfire. Within minutes the entire neighborhood was engulfed by the fire, but the Morra's home was saved due to an innovative sprinkler system installed by PJ. For more on this incredible tale, you can reach PJ at paul@swiftriverproductions.com



Introducing, Mr. and Mrs. Gochman!

The Alumni Association Board: Kevin Thomson (kt_kest@yaho.com), Tobin Kelly (mtkelly@yaho.com), Philip Porter (pp_kest@yaho.com), David Banister (dbanister@fessenden.org), Steve Harding (kalhousit@adelphia.net), and Todd Gochman (todd_gochmen@carneysandoe.com), Nick Todd (nicktodd99@yaho.com)