



TOHKOMEUPOG

summer camp for boys



ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER
WINTER '17/'18

EST. 1932

..... 2017 Camp Tohkomeupog Recap

The 86th summer of outdoor adventure, friendship and opportunity was another amazing experience here in the valley at East Madison. We had relatively good weather and a great group of staff. The trend of increased camper enrollment continued, and we had a full seven week Bear Clan with strong numbers in this group.

Our staff did an outstanding job, and post-camp reviews from parents were very good. All but one director returned, with Don Barton as assistant camp director, John Sexton at the Waterfront, Jason Cicero in the Bear Clan, and Stevo Harding in the Deer Clan. We had a new director in the Panther Clan this year, Scott Hocutt. Scott is a middle school teacher in NY, and he teaches alongside Dawn Petersen (our office manager, photographer and “store lady”). Dan Bowers returned to the Wolf Clan, and his wife Lisa joined us again in the kitchen, creating very tasty desserts and helping run the camp store. We had an amazing group of counselors, with all but two having been here before, and our group of nine CITs was up there with the best classes ever. There were many highlights in the 2017 season, including a win at our annual track meet. Weekly trips provided countless memories. Of NH’s 48 four thousand footers, 40 were summited along with additional peaks in Maine’s Baxter State Park and several in New York’s Adirondacks. We ran very successful rock climbing and mountain biking trips and paddled on more diverse lakes and rivers than in past seasons.

The 2016 second year Wolf Class was talented. With such a deep pool of campers, we wanted to give the opportunity to return to Tohko to as many as possible. As a result, inspired by the Ranger Program from “many moons ago,” we created a new model. The new Ranger Program included three participants who spent four weeks in experiential training sessions. These included such things as wilderness first aid, a mountain leadership session, and white water kayaking. Skills were greatly improved. All in all, 2017 was another memorable season, and we’re busy preparing for 2018. We hope to see everyone return to Alumni Weekend next summer (August 24-26, 2018).



Above: The new Ranger program, led by Andrew Drummond, in the Adirondacks; Middle: The annual Panther Clan Mahoosuc Notch Trip; Below: 2017 Staff Picture



Kesté,
Andrew Mahoney, *Tohkomeupog Director*

WOOLEGAN!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FIRST GRADUATING CLASS OF THE NEW RANGER PROGRAM:

JOHNATHAN MATSKO, AAARON RITENOUR, AND IVAN ARESO-YEBRA

See WWW.TOHKO.COM for information about Camp and the Alumni Association.



..... *Tohkomeupog Abroad: Teaching in Shanghai*

By Andrew MacDonald

It doesn't take long to count the number of life-changing things I've done in my life. One such experience was growing up a Tohko boy, and another has been spending the past few years as a foreign English teacher in Shanghai. Each of these experiences has pushed me out of my comfort zone again and again. Whether it's looking up at Owl's Head from the bottom of the slide trail, or spending a day skiing in North China 50 miles away from the nearest English speaker, I've come to see these challenges as the best way to learn and grow as a person.

I arrived in China on August 27th, 2015. I knew nobody and only a little Chinese. I met my soon-to-be co-workers at the airport and by the end of the night I had new friends. My first year I worked for a company called Bestway. It's an interesting education company that places teachers in schools to teach oral English. They also host their own English classes (because kids need something to do on the weekends).

Between my training center classes and going to 4 schools per week, I worked with roughly 750 students. It was quite frustrating, especially because after having worked with children since my late teens, I had become accustomed to developing good relationships with kids and finding great joy in watching them grow. Frankly, not having those connections to the people I worked with made my experience a little less meaningful. But there were plenty of other reasons to be happy.

I spent the year enjoying the city, making friends, and studying Chinese. By the end of the year, I found a job working for Pacican Education. Pacican offered a lot of jobs like those at Bestway, but I would be employed at their flagship middle school. It is in this capacity that I have worked for the past year and a half. I have 51 students and I see each of them six times a week.

Getting to know these students over the last year-and-a-half has been a great opportunity. It's allowed me to explore a different culture, as well as find similarities between my students and the kids I worked with at Tohko. I think that sometimes there is an assumption in the West that these kids are much more disciplined and diligent than students in America. While they are indeed hard-working, they are still kids. They like playing with their friends between classes and making jokes every chance they get. I think that my work at camp, and the skills I learned there have allowed me to find an important place in the lives of my students. I am their teacher, but also a friend and a mentor to them. I feel very comfortable in these roles because they are very familiar to me.

At Pacican, I have had the opportunity to work in a traditional Chinese school, and it has been a very interesting experience. I'm constantly realizing how lucky I was to go to camp. Many of the most valuable educational experiences I had as a child took place outside the classroom. They were at places like Spruce Point, or Guyot Tent Site. I learned to push myself and enjoy the rewards of hard work. Many of my students are learning the same values, but not while watching the sunrise from Mount Garfield.

One of my favorite aspects of my life in Shanghai is that it's impossible to stop being acutely aware of the world around me. Every time I think I have it figured out, something surprises me, and I realize there is so much to reflect on. Most of these situations manifest themselves as adversity of some kind. I learned a long time ago that it's those moments that prove the most valuable. I learned that at Camp Tohkomeupog.



WOOLEGAN!

Congratulations to the C.I.T. Class of 2018:

JOEY MACDONALD, JACK KRUGMAN, MICHAEL BIEGOLI,
LOUIS GAUTROT, JOHN KELLEHER & JOHNATHAN MATSKO



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... From Staff vs. Campers Soccer to Success in the NCAA ...

By Denali Sexton

To all that have had the privilege of spending summers up in the valley, Tohkomeupog holds a very special place our hearts. Looking back at the career I had in collegiate soccer, I have so many to thank for their love and supports near and far. But one place comes to mind to where my journey began. Tohkomeupog might not be the place where my love for soccer was born, but where I found out my skills were better than the average kid my age. Playing against campers in the panther and wolf clan while being a deer, forced me to use my intelligence of the game because physically I was at a disadvantage. Soccer isn't just a sport of who is faster, stronger, but more so who is smarter and knows how to anticipate where the ball and other players are going. Throughout my collegiate career I did not find myself being the fastest or being physically dominant, but I saw the game differently than others. In many activities, camp forced you to think outside the box and to become a problem solver. For example, campcraft skills like passing tarp, forces campers to search for an adequate location where putting up a tarp is most effective, which forces them to learn how to think analytically in their surroundings. Much of the success athletes achieve in their specified sport, comes from the way they process the run of play. This analytical skillset, much like setting up the best campsite, is at the root of their successes. Camp also gave me the privilege of being a camp counselor, which then evolved into the role of Assistant Director of an encampment. This type of elevated role at Camp definitely prepared me for being named captain before my sophomore season. Ahead of my sophomore season I was slightly worried about how the upper-classmen would handle taking orders from an 18 year-old. This honor was a pleasure that I will cherish for my entire life, and I really think that my role as an Assistant Director and a Counselor prepared me to be effective in that position. Camp challenges everyone to push their limits and to believe in themselves to do what they once thought they could not. Therefore, being a leader was no foreign matter to me, as I have had the pleasure of leading pack-hiking and canoe trips all over the White Mountains and running waters of Maine. All in all, Tohkomeupog has helped me develop me personally and athletically throughout my tenure. I cannot thank my family enough, as well as all the people who have crossed my path at Tohkomeupog.



Career Stats

Year	Goals	Assists	Points
2014	12	6	30
2015	18+	13%	49*
2016	15	3	33
2017	11	11	33
Total	56\$	33^	145#

- # Career leader in points
- \$ Career leader in goals
- ^ Career leader in assists
- * most points in a season
- % single season record for assists
- + most goals in a season

Description of Denali's Senior Year Season from Colby-Sawyer's website:

“Senior Denali Sexton (Barrington, R.I.) concluded his illustrious career as the most prolific scorer in the program’s history. Sexton is the all-time leader in career points (145), goals (56) and assists (33). He added numerous awards to his long list of accomplishments at the end of the 2017 season. Sexton earned his second consecutive NAC Player of the Year award to become the first Charger to be named a conference Player of the Year more than once. He also was named to the All-NAC First Team for the fourth time in his career. Sexton garnered All-New England Region First Team accolades from United Soccer Coaches, which was previously known as the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA). He became the first Charger to earn three awards from the association. Sexton added a nod to the New England Soccer Journal Best XI’s Third Team. Sexton, a seven-time NAC Player of the Week in his career, led the Chargers in 2017 with 33 points on 11 goals and 11 assists. Five of his goals were game-winners, which was 26th most in the nation. Sexton finished the season among the national leaders in points per game (29th, 1.94), assists (22nd, 11) and assists per game (15th, .65).”

KINKEEGWAN!

Donate to the Alumni Association

PAYPAL: [HTTP://BIT.LY/TOHKOALUMNIDONATION](http://bit.ly/tohkoalumniidonation) OR
MAIL A CHECK (MADE OUT TO “CAMP TOHKOMEUPOG ALUMNI ASSOCIATION”) TO:
ANDREW GUILD | 15 ALBEMARLE ST. APT. 6 | BOSTON, MA 02115

See WWW.TOHKO.COM for information about Camp and the Alumni Association.

CAMP NEWS & NOTES

NUPTIALS!

- ROB COOPER MARRIED ALLIE GOLDBERG IN HANOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE ON JULY 2, 2017.

- KEITH BERMAN MARRIED LARA POLLACK IN RYE BROOK, NEW YORK ON OCTOBER 14, 2017.

- SAM FREIHOFNER MARRIED JAMIE GLASHOW IN REHOBOTH, MASSACHUSETTS ON NOVEMBER 4, 2017.

ENGAGEMENTS!

- BENJAMIN RICH GOT ENGAGED TO STEPHANIE LUBIN-LEVY ON JULY 16, 2017.

- MATT CROFT GOT ENGAGED TO MARRY LAURENT TOTMAN ON DECEMBER 22, 2016.

BIRTHS!

- LENNART SEBASTIAN KLOTZ WAS BORN TO JOJO AND SANDRA KLOTZ ON OCTOBER 13, 2017.

- BRENNAN MATTHEW CONKLIN WAS BORN TO ALLISON (CROFT) AND MARK CONKLIN ON OCTOBER 13, 2017

- MYLES CLARK RUGG WAS BORN TO ISAAC AND RACHEL RUGG ON DECEMBER 8, 2017.



Alumni Gather at Keith Berman's Wedding. From Left to Right: Ryan O'Rourke, Todd Goldenberg, Jeremy Levangie, Keith Berman, and Mike Croft. Bottom Photo:

REMEMBER THE FRIENDS YOU MADE HERE

Jules "Whitey" Romary

"My Dad, O Jules "Whitey" Romary, was at Tohko as a camper from 1943 through 1946 during WWII, and became a counselor in 1947. He was close friends with Milt Hoyt and Gil Gilmore. Jules passed away this past April at the age of 86, and in his final days, he enjoyed looking at pictures of the Tohko waterfront to keep him relaxed and happy."

- Tom Romary

Tom currently has two sons, Shep (13) and Blake (11), third generation campers, who just finished their 3rd summer at Tohkomeupog.

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

The Alumni Board would like to thank everybody who came out for Alumni Weekend this past summer. Everbody had a great time, and we encourage even more people of all ages and generations to reconnect with their friends, and to meet new members of the Tohko family in the process! On that note, keep your ears peeled for a couple of planned alumni outings during the year, outside of camp, including a potential brewery/distillery crawl in Portland, Maine led by Jon Quade in the near future!



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? KNOW OF SOME TOHKO ALUMNI NEWS?

EMAIL THE ALUMNI BOARD: TOHKOALUMNIBOARD@GMAIL.COM

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