



TOHKOMEUPOG

summer camp for boys



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER - WINTER 2016

2016 Camp Tohkomeupog Recap

2016 marked the 85th season of outdoor adventure, friendship, and opportunity in East Madison, and it was an incredible summer. The weather was outstanding, though we could have used a bit more rain. Our camper week count was up over 18% from 2015, and we hit an all-time high with our return registration rate of 90%. We also had a resurgence in our youngest clan with a very solid group of Bears for five weeks. Our early registration period for 2017 has just ended, and once again, we have raised the bar on the number of returning camper weeks.



All but one of our staff were returners, and we had a fantastic group of eight CITs who each averaged over eight years in camp. Our crew of veteran directors included Assistant Director Don Barton, John Sexton at the Waterfront, Dan Bowers in the Wolf Clan, Stevo Harding in the Deer Clan, and Jason Cicero in the Bear Clan. We welcomed back Andrew MacDonald as a first-time encampment director in the Panther Clan. John Petersen returned as our Riflery Instructor and Mountain Bike Trip Leader. JP's son Sean took over the leadership role at Archery as well as being a Bear Clan Counselor. Tim Folsom was back at the Tennis Center; Dawn Petersen was back in the office. Helen returned to the infirmary. Once again, we were blessed with having a dedicated staff that worked hard to provide an amazing experience for 156 campers this summer.

Much hiking was done by Tohko campers in 2016. Included in the many peaks campers and staff hiked this past summer (throughout both NH and Maine) were 41 of the 48 NH 4,000 footers. Aside from hiking, we offered whitewater canoeing on the Androscoggin River up in Errol. Mountain biking took place at various locations around North Conway and the White Mountain National Forest, and rock climbing trips were fun activities. The rock climbing took place at the Echo Roof area on Whitehorse Ledge and the Lost Horizon Cliffs near the Boulder Loop Trail area off the Kanc with world-class climbers out of Cathedral Mountain Guides.

To recap, it was the 85th consecutive best summer ever here in the Valley, and we're very grateful for everyone who contributed to this experience.

Keste'
Andrew Mahoney Tohkomeupog Director

WOOLEGAN!

CONGRATULATIONS TO GRANT REEDER (COUNSELOR) FOR BEING THE FIFTH RECIPIENT OF THE JOHN NUTE AWARD. THIS INCREDIBLY MEANINGFUL RECOGNITION IS EXTENDED TO ONE SELECT MEMBER OF THE TOHKOMEUPOG TRIBE. ONE WHO EXEMPLIFIES THE QUALITIES OF COURAGE, TEAMWORK, AND STRENGTH OF CHARACTER AND WHO REGULARLY SHOWS THE COMPASSION TO INSPIRE OTHERS TO SUCCEED.

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



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EST. 1932

White Mountain Direttissima

For many campers and alumni, checking off all of NH's 48 4,000-foot mountains is a lifelong goal achieved through many day hikes and overnights. It took me 10 summers at camp plus a lot of fall hikes with my family to complete the list.

We hiked them this way because that's how people have always hiked the 48, trip by trip - sometimes a big effort just to get something like Isolation or Owl's Head. This was the accepted method of peak bagging as no one fathomed that we could do it any other way, for example, in a week and do so in an unsupported fashion (carry all your own food and gear).



That seed was planted last summer when I heard about this style of hiking the 48, still a relatively unknown 'thing' in the White Mountains. Only a few other documented hikes had been done in this fashion and I saw the opportunity to set a new standard by completing what is known as the White Mountain Direttissima in goal of seven days.

What attracted me to this project was that it was big enough to require a lot of planning and endurance, but not too big that it would consume a large chunk of the summer. It was in my backyard (I grew up in Conway, NH) and the unsupported tag appealed to me because of the self-reliance. In addition to completing this project in under a week, I had two additional goals: 1) share my adventure in real-time fashion through social media, and 2) invite others to come join me on the trail.

The abbreviated story of my adventure goes like this: everything went perfect. I started on the south end of Moosilauke and over the span of six days I traversed the Kinsman range, Franconia / Pemigewasset Wilderness, Sandwich Range, Zealand Notch, Southern Presidentials, Wildcat Range, Carter-Moriah Range, Northern Presidentials, and lastly the Pliny/Pilot Range. I endured moments of intense discomfort and sleep deprivation but that was all masked by a sense of awe with so many incredible moments as my perspective on the White Mountains was forever shifted. At the summit of Mount Carrigain I could see a tiny speck of Tecumseh in the background which I had summited just 24 hours ago and behind me loomed Mount Washington where I would stand 24 hours later.

(Continued on page 3)

WOOLEGAN!

Congratulations to the C.I.T. Class of 2017:

IAN BOWERS, ADAM CHEN, DAVID DEVITO, QUINN KELLY, CONNOR KELLY, JOHN MADDOCK, COLIN MOREFIELD, NICHOLAS PERUGINI, ALEX STABINER, & JAMES WELCH.



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White Mountain Direttissima, cont.

There were many takeaways from this project but two stood out. The first is to plant the seed of possibility. Had I never heard about this style of hiking the 48 I doubt I would have ever attempted it. It was special to share this with campers to get them thinking about their next adventure and let them dream beyond what they know as possible. The second thing I learned was that the mind is capable of incredible things. Each day as fatigue and sleep deprivation accumulated, I had a deep sense of motivation and was amazed how my mind was able to push back the discomfort.

As I spoke to the campers I could tell they were ready to dream big and I can't wait to see what their future accomplishments hold. To learn more

Photo: Andrew eats a slice of pizza after completing the Direttissima



Woolegan! Woolegan!



Congratulations to Sam Ward who has successfully completed a thru-hike of the Appalachian Trail, the Pacific Crest Trail and the Continental Divide Trail; also known as "The Triple Crown." Sam has now crossed the country (South to North) three times for over 7,000 miles. Sam's Tohko staff shirt (pictured to the left) went with him for every mile of his tremendous journey.

In his blog, Sam states, "Got the shirt as a CIT at Camp Tohkomeupog in East Madison, NH and that's where it all started for me. Learned everything I needed to know about trip planning, backcountry ethics, and the mental toughness required to set out on the Appalachian Trail in 2008."

For more information about Sam's hike, visit: <http://swardcdt.tumblr.com>

KINKEEGWAN!

Donate to the Alumni Association

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

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CAMP NEWS & NOTES

NUPTIALS!

- ALEX MCLEAN MARRIED ELIZABETH FLYNN IN TOPSFIELD, MA ON OCTOBER 22, 2016.
- BUBBA MCMAHON MARRIED KRISSY MCNEILL ON SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2016 IN MINNEAPOLIS, MN.
- JACKIE BELLIVEAU MARRIED KYLE HAYTHORN ON SEPTMEBER 4TH, 2016 IN FARMINGTON, CT.
- STEPHEN COMEAU MARRIED GINA ADANTE ON NOVEMBER 12TH, 2016 IN TORRINGTON, CT.
- TREVOR RICHARDSON MARRIED LIANNE CHEW ON JULY 24TH IN NEW YORK, NY

ENGAGEMENTS!

- ROB COOPER GOT ENGAGED TO ALLIE GOLDBERG ON JUNE 14TH, 2016.
- ROSS FALDETTA GOT ENGAGED TO KATHERINE VUCELIC ON JANUARY 8TH, 2016.

BIRTHS!

- ADAM CIRIC WAS BORN TO BRITTANY AND ALEX CIRIC ON JULY 27TH, 2016.
- BECKHAM GREY CICERO WAS BORN TO BRANDON AND ERICA CICERO ON NOVEMBER 7TH, 2016.
- DASH SEBASTIAN GOLDBERG WAS BORN TO TODD & STEPHANIE GOLDENBERG ON JANUARY 5TH, 2016.
- LILY PIERCE HOYT WAS BORN TO STEPHANIE HOYT ON OCTOBER 12TH, 2016.



Photo: Alumni Gather at Alex McLean's Wedding in Topsfield, MA. From Left to Right: Doug Belliveau, Ross Faldetta, Reid Lavoie, Jon Rees, Jon Quade, and Rob Cooper.

Get the Alumni E-Newsletter!

The Alumni Board will be sending out quick updates about gatherings and events throughout the year. Join the mailing list by sending your email to: TohkoAlumniBoard@gmail.com

REMEMBER THE FRIENDS YOU MADE HERE

HENRY LACHLAN HUNTLEY

December 23, 1996 - October 28 2016

For some, being truly alive is best felt in the open air, immersed in the spectacle and beauty of nature. It is to be on top of a mountain, the land spread out before you – to enjoy this in the company of family and friends. Henry was such a soul. It was a passion he developed during many trips at camp... and enjoyed on many family adventures. Henry's final hike was in September. While visiting the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina, Henry and his dad enjoyed a beautiful day on the trail. To shade himself from the hot sun, Henry wore the staff bucket hat he received as a CIT in 2013. He joked that his Tohko hat provided much more protection than the baseball cap his dad was wearing.

In a broader sense, Henry's parents believe this to be true – that the hat... and the camp / tribe it represented... protected and covered Henry beautifully and fully. Tohko was his refuge, his place of safety and acceptance – the place where he discovered the love of brothers... of mountains... and of life. Even as he carried camp in his heart, Henry took that Tohko hat with him everywhere he went. Henry's hiking boots now sit quietly at his house, his Tohko hat resting prominently on top. He left this life too soon. His spirit, however, will live loudly forever... in the wind that cools and buffets along the mountain trail... in the swirling waters of the lake – reminding us how precious are the days. Keste'

Stevo

Director of Tribal Relations
Tohkomeupog – Camp for Boys

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? KNOW OF SOME TOHKO ALUMNI NEWS?

EMAIL THE ALUMNI BOARD: TOHKOALUMNIBOARD@GMAIL.COM