



# Birch Pond Beacon

March 2010

Casco, Maine

## Excitement builds for 2010

Fueled by a strong camper return rate and growing interest among new families, 2010 is shaping up to be a banner year. Several new tents will be added to increase camper capacity. On the program front, plans are underway for:

- An expanded trip program, featuring new mountain and river trips
- 2<sup>nd</sup> annual inter-camp ping pong tournament
- Return of "Netop Goes to Hollywood", a film and rock band showcase event
- Expanded schedule of inter-camp athletic games
- Return of Pizza League basketball and International Kubb League Federation
- Socials with nearby girls camps
- Kelpor & Klondike Days, Carnival Night
- Traditional favorites: flour bombs, slip 'n slide, tribal games, 3-ball soccer, more!

## Teamwork wins



Camper compete for "cleanest" tent and chance to win a Netop Sundae. Look at those shoes!

## Two 10-day "starter" sessions

New campers (ages 8-10) may enroll in a 10-day "starter" option this year. There are now two session choices:

*June 27 – July 6 or July 22 – July 31*

This is a great opportunity for first-time campers to get a taste of Netop.

## Sparkling Birch Pond



*The shallow depth of Birch Pond means the water temperature is warm and comfortable all summer long.*

## CIT Opportunity

We currently have space for two more CITs. Candidates will be 16-17 years old and interested in developing leadership skills and gaining practical experience to become a future Netop counselor. Two options:

Partial summer: June 20-July 21 (\$750)

Full summer: June 20-August 8 (\$1,000)

## Medicine stick competition!



Tribal games at Netop feature the famed medicine stick, with points awarded for the most daring and creative “showings”. Last year the sticks were made by Leif Liberg and Peter Brown. The Apaches, led by John Walker and Jake Griffin, won

the overall tribal competition in Session I, while the Mohawks, led by Converse Peirce and Chet Asher, were victorious in Session II.

## Eating healthy

For the past two years, Netop has participated in a Maine state initiative to promote local foods and healthy eating. Sponsored by the Communities Promoting Health Coalition, the goals have been to increase consumption of locally grown foods, while providing education to campers and staff about the importance and benefits of supporting a local food system. At Netop, we have increased our availability of fresh fruits and vegetables and incorporated many Maine foods into the daily menus.

## Inter-camp excitement



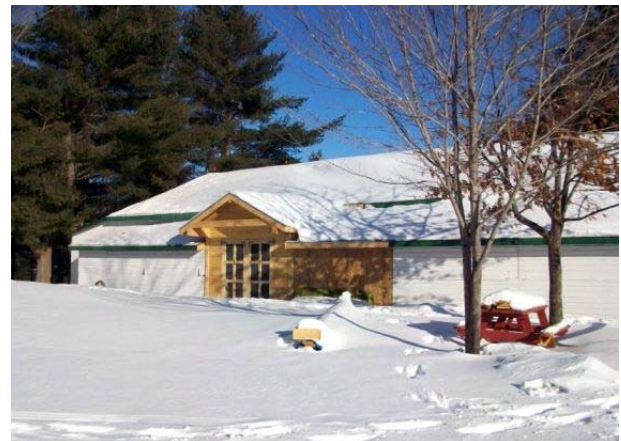
*Cameron Stephenson takes off for the rim in a spirited basketball game against Camp Agawam*

## Counselor news

- Alex Colby – senior at Bowdoin College; passion for film-making; future Oscar?
- Tommy Hester – junior at Williams College; pitcher for Williams baseball team
- Geoff Hester – junior at W. Michigan Univ.; honors program; fraternity president
- Kaleem Jones – senior at Packer Collegiate; playing hoops; making college selection
- Colby Morgan – freshman at U. of Vermont; active in drama and acapella singing group
- Matt Noe – U. of Md.; computer science & math; soccer; international studies club
- Matt Taylor – freshman at U. of Maryland; teaching swimming and lifeguarding
- Kevin Scott – freshman at West Chester Univ.; training to be Bear Grylls
- Jason Steinberg – freshman at Northeastern Univ; research asst. at a Boston hospital
- Doug Symonds – teaching 5<sup>th</sup> grade full-time in PA; running and coaching
- Brad Peirce – senior at Warwick Valley HS; finalizing college plans; baseball & swimming
- Conor Griffin – senior at Yarmouth High; planning college and international options

## Lodge Campaign Update

Construction on the new front entrance of the Lodge has continued during the off-season. Additional phases of the renovation will continue through 2011 and include: new roof, new office space, upgraded electrical service, expanded kitchen and renovated bathroom facilities.



**Want to help?** Financial gifts to the Lodge Campaign are welcome and appreciated. For details on how to contribute, visit: [www.netopsummercamp.com/alumni/lodge-campaign/](http://www.netopsummercamp.com/alumni/lodge-campaign/)

### Volunteer Weekend – June 18-20

Our annual work weekend is a great time to lend a hand and enjoy Netop. Let us know if you are interested in joining the crew this year!