



# Birch Pond Beacon

January 2011

netopsummercamp.com

Casco, Maine

## Dig, set, spike!

An exciting off-season improvement at Netop is the construction of a new sand volleyball court. While the old uneven grass court boasted lots of character and interesting bounces, the new area on the hill above the baseball field has become a full-size level sand court. New posts and net will be installed in the spring before camp starts.



A new sand volleyball court will open in summer 2011

## Inter-camp games score big

Netop's inter-camp schedule is full of exciting matches against neighboring camps such as Agawam, Nashoba, Timanous and Wigwam. In 2010, games were played in baseball, soccer, basketball, tennis, swimming, archery and ping pong. Though many campers play youth sports at home, Netop puts a premium on the fun aspects of sports, with an emphasis on:

- Participation (everyone plays)
- Sportsmanship (respect for players, coaches, refs and opponents)
- Fun competition (we keep score, but we also keep perspective)

## Netop is hiring staff

Each year we add new counselors to our staff. As the camp continues to grow and positions become available, we recruit new candidates to be part of our outstanding staff. Counselor recruiting for the summer of 2011 is underway. Referrals are our best source of new counselors. If you know qualified candidates 18-23+ years old, please contact Steve Hallowell at: info@netopsummercamp.com. Skills are welcome across a broad range of areas, such as sports, waterfront, adventure trips, arts and crafts. Working at Netop is a fantastic life experience.



2010 Netop Staff

## 2011 camp season dates

6/26 – 7/20	3.5 weeks
7/21 – 8/6	2.5 weeks
6/26 – 8/6	6 weeks

*"Starter sessions" available; new campers ages 7-11:*

6/26 – 7/7	12 days
7/21 – 7/30	10 days

## Greetings from Spain



Sam Gordon of Concord, MA visited with Netop campers (Javier, Alfonso, Matias, German and Jaime) during a December reunion in Madrid

## What is Kelpor Day?

One of the most zany and creative days on the Netop calendar is Kelpor Day. Originating in 1977, Kelpor Day was named after the famous (and completely fabricated) Bruce Kelpor. Legend has it that Bruce was a local Casco personality who would make an annual visit to Netop. A bit eccentric, he rode his tank up the driveway while shooting strawberries and marshmallows at the campers. He would also dress funny and say completely nonsensical things.



Campers dress funny on Kelpor Day

In celebration of Kelpor Day, campers wake up and find unusual things – kayaks in the trees, chairs on the Lodge roof, candy thrown around the tents and counselors slinging strawberries from a giant sling-shot. Strange activities typically follow such as marshmallow baseball, water balloon target practice and counselor showings of the medicine stick. No two Kelpor Days are the same and each year brings a different twist. But, they all make for a memorable Netop experience!

## Alumni Reunion: June 17-19, 2011



It will be 55 years since Netop opened in 1956 and 5 years from the re-opening in 2006. The reunion on **June 17-19, 2011** in Casco, Maine promises to be a fun-filled event for all alumni and families. RSVP at: [www.netopsummercamp.com/alumni/reunion/](http://www.netopsummercamp.com/alumni/reunion/)

## Alumni Flashback: circa 1977



Tony Geter, Bill "Slick" Mebane, Andy Hester and Eric Gordon put on a show during Counselor Skit Night

## New sails coming to Birch Pond!



A Netop family has generously purchased brand new sails and rigging for Netop's entire fleet of sunfish! See page 3 for a special thanks to all our supporters during the last two years.



# Thanks for your support!



We are grateful to the many people who continue to support Netop. Whether through contributions to the Lodge Campaign, Netop Friends Scholarship Fund, annual volunteer work crews or helping recruit new campers, we appreciate your support. The list below recognizes all alumni (and families) who supported Netop during 2009 and 2010.



*New Lodge roof*



*Inside view of new Lodge front entrance*

## Lodge Campaign

Anonymous  
 Jeff & Natalie Asher  
 Thomas Bagley Family  
 Craig Balderston  
 Doug Beck  
 Chris Berry  
 Bob & Peter Brown  
 Peter Brown (MA)  
 Steve Buehler  
 Matt Caras  
 George Cintron Family  
 Paul Costa  
 Lee Davis Family  
 Jay & Mimi Gallo  
 Karl Geisinger  
 Kurt Geisinger  
 Eric & Marcia Gordon  
 Larry & Amy Gordon  
 Phil & Susan Gresh  
 Mike Griffin Family  
 Hales Family  
 Holly & Tom Hancock  
 Lee Heist  
 Norm Henry  
 Andy & Suzanne Hester  
 Mary "Ma" Hester  
 Tim & Francie Hester  
 Ted Hissey  
 Herb Hopwood  
 Chip Horner  
 Doug Kingsley  
 Tony Kingsley  
 Tod Leggat  
 Rob McNabb Family  
 Wayne Mehrer

Dick & Susan Morgan  
 Bob Nuneviller  
 Sam Ogden  
 Mike O'Hare  
 John Palmer  
 Will & Jan Peirce  
 Stu & Pete Rambo  
 Geoffrey Rehnert  
 Wayne Russell  
 Glenn Salo  
 Mark Satterfield  
 Don Sorterup  
 Jerry Swope  
 John & Wendy Towle

## Netop Friends Scholarship (annual)

Jeff Asher  
 Terence Beaty  
 Doug Beck  
 Bruce Braunewell  
 Matt Caras  
 Kit & Judy Carson  
 Mark Cassara  
 Paul Costa  
 Scott Dittmore  
 Allen Dunstan  
 Frith Family  
 Karl Geisinger  
 Kurt Geisinger  
 Eric Gordon  
 Larry Gordon  
 Mike Griffin  
 Hales Family  
 Andy Hester  
 Tim Hester

Mary "Ma" Hester  
 Herb Hopwood  
 Benjamin Horne  
 Chip Horner  
 Paul Keely  
 Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Keely  
 Dan Kelsh  
 Doug Kingsley  
 Tony Kingsley  
 David Kirchthurn  
 Leif Liberg  
 Bill Mebane  
 Bruce Mount  
 Geoffrey Rehnert  
 Mike Reynolds  
 Bruce Ruppenthal  
 Wayne Russell  
 Mark Satterfield  
 Frank Shuman  
 Slider Family  
 Russ Stewart  
 Jerry Swope  
 Skip Truscott  
 Jess Tucker

Andy Hester  
 David Keely  
 Paul & Sherrie Keely  
 Peter Keely  
 David Kirchthurn  
 Pete Lavers  
 Wayne Mehrer  
 Chris Shelly  
 Ken Truscott

## Special Thanks

Leif Liberg  
 (Netop woodcraft)  
 Chris Webster  
 (marketing materials)  
 Doug Webster  
 (makes it all possible!)

## Volunteer Crews

Jim Baldrige & Tammy  
 Chris Berry  
 Karl Block  
 Bob Brown  
 Matt Caras  
 Shawn Carlson  
 Scott Doyle & April  
 Keith/Kristina Fenimore  
 Jay Foster  
 Russ Haden

**Lodge campaign continues through 2011. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated!**