



Birch Pond Beacon

July 2011

netopsummercamp.com

Casco, Maine

Flying high!

To mark the start of our 2011 season at Netop, we raised a new 40' natural oak flagpole. This tree was carefully selected at the end of 2010 and was dried, scraped, sanded and stained over the winter and spring. On opening day, campers gathered to raise the flag and perform morning exercises.



What's new in 2011?

- Three new tents have been added, bringing our total to 21.
- Over 140 campers are attending Netop this summer.
- Our tennis courts have been completely re-conditioned with new red clay and the addition of a third court.
- A large gaga court has been built (see *article on page 2*).
- Our new sand volleyball court is seeing lots of action.
- New sails grace our fleet of sunfish on beautiful Birch Pond (see *photo at right*).

Meet the Netop Staff



Staff members gather to launch the new season

- 38 of 45 staff members have prior Netop experience
- Home states include: ME, MA, CT, PA, NY, MD, WI, IA
- Colleges include: Amherst, Bowdoin, UNC-Chapel Hill, U. Maryland, W. Mich. U., U. Maine, U. Maine Farmington, Butler, Misericordia, Loyola, U. of Kings, U. Scranton, U. Wisconsin-Milw, West Chester U., Central Conn. State, Coe



Gaga-mania hits Netop!

A combination of dodgeball and handball, gaga has created lots of excitement at Netop this year. It's a quick fun pick-up game that anyone can play, with just a few players or as many as 30+. The action is fast and the cheering is loud, as players are eliminated until the lone winner remains in the gaga pit.



July 4th – Netop Style

With a bit of license on factual accuracy, Netop featured a condensed reenactment of America's fight for independence for our July 4th celebration. The day began by flying the British flag, with the King announcing new taxes for the colonies. Minor skirmishes built to a live and exciting version of the Boston Tea Party at Birch Pond Harbor. An all-out battle of Lexington and Concord (flour bombs) ensued between the Americans (campers) and British troops (staff). By 3:00 p.m., the American flag was raised. Later, Paul Revere made his famous ride and the Americans put the finishing touches on the British. A huge bonfire and rock concert was then enjoyed by all!



Each tent participated in a patriotic tent judging contest on July 4th

2011 Trip Program

A robust wilderness trip program is underway this summer at Netop. Ranging from 1-3 days in length, trips offer campers a unique experience in some of the best natural settings in New England, including:

- Acadia National Park
- Mt. Katahdin, Baxter State Park
- Mt. Moosilauke, NH
- Saco River
- Androscoggin River
- Bradbury State Park
- Coos Canyon, Tumbledown Mtn.
- Kancamagus Highway, Swift River
- Mt. Washington
- Old Orchard & Popham Beach



Alumni gather at reunion

Over 60 alumni and friends joined together to celebrate the Netop reunion in June. It's always great to see adults acting as campers and this was certainly the case at the reunion. Activities included a hike up Rattlesnake Mountain, Name-That-Tune, Nukem, the gizmo stick, fishing and other events. Saturday night featured a cookout, traditional Netop campfire, a new historical Netop video, fireworks and Netop Sundaes.



Geoff Hester leads alumni in a campfire cheer