



# Birch Pond Beacon

March 2012

netopsummercamp.com

Casco, Maine

## The countdown is on!

According to the Netop website, there are only **90** days until the first day of camp. Preparations are in full swing for the 2012 season. Enrollment is strong and we look forward to a great season. Campers will be joining us from at least 19 states in the U.S., plus Spain, France, UK and Canada.



*Netop has 21 tents clustered among the tall pines*

## Why Netop?

As parents evaluate summer programs for their kids, a common question we are asked this time of year is: "why choose Netop"? Beyond the beautiful facilities, quality staff and ACA accreditation, here are four key differentiating characteristics:

1. A small, exceptionally friendly and spirited community
2. A "four spokes" philosophy that encourages growth in all areas of life
3. A balanced program, featuring sports, water activities, music, crafts and trips
4. An "unplugged", natural environment, platform tents and private Birch Pond

## Who will be the next star?



*John Slattery '77 Bradley Cooper '87*

The drama activity at Netop has been rapidly gaining in popularity. Could it be the work of the spirits of former Netop campers and current Hollywood stars, John Slattery and Bradley Cooper? Or, could it be the unique approach to drama class in which campers can be seen performing assorted acting games around the flag pole while laughter bellows throughout camp? This coming summer, Netop will feature its most impressive drama staff ever assembled, as Ben Walker, Charlie Tabachnick, Sam Silbiger and Deion Desir bring their incredible talents to the Netop stage for what is sure to be a fun-filled, memorable experience for all campers. Who knows, it may even inspire the next star!



*Counselors Deion Desir and Charlie Tabachnick*

## “Pepperonis vs. Sausages”

It's time for **Pizza League!** That's the Netop version of March Madness, where a large number of campers enter a fun camp-wide 3-on-3 basketball tournament. Each team has campers from 3 different age groups. On any given day, you will hear the Pizza League announcement for the scheduled games. Team names include a wide variety of pizza toppings. So, the line-up may include: Anchovies vs. Mushrooms, Extra Cheese vs. Peppers & Onions and Taco vs. Meatballs. Of course, the tournament concludes with a late-night pizza party for all participants!



## Tribal games

Without a doubt, a favorite Netop event each year is tribal competition between the Apaches and the Mohawks. During each session, the tribes compete in various games to earn points. The “field meet” features track events and other games such as the dizzy bat race and baseball toss, while the “water meet” includes swim and boat races. Pictured below is the 10-man canoe relay race, which often ends with at least one flipped canoe before it's over.



## Netop scholarships

Each year, the **Netop Friends Fund** provides financial assistance to deserving families who would otherwise be unable to afford the positive life experience that Netop offers. The program helps attract boys from different backgrounds, which enhances the experience for the entire camp community. Contributions to the scholarship program come from alumni, Netop families and other friends and supporters. Spring marks the beginning of our annual fundraising appeal. We already have commitments to a great group of boys for this summer. Will you consider a tax-deductible gift to help sustain this important program? Thanks for your consideration! Checks may be sent to: *ACA Scholarship/Netop, 1617 Hopegate Drive, Maple Glen, PA 19002.*

### Volunteer Weekend – June 15-17

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 work crew this year!

## Kitchen Expansion Underway

The Netop kitchen is getting a major facelift. Exciting improvements include:

- Large walk-in style cooler/freezer
- New Hobart commercial dishwasher
- Ice-maker and new beverage station
- New food serving window
- High capacity conveyor toaster
- Large outdoor charcoal grill
- New plates, cups, bowls
- Additional food prep equipment

## Alumni Flashback



*A stunning view of the Lodge from an earlier era*



[Like us on Facebook](#)