

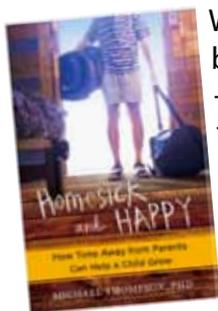
KIPPY GAZETTE



A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

Greetings Kippewa Families!

It's finally that time... the final month before camp! As we are busy preparing for everyone's arrival we know you are busy self-addressing envelopes, collecting addresses, and tackling the packing list, all while trying to finish out the school year. It is a busy time, and an exciting time! This is also that time of the year when camper and parent anxieties may start to surface. Please do not be concerned - this is normal! We are here to help and happy to talk through any concerns you may have.



We also want to recommend an amazing new book that we think all parents - new and returning - will find helpful for preparing your daughter for camp: *Homesick and Happy: How Time Away from Parents Can Help a Child Grow* by Dr. Michael Thompson. The book is informative, easy to read and is extremely re-affirming about your decision to send your daughter to camp - no matter what her level of comfort or nervousness

may be. If parents have any concerns or anxiety about the summer Dr. Thompson will help you feel better and will reinforce the life-long values of sending kids to camp. If you pick up a copy of this book we guarantee you will not be disappointed!

We look forward to seeing all of you in a very short time up in Maine!

Warmly,

Ginger & Steve

P.S. Please make sure you have submitted all of your forms and travel plans!



IMPORTANT DATES

Winter Office Moves to Maine: Friday, May 25

First Session Begins: Saturday, June 23

Two Week Campers Depart: Saturday, July 7

Visiting Day and End of Session 1: Tuesday, July 17

Second Session Begins: Friday, July 20

Two Week Campers Depart: Friday, August 3

Visiting Day and End of Session 2: Monday, August 13

Family Camp Begins: Tuesday, August 14

Family Camp Ends: Tuesday, August 21

WE'VE MOVED TO CAMP!

It's hard to believe it's that time of year again, but we've packed up the office and headed to Maine. As of May 25th, please send all communication to our summer address: 1 Kippewa Drive, Monmouth, ME 04259. We are of course available by phone at 1-800-KIPPEWA or by email. See you at Camp!

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Jackie's Journal

Hello, Kippy Girls!



Every year around this time, as the birds are chirping, and the flowers are blooming, I set my sights on what I wait all year for: moving to camp! With just a few weeks to go until we officially kick off the summer of 2012 I thought it would be helpful for me to share with you what your first day at Kippewa will be like.

Arriving at camp can be a little scary at first. It's a moment of letting go of a place and people you know, and joining a whole new group of people, many of whom you have never met before! But don't worry, everyone around you has been in the same situation at some point. Everyone will be looking forward to welcoming you to camp and to our Kippewa family.

The staff at Kippewa will be so excited to meet you! By the time you arrive, they will have already been at camp for a whole week (and some even longer) in preparation to meet you and plan for your arrival. When you first drive into camp, you will meet your bunk counselors and some of your bunkmates. You'll then head over to The Pillbox (our Health Center) where our wonderful nurses, Debbie, Kathy and Cendie, will do a quick general health check and check your head for lice. After that, together with your bunk counselors and bunkmates, you will head to your bunk to begin unpacking and settle in.

Your bunk will be decorated and we assign beds ahead of time, so you don't need to worry about claiming one or be worried about how you will choose. Once you are settled and unpacked, your counselors will help you make your bed and put your clothes away. The afternoon will be filled with playing get-to-know-you games and tours of camp. Before you know it, you will know Kippy like the back of your hand!

When it comes time for dinner, the whole camp will come together in The Lodge to eat and you will sit with your bunkmates and counselors. Once we all finish eating, you'll get a little glimpse of true Kippy spirit as we all dance and sing in The Lodge (as we do after every meal) to welcome the Summer of 2012!

After dinner, everyone will be introduced to their Camp Sisters. Camp Sisters are in many ways an instant friend, and if it is your first summer at Kippy, you are placed with someone who has been to camp before. They can help teach you about camp traditions, and help make sure that you are loving camp just as much as they are. Together with your camp sister, you will participate in our first evening activity: World Records. Many different activities will be set up around camp, and with your camp sister you will try and set the "World Record" in some pretty silly games!

By the time you head back to your bunk for the night, you will be thinking "Wow! I can't believe how much I did today! I can't imagine how much fun tomorrow will be!" Hopefully you now have an idea of what to expect when you arrive. Most importantly, don't be afraid to ask questions; we are here to help!

I can't wait to see you in MAINE...

Big Hugs,

Jackie

XOXO

MEET OUR AMAZING STAFF!



Steph Harmelin- Head Counselor

2012 will be Steph's fourth summer at Kippewa, and she can't wait to be back in the land of Kippy Cookies and Shout Outs! Steph will be coming to Maine almost directly from

two weeks in Haiti, and fresh out of grad school, with a brand new Master's degree in Social Work (but more importantly, she's been working in camping for 12 years and has spent 25 summers as either a camper or staff member!) For those of you new to Kippewa, you'll recognize this Head Counselor when she's wearing goofy wigs at events or standing across from you at the flagpole. Steph lives in Philadelphia with her dog, Boone, who spends the summers at his own camp in Pennsylvania.

Richard Stegman- Performing Arts Director

This will be summer number five for Richard and if possible, he would like to spend the rest of his life with the lake, the loons, and the great bliss wisdom energy of Camp Kippewa. He has been involved in theatre for most of his life and believes the Kippewa Playhouse to be the finest example of the power of vast imagination combined with pure heart. He resides in New York City where he is a freelance photographer (<http://richardstegman.wordpress.com>), a party planner and a meditation instructor. He has been dreaming of Shady Pines and the Playhouse all winter long and can hardly wait to lead the epic annual Packing Day Water Fight again. He also eagerly awaits meeting Brett, talking science with Aidan, and helping Jackie clean her bunk.



Mike Davis-Tennis Director

Mike is Kippewa's very own King of the Courts where he reigns over our 6 all-weather hard courts. Mike's enthusiasm, love for sports, and friendships with the campers and staff are the reason why Mike is making his 12th trip to Maine from Kingston, Jamaica. He began his camping career just down the street,

at Camp Cobbossee, but when Kippy was looking for a Tennis Director, he knew that was where he needed to be!

A faculty member at The Queens Preparatory School in Kingston, Jamaica, Mike teaches Physical Education as well as Tennis to children ages 6-12 in the winters (well, if you can call it winter

down in sunny Jamaica). He is also a tennis pro offering lessons to adults and children throughout the year. Mike's giant smile and infectious laugh make him a huge part of life at Kippewa! There is no doubt that after taking a tennis lesson with Mike, you will be hooked.

Jocelyn Dowling- Waterfront Director

Jocelyn and her family are very excited to be starting a new chapter in their camping lives by coming to Kippewa this summer. She lives in New Brunswick, Canada with her husband, Luke and their 3 children. Jocelyn has grown up in and around the water whether it be canoeing, kayaking or competitive swimming. She has been a lifeguard and swim instructor since she was 15 years old.



Jocelyn's swimming career brought her to University of Guelph where she competed nationally for 5 years while studying to become a Certified Athletic Therapist. Since then she has been working for the Mount Allison University athletes as their Head Athletic Therapist.

Jocelyn's free time is spent with her very active family (Ethan (age 3), Will (20 months), and Annabelle). They love to be outdoors, camping, hiking, biking or just plain old playing. They have even helped her train for triathlons and half marathons! Luke will be helping out with the kids and assisting Steve with various special events and activities around camp this summer. The whole Dowling family is looking forward to meeting the staff and campers of Kippewa. What better place to spend the summer than the waterfront of Lake Cobbosseecontee!



Alan Clare--Waterski Director

Aidan and Brett's "Poppa", Alan, will be joining us for his fifth season heading up the water ski program at Kippewa. Alan hails from New Zealand where he has been coaching and competing in waterskiing at national and international levels for many years. He won a number of age group national barefoot waterski titles himself but realized later that his real talent was in coaching. He coached Steve (Kippewa director) to two New Zealand national titles before being asked to coach the New Zealand barefoot waterski team, a position he held for 15 years. Upon retiring from that position he returned to coaching children, guiding three young skiers to world championship level. Don't worry, yes he knows the basics too, including waterskiing with one or two skis, and even using a wakeboard!

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MEET OUR AMAZING STAFF!

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Alan believes "if it's not fun it's not worth doing". His infectious "Kiwi" humor means everyone has fun while learning! With his experience and expertise Alan and the other waterski instructors will once again ensure that the Kippewa girls receive the very best waterski coaching available.



Ed Cunningham - Arts Coordinator and Traditions Master

This will be Ed's 47th (yes, really!!) summer at Kippewa. We are thrilled to have him lead us in the many arts & crafts activities that Kippewa has to offer. Ed believes that our campers learn by having fun. Ed loves working with the kids and reports, "we have so much fun together." This certainly is proven true when we see Ed working

with the OCs, organizing the clam bake or in the Woodshop (crowned in 2011 as "Ed's Place"). One event Ed has never seen is our traditional Ice Man ceremony. For some reason Ed can never be found when the Ice Man appears!

Ed (or Coach Cunningham) recently retired from Bridgewater Regional High School where he spent many years coaching the high school football team. As a retired teacher, Ed fills his little spare time by painting. He currently has 20 paintings being shown at a gallery in Massachusetts. We feel so fortunate to have Ed on board for another fantastic season.

Julie Van Maanen - Office Manager

I'm excited to be returning for a second summer at Kippewa, coming all the way from the central coast of California where I live with my husband, two daughters, two sons and the best dog in the world. After many years of teaching middle school English and history, I currently have a very rewarding job as an instructor for adults.



Although I've always enjoyed teaching and had a great time as the Landsports Director last summer, I'm looking forward to my new role as Office Manager, where I will get to use some of my other skills to help things run smoothly at camp. I love meeting all of the unique individuals who make Kippewa such a wonderful place. Both my 10-year old daughter Abby and I are eager to see all of our old friends, and we can't wait to make some new ones as well!



Amy Sherr - Program Director

Amy lives in the Boston area and is about to embark on the tenth summer of her overnight camping career, and her first year as Kippewa's Program Director. She couldn't be more excited to be joining the Kippy family this summer! Having worked in the past as a counselor, Division Head, Performing Arts Director,

and Program Director, Amy has had the opportunity to become familiar with many aspects of camp life and she can't wait to share her passion for camping (and lobster accessories) with Kippewa. Even though she lives "ten months for two" in her heart, Amy finds ways to keep herself busy in the off season by teaching American History as a museum educator and directing 1-7 graders in children's theatre.

Steph Epstein - Trips and Adventure Director

Stephanie Epstein or "Stephie Eps" as we call her at camp, is from Louisville, Kentucky. She is currently finishing her academic career at the University of Louisville College of Business (Go Cards!). 2012 will be her 8th summer at Camp Kippewa and she couldn't be more excited! Stephie Eps has split her time at Kippewa between being a camper and a counselor; she was a camper for 3 years and has been a staff member for 5 years. This summer



Stephanie will serve as our Trips and Adventure Director at camp, which means she will oversee the many wonderful off camp excursions that we offer. This includes Mt. Katahdin, canoeing, hiking and white water rafting trips as well as the overnight Cobbosseecontee Camp Outs.

Stephie Eps loves everything about camp, from the activities to dancing in the lodge, the special events like Color War and Gold Rush, singing camp songs, and going to the campfires. She especially loves meeting all the wonderful people which includes the great campers and their families as well as the incredible and diverse staff. Stephie Eps couldn't be more excited for this summer to begin!



Mary Paige Kowalski - Equestrian Director

Growing up in Cameron, South Carolina, Mary Paige spent every summer going to camp, starting in 2nd grade up through her senior year of high school. Once in college she couldn't just leave summer camp as a thing of her past so she became a camp counselor. This summer will be her 20th summer at camp and her 9th summer running an Equestrian Program

(4th year at Kippewa).

Mary Paige loves Kippewa because it reminds her of what camp was like when she went as a camper: full of life and fun camp excitement within the setting of the beautiful outdoors. Mary Paige had her first pony ride at a zoo in Canada when she was five years

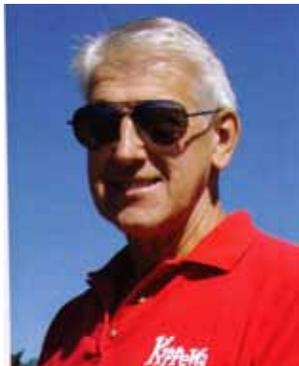
old and was hooked! She rode on the South Carolina Progressive Show Jumpers Circuit showing hunters for a few years and then went off to college. In college she rode on the Clemson University Equestrian team where she was also team president. While at Clemson she studied Equine Business and met her husband, who grew up in Maine. Mary Paige now conveniently lives only 10 miles from Kippewa! Mary Paige and her daughter, Elizabeth, can't wait for another summer at Kippewa; we know Elizabeth is a Kippy girl at heart!

**Jim Saindon--
Equestrian Consultant**

Jim is a Mainer, through and through. He grew up and attended school here earning a BS in education at USM.

Jim enjoyed a career teaching middle school and elementary students, but horses have been a major part of his life since he was 12. Fortunately, he was a neighbor to a very successful rider/trainer/competitor where Jim was mentored over the years. He attended clinics, seeking all the knowledge he could soak up from experts in all aspects of horsemanship. Initially, he trained and competed professionally with Arabian horses, accumulating championships at competitions in eight states and Canada in class A shows, and qualified many horses for national events. His proudest moment was when he owned, trained and exhibited the first State of Maine bred Arabian horse to earn Legion of Merit Award, presented by International Arabian Horse Association (1975).

Jim is now the owner of Skyview Farm, right next to Kippewa! At this time, he is boarding and training sixteen horses and occasionally raising a foal. He previously directed riding for Camp Cobbossee and coordinated the Kippewa Equestrian Program for over 25 years. Jim's favorite part of the Kippewa connection is watching young riders grow with confidence and enthusiasm! Making new friends from all over the world is always great, too!



Debbie Vilardi--Head Nurse

Debbie is not only our RN in residence for the 12th season, but she is a dear friend to all Kippewa families. Debbie works hard taking care of all of us. If we need a hug or are feeling under the weather a quick trip to Debbie in the Pillbox will fix all. Debbie graduated from nursing school in Casanovia College in New York State. When she is not at Kippy watching

the pure enjoyment of life and nature, she is home schooling her children. All 6 children have been home schooled by Debbie and "it has been my pride and joy to work with my kids every day". Joining Debbie in the Pillbox this summer, all the way from Alabama is Kathy Beard-Petrowski RN. Together with our Nurse's Assistant Cendie Carlson, Debbie and Kathy will keep us all happy and healthy this summer.

Sheila Viger-Trip Leader

Our former waterfront director, Sheila will once again be making her way up to Maine before any of our campers arrive to help run our American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification course. Sheila will be training our counselors to be certified lifeguards. With all her years of experience lifeguarding, teaching swimming, and managing aquatics facilities we know that Sheila will be a superb Lifeguard Trainer. Sheila will also be returning to camp to lead our OCs (Oldest Campers) on their trips to Montreal and Quebec City! She can't wait to be singing songs, exploring a new city, and spending time with these fantastic young women. OCs...get ready for an incredible trip!



**Liz Kennedy, Laura Jarman, Margaret Stockard-
Division Heads**

We are thrilled to welcome back Liz, Laura, and Margaret as our 2012 division heads. Liz joined the Kippy family in the summer of 2010, and hasn't looked back. This year, she is excited to be taking on the role of Juniors Division Head, while still pledging her love to the horses and the Equestrian program at Kippewa. Laura joins us for summer #4, after a short break in 2011, she is more excited than ever to return to Maine! After spending much of the last 2 years in Hong Kong, Laura is counting the days until she returns to Kippewa, to hang with the Lower Seniors and teach waterskiing. Last, and certainly not least, Margaret also joins us for her 4th summer at Kippewa. This Upper Senior division head is known for her love of neon, awesome tennis lessons, and a newsletter class that can't be missed! These three experienced counselors are looking forward to seeing familiar faces, and getting to know our new Kippy girls as well.

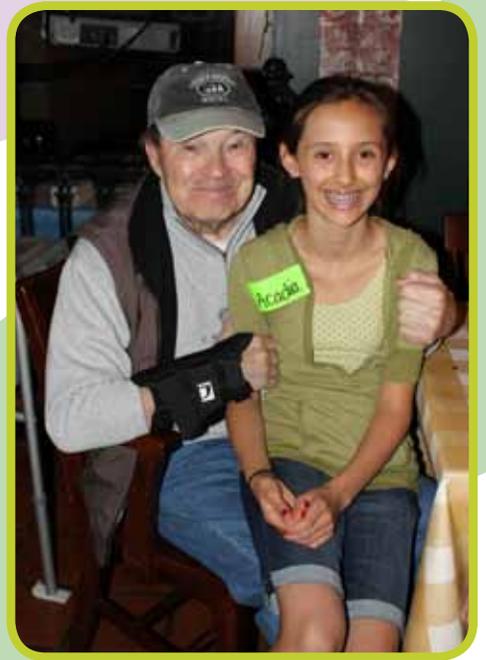
**myKippewa
Reminder**

All Camper Forms were due on May 1st. If you have not yet completed your daughter's forms, please login to your myKippewa account and submit them to us! When filling out your daughter's Travel and Baggage form, please be as detailed as possible. We want to make sure that we know exactly how she will be arriving at camp! If you have any specific details that you need to discuss, please feel free to contact us!

Spring Flings

The first weekend of May new and returning Kippewa girls met up in Massachusetts and New York for our 5th annual "Kippewa Spring Fling". This was a great opportunity for returning campers to reunite, new campers to meet other girls coming to camp and for everyone to get to know some of our staff. The girls participated in some entertaining icebreakers, enjoyed making bracelets in Kippewa colors, ate pizza and talked about the upcoming summer. New friendships were formed, old friends were reunited, and Kippewa girls enjoyed a great introduction to camp and a head start to the summer!







1 Kippewa Drive
Monmouth, ME 04259



Costume and Book Call

Our Kippy Library was a huge success in 2011! We are looking forward to building our already extensive collection, and having more selections for Kippy girls to read each summer. If you have old books hanging around, and would like to see them find a happy new home...think of us! We will happily take them off your hands.

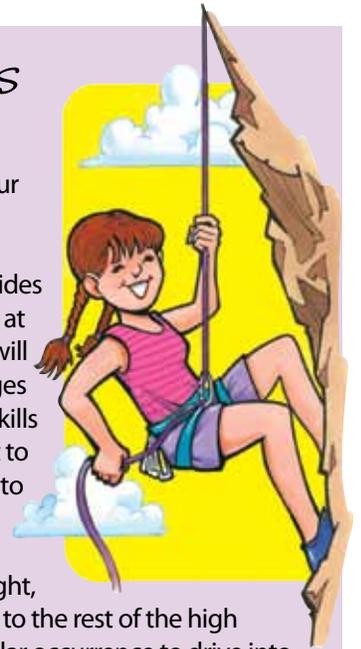
We are always looking for additions to our costume department, we need your help! Before taking that old prom dress to Goodwill or tossing out Grandpa's plaid jacket, please send it to us at camp. We welcome any clothing and/or accessories that you would like to share with our playhouse. Kippy's future thespians appreciate your help!



Program Additions

We have a couple of last minute program additions that we know our Kippy ladies will be excited about!

We have decided to add two new sides to the climbing wall and a platform at the top. The new three-sided wall will have overhangs and other challenges so our climbers can advance their skills all summer long! Once you make it to the top of the wall, you will be able to stop and enjoy the views from the new platform while waiting your turn to cross the highwire. That's right, our climbing wall will now connect to the rest of the high ropes course! It will become a regular occurrence to drive into camp and look up at girls making their way through the trees - 40 feet above the ground!



We are also adding a music program to camp this summer! Kippy girls and staff bring so many amazing talents to camp every year and we will now be offering time and space for expanding on your musical skills. Start thinking now about drumming, singing, playing some string instruments and enjoying the rhythm with your Kippy family. We can't wait to see what campfire performances will look like this summer!