

**TAMAKWA**



**BEAVER  
CUTTINGS**

**2008**

# **An Unforgettable Summer for the Pioneers**

## **By Jenna Kraft**

P-I-O-N double E-R, Pioneers are the best by far! It has been nine summers since I have been a part of the pioneer section and it felt great to be back. This summer was filled with fun and excitement. Although we were a small section both months, it gave us a chance to bond as an entire group. I couldn't have asked for a better group of campers. Thank you for an amazing first summer as Pioneer Section Head! I'd also like to thank my staff who I could not have done it without: Brooke, Sara, Zoe, Haley, Bianca, Jenna, Schneider, Leah, Alex, Hannah R., Grossman, S. Goel, Hodari, Carly, Sammie and Katia. You all made 2008 a summer to remember.

Now the moments that made the summer. One word: food. Both months were filled with an abundance of cooking. From cookies, bread and cakes to sushi and kitchen raids, everyone got a chance to satisfy their cravings and desires. Campfires were also a big hit in the pioneer section; of course they were accompanied by marshmallows. Other classic moments of the summer were the numerous dance parties, spa nights, schrecks and beach parties. Section nights were always a blast and I will never forget running charades first month and our BBQ followed by dodge ball second month. The hockey rink was slightly damp and many of the girls wiped out onto their butts. It was very entertaining to play and watch. Each kid fell with a smile on their face and stood up laughing.

As I sit on the beach watching the girls play in the sand and lake, I realize there are only a few short days left on the shores of South Tea. This summer has flown by and I know the memories will last. I look forward to the future summers at camp because every summer keeps getting better and better. Good luck to everyone at school and I hope you had an incredible summer at camp!

One last thank you goes out to my cabin: Vic, Craig, Candi, Jeff, Dylan, Avigian, Franchi, Grundy and Margot. It was a pleasure being a part of the group.

## **Open Letter to Camp Tamakwa**

Dear Camp,

Although we have spent the past few years apart, I could not be happier to have been together again this summer. From the second I stepped off the pointer you made me feel at home again. You reunited me with the cabins and years of my childhood and with so many of the friends, campers and co-counselors that kept me coming back year after year. You introduced me to life as head staff and let me in on what really goes on in the back dining hall. Thank you for letting me share this new camp experience with my own head staff cabin, one full of the Tamakwans that I have always and will always admire.

And, of course, thank you for letting me hang out with twenty-four of the coolest kids I'll probably ever meet. Beginning with their dazzling performance in the staff show, I knew this summer would be great! But it was when I saw how much they all ate at staff snack that I knew we would get along! The CIT's kept me laughing endlessly, entertained me with their stories, movie quotes and of course, their impressions. While at times they felt like my children, most of the times, I felt blessed to have made dozen new best friends. The CIT's made my job easy and I would gladly spend another two months just sitting around cedar bench square with them.

Camp, as much as I do love you, there are a few issues I must address: I don't really know how I feel about you building the CIT boys cabin in the ballfield. I don't thank you for making land duty such a hard concept for CIT's to comprehend. And I certainly could do without eight tons of new no-name lost and found waiting to torture the CIT's each day.

These little imperfections aside, I couldn't have asked for a better position at camp or a better summer.

Till we meet again,

Tamara Grundland

## **By Dylan Optican: 49er Section Head**

### **I WILL MISS:**

- 15-day tipping at Robbie's
- Finkell's air band dance
- chongalicious
- B-I-N-G-O
- The Wiz and Maude's Illness
- living with Jenna and Grundy
- day of bonding with the first years
- schnuggles in Karlee Goodwin's bed
- 1/2 court with Jenna and Maude
- Manson and Joeley's smelly cat
- Katie Robinson's guitar playing
- return of 13 day x 2 and 15 day x 2
- girls going on 2 long trips
- pepto bismol dance
- senior girl fake break and mascarave
- theme days: princess, spice girls etc.
- counselor switch day
- Drez in a canoe and on a windsurf
- water aerobics
- my incredible staff July and August
- Izzy Goldberg Jussup dancing
- senior girls small and mighty
- Felly's break dancing
- 49er football
- Temagami
- puddle jumping
- America's Next Top Model
- the ladies in Grease
- high kicks with Glick and the JSG's
- grilled cheese
- questions from Lilly Morrison
- obstacle course
- Tess Relle's cake
- watching all the captains
- the girls shine in both The Wiz and Grease

### **I WILL NOT MISS:**

- LICE!!!!

**49er girls...you're gonna love your staff!**

## **Recording 2008: by Andrew Carr**

It sounds like there have been some changes going on at camp this year. Being new here, my activity is one of those changes. This camp is full of talent and I'm glad I have been able to create a place for campers to show it off. There have been some very interesting projects coming out of the recording room. Some sing songs about chicken wings and milkshakes, some tell stories about ninjas fighting dragons. What these projects have in common is that they were conceived and created in a very short amount of time by a diverse group of kids. A few have been taking music lessons for years while others just came in to see how things worked. Things ended up working quite well and I hope everyone who came in to record or just watch had as much fun as I did.

## **Greetings from the fishing dock...**

2008 was a great year for fishing at Camp Tamakwa. The major difference which set apart this year from previous years was the construction of a new fishing barge. Its large surface allowed more campers to fish at one time out of the cramped space and inevitable tangled fishing lines. The barge was also equipped with a safety railing system and storage compartments for lifejackets and other safety equipments. This allowed campers and staff to have a better fishing experience on the water.

It was a pleasure being able to be on a lake with such beautiful scenery. Anyone who has stood at the top of the slope and gazed across the smooth water of South Tea has experienced what I got to feel every morning. I can only hope the campers appreciated the sights and sounds as much as I did. After all, its all for the kids, which leads me to thank all the campers who took part in the fishing program this year. You all showed great patience and skill. I would like to commend Sam Mandel and Max Richeimer on winning the Ron Trunsky Award, which goes to the most prestigious fishermen of the year.

I'd also like to take this moment to thank the staff and CIT's who made this summer special for the campers. Their spirit and charisma helped the campers to devote themselves to the fishing program. I can only hope that 2009 can bring the same joy that we shared this year.

Thank you for the experience,

Tyler Hall, fishing director

## **Right on the Target-Archery News Break**

This year in archery we successfully completed a series of events, such as shooting for awards, distance competition, intercampus, cookouts etc. In our distance competition, Josh Aronson (who planned to stay only one month but that didn't work out) was the winner! We don't know exactly how far he shot (meters/feet\_, but it was FAAAR!

On the other hand, our intercamp teams were made of the following: Genevieve Hurwitz, Dylan Hurwitz, Mitchell August, Brian Colton, Cameron Baller, Jesse Gold, Murphy Flattery, Ari Steinberg, Amanda Glickman and Izzy Meckler. These guys, in their respective categories, beat Manitou in every single competition. How How! Guess that you just can't stop the green machine.

In brief, it was a great year for archery here at Camp Tamakwa. Sorry if you couldn't sign up because it was full, you'll get a chance next year. Remember, you saw it here first.

See ya,

Andrea Rocha, Archery Director

## **DRAMA 2008**

Curtains set, Check, Backdrop in place. Check. Props table in order. Check. Bows in dancer's hair. Check. Make-up on cast. Check. Cast pep talk. Hands in. check. Play introduction. Check, sit down, relax and enjoy the blossoming talent of Tamakwa's finest. Check.

Every two weeks in the drama department, although I go through the same checklist, the outcome is never the same.

Shifting in my seat in preparation for the first number, I nervously cross my fingers. Will they remember their lines? Will the right props go on at the right time? Will it be a success?

But then, like clockwork, as soon as curtains open, I am blown away by the magic the children bring to the stage. A camper, who was afraid to audition, gets a standing ovation as he completes his solo. Another camper gives me chills as she evolves into her role. A dancer I'd never quite noticed dances her heart out in the back row. Before I know it, the cast steps forward for a bow. Cheering my loudest, I run towards the stage and hug my campers. I am so impressed, so proud and I know that it was all worth it.

Britton Esposito

## **Beaver Cuttings - Swim Docks**

The swim docks for 2008 were home to many events and happenings. On a daily basis, every camper in camp undertook swimming lessons from the swim team instructors. Campers swim levels ranged from level 2 (Canadian Red Cross) all the way through Bronze Cross training.

Campers and staff enjoyed the tower jumping, trampoline, lap swimming and playing on the tubes.

Everyday after 5<sup>th</sup> period, general swim would happen, where campers and staff could enter the docks to play, swim or shower. This important part of Tamakwa was patrolled by these special teams- SNAP, CRACKLE & POP!. How How !

The swim docks hosted intercamp swim meets, all day and color war races, waterfront days, the Tamakwa world record evening program and Boathouses' Ipod tunes. Kudos to all swim staff and all lifeguards who let the campers have an enjoyable time in the water.

Sincerely,

Blake Spittle and Jess Little, co-directors

## **ODAA- Beaver Cuttings 2008**

This summer the outdoor fun program took on a few interesting twists, including an updated name. Outdoor Action Adventure had a full schedule this year with one full week of cooking each month plus other treat days, hikes to Drummer Lake and the Tea Lake beaver dam, many excursions into the swamp and the revival of Peace Pipe rock cookouts!

With the entire camp and surrounding area at our disposal, campers soaked up information about nature and the outdoors, learning about what plants and fungi are safe to eat. Campers were able to cook meals from natural materials that they found themselves (or caught fishing). With large numbers of campers signed up almost every week, ODAA definitely created a deliciously action packed adventure for all those who came out!

Outdoor Sara

## **What a summer!**

Everything good must come to an end. But in this case, Tamakwa summers never really do, they just take a winter break! This summer I was the director of something completely new to me. Half court tennis....I know what you're thinking, what is half court tennis? That's exactly what I said, but through such a new experience I met some of the most awesome kids in the world! I was able to be part of a super sweet staff and some pretty stellar tennis events.

Half court events and tournaments kept us busy and crazy chill sessions and inside jokes kept the atmosphere amazing. The summer started off strong with great interest and just took off from there. I would like to thank everyone who was part of such an epic half court experience. The sunny days and though wet silver days half courts finest stayed strong. Intercamp teams kept the Tamakwa name raining proud. Some great athletes stepped foot on the mini size courts or Tamakwa, it was amazing to see huge improvements by some and a progression to being a pro by others.

Many times campers watched in a awe as their Tamakwa role models brought the heat in a crazy set. All in all, the summer was great. Again, I'd like to thank all who came out and made their names, faces and talent known. You have made this summer something to remember. Stay Amazing!

Half court! To legit to quit!

Kaitlin Frap

## **Art 2008**

This has been my first year as arts and crafts director at Camp Tamakwa. I was told before I came that the art room is always a busy place to be and this year has been no exception. The creativity around camp this summer has been brilliant to see, from body painting to sign making, I think every camper has stepped foot in the art room at least once. The sign up for individual choice has also been very popular this year, resulting in lots of different projects, from wax hand casting and mask making to the more traditional camp crafts such as beading and tie-dye. A highlight of the summer for me was my involvement in the color-war, more specifically the mini-color war first month. This involved many late nights' painting a 20ft. mountain and organizing props and costumes for the break. The result was fantastic, Tamakwa truly goes all out on occasions and it was an honor for me to be involved.

I would like to finish by thanking all of my staff and CIT's for their hard work over the summer. And I would also like to thank the kids for getting creative and getting messy, the art room has been an inspiring place to work!

Cassandra Baron

## **Yakers 2008 - by Jason Brady**

It was a great year at the kayak docks. Lots of new kayakers showed up. Even AVK made an appearance. There were lots of rolling sessions, treasure paddles and tours of Tamakwa. This year the kayak 3-day was brought back and with our two new kayaks, 5 brave campers took on the challenge: Hershel Dorman, Jacob Hoeflich, Seth Schostak, ERS and Mason Slavner. Thanks boys for an awesome 3 days. Our tripper Caitlin O'Neil was the perfect fit for this kind of trip. Some new things were brought to the dock this year, the invention of "Dock Ball and Fetch", which the campers loved. Also, the addition of a new paddle rack made life a little easier. Special acknowledgement goes to Mason Slavner who achieved the highest award this summer and to Sophie Schneider who achieved her Yaker 3+ in only a week. How How to you both. Staff this year was also great. Thanks to all: Rachel Schneider, Daniel Gold and our CIT's Tory Auld, Justin Moss and Zach Weinerman. I would especially like to thank my Asst. Director Melissa Gildenberg.

Till Next Time...

## **Landsports 2008**

At some point in 2008 Vince Carter mused, "I think people are going to like my new shoes. I like them. I had a lot of success with the ones last year, but this year's shoe is going to be a little different, but at the same time, it's going to be a little spin-off on last year's shoes"

This year's landsports program was just that. I liked it, I think other people liked it but it was a little different than last year's program. In the summer of 2008 at Camp Tamakwa there existed no activity more widely attended and celebrated than Landsports. If this factoid has off-put you for some reason, I implore you to check yourself before you wreck yourself. This was the summer of an unprecedented, under-16 Northland basketball tournament victory. This was the summer of four intercamp wins against our rival, Camp Manitou. This was the summer of the All-Universe, staff volleyball, the step-back jumper futbol, the beep test and club plat-forum. This was the summer of the 2008 Beijing summer Olympic Games. This was the summer of MO landsports (check the plaque).

I'm not sure if this is my tenth or eleventh summer at Tamakwa but I do know for certain that I have always wanted to hold the title of Landsports director, more specifically MO landsports. It is my strong belief that there is no greater more universal program at camp than landsports. Sure, canoeing and kayaking are great in their own special ways, but how often will you go kayaking after school or watch late night canoeing highlights on ESPN? If you haven't identified this question as rhetorical, the answer is never ever ever... Here at Tamakwa, campers and staff alike has the opportunity to improve their skills in basketball, baseball, soccer, and volleyball at their leisure or through instruction, Either way you cut it, you can't lose. A, because I don't like to lose. B, because I don't lose and C, please see a and b.

I would like to thank my staff- some great people. Thank you Isaac, Klein, Becky, Mudd, Chris, RE 10, Holz, Brick City, Stegmann, and Sara Aronovitz.

Thank you to my CITs: Zoe, Jake, Izzy, Leah, Aliya, Zucker and Jenny.

Thank you to Fenkell, Berman and Smitty

Thank you to Craig and Vic

Thank you to Nike

Thank you to the children

Much love and respect,

#21 Matt Aaron Orenstein

## **Beaver Cuttings- Sail 2008**

2008 is only my second year at camp Tamakwa and I feel honored to have such a coveted position as Sail Director. I truly believe this to be the best job available at camp and I could not imagine working anywhere else should I be lucky enough to return to South Tea in summers to come.

There are several highlights which spring to mind looking back over the last 2 months, the weather not being one of them. For the most part, we were blessed with minimal rainfall; however we were not so blessed with strong winds, with the exception of a handful of days. The all-day surf and sail in first month became an all-day tow, and second month inclement conditions resulted in cancellation to the disappointment of staff and campers alike. Despite this, I do not feel that the weather was at all detrimental to the activity as a whole. I feel like I have been a part of a fantastic activity this summer and the popularity of sailing with the campers is a testament to the that fact. Every activity period of every day we were at capacity and the one period where we managed to get 7 boats out on the water, including the Hobie was a proud moment.

My personal highlights include Rachel Kaufman vs. the water trampoline, Bennett Magy vs. the putt-putt, Harrison "Billy" Slavner managing to capsize a tub just five minutes after I told him it was impossible and of course, the formation of the women's yachting union, or WYU.

There is no doubt that Sail 08 would not have been such a well-oiled machine if it wasn't for an incredible staff. Due to long trips and various other unavoidable commitments we were never all on the docks at the same time and special thanks should go to anyone who helped out during the many short staffed days. The following people have been instrumental in the success of sailing this summer: Alexis Goldenberg, JJ Bittker, Josh Forman, Jamie Bernstein, Jonah R-S, Isaac Lax, Shirah Farber, Jodie Schram, Erica Schecter, Max Smith and Athena Vegh. CIT's: Dolly Meckler, Lee Feldman, Aliya Daniels, Jake Schneider, Jake Moss and Josh Schostak. I cannot thank these people enough.

I hope that both staff and campers have enjoyed sailing as much as I have this summer, it will honestly go down as one of my best ever and this is mainly due to being involved in such a great activity.

Until next time,

Joe Bolton

## **Inline Hockey with Fenkell**

This year at hockey features a wide range of talent from both male and female athletes. Connor Schram and Grace Kellie were the two campers that achieved their awards this year, both individuals worked extremely hard and displayed leadership both on and off the rink. For intercamp this year out 16 and under team first month lost 5-2 but regained its confidence thanks to out captain Chad Schram 2<sup>nd</sup> month and beat Manitou 4-2 in the pouring rain. That win solidified our intercamp victory 2<sup>nd</sup> month as the total games won before heading into hockey was tied at 4-4. Our 12 and under hockey team gave great efforts both months but fell just short in both. Our first month team, led by Connor Schram, ended 8-7 in an epic game in which Connor scored a hat-trick. During second month intercamp, our captain Dean Sallan also scored a hat trick for us. Sadly our squad lost in overtime 7-6. Throughout the summer, many campers signed up for hockey with the intent of increasing their knowledge and skill level. I must admit I am extremely proud of all of those kids who signed up this summer because I definitely saw their skills and abilities increase. Special thanks to Tom Carney, Chris Keating and Josh Moss for helping at the hockey rink this summer. Remember, to all my hockey players: the four characteristics you should follow in order to become successful in any facet of life: commitment, dedication, focus and preparation.

Almost forgot, Matt Orenstein. Words cannot express how important you truly were to the success I was able to achieve this summer at the plat-forum. Thank you for being there for me when I needed you.

The man who can out the puck in the net,

Michael Fenkell

## **From the Canoe Docks**

The canoe docks 08, what a blast! Seventeen voyageur test participants. 6 new A canoeists, 3 courier-de-bois and 4 voyageur paddles were handed out. It was an august of calm waters which perhaps explains the eleven new B canoeists this summer: Josh Aaronson, Assaf Bar-Natan, Jarred Bratley, Sydney Caminetsky, Hershel Dorman, Sarah Glazer, Elliot Glickman, David Kane, David Kaplan, Laura Sachse and Nadav Sprague.

What would the canoe docks be without the amazing staff who helped all of you get your awards? Judd Fischer, master egger to all who attended breakfast cookouts, master of the stop to the voyageur class and good friend and support to the canoe director. Thanks for making the plaque happen. I will miss you Judd and I hope you return to the sunny shores. Ketai- the dock entertainment, a one-man show, and now, voyageur canoeist. Michael Grundland, amazing paddler and phenomenal demonstrator. Josh Freed, the man with the smile, even after his tremendous fall he traveled through camp sporting his wound with a smile. Daniel Berman, a late addition to our docks and camp. It felt like I had won the lottery when I saw him back on the docks. Congrats on you're a! Ivan Adelson, the man with a vision for our plaque-thank you. If you got your beaver or B this summer, you know Ivan. Jenna Gooel, a fantastic addition, she is everyone's friend and her calm, quiet disposition kept our dock functioning well. Elyse Saretsky, "c" canoeist instructor extraordinaire! If you got your "c", chances are you know Elyse. Ben Lewis loved to be in a canoe so much he left for 10 days to see the park with a bunch of rangers. While his stay was short, many "beaver" canoeists can thank him for paddling with them to Treasure Island. Haley Greenspoon was with us for first month and her pleasant disposition and smile was missed second month, Chad Gans was only at the docks a few times but helped when he could. Finally, Rory Diamond, a windsurf guy who helped us when the winds were gone. Thanks Rory!

It has been said many times, but camp would not run smoothly if it were not for the CIT's. Chad Schram, voyageur canoeist, was a huge help with the voyageur class. Justin Moss was the first to help all of you to get an award or to get your canoe out of the water. Zoe Stahl worked with many of you learning to canoe for the first time. Jake Moss led by example getting his A this summer. How How! Jake Schneider's stay was cut short due to canoe trip. His love of canoeing is infectious. Hannah Kowalsky was so helpful and taught many new paddlers. The dynamic duo of Josh Schostak and Ryan Zucker helped

many work towards high awards. Thank you staff and CITS! All of you in your own way made the canoe docks a huge success!

The how how award this summer went to Eric Lyall first month who demonstrated that age and size don't hinder excellent paddling. I am sure we will see more of you in the future. Second month David Kaplan was given the award for his dedication and potential as a voyageur of the future. How How!

This was the year of the Voyageur test, actually the year of 4 voyageur tests. How How to everyone who took the test and those who got awards: Josh Aaronson, Assaf Bar-Natan, Josh Podolsky, Laura Sachse, Anna Aronovitz "a", Daniel Berman "a", Jarred Bratley "a", Sydney Caminetsky "a", Hershel Dorman "a", Stephanie Goel "courier-de-bois", Jacob Hoeflich "courier de bois", Harry Sutton "courier de bois", Katy Dresner "voyageur", Evan Ketai "voyageur", Josh Ketai "voyageur" and last but certainly not least, Ben Sherman "voyageur".

Thank you each and everyone who attended the breakfast cookouts. We had seven this summer. First month it was mostly males who came and second month, the young pioneer girls joined us routinely.

Fabulous dumps there were only a few. Joey Kaplan and Rachel Kaufman were the most memorable as neither saw it coming! Just a reminder, Beaver canoes are very tippy so always stay in the middle and stabilize on the gunwales.

TB girls, Abby, Sophie and Emma, I will miss our paddles together. The Reece's at archery, the tours of pearl harbor and the kayak and swim docks.

Have a great year everyone and thanks to all of you who made 08 my best summer yet!

Stephanie Judd

## **Fitness 2008 - by Mike Etherington**

"Step-up on the bench"  
campers sigh, and then comply;  
I really don't know why it couldn't wait;  
And yet we finish, to a count of eight.  
Now roll, or stretch, or sprawl across the floor.  
To start again; two sets, and then one more!

Side plank right!  
She says, and so we try  
To stretch our left hand fingers to the sky.  
Once right-handed wrists and elbows barely hold,  
We let her lead us on to forward fold.  
Then downward dog or half moon left, a pose  
Which makes me think I'll fall upon my nose

From this day forth, I'll only get more fit  
I turn the console on a I submit  
To tasks that fitness set for me each day  
Until at last I finish up and say:  
"my core is sore!" I slowly stand upright  
to turn the console off and say goodnight!