Director’s Message from Nat Crane:

As most of you know, Camp is located on Lower Beech Pond: beech as in beech tree, not a sandy beach. Lower Beech Pond is part of the Beech River watershed which flows to the Atlantic via the Saco River. The headwaters of the Beech river watershed are at Upper Beech Pond, just a half mile upstream of Lower Beech Pond. Upper Beech Pond is the town of Wolfeboro’s public water supply. Whereas water should flow from Upper Beech Pond to Lower Beech Pond, it seldom does due to Wolfeboro’s water usage.

If left to its natural state, the water level on our Pond would be significantly lower than what we experience in the summertime. The water level on Lower Beech Pond is maintained by a dam at the eastern end of the pond. The reality of the water level, if there were no dam, was clearly evident this past fall when the pond was lowered for the purpose of re-building the dam. Mother Rock was three feet out of the water, and the water’s edge on our shoreline was 20-30 feet further out. In fact, one could walk from our waterfront to Perch Point along the shoreline where fish usually swim.

The re-construction of the dam is complete, and the pond is in the process of re-filling. It will refill slowly during the winter, mainly through natural springs in the pond. It will fill most rapidly through spring run-off, seasonal flow from Upper Beech Pond and April showers. When at ‘full pool,’ it will be higher than the past few years as the pond had been kept 18” lower due to the deteriorating condition of the dam. Suffice it to say, the beautiful waters of Lower Beech Pond will be ready for another amazing summer at William Lawrence Camp!
New and Improved!

We continue to make progress on the basement of the Centennial Lodge with the completion of the Costume Room slated for this spring. This will give us an area to properly store costumes and outfits (such as Woodsman attire), face paints, skit props, and more. The room will be complete with lots of closet space, a mirror, and a sink.

The tubing boat now has a brand new 40 HP outboard on it, giving us the appropriate power and speed needed to pull all ages and sizes of campers.

It Is Never Too Late

The 2017 Annual Fund is off to a great start. The Annual Fund is used to address capital and equipment needs without adversely impacting the operating budget. This year’s total so far stands at over $25,000. All donations, whether $5 or $5,000, are appreciated and needed. It is never too late to support the Camp. To make an online donation, go to wlcamp.org and click on "Tradition" and then "Charitable Giving."

Inside this issue:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inside this issue</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alumni/Family Camp Update</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events Calendar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Password: Community</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goose Dropings</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Things We Could Use</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spotlight: Lucy Hancock</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open House Thank-You’s</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin O’Neill’s Trip of a Lifetime</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp Family News</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Do Something This Spring

Bring A Friend to an Open House at Camp in May!
You might remember from the Fall Knoll News that we are now hosting Camp Kesem in August after our regular camp season has ended. Our experience with the Boston College chapter of Kesem was so successful that other Kesem chapters are seeking to host their Camps at WLC. All things considered, it was decided to host the UVM Chapter during the week that was formerly set aside for Alumni Camp. Although we will not have a formal Alumni Camp, remember that the welcome sign is up and you might want to consider spending a weekend in September or October at Camp. Camp Kesem offers camp experiences for children who are dealing with cancer in the family.

Mark Your Calendars! 2017

May 6  Service Weekend
Come help open up Camp. After a delicious breakfast at 8:30 AM, Nat will divide attendees into work crews. A full lunch will be provided, as well as a hearty dinner. Cabin accommodations are available, and breakfast will also be provided Sunday morning at 8:30 AM, after which all will depart. No Friday meals are served but cabin dwellers are welcome to arrive Friday evening.

Saturdays in May  Open House: 10 AM —3 PM on May 6, 13, 20, and 27
A chance for prospective and new families to talk with the Director, meet some staff and take a guided tour of Camp. Current and former staff are encouraged to attend whenever possible to help lead tours.

June 8—16  Certification School
June 17—24  Staff Training
June 25  CAMP BEGINS!
July 15  Board of Trustees Meeting at Camp
August 12  Camp ends
August 14—19  Camp Kesem, UVM Chapter
August 20—25  Camp Kesem, Chestnut Hill Chapter
Password: Community

William Lawrence Camp is a very special community; you can sense the brotherhood from the very first day of camp. A community becomes stronger and bonds grow deeper when everyone works together toward a common objective. Summer at WLC is replete with common goals and selflessness.

Every day begins by working together to prepare for cabin inspection. Each cabin passes inspection only if campers contribute by cleaning common and personal spaces. A sense of communal pride and accomplishment slowly develops as the young men get to know and rely on each other.

The dining hall is a true community experience. Meals go seamlessly when everyone waits patiently for their turn at the buffet and alternates as a waiter. Bonds strengthen with every traditional song that is sung together at the end of the meal.

Selfless acts are common on the Knoll as experienced campers help newcomers in an activity or sport. Old-timers show the youngest campers “the ropes” on overnight trips. Boys work in tandem paddling against a stiff headwind, learning that they are stronger as a team. Once again the fellowship continues to deepen.

All summer long, relationships strengthen through shared experiences and hardships that eventually develop into lifelong friendships.

As fond memories of Camp drift through your head this spring, think how you can spread a little of the William Lawrence community spirit in your hometown. Someone will truly appreciate your helping hand and selflessness.

Spread the Word!

- “Like” & “Share” Our Official Facebook page and “Friend” Bill Larry on Facebook
- Follow Us on Instagram: @WilliamLawrenceCamp
- Follow Us on Twitter: @wlcamp
- Subscribe to our YouTube Channel
- Post a Review on Yelp
Goose Droppings....

Spring has come early to New Hampshire and we are gearing up for a really great summer on the Knoll. Have you enrolled yet? No? NO? What do you mean, “NO??” Sorry, the coffee is kicking in.

This summer will be a major milestone for both our Director and the Camp. This will be our beloved Director’s 25th summer at William Lawrence Camp, making him the longest running Director WLC has ever had. To be clear, he doesn’t run. I just mean he’s been working there for that long. Nat Crane runs for no man. Lunch, yes; people, no. Heck, I’ve seen him run over my own son for break... you know what, we don’t need to talk about that. Nat has been our trusted superintendent since the early 90s, and his vision and endurance have shaped this camp for the last quarter decade. Speaking as someone who has lived at WLC under three different directors, I have richly enjoyed watching the Camp grow and mature under the Crane Dynasty. Nat is an avid lover of the outdoors and always has been steadfast in making sure that young men get the experience at Camp that they so desperately need and enjoy. And five Super Bowl Rings. Check it... Patriot Super Bowl wins before Nat Crane: 0. Since then: 5.

So, I am hereby officially dubbing this summer: “The Summer of Crane.” We’ll all listen to Led Zeppelin on 8-Track (it lives, Greg Noble), we’ll all eat some beets for lunch. (I won’t, but everyone else will. Those things are gross.) We’ll put on some fluorescent laces that match our shirt, and then we’ll all contort our face to make it look like we’ve stepped on a thumbtack, whenever we try to read something in small print. Congratulations Nat, and here’s to 3 more rings!

-Goose

THINGS WE COULD USE

Some of our important needs for the 2017 season include:

- New Sunfish for sailing $4,500
- Pamper Pole element for High Ropes $2,000
- Warming Oven for Kitchen $2,500
- Commercial Ice Machine $2,000

If you would like to donate any of these items, please contact Nat at (603)569-3698. A special thank-you goes out to Sharon Paul and George Lewis for donating canoes and to John Stephenson for donating a ride-on lawnmower. Your help is greatly appreciated!
Spotlight Profile: Lucy Hancock
A Life of Commitments

There is a certain simplicity to Lucy Hancock’s life story, and if you’d let her, she would summarize everything for you in about 30 seconds with a short list of long-term commitments: married 35 years to Skip, two adult sons Charlie and Will, a career of 34 years at John Hancock (retired in 2012), in Hingham, MA for a lifetime, and nearly a lifetime on Lake Winnipesaukee. Anything else?

Fortunately for us at WLC, there is. For Lucy, 2017 marks her 20th year as a WLC trustee. It’s a big commitment to summer camp by any definition or measure, one that would have been hard to predict given her own one-summer-only experience of summer camp as a girl. It was a Girl Scout camp in Plymouth, MA, and she remembers not liking the experience very much – summers in Wolfeboro were better.

Summers on Lake Winnipesaukee have been a part of her family for pretty much as long as she can remember, first at a cabin in Alton Bay until Lucy was 10 and then later at a more substantial four-season house that her parents would build on an island lot in Wolfeboro with a great view.

Abenaki Water Ski Club connections led to a summer job at Black’s Paper Store for Lucy, and the summers in Wolfeboro continued through four years of college at Middlebury, where she would graduate with a degree in American Studies. With only limited opportunities for water skiing during the school year, Lucy’s Vermont skiing was done on snow at the Middlebury Snow Bowl. At Middlebury, Lucy found other activities to keep busy, trying her hand briefly at broadcasting on the college radio station WRMC, and rising to the position of president of the Student Forum.

Post Middlebury, work would have begun at the New England Telephone Company but for the small matter of a prior commitment to a 7-week backpacking trek through Europe with a high school friend after graduation. Lucy and New England Telephone agreed to disagree on the importance of the trekking commitment, and so after her return from Europe in August she began working on John Sears’ campaign for Massachusetts Secretary of State. After the campaign, she took a job as a systems analyst with John Hancock. It seemed to her like a family place. Indeed, she and Skip would soon meet there as co-workers. Later, after Skip left John Hancock, son Will joined Lucy’s carpool for the ride into Boston to the company day care center; he paid his way by qualifying the carpool for use of the HOV lane on the expressway.

So how did the person with only the briefest personal summer camp experience come to not only be committed to summer camp for her sons but also find herself in short order president of the WLC Board of Trustees? Lucy remembers the new young WLC Camp Director (Nat Crane) as a good salesman. (Now there’s a man who can close a sale.)

(Continued on page 7)
When son Charlie was approaching camper age, Lucy’s father, who as a boy had spent summers at Camp Boycroft on Tuftonboro Neck, encouraged Lucy and Skip to consider summer camp. This led to some camp visits in the Wolfeboro area. Charlie liked the feel of WLC best – Lucy remembers it as “rustic” – and Charlie enrolled for the following summer.

Several years later, so did Will. Between them, the boys would go on to spend 18 summers on the Knoll, with Will finishing as a Bill Larry Man. Looking back, Lucy says simply, “I can’t think of a better place to send your child for the summer.” Well said.

While the boys were logging their years at WLC, so was their mom. Lucy joined the WLC Board of Trustees in 1997, and before long found herself as its president, serving from 1998 to 2001. After completing her term as president, Lucy has continued in her capacity as trustee. More recently, she led the team that planned the Camp’s centennial celebration. Currently, she leads the trustees’ Communications Committee (which brings you the Knoll News).

In addition to her commitment to WLC, Lucy also finds time to serve as the vice-chair of the Hingham Town Advisory Committee, a deliberative body that reviews and makes recommendations for department budgets and Town warrant articles.

Lucy received the Camp’s Owen Carle award in 2012 in recognition of her valued contributions to Camp. Truthfully, the honor is ours. We couldn’t be more pleased that she has included WLC on her carefully selected and nurtured short list of long-term commitments. With only 20 years in at WLC, Lucy may only just be getting started. We at WLC can hope for many more.

**Open House Update and Thank You**

In 2016, we decided to try a new idea for recruiting: enlist alumni and current parents to help us run a series of Open Houses throughout the Northeast during the winter months, when tours of Camp itself are not feasible but parents need to start fleshing out their summer schedules. The events were quite successful – those who came enjoyed not only the chance to meet Director Nat and view the PowerPoint presentation but also to ask questions in person and meet alumni, current campers and their families.

When we reached out to those alumni and camper parents in fall 2016 about doing the events again, they were eager to participate. We were able to have a recruiting committee local to each event to help with hosting and food arrangements as well as publicity to encourage new local families to attend. As a result, this year’s events have been even more successful than the events last year!

We are grateful to everyone who served on these committees, but we would like to particularly thank our event hosts. We once again began with an Open House at the Advent School in Cambridge, MA, in November, hosted by Chris Summersgill and Jon & Seana Crellin. In January, we had an event in Hingham, MA, hosted by Marcy Lamlein, one in Marshfield, MA, hosted by Betsy Roguet, and one in Glen Rock/Ridgewood, NJ, hosted by Brian & Deirdre Moore. After the delay of everything for February’s snowy weather, we had another event in early March in Wellesley, MA, hosted by Stacy Braatz and Ike Fortini.

A big thank-you also goes out to Bill Larry Men Ben Marston and Kevin O’Neill. These recent staff members provided key help with the mechanics of the presentations as well as providing a counselor component to the parents’ meet-and-greet experiences.

We can always use more advocates for Camp! Let us know if you would like to become involved in this important activity.
Camp Skills Make a Difference in Trip of a Lifetime

By Kevin O’Neill

This past fall I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to participate in a three-month long course with the National Outdoor Leadership School in Chilean Patagonia. At the end of September I flew down to Coyhaique, a small city in southern Chile where the NOLS basecamp is located, and met fifteen other college-aged students who would join me on the trip. The bulk of the course was separated into two sections – a mountaineering section and a sea-kayaking section. While I wasn’t joined on this trip by any friends from WLC, most of the people who were with me had the kind of adventurous spirit that would fit right in on the Knoll.

During the sea-kayaking section we spent over a month traveling close to 175 nautical miles through the island chains off the coast of southern Chile, during which we didn’t set foot on the mainland one time. The wildlife that we saw during the sea kayaking section was absolutely spectacular. Not only were we lucky enough to see several different species of dolphins, but we also had a small pod of blue whales surface about 80 yards off the shore of one of our beach campsites. The weather in Patagonia is famously temperamental, so there were plenty of days that we couldn’t move because the ocean conditions were too dangerous. During those days my companions and I had to spend hours huddled underneath tarps trying to keep our clothes and equipment dry; it was way less fun than those days when it rains at camp and we have activities outside anyway, but keeping our stuff dry was important for staying warm during the cold nights.

For the mountaineering section we broke up our time into three twelve-day ration periods that took us through some of the most isolated and remote terrain in the world. To get to the starting point we had a six-hour drive south of Coyhaique to the shore of Lago General Carrera where we started our route by climbing up into Cordon Las Parvas. This was no overnight trip through a national forest. There were absolutely no trails and we had to find our own routes by navigating using thirty-year old maps that weren’t always accurate. We traveled in rope teams on glaciers, pushed our way through kilometers of waist-deep snow, and sometimes spent hours bushwhacking through thorny caliphate bushes to make only a few hundred meters of progress. The weather conditions were likewise extreme; between the driving winds and the frequent rain, it felt like we were in a constant battle with the elements. Sometimes when we stopped hiking for the day it would take hours to set up camp because we had to build 6ft tall snow walls to block wind before we could set up the tents. Because the terrain was so extreme, and much of it was glaciated, there were times when we’d plan a route only to find that it was totally inaccessible. In fact, at the end of the second ration period we had to take a two-day detour because our route out of the mountains, which looked fine on the map, was impassible. We ran out of food for two days! While we were up in the mountains we also saw a few Andean Condors, which are the biggest birds in the world.

By the time I finished up the course I felt like I had been away from civilization for years. It felt a lot like coming home from Camp at the end of the summer – getting used to screens again and trying to catch up on all the current events that I had missed! Even though I learned a lot during the trip, I also felt like a lot of the skills that were being taught, skills centered around surviving in the outdoors, were skills that I had already been exposed to at Camp. Without my Camp experience, who knows if I would have been able to make it through the whole three months!

Pictures on page 9
Me pouring myself some coffee during a quick break

Me waiting for water to boil under the tarp

Rope teams traveling across the top of a glacier

Taking a break on rope on a glacier (I'm on the far left)

Kayaking on a calm day

Tents under the stars in the southern hemisphere
In 1982, Bob and Carol Russell started the Westport Rivers Vineyard and Winery in Westport, MA. That same year, their son Bill was on staff at Bill Larry, after being a camper since 1978. The first vines were planted in 1986, and Bill joined the family business in 1989, where he serves today as the vintner. This past fall, the Winery sponsored a half-marathon. Alum Peter Cleary (1978 – 1986) participated in the event and placed third!

Past WLC Director Jon Haycock has continued to support Camp throughout the years and was instrumental in researching and producing the chapter on the early years of WLC for the Centennial Book. Jon’s children Ella and James went with him on many of those research adventures and have been attending Alumni Camp with Jon the last few years. Ella is now almost 14 and in the 8th grade, while James is almost 10 and in the 4th grade. We look forward to having James as a first-year camper this summer!

We recently learned from WLC parent/grandparent Margaret Johnson Heuss that we should have quite an exciting WLC/FDL rifle match in the near future. Both grandsons, Alexander Lawrence Roguet and Gabriel Alden Johnson, will be campers at WLC while her granddaughters, Margot Roguet and Greta Johnson, are attending Fleur de Lis. If the fierce competition between parents Betsy Johnson Roguet and Ken Johnson at the Centennial WLC/FDL rifle match is any indication, she is quite right!

Matt Kellick (camper ’98-’04, staff ’05) is currently engaged to be married to Jordana Weisman during Memorial Day Weekend in 2018. At this time, Matt is working as a paramedic firefighter in Hamden, CT.
Alum Bill Coutts wrote to us recently that his father, Ted Coutts, had passed away on July 6th, 2016. Ted was a Trustee during the 1970’s and recipient of the 1986 Owen M Carle award for his years of service to the Camp. Ted often made weekend trips to Camp from Brockton, MA, in order to apply his skills as an electrical contractor to improving the Camp’s wiring and lighting. These trips also allowed him to visit his sons, Dave and Bill, as well as his grandson, Mike, who all attended William Lawrence. The 3-generation photo of Bill, Mike and Ted was taken in 1993 in front of Bishop Lawrence cabin.

Steve Cox is an alumnus from the 1960’s who spent a lot of time at the Rifle Range and won the Bent medal one year. Director Nat had gotten to know Steve and his wife Barbara when they sent their son Nathan to WLC from 1995 through 1998.

Steve wrote to us recently that he had lost Barbara to brain cancer a few years ago. He was very pleased to hear that we had hosted a chapter of Camp Kesem last August and will be hosting two chapters in 2017, as these camps are specifically for children who have had to deal with cancer in the family. From the Cox family’s experiences dealing with both Barbara and Steve being diagnosed with brain tumors within a two-year period, Steve has written a book entitled If You Love Me, Take Me Now, which is currently available in paperback from Amazon for $14.99.

Steve reports that Nathan is now married with three children. He is making the Air Force a career and anticipates moving the family to Germany for a few years. Nathan works on fighter aircraft and was awarded airman-of-the-year in his first year in the Air Force. Dad Steve hopes that Nathan’s two sons will join the WLC family when they are old enough.

Our Annual Camp Reunion was held this year on January 6th. Our usual venue, the Burr School in Newton, MA, was unavailable so the event took place at the John D. Hardy School in Wellesley, MA. About 75 people came to enjoy pizza and cake, door prizes, basketball, Goose’s summer video, and just chatting with Camp friends.
Do Something This Summer - Bring a Friend to Camp!