



Mooseletter

April 2016



Memories last a lifetime...

Activity Sign-Up Info Coming Soon!

It's hard to believe that it's already April– which means we'll all be at camp in a few short months! You and your parents will soon begin receiving lots of information to help prepare for the coming summer. Early next month your parents will receive an email about activity sign-ups for the first week of camp. This email will include a lot of information about the various activities planned as well as how to complete the online sign-up through their Fernwood Cove Parent Account. You'll also be able to let us know if you're interested in auditioning for the Theater or Dance productions, participating on an inter-camp sports team, where you want to go on Trip Days, and so much more. Please remind your parents to check their emails in the early weeks of May so that you can begin reviewing the information and choosing your activities for your first week of camp. If you or your parents have any questions about activities or sign-ups please contact Alicia!

Fernwood Cove 2016: The Year of the Dog

We love all of our camp dogs and we're excited to announce new additions to the Fernwood Cove puppy crew! Caroline and Rich got a new dog, Bradley in February. The Gill family has been all about puppies lately– Perrin got a new beagle puppy, Violet, in early March and Bella had puppies in late March. Sylvie gets to keep one of Bella's puppies too! There are pictures below of all of our four-legged friends!



Bradley is a big boy!

Bella and her new pups!



Perrin & his puppy Violet!

RELATIONSHIPS GROW AT CAMP

When we ask campers, CITs and staff why they return to camp summer after summer two of the most popular responses are “my friends” or “the people”. Anyone who has attended camp will likely tell you that it's a place like no other. You get to know people on such a deeper level. This is a natural aspect of a close-knit community– and one of the greatest parts of Fernwood Cove– but it doesn't happen on its own.

Our Director, Jim, will often challenge the camp community to go out of their way to meet someone new throughout the day. We are always playing get-to-know-you activities at the beginning of camp or at the beginning of an activity week. Relationships are formed in bunks, on Trip Days, during Evening Programs...even hanging out at the Fruit Table between Focuses.

It's amazing how many friends you'll leave camp with– but you don't have to wait until camp begins to start making them! There are quite a few ways to get to know fellow campers and CITs before the summer begins:

- This edition of the Mooseletter has the contact information for all new campers who are enrolled thus far. Reach out to them– write letters, meet up with girls that live nearby– and start getting to know each other now!
- Cove Sister pairings will be announced soon! Make sure to reach out to your Cove Sister early and often! Discuss camp, ask questions if you're new, share your favorite camp memories, and find out more about your new camp friend!
- Your parents will soon receive two camper lists– one of campers who live in your area and one of campers in your grade. Connect with girls who live nearby or are in your age group! Organize a time to meet up at a local ice cream shop, or set aside some time to Skype or Facetime!

With so many ways to connect before camp everyone should have lots of new friends before the summer begins! We can't wait to hear about your pre-summer adventures and all of those amazing relationships you've started growing!



Earth Day:
April 22, 2016

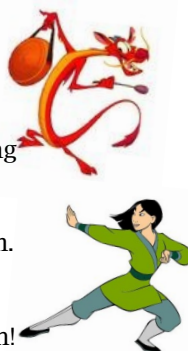


One of Fernwood Cove's founding values is “Respect for the Outdoors”. There's no better time to incorporate this value into our everyday lives than Earth Day! There are a variety of things that you can do to help our natural environment– check out the image below for some fun ideas! This summer we will be transitioning our Nature program to focus more about stewardship and environmental awareness. Get ready to learn how to have a positive impact on the world– including the natural world! What are you going to do on Earth Day!?!?!?



2016 THEATER PRODUCTION

We are very excited to announce this summer's Musical Theater Production: *Mulan*! Returning counselors, Ally & Leah, are already busily planning and preparing for an amazing production. Campers of all ages can audition to be a part of the cast- auditions take place on the first full day of camp. Campers who aren't interested in being on stage but want to be a part of the production are invited to join the stage crew and set design team. We hope that campers of all ages and abilities will be involved with this summer's production! Look for more information about auditions and how to sign-up for the stage crew or set design team in the upcoming activity sign-up information coming next month!



An Extraordinary Summer...Start Preparing Now!

It's hard to believe that in just a few short weeks we'll be welcoming staff to camp, not long after that CITs and campers will arrive! The weeks between now and arrival day are going to fly by, so it's best to start preparing for camp now! It's amazing what we can pack into three and a half weeks of camp- it is going to be an adventure full of new activities, friends, new places, gaining new skills and making tons of memories. It's only natural to be a bit nervous about the amazing adventure ahead. Whether you're a new camper or you're a seasoned Fernwood Cove girl, it's perfectly okay to be nervous, anxious, and excited all at the same time. Here are some pointers to help you prepare for an amazing summer, whether it's summer #1 or summer #8!

- Homesickness isn't a bad thing- it's not even a sickness! Homesickness is a crazy word that means you miss your family and home. Everyone misses friends and family at some point, whether they show it or not. It's certainly not a bad thing- it simply means you come from a loving and caring home, which is quite amazing. If you find yourself missing home there are always people to talk to- CITs, bunk counselors, the directors- who will help you develop ways to not get "homesick" and help you get back into all the amazing things happening at camp.
- Help your parents pack your bags! This may sound silly- but by helping them with this huge task you'll not only be helpful (which is very extraordinary), you'll also know what you're bringing to camp, and you'll know where it is! This will help when it comes to unpacking at camp- you'll know what you have, where it is, and won't have to stress about what may or may not be at the bottom of your duffle.
- Before you pack all your belongings make sure everything is labeled! Use adhesive labels (like Mabel's Labels) on clothes, shoes, water bottles...everything. These labels will ensure that everything has your name on it...which means it will be returned to you if you lose it during camp!
- Contact new campers, your Cove Sister, girls in your hometown and start making friends now!

FERNWOOD COVE WEDDING BLISS!



We are very excited to announce the marriage of Assistant Director, Caroline, to longtime staff member, Rich! The two were wed on February 14 in the Chick at camp!

Fernwood Cove Day of Service

This summer we are focusing on the development of community, both within and outside of camp. One aspect of a community is giving back. This not only allows us to help those in need and to show appreciation towards those who have helped us grow and thrive, it's also a way to gain appreciation for what we have in our daily lives at camp. We are excited to introduce the Fernwood Cove Day of Service where campers, CITs, and staff will be completing community service both at camp and with nearby community organizations. You will find out more about the opportunities available in the activity sign-up mailing that's coming out soon! We look forward to seeing each member of the Fernwood Cove community giving back and helping make the world a little more extraordinary!



Last summer Fernwood Cove began a golf program, partnering with The First Tee, a golf and youth development organization. This year we look to continue to strengthen this program by offering regular golf focuses during the activity week. Additional Trip Day opportunities to play at nearby golf courses will also be available. Focuses are instructed by trained First Tee coaches and Trip Day activities will be lead by professional golf instructors throughout Maine! See you on the green!

Spring has FINALLY sprung and summer is right around the corner! The phones are ringing with new and returning campers buzzing with questions and excitement. We LOVE this time of year at camp.

I am pulling back out my Navy and White's, okay let's be honest, I've been wearing them all winter! The lake has thawed and the bunks are being painted. The zip line will soon be in and our first staff arrive in a month!

How are you gearing up for camp? If you haven't been to the new website, this will definitely get you excited for camp! The interactive map and virtual tour will help any new camper know what to expect and reignite any returning campers' excitement to get back on the lake, in the theater or on the soccer field.

I look forward to welcoming you all home, on arrival day, as you get off the bus or out of the van. Camp is coming, and I for one, cannot wait!

Caroline