Facing forward, welcoming the future
MEET THE CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE!

This fall, we’re asking you to step up in honor of Chewonki’s 100-year history. Our trustees have committed $100,000 of increased giving of their own on the condition that YOU contribute $100,000 in new and increased giving by December 31.

- If you’ve never donated to the Chewonki Annual Fund, give by December 31.
- If you gave last year, give an increased gift by December 31.

You can make it happen! Thank you for all the ways you support Chewonki.

Are you ready to step up? $100,000 for Chewonki’s 100th!
Together, 41 new semester students, nearly 80 staff members, former Executive Director Tim Ellis, and former President Don Hudson gathered on September 8 in a wide circle on the lawn between the barn and the Center for Environmental Education to honor the ceremonial planting of the Centennial Tree, a white oak. The tree planting officially launched us into Chewonki’s centennial year.

Just as the white pine at Campfire Circle was the sentinel tree of Chewonki for much of our first century, I expect this white oak to become a symbol of Chewonki through our second and well into our third century. Its roots will gather nutrients from the past as the trunk grows strong and the branches reach to new heights in the future. I shared these thoughts that morning, we sang together as a community, and then Tim, Don, and I recited “Salutation to the Dawn” in parts, concluding in unison, “Look well, therefore, to this day.”

(The three of us represent 49 years of Chewonki leadership. Clarence Allen still has us beat with 51 years of his own as founding camp director.) Afterwards, everyone had the opportunity to write a hope for Chewonki’s second century on tags we hung on the tree, where they fluttered in the breeze like prayer flags as we went about our day.

We have planned a full centennial year of celebration and ceremony so that as many of you as possible can have your metaphorical tree-planting moment. Nearly 600 people have already attended Chewonki events in Maine, Massachusetts, and New York. All of you will soon have the opportunity to see our centennial book, Chewonki: 100 Years of Learning Outdoors, 256 pages of full-color images and remarkable stories written by 82 alumni and friends reflecting on their Chewonki experience and its impact on their lives. (Reading the book is in itself a Chewonki experience!) In late winter and spring you will have the opportunity to attend more regional events around the country, leading up to Centennial Weekend on Chewonki Neck, August 14-16, 2015.

Meanwhile, staff, trustees, and advisors are carefully considering next steps for Chewonki programs. We are building on the strengths of summer programs, the semester, and public programs and exploring new directions in education to ensure a vibrant and sustainable Chewonki.

Concurrently, we have hired a professional team to create a master plan for campus renewal. This plan will preserve the best of our past while also solving some real challenges of the present and supporting our efforts to reach goals for the future.

Thousands of alumni and friends will have connected and reconnected with Chewonki through events, volunteering, correspondence, and donations by the end of 2015. Each and every engagement furthers our mission and propels us forward. Please join us! We love to hear your Chewonki stories and your ideas for the days and years that lie ahead, and we hope you’ll also share your enthusiasm with someone new to Chewonki. You can write to us at alumni@chewonki.org or find me at one of the centennial gatherings. I welcome your continuing loyalty and involvement!

With thanks and warmest regards,

Willard Morgan
President
News from the Neck

Camper Francis Barth wins Master Naturalist award

After pursuing his goal for three consecutive summers, Francis Barth (BC ’10-’14) is now the third camper to earn the Master Naturalist certificate. Francis follows on the heels of Sam Sullivan (BC ’09-’14), who received the distinction in 2013, and Griffin Gingrich (BC ’07-’14), who earned it in 2010. In addition to having his name engraved on a plaque displayed permanently in the Chewonki Nature Museum, Francis took home a certificate, a book, and a hand lens to further his adventures in natural history. “To become a Chewonki Master Naturalist is no mean feat,” says “Doc Fred” Cichocki, director of the camp nature program. “It requires keeping a nature journal and possessing considerable knowledge in 12 areas of Maine natural history ranging through marine science, all major groups of plants, animals, and fungi, plus geology and ecology. I’m very proud of Francis and our other two Master Naturalists.” Doc Fred notes that achieving this level of expertise requires a young person to have not only interest and enthusiasm but also commitment and perseverance. “There is an old Japanese proverb that applies here,” he says. “‘Once begun, follow through.’ Good advice for life beyond camp, as well. Francis followed through.”

Teens To Trails sends student on Chewonki wilderness trip

Each year, Teens To Trails (T3), a nonprofit organization based in Brunswick, Maine, gives a special award, Sara’s Scholarship, to a local student who wants to go on a Chewonki wilderness trip. Teens To Trails primarily supports high school outing clubs, getting young people outside to enjoy and learn in the natural world. “T3 does fantastic work,” says Emma Carlson, program director of Summer Wilderness Trips and Adventures of Girls. “Chewonki is always honored to welcome a recipient of Sara’s Scholarship.”

This year, Colleen Hendricks, a junior at Wiscasset High School with an interest in science, spent three weeks paddling and camping along the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, a sequence of rivers, lakes, ponds, and streams that comprise this famous segment of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Colleen, nine other girls, and two leaders lived close to the water, land, sky, and each other, developing their wilderness skills and learning about a part of Maine that has a fascinating natural and human history.

Sara’s Scholarship honors Sara Leone, an outstanding Wiscasset High School student, athlete, and outdoor enthusiast who died in a car accident at age 15. Sara’s sister, Lindsay Leone, was a member of MCS 30. Their parents, Carol and Bob Leone, started Teens To Trails in 2006 in response to the tragedy and since then have made it possible for about 4,500 young people to enjoy outdoor experiences all over Maine.

Make way for our Ducklings!

All summer long, as campers and counselors and trip paddlers and leaders come and go, Vicky Hughes is leading Ducklings. Ducklings is the day camp for young children of Chewonki staff members. “I had a wonderful childhood,” says Vicky. “I want to recreate that for other children.” During the school year, she teaches at the Sheepscot Valley Children’s House, a small independent school in Wiscasset.

For the past four summers, she has shared her skills and her beguiling way of looking at the world with Chewonki. Vicky loves the opportunity Chewonki provides to spend lots of time outside. “In nature, there’s always more to find,” she says. “Nothing’s old.” A routine walk to Blueberry Hill turned into something else when she and the children noticed a mushroom pushing up a roof of moss. When she saw a heavy layer of pollen on the farm pond one day, she had the children make prints by laying paper over the pollen and then carefully lifting. Learning about spiders inspired her group to hunt for different types of webs and then create a string trap to ensnare passers-by (that’s what spiders do, right?). The bait was a sandwich. A couple of counselors fell for it.

With an art show, a theatrical presentation of Snow White, and many muddy boots behind her, Vicky left us looking forward to next summer’s Ducklings.
Boys Camp celebrates 100th summer

Alumni, friends, and staff honored the 100th summer of Chewonki Camp for Boys on August 16 with a community swim, dinner en plein air on the Quad, and a rollicking Campfire. Representatives of every decade from the 1930s to the present helped light the blaze, then everyone sat back to enjoy a typically eclectic evening of entertainment under the pines. Among memorable performances: Tim Ellis’s recitation of “Aunt Shaw’s Pet Jug,” a Chewonki classic he learned from his parents; and a reading by Carob Arnold (BC ’86,’87,’90; BC staff ’98,’00,’08,’09; facilities manager ’10) of “Ballad of the Night Charlie Tended Weir,” with lighting by Ben Arnold, age 6. Carob learned the ballad aboard the schooner Mary Day, whose skipper, Barry King (BC staff ’83; Mariner leader ’84,’85), learned it here from Tim. Ted Haffenreffer (BC ’56–’59) shared eloquent reminiscences of his camp experiences and what they still mean to him, bringing everyone’s heart to the center of the Campfire Circle.
**News from the Neck**

**What goes around, comes around**

One special part of Chewonki’s Mistassini Canoe Trip back in the 1980s was Alfred Matoush, the Cree guide who helped lead the expeditions. Matoush, who died in 2004, was born in the bush almost 300 miles north of the northern end of Mistassini Lake in the Nord-du-Quebec region of the Labrador Peninsula. He spent his life in this remote territory, which his family knew intimately. Greg Shute, director of outdoor programs, led two of the Mistassini trips with Matoush. “He was fantastic,” says Greg, “a great natural teacher. He knew it all: weather, wildlife, plants, paddles, canoes, navigation, all the trails and water routes. He was a remarkable person whom I still think of often.”

So Greg was pleased to get an email out of the blue from Matoush’s granddaughter Mary Brien asking if he had any photos of her grandfather. “He was my only grandfather and I still miss my visits,” she wrote. “[He] was a great storyteller and he taught a lot of people how to make snowshoes.” Greg responded with photos and reminiscences; it felt good to return to this family some of the goodwill that Alfred Matoush had extended to Chewonki.

Brien did not make clear exactly what she’d do with the information Greg provided but wrote that she will use it “for teaching purposes.” Greg wasn’t surprised.

**Restored Nature Trail ready for action**

Nobody knows how many feet have trekked the Nature Trail since 1915 but they left their mark on this beloved byway, which carries people from campus into the woods by Campfire Circle and then splits into a web of smaller trails. “It was suffering,” says Facilities Manager Carob Arnold. “Roots and rocks had emerged as soil washed away and the remaining ground had become so compacted that rainwater didn’t drain well. At certain times of the year it got very, very muddy.”

As the first part of a comprehensive trail restoration plan, Chewonki hired Dale Wright of Chester Wright Excavating to restore the first 2,000 feet of the Nature Trail. In October, Wright put down a base of screened gravel and stone to restore the original grade of the trail. He then covered it with a filter fabric. Over the fabric went a thick layer of humus mulch that will put a spring in everybody’s step and prevent further erosion. “It looks terrific,” says Carob. “It’s a lot safer for our participants and staff. Anyone who accesses the woods along the restored trail can focus on being in the woods rather than watching every step they take.”

**Chewonki offers two new Leadership Expeditions for 2015**

Chewonki will offer two new Leadership Expeditions next summer for advanced Wilderness Trips and Adventures for Girls alumni. “Both expeditions will take you to remote and unforgettable landscapes,” says Greg Shute, director of outdoor programs. The **George River Expedition** is a five-week canoe trip in Northern Quebec, while the **Subarctic Expedition** is three weeks of backpacking in the Chic Choc Mountains of Quebec’s Gaspé Peninsula and the Torngat Mountains of Labrador. Emma Carlson, program director of Summer Wilderness Trips and Adventures for Girls, calls the trips “unique opportunities for young men and women with a true interest in wilderness and outdoor leadership.” Please contact us soon if you are interested. To find out more, visit Chewonki’s website or email or call Emma at 207/882-7323 or ecarlson@chewonki.org.
Centennial sculpture arrives on the Quad

Sculptor Miles Chapin (BC ‘97-’01; Umbagog ’02, Mistassini ’03, Northeast Rivers ’04) was at Chewonki on July 24 to install one of his works of art. The abstract stone sculpture, “Cultivate,” is the gift of Miles’s grandmother, Jane Chapin, who was an academic tutor at Chewonki when Clarence Allen was the camp director. “Cultivate” now cultivates conversation in the garden area outside the northwest corner of the Farm House, defining that space in a new way.

A small group of campers and staff stood transfixed as Miles patiently placed the granite sculpture, which was hanging from a chain attached to Facilities Manager Carob Arnold’s bucket loader, into position. Camper Walt Ainsworth of Binnacle cabin strummed his ukulele as he watched, relieving the tension. With “Cultivate” in place, Miles surprised the young audience by telling them he’d once been a Chewonki camper and wilderness tripper, too.

Miles, who is a graduate of College of the Atlantic and lives with his wife and two small children in Putney, Vt., has a passion for stone. He sculpted “Cultivate” from a half-buried boulder he came across at the Chewonki farm. The boulder turned out to be Oak Island gneiss, a particular type of granite found only in midcoast Maine and mostly on Chewonki Neck and Oak Island. Miles pointed out the striations that farm equipment had left on one face of the boulder long ago; he likes that visual connection between a farmer’s labors on this land in an earlier time and all the activities happening at Chewonki today.

After the installation, Miles set off for the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, where he was installing a much larger sculpture for a summer exhibition. Then he was heading to the Schoodic International Sculpture Symposium in Prospect Harbor. He was one of seven artists from around the world chosen to spend the summer there creating sculptures from local granite, which were then installed in towns around down east Maine.

Students, faculty, and staff now enjoy his work right on the Quad every day.

Warm welcome to new Semester School faculty

Three new members of the Semester School “family” are now feeling right at home. Adrianna Beaudette brought a wealth of outdoor experience along with mathematical expertise to her role as a teaching fellow in math. She is a graduate of the Science and Engineering Magnet High School in Dallas, Tex., and College of the Atlantic. She’s studied birds in Bolivia, taught outdoor education at a Montessori school in Washington, D.C., and earned her certification as a SpiritHorse International instructor, connecting disabled children with horses. Adrianna has a strong interest in policy issues related to women and girls.

Morgan Curtis is the new teaching fellow in sustainability. She teaches sustainability strategies, technologies, and issues in both the sustainability and the environmental issues classes. She also works hand-on with students doing sustainability projects. Morgan grew up in England and attended St. Paul’s Girls’ School in London before coming to Dartmouth College, where she focused on engineering and environmental studies. She also mentored Dartmouth’s freshman sustainability leaders, led outdoor activity days for local, disadvantaged middle and high school students, and helped the Dartmouth Equestrian Team win the Ivy League championship last spring.

Kristy Thurrell (yes, she’s the sister of former staff member Caitlin Thurrell) is the new U.S. history teacher. She arrived from the Solebury School in New Hope, Penn., where she not only taught but also designed a history curriculum, helped lead the school’s diversity initiatives, and was head coach of the varsity field hockey and softball teams. Kristy is a graduate of Hamilton College and Holderness School and spent a year studying at St. Bees School in England. Welcome, Adrianna, Morgan, and Kristy!
In its third grant to the initiative, the Elmina B. Sewall Foundation in June awarded $225,000 to Environmental Living and Learning for Maine Students: the ELLMS Project, a collaboration among Chewonki and four other Maine environmental education organizations. Chewonki made the grant proposal to the Sewall Foundation on behalf of ELLMS, which also includes The Ecology School at Ferry Beach (in Saco), the University of Maine 4-H Camp and Learning Center at Bryant Pond, the University of Maine 4-H Camp and Learning Center at Tanglewood (in Lincolnville), and the Schoodic Institute in Acadia National Park. The group created ELLMS in 2011 to raise financial aid funds for Maine public schools wanting to provide upper-elementary and middle school students with immersive, residential environmental education. ELLMS provides funding on a first-come/first-served basis and on a sliding scale correlated to the percentage of students eligible for the National School Lunch Program in the applicant school.

The Sewall Foundation has been highly influential in the success of the project, contributing $125,000 to ELLMS in 2011 and $250,000 in 2012, as well as this year’s grant. “They have made a very important commitment to Maine public school children, particularly underserved children,” says Chewonki President Willard Morgan. “We are grateful for the foundation’s faith in our ability to make a difference at a time when many students are facing big challenges. ELLMS gives them the chance to discover a new way of relating to the natural world, their schools and communities, and themselves.”

As the recession was devastating many families, municipalities, and public school budgets, ELLMS leaders recognized that Maine public school students were losing opportunities to access hands-on learning about the environment. After three and a half years, ELLMS has raised $983,530 and allocated financial aid to more than 60 schools across Maine, bringing 7,652 students to the five ELLMS centers.

Outdoor Classroom welcomes a new season

As most summer season staff were winding down, one energetic group of educators was gearing up to prepare for the new season of the Outdoor Classroom (OC). Led by Director Lisa Packard and Assistant Director Andy Bezon, these instructors welcomed the first school group in late August. Over the course of 11 weeks, they taught 558 students from 25 public and independent schools and colleges located in Maine, other parts of the Northeast, and beyond, from North Carolina to Harlem to Keene, N.H., to our home town of Wiscasset. This fall the Outdoor Classroom also hosted eighth-graders from Bath and Woolwich, Maine, who were participating in the new FLOW program (see related story in this issue). No matter where their students came from, the Outdoor Classroom instructors were ready for adventure!
Announcing the 2015 Zero Waste Challenge

Tom Twist, Chewonki’s sustainability officer, has announced that the Zero Waste Challenge for Maine Middle Schools will take place again in 2015. The Challenge is a statewide service-learning contest for students and teachers interested in designing and executing strategies for reducing their school waste stream. This will be the fourth year of the successful contest, which offers cash prizes: 1st prize: $1,000; 2nd prize: $500; 3rd prize: $250; and $1,000 for Frequent Flyers, previous winners doing an outstanding job of carrying out their proposed strategies. Casella Resource Solutions, ecomaine, and We Compost It! have generously provided the prize money. An independent panel of judges representing education, waste management, and sustainability chooses the winners. Winning schools can use their cash to implement their plans or help pay for a trip to Chewonki for further sustainability education.

“The sophistication of students’ submissions has been impressive,” says Tom. “We’re excited that these students are coming up with well-thought-out plans. They’ve had a real impact on their schools’ sustainability efforts and budget lines.”

The 2014 winners were Leonard Middle School in Old Town (first), Troy Howard Middle School in Belfast (second), and Brunswick Jr. High School in Brunswick (third), with Westbrook Middle School in Westbrook and Gorham Middle School in Gorham receiving the Frequent Flyers prizes.

Zero Waste Challenge entries are due on March 15, 2015. If you’re a student or teacher in a Maine middle school (grade six, seven, or eight), start thinking now! Find out how to apply and learn about past winners at www.chewonki.org/zerowaste/zero_waste_challenge.asp.
Designing the way forward

Chewonki participants, programs, and the place itself continue to evolve

DEBORAH COOK AND ANNE LESLIE

Chewonki’s centennial year, like every important milestone, is about celebration but also about something more profound. It’s a time for memories, looking back, honoring and learning from the past; taking stock of where we are now and the work we are doing; and setting our sights on plans for the future. Thinking about Chewonki’s evolution from a small, private camp for boys to a multi-faceted, year-round, non-profit organization with a much wider sphere of influence—but the same core values—reminds us that the organization itself is modeling the progression we cultivate in our participants and programs. We work as a community to reach our goals; reflect and learn at each turn; build capacity and understand impact; assess and realign to create new goals.

We embarked on the yearlong centennial journey on September 8, the official start of our 100th year. Staff and semester students formed a big circle around a young white oak, the Centennial Tree. Symbolically and literally, deep roots in old ground will support new growth over the next 100 years.

We expanded the circle of celebration by inviting local friends and business partners from Bath to Damariscotta to join us for a farm-to-table harvest dinner on September 25. Into October, we launched regional alumni gatherings around Portland and Boston and in New York City. So it will go throughout the year as we roll toward Centennial Weekend next August.

While we take Chewonki on the road, we are also busy on the Neck improving the campus and shaping programs for the future. This fall, we restored the Nature Trail, which after 100 years of foot traffic had become rutted, rocky, and more stream than trail in the wet seasons. (Read more about this project on p. 4.) The rebuilt trail ensures welcoming, safe access to the woods for young explorers for years to come. This is the first step in a campus master plan that you’ll learn more about in the months ahead. We are designing the path forward!

Imbedded in every Chewonki program is the route we hope participants will take toward self-discovery and discovery of the world, a route leading from learning to purposeful living. In the short articles on these pages, we give you examples of Chewonki programs, people, and the organization itself manifesting this progression. You may find something of yourself in these snapshots, through your memories or your anticipation of what’s ahead. We invite you to engage with Chewonki this year to continue the journey of discovery and to share with your friends, family, and colleagues the exciting opportunities for learning that have been and always will be part of Chewonki’s magic.
Becca Abuza is an adventurer with deep curiosity and a perceptive love of the natural world. She’s also a dedicated wilderness teacher, seeking ways to inspire young people to discover how wondrous the wild world is.

Perhaps these strengths are her birthright. By the time she attended Wood Cove, Chewonki’s first girls’ program, in 2002, she already knew Chewonki: her mother, Mardi Hudson Abuza, is former President Don Hudson’s sister. “Anticipation of my first Chewonki experience played a large role in my life,” she remembers, “and I knew hours into Wood Cove that I would come back to Chewonki.”

Twelve years later, Becca has built a multi-faceted relationship of her own with Chewonki. After Wood Cove, she went on a Mariners trip (’04) and a George River trip (’05), was a member of MCS 35, served as Girls Camp staff (’07-’11), and was a Traveling Natural History Programs intern (’13). Last summer she co-led the Girls Allagash Canoe Trip and Girls Debsconeag Explorers Trip. She was an Outdoor Classroom instructor this fall. She carries all this experience as lightly as her broad-brimmed hat.

“I keep coming back because it is important to me to create a space for kids where wonder of the natural world and tradition are a backdrop for group and individual travel,” Becca says. “There can be days of rain, maybe even a whole summer, or groups that struggle to get along…but when you are living so closely in the woods, each small personal or group success is important and carries you. This summer my heart virtually leapt out of my chest when my participants begged to tump wanigans, then quoted John Muir by heart at evening council!”

Becca credits Chewonki with influencing her journey from childhood to adulthood. “The most compelling things about Chewonki for me growing up were living outdoors in community and the mentorship of my trip leaders,” she says. “Chewonki helped me to become more true to myself, as a participant and a trip leader.”

Since graduating from College of the Atlantic, Becca’s explored New Mexico’s Gila Wilderness, surveyed amphibians in Yosemite, taken a solo canoe trip through Maine’s Downeast Lakes, and written a frog conservation plan in a cloud forest in Ecuador. “My dream work combines my love for wilderness travel with natural history and field biology,” Becca explains. She hopes to mesh her interests while leaving time for adventuring (leading an expedition on the George River is on her to-do list). If the past is any indication, once Becca points her canoe toward the future, there’s no stopping her.

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-A.L.
PROFILE: Ellie McGee, finding inner strength on the Round Pond Carry

Wilderness trips often involve moments of personal struggle. Sometimes the rewards come later in life; other times, much sooner. Adrianna Beaudette, Semester School fellow in math, co-led the Girls Allagash Canoe Trip last summer and witnessed an almost immediate victory following one of these transformative struggles.

Ellie McGee arrived at Chewonki in July with a cohort of other teenage girls who’d been together at Chewonki Camp for Girls the previous summer. They’d chosen to take the Allagash trip together, three weeks of paddling 150 miles of lakes and rivers, as well as some significant portages. While Ellie was excited to share the adventure with friends, she had some inner doubts. She wasn’t confident that she had what it took to hold up her end of the group’s shared responsibility for making the journey successful. She often worried that she would let the group down.

Her anxiety reached a high point on the night before the Round Pond Carry, a strenuous three-mile portage. Adrianna reassured her, reminding her that the group could stop often to rest and would take whatever time the carry required, and Ellie would contribute just by helping. Earlier, Adrianna had described the portage as “something like when you are running and hit a wall and don’t think you can go any longer and then you break through and suddenly it gets easier.” She encouraged Ellie to believe that would happen.

The next day dawned cloudy and gradually turned itself over to pouring rain. The whole group felt the weight of the challenge—yet they lifted their canoes and moved forward till the portage was behind them. Ellie emerged on that rainy day as one of the best at portaging. She carried her canoe for long stints without a break and even bore the heavy bag holding all the extra gear.

“It was great to see her have those fears and then discover she could handle the carry,” Adrianna says. “Having her acknowledge that she did it so well and having the group acknowledge it, too—that was important.” Ellie proved herself to herself.

By the end of the trip, she and her camp-mates had agreed to take on one of the Chewonki Leadership Expeditions together next summer. Ellie knows she is ready.

“Every summer is filled with little victories, rites of passage,” says Garth. Each achievement helps boys discover who they are and what they can be.

For some, the natural next step after camp is to become a Guide (counselor-in-training), then a counselor. Some become “Papas,” heads of age groups. Some go on to work in other Chewonki programs. This provides remarkable continuity for a growing boy who becomes a young man who can turn and help other boys grow.

Garth smiles when asked for examples of leaders he has watched develop over years. “There are so many; they’re all

BOYS CAMP: Growing up through camp

Garth Altenburg thinks back through many boys. “It’s so much fun,” he says. “It’s just so exciting to watch someone grow up, summer after summer.” He’s talking about the boys who come back to Chewonki over years, beginning when they’re timid or wild eight- or 10-year-olds and emerging as young men, some of whom become counselors, Wilderness Trips leaders, or educators in the Outdoor Classroom or Traveling Natural History Programs. Garth attends with equal care to boys he sees for just one summer, but in those who return he witnesses the process of maturing right before his eyes.

Boys Camp is a “conscious, deliberate, developmentally appropriate series of activities and expectations, and a linear progression in terms of skills,” says Garth. The youngest campers, eight-year-old Puffins, follow a broad program designed to expose them to a variety of activities. Ten-day Puffins spend a night camping on Chewonki Neck to wet their feet and whet their appetite; three-week Puffins venture off on short, overnight saltwater canoe trips around and near Chewonki Neck or go on modest backpacking trips in the Camden Hills. By the time campers are 14- or 15-year-old Ospreys, they’re making their own decisions about how to spend activity time at camp and going on extended wilderness adventures. They’re also providing leadership for the younger campers.

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Ellie McGee (top center) on the Girls Allagash Canoe Trip

EMMA CARLSON PHOTO

Ellie McGee (top center) on the Girls Allagash Canoe Trip

EMMA CARLSON PHOTO

Aidan Gaughran (top row, second from left) 2004 and with Juniper backpackers 2014

CLAIRE HARTWELL PHOTO

Aidan Gaughran (top row, second from left) 2004 and with Juniper backpackers 2014

CLAIRE HARTWELL PHOTO
OUTDOOR CLASSROOM: Deepening relationships with schools

Chewonki’s commitment to providing environmental education to visiting school groups began about 40 years ago and continues to be a vital part of fulfilling our public purpose. The Outdoor Classroom (OC) welcomes students from schools all over Maine and New England and as far away as Penn., N.Y., N.J., even southern states. Schools who share our Maine “neighborhood” hold a unique place within OC. As we consider ways to create “thriving, sustainable communities” (part of Chewonki’s mission), we’re thinking hard about how our relationships with nearby schools can strengthen not only education but other aspects of students’ lives, too.

Can we reach more Maine children? Can we effect greater positive change? Can we help make lasting changes in whole schools, school districts, and communities?

Environmental Living and Learning: the ELLMS Project (see story on page 6) is one attempt to address these questions. Collaborating with four other outstanding providers of environmental education, we’ve raised money to allocate as financial aid to Maine public schools who want their students to experience immersive environmental education but cannot afford full tuition. Developing ways to extend the impact of our teaching is part of the ELLMS vision. For example, we might work with students and teachers to design a service learning project to carry out after they return to their schools. This could mean establishing community gardens, reducing the school waste stream, connecting the cafeteria with local farms, or building more time into the schedule for educational activities outdoors.

Fundamental Learning On Water (FLOW) (see story on page 15) represents another approach to working with Maine schools. To make FLOW happen, we collaborated with a local school district to design a program that enhances classroom curriculum and fosters sense of place, outdoor skills, self-confidence, teambuilding, and citizenship.

Challenges in American education and society in general provide openings for Chewonki to demonstrate effective, imaginative ways to use field-based learning to engage the minds and bodies of all kinds of students. The Outdoor Classroom is an ideal venue for this work, offering teaching that helps students themselves become agents of change. ■

terrific,” he says, but notes that the process is particularly fun to watch in brothers. “The Gaughran brothers—Aidan, Beau, and Cormick; and the Russell brothers—John and Charlie. Those are great examples.” All came to camp as young boys. All served as leaders last summer. They’ve grown up, in part, through Chewonki. ■

–A.L.
PROFILE: Mattias Lanas, path-finding

If it’s true, as Mattias Lanas says, that he took a little extra time to grow up, it was probably because his mind was on other things. His move from Chile to New Jersey at age 13 could have been a distraction. Or perhaps his visual sensitivity put growing up on temporary hold.

You wouldn’t know it now. In his first semester of studying science illustration at the California State University, Monterey Bay, one of the best programs in the country, he’s on his own well-defined path.

The world of nature rivets Mattias’s attention. He loves the details and the whole. He came here as part of MCS 33, diving into “Natural History of the Maine Coast,” making copious, careful sketches in his field journal. “I learned then that I wanted a life working in and with the natural world,” he says. Sue West’s course, “Art and the Natural World,” was another revelation. “I had never taken an art class with that degree of specificity in subject,” he remembers. “A lot of my interest in a career in science illustration stems from Sue’s class.”

He enrolled at Stanford planning to major in biology but his resolve wobbled. Art pulled at him. He took a year off, returning to Chile and then doing conservation-focused volunteer work in Ecuador. When he came back, he committed to a simultaneous bachelor’s/master’s degree program in earth systems. Still, a course called “Art and Biology” stirred his imagination. He began to focus on “the communication of science through visual media.”

In his final year, a conversation with another Stanford student, Annika Alexander-Ozinskas (MCS 34; WT leader ’11,’12, ’14; Sustainable Ocean Studies leader ’13), led him to apply to Chewonki for a fellow position in art. He came back to Sue’s art room in 2012 to help teach the course he’d loved. When she went on sabbatical in 2013, he taught the course himself. “He brought new ideas and a wonderful way of working with students which motivated them to make great art,” says Sue. His students made botanical illustrations that became a guide to Chewonki Neck’s indigenous plants.

“As a fellow and a teacher, I learned a lot about what kind of person I want to be,” he says. “Through working with my colleagues and being responsible for students, I learned patience, organization, respect, and gratitude for the opportunities I have had…I value Chewonki’s appreciation of the natural world, art, and community…It will always be a second home for me.”

~A.L.

TRAVELING NATURAL HISTORY PROGRAMS: Lighting the spark

Traveling Natural History Programs (TNHP) take Chewonki out into the world. TNHP educators go all over Maine to deliver one or more of 13 presentations about fascinating aspects of natural history, from tide pools to biomes, arthropods to lizards, bats to owls. TNHP staff taught 800 programs last year in 127 schools, 35 libraries, and other settings including elder homes. “This is an opportunity for Chewonki to reach diverse audiences where they are, geographically, emotionally, and cognitively,” says Keith Crowley, director of the program.

Although TNHP’s encounters with students are brief, they can light a spark that grows over time into something much stronger. “All forms of effective education take place through relationship-building,” Keith says. “We take hold of the moments we have with our students and cultivate them.”

In May, TNHP Educator Emma Balazs made a presentation called “Owls of Maine” at the Aroostook National Wildlife Refuge in Limestone, Maine. Nine-year-old Juliette Lawson sat in the front row. In July, Keith taught a program about bats at the Fort Fairfield (Maine) Public Library. Juliette was there. Her letters, reproduced here, show she is a careful listener with a genuine interest in learning about animals. They are also evidence of all that can be going on inside a child’s mind during and after Traveling Natural History Programs. Thank you, Juliette! ~A.L.
“Why I love Chewonki,” says Emma Carlson, program director of Summer Wilderness Trips and Adventures for Girls, “is that a young person can come here for their first program as an eight-year-old boy or a 10-year-old girl and then come back every summer for years, each time having a different experience but always at least beginning and ending right here.” Emma sees “so much value to this ritual of returning to a place you know and love. The kids get to know Chewonki and Maine more and more deeply. And we get to know them and see them grow up. It’s an important part of what makes Chewonki different from a lot of other outdoor organizations.”

Emma and Greg Shute, director of outdoor programs, have shaped coed Wilderness Trips and Adventures with Girls with careful attention to sequence. “We made some key shifts to articulate a stepped program,” she explains. “With each summer, a participant can take on more challenges, building their skills.”

Young girls might start with a 10-day program at Chewonki’s Fourth Debsconeag Lake, learning basic outdoor practices while they paddle, hike, swim, and enjoy a small, supportive community. The next summer they could try a three-week multi-element trip exploring more territory. By the time they are in their mid teens, they could take on a challenging hiking or backpacking trip covering long distances in remote terrain.

Emma has also worked with Garth Altenburg, director of Chewonki Camp for Boys, to fine-tune campers’ outdoor experiences and order them developmentally for growing boys. By the time they outgrow camp, they’re prepared for the challenges of Wilderness Trips.

Teenage girls and boys choose from a range of Wilderness Trips and Adventures for Girls with a variety of levels of challenge. Next summer, experienced 16- to 18-year-old trippers can consider one of the two new Leadership Expeditions, a three-week backpacking trip in the subarctic region of Quebec and Labrador or a five-week canoe trip on the George River in northern Quebec. Alumni will be ready to lead trips for college outing clubs or their friends. “They will be able to choose where they want to go, plan, and execute,” says Emma. “That’s an invaluable set of skills for exploring the outdoors and enjoying life.”

-A.L.-
This is how we FLOW:
Local schools and Chewonki launch an expedition students won’t forget

ANNE LESLIE

One Monday in September, after a morning of dry-land training in paddling, 14 students from two schools in Maine’s Regional School Unit (RSU) 1, Bath Middle School and Woolwich Central School, gathered down at the Chewonki waterfront to pack their gear and supplies into canoes. Most had never paddled a canoe, spent a night in a tent, or been away from their families, bathrooms, refrigerators, and electronics for more than a few hours. Now they were going to take themselves to a small island and spend the school week there, learning about water issues in faraway places while they took care of their immediate needs and each other in the middle of Hockomock Bay, part of the Lower Kennebec River Estuary.

Although it’s located in their own watershed, Hockomock Bay feels a world away to these students. One boy with special needs who is not a strong swimmer was worried about paddling a canoe across deep water. A girl who’d resisted the expedition was still insisting that she wouldn’t be able to sleep in a sleeping bag. Several students were having qualms about whether they could tolerate five days on an island with some kids they didn’t know and some they didn’t like. At least, they didn’t think they liked them. There was an outburst of complaints when these bold adventurers realized that loading the canoes meant stepping into the chocolaty mud along the edge of Montsweag Creek.

With the encouragement of two teachers from their schools, a guidance counselor, and two members of Chewonki’s Outdoor Classroom (OC) staff, everyone eventually got into a canoe and the flotilla of 12- and 13-year-olds pulled away from the shore. In a day or two, the jitters were gone. The eighth-graders had settled their tiny island community. Tents were home. Students were helping prepare meals over a fire, making peace with the quiet darkness of nighttime, following lessons in the open air, and negotiating new understandings of place, their peers, and themselves.

For part of each day, they studied water and water scarcity, reading about drought-stricken regions from California to India. To learn about communities desperate for a drink while sitting on an island surrounded by salt water made the dilemma palpable. As the sailor on the ocean laments in Coleridge’s poem “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner,” “Water, water, every where/Not any drop to drink.” The students brought four 10-gallon jugs of fresh water with them for the expedition; using that water carefully to make it last helped clarify why millions of people in dry regions around the world consider clean water from a faucet the ultimate luxury.

When the group returned to Chewonki on Friday afternoon, the verdict was clear. “It was a 12 out of 10!” one student proclaimed. Lawrence Kovacs, the RSU 1 teacher who’d been dreaming of and planning for this trip for over a year, called it, “The best five days of my professional life.”

This was the first expedition of Fundamental Learning On Water, or FLOW, a collaboration between RSU 1 (Arrowsic, Bath, Phippsburg, West Bath, and Woolwich) and Chewonki that takes eighth-graders on a five-day/four-night saltwater canoe and camping trip every fall. The trip is open to any student who wants to come. Tuition is $50 per person, a dramatic discount of the regular program price. RSU 1 Superintendent Patrick Manuel told parents that he didn’t want lack of funds to stop any interested boy or girl; he provided help to a number of families who requested it.

Comprising year one of a 10-year endeavor, the first four FLOW trips, in September and early October, were a work in progress—but the enthusiasm of students and teachers was obvious. FLOW engaged and challenged a broad mix of students, from high academic achievers to those who struggle in school. That is part of the power of outdoor experiential education, explain Kovacs and Chewonki President Willard Morgan. “Field-based learning is enriching for all students,” Willard says. Ninety-six students, about 65 percent of the combined eighth grades from Bath and Woolwich, chose to be part of FLOW and Kovacs hopes that next fall, after students and parents hear feedback from this year’s participants, the numbers will go up.

Working with local teachers and students right in our own front yard gives FLOW special meaning, say Lisa Packard, director of the Outdoor Classroom, and Andy Bezon, assistant director of the Outdoor Classroom and Summer Wilderness Trips. “I feel grateful for the chance to serve so many local students,” explains Andy, who responded to Kovacs’s first telephone call to Chewonki a year ago. “This may be the one chance some of these students have to experience the place they live in, in this way.” He hopes, though, that FLOW will get students excited about going on more outdoor adventures.

Andy describes the collaboration as a match made in heaven. RSU 1 teachers

Continued on next page
paddle and camp alongside their students and lead the academic curriculum students have also been studying in their classrooms. Chewonki provides Outdoor Classroom instructors, equipment, logistics, itineraries, and a complementary curriculum including paddling skills; chart/map and compass; navigation; watershed, rocky shore, and tidal studies; the mathematics of triangulation; and Leave No Trace principles and practices. OC instructors also work on team-building, self-esteem, self-awareness, and developing the students’ sensitivity to and understanding of sense of place.

Chewonki and RSU 1 each had resources to share and together they’ve made Kovacs’s vision a reality. He’s a hard guy to ignore, a teacher who naturally makes you want to listen, in part because of the high expectations he has for his students and his fierce faith that they’ll meet them.

In a state where people “from away” sometimes struggle to be heard, Kovacs has a clear voice. He grew up in Queens, N.Y., surrounded by an extended family with roots in Russia and the Ukraine. His family decided for him where he should go to college; he soon decided they’d made a mistake and dropped out. (“Well,” he says, “I think it was a mutual decision on the part of the college and me.”) Eventually, he enrolled again, this time at Beloit College, where he flourished within strong relationships with his professors. At the same time, his love of the outdoors grew. Eventually he became an Outward Bound instructor in the Pacific Northwest. After a few more adventures, Kovacs landed in Maine (his wife teaches anthropology at Bowdoin College), got his master’s, and became a classroom teacher.

Like all public school teachers, Kovacs faces an ongoing barrage of new benchmarks and standards. A few years ago, they started to wear him down. “Public school teachers have so much thrown at them,” he says. “I was numbed.” Then in 2013, he went to a conference led by Expeditionary Learning, an organization that builds the capacity of teachers to raise student achievement and aspirations. Kovacs woke up and realized what he wanted to do. When he returned to Maine, he went straight to RSU 1 Superintendent Patrick Manuel and said he wanted to get students outside to learn. Lots of superintendents in this era of shrinking budgets would have balked but Manuel didn’t. He encouraged Kovacs and has worked with him to make FLOW a success. Other teachers and administrators responded enthusiastically, too.

“I was sort of shocked,” Kovacs admits.

Collaboration unifies FLOW’s educational goals and funding. The school district pays for one-third of the cost; Chewonki pays for one-third; and the private sector pays for one-third. Two banks, Bath Savings Institution and First Federal Savings, provided key financial support along with a private foundation, the George P. Davenport Trust. Kovacs told them, “This could change the fabric of this city…it’s an opportunity that could change the course of a life...it’s about pride in place.”

Selling FLOW to parents was sometimes harder. It’s a lot to ask, to let your child go off into the wilds for several days with people you don’t know well or at all, especially if you aren’t comfortable in the outdoors yourself. Kovacs, Manuel, Bezon, and Greg Shute, Chewonki’s director of outdoor programs, worked to allay fears. Andy was a “force of optimism” throughout the process, says Kovacs. “He’s sort of a mountain of a man, and he exudes this calmness, knowledge, and confidence that is reassuring to parents, and teachers, too.”

When Andy and Greg explained Chewonki’s experience and resources, parents calmed down.

Kovacs values that all students, not just the stars, benefit from interdisciplinary, experiential learning of the kind that FLOW and the Outdoor Classroom in general provide. “We have a fair number of disaffected youth,” he says of RSU 1. “There are some kids who are just checked out.” For those, learning outdoors is a chance to acquire and excel in skills that conventional school doesn’t require. It’s also a chance for a change of life course. For students successful in school already, FLOW is an opportunity to achieve in different areas of competence and reach for a higher, more interdisciplinary understanding of subject matter. For all students, it’s an adventure. Andy says, “When you’re outdoors, everyone’s on the same level...It gets down to people’s character, how they deal with challenge.” Some students have found the FLOW expedition more difficult than others, but that’s okay, says Andy. “The students who are really struggling at moments have such great capacity to grow.”

Kovacs cites research about the benefits of learning in small communities outdoors. Attentiveness goes up. Teamwork improves. Stress levels go down. When you’re hungry and you’ve got to make supper for yourself and your group and get chores done before the light disappears, “There’s not a lot of mental space for ‘Does he think I’m cool?’…” Yes, it’s a contrived situation, but it’s wonderful,” says Kovacs.

How does Kovacs feel about the first year of FLOW? “Over the moon,” he says. On the last night of FLOW 2014, a huge full moon is shining. Fourteen students can see its silver path on the waters of Hockomock Bay, a place they now know is part of their home. ■
Almost everyone recognizes the glorious monarch butterfly as poster child for milkweed plants. But how many of us realize the full diversity of amazing insects that feed on milkweed? Milkweed plants host dozens of insect species, among them two tiger moths (Arctiidae): the milkweed tiger moth (*Euchaetes egle*) and the orange-edged milkweed tiger moth (*Cycnia tenera*).

In early July, we noticed that one stem of the common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) clone growing near the Allen Center had a leaf so full of holes that it looked like Alpine Lace Swiss cheese. Close inspection disclosed an aggregate of tiny, cream-colored caterpillars, the first instar larvae of *E. egle*. Over the next few days, we found more caterpillar broods. By the time the caterpillars reached their third instar, they had undergone their remarkable transformation to large, hairy beasts with forbidding black, orange, and white tufts and lashes.

Milkweeds are well known for their milky juice, a cocktail of noxious chemicals the most potent of which are steroids called cardenolides. It’s generally agreed that these substances deter feeding insects enough to avert serious damage to the plant. Many of these same insects, however, can take advantage of the toxins by storing them in their tissues as a deterrent to their own predators, especially vertebrates like birds. Monarch caterpillars are a prime example, packing away milkweed cardenolides and passing them on in varying degree to the adult butterflies. Unlike day-flying monarch butterflies, nocturnal milkweed tiger moths cannot use visual warning to fend off sonar-hunting bats pursuing them in the dark of night.

Somehow evolution always has an answer—in this case, “trash talk”! When a bat stops searching and homes in for the kill, its ultrasonic sonar pattern changes. Listening with extremely sensitive chordotonal hearing organs, tiger moths perceive this change and immediately engage their acoustic generators, or tymbals, to send an ultrasonic message to the bat: “Yo, back off. You don’t wanna mess wid me!” With that, the bat breaks off its attack.

Wouldn’t you know, there seem to be species of presumably appetizing tiger moths that acoustically mimic noxious milkweed tiger moths. This is called Batesian mimicry. In the case of *E. egle* and *C. tenera*, however, odds are that both species are sufficiently repulsive to bats to be regarded as Mullerian mimics of one another: both moths send the same acoustic warning, reinforcing bat avoidance behavior to their mutual advantage.

Not to be outdone, a species of tiger moth in the Southwest, *Bertholdia trigonia*, produces an ultrasonic shriek so intense that it actually jams a bat’s sonar system. While the bat is momentarily “blind,” the moth makes good its escape!

We hoped that our tiger moth caterpillars at Chewonki would grow up, pupate, and become adults but it was not to be. Over time, the caterpillars simply disappeared leaving no trace. Even so, you can be sure that these amazing insects are now on our radar—or is that sonar? 

"Doc Fred" directs the nature program at Chewonki Camp for Boys.
Growing boys growing vegetables

EGAN PHILLIPS

There are a handful of photographs from last summer that grab at me and won’t let go. One shows farmer Ellie Brown (MCS 35, Farm Apprentice ’13, ’14) and camper Henry Bernard (BC ’10-‘14) walking across pasture with fencing slung over their shoulders—a realistic capturing of necessary work being done. Another is of camper Kai Bentley (BC ’13, ’14), his arms wrapped around Sal’s massive head as boys in the background groom her. I can tell that one of them is scratching Sal’s itchiest belly spot, and Kai and Sal look to be in a quiet state of bliss. The third image is of a hand holding a half-eaten carrot and another, behind, holding a James Herriot novel, testament to time in the hayloft with farm snacks, read alouds, and boys red-faced from work in the gardens. It is the back stories that these images express—the years we’ve spent creating systems that work with and are built around many little hands and the personal experiences of campers this past summer—that really hold me.

Good education is integration into meaningful production. This philosophy underlies our approach to farming. There is certainly much to be learned through farm-based activities and games, but the most transformative experiences I have witnessed happen when we ask young people to do something difficult, something that matters.

Farming with young people takes planning and flexibility. Last summer we saved our most dynamic work to include campers (no long weeding sessions!) and tended to their social-emotional and developmental needs. One Tuesday, for example, the task at hand involved squishing potato beetle larvae and adults, laborious but necessary in our small-scale, organic pest management. Two boys set into it diligently, easing into a quiet, focused space. Another two, younger and more energetic, tired of the task within moments. “How about we have a contest?” I suggested. “You two versus me. Who can pick the most potato beetles in five minutes?” Fifteen minutes later, they were still plucking and squishing, racing through the rows. Their total: 418. Mine: just over 250. The boys were ecstatic. I heard about my defeat for days.

Campers were everywhere on the farm at every moment of the day. Up to 26 came for morning chores at 5:40 a.m. twice weekly. Many spent the morning harvesting vegetables, performing parasite checks on sheep, setting up electric fencing, tending to the meat birds they would eat at the end-of-summer banquet, and building raised garden beds. Other days they cooked with farm-fresh ingredients, dyed eggs and farm wool, learned to drive Sal, and felted farm wool into wearable pouches. Many campers spent afternoons working toward their Master Farmer award; setting up taste tests of local maple syrup, cheeses, and farm milk; or doing chores such as collecting eggs, milking the cow, and feeding animals.

All summer, boys were building skills, getting dirty, working hard, eating vegetables—and loving it. There was a sweetness, a realness, to their engagement that shines through in those photos. Good education. Meaningful production. Good life.
Have faith, take action!

TOM TWIST

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trying to live more sustainably can seem like a daunting endeavor. You need a good deal of intestinal fortitude even to listen to news about environmental sustainability. It often feels as if no progress is occurring and that world leaders are, at best, providing merely lip service to address the problem.

Simultaneously, however, there’s a groundswell of grassroots support for local food, energy independence, and care of the natural world. More and more people are thinking about making adjustments toward sustainability in their own lives.

If you’ve given up expecting someone else to fix the situation but are unsure how to proceed, take heart. Below is a list of recommendations to help you accomplish green projects in your home, school, or business.

We run possible projects through this list here at Chewonki. For example, before committing to installing solar panels on the barn (coming soon!), we established our baseline need for energy and then asked how the project would affect it. Next, we crunched numbers, calculating return on investment. We found that we can finance the project with a loan because the interest we’ll owe will be less than the savings we’ll realize through lower energy costs.

Based on good information, we moved ahead with confidence.

Get oriented with the list below. Then make your own life more sustainable.

1) Know where you are. This first step is least popular and most often overlooked. Major barriers to sustainability projects are arguments about money and time. To counteract these, you need proof that your project will make a positive difference in energy costs, efficiency, or carbon footprint. Without this essential information, you have no ground to stand on.

2) Create a sound plan. Reality-check your plan to verify that it makes sense. Scrutinize calculations about the project’s promised impact. One more time, go over figures about return on investment. Not all sustainability technologies are created equal; some have a payback that you won’t see within the useful lifetime of the system. Beware!

3) Make it happen. This one’s pretty straightforward, although making it happen also includes how to make it happen, which usually means, “How are we going to pay for this?” At Chewonki, we’ve engaged in a variety of interesting financial models: green revolving fund, solar power purchase agreements, and sometimes just financing at a lower interest rate than the project’s payback (as in the case of the solar panels on the barn). Use your imagination—but ground yourself in the reality of steps 1 and 2.

Another key part of making your project happen is choosing the very best people to design the system. Rely on the experience and advice of people you trust. Finding really good system designers is sometimes harder than finding really good system builders. Take time to vet your team.

4) Assess. Don’t assume that just because a system is installed it is working properly. In the commissioning phase, monitor regularly and refer back to your original baseline to determine progress.

5) Bask in the knowledge that you’ve made the world a better place. Your responsibility doesn’t end here, however. It’s going to take a lot of people doing what you did to bring about real change.

6) Empower others to change. There are many ways to do this but I’ve found that humans still really like a good narrative. So find interesting ways to tell your story. To hear some of Chewonki’s sustainability stories or see some of our ongoing projects, visit www.chewonki.org/pathways.

THE BOTTOM LINE: Lots of people would like to embrace sustainable practices but don’t know how to start. Take the leap. Try following these steps and adopt a we-can-do-it attitude.

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Tom Twist talks sustainability
Sustainability Officer Tom Twist landed in the spotlight recently when Mike Dunn, a sustainability consultant for solar energy company Shift Energy, interviewed Tom for the “Sustainacast” podcast. Their lively conversation ranges across a variety of issues related to Chewonki’s strategies for teaching and practicing sustainability. Listen in at http://sustainacast.com/07-planting-ideas-for-the-future-with-tom-twist-of-the-chewonki-foundation/.

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Tom Twist is Chewonki’s sustainability officer. To learn more about our sustainability efforts, visit www.chewonki.org/sustainability.
Chewonki Centennial: here, there, everywhere!

We launched a year of celebration in September by planting a white oak on the lawn between the barn and the Center for Environmental Education. Then we hosted 130 friends and partners for a farm-to-table harvest dinner honoring the shared commitment to building a strong local community. In October, we welcomed the public to an open house on the Neck and hobnobbed at regional alumni gatherings near Portland and Boston and in New York City. In November, we played Capture the Rocks in Brooklyn’s Prospect Park. Stay tuned for events south and west in 2015. We want to connect with you and your family and friends during this special year! Make sure we have your current email so we can keep you in the loop. Update your info at www.chewonki.org/alumni/keep_in_touch. Thanks.
Save the date NOW:
Centennial Weekend
August 14-16, 2015

It’s going to be a memorable two and a half days of fun, learning, and friendship with a gala dinner and campfire on Saturday evening and a special Sunday Service led by Tim Ellis at the Point. Reconnect with Chewonki and celebrate our first 100 years at this once-in-a-lifetime event. Learn more and register at www.chewonki.org/centennial. We can’t wait to see you!

Want to make Centennial Weekend more of an adventure?
Join fellow alumni and staff on an unforgettable centennial expedition before or after the weekend on Chewonki Neck.
• Backpack in the Torngat Mountains National Park, August 4-13
• Paddle the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, August 16-22
• Sail on the Schooner Mary Day, August 16-22

Or enjoy your own special trip to our Big Eddy Campground on the West Branch of the Penobscot or our Debsconeag Lake Wilderness Camps in the heart of the North Woods. Find out about all these opportunities at www.chewonki.org/centennial.

At long last, the book you’ve been waiting for:
Chewonki: 100 Years of Learning Outdoors

Essential for anyone who loves Chewonki and just in time for your holiday shopping! This inspiring portrait of the place, people, and programs that are the heart of Chewonki includes 256 pages of beautiful, full-color photographs, thoughtful reflections by alumni and past and present leaders, and lots of stories. It’s the next best thing to being here. $45. Go to www.chewonki.org/centennial and click on “Centennial Store” to order.

And here’s the perfect companion in your car, kitchen, or dorm room!
Wish you could tap into the energy of Campfire Circle? Can’t remember the third verse of “I Knew this Place”? Want to start your week hearing Tim Ellis say, “Look to this day…”? You need the Chewonki CD! Enjoy this fabulous collection of sounds and songs performed by some of Chewonki’s finest minstrels. Guaranteed to make you happily nostalgic (tested here). Our present to you! Free at Chewonki Centennial events or order online by going to www.chewonki.org/centennial and clicking “Centennial Store.” Shipping and handling costs apply.

Find our 2013 Annual Report by going on the Chewonki website and choosing Support Our Work, then clicking on “Annual Report.”

Visit our website at chewonki.org / 21
We welcome news from all Chewonki participants and staff. Please e-mail your news to alumni@chewonki.org or mail it to Chewonki, attn. Peg Willauer-Toby. We try hard to avoid errors. If you see one, please let us know so we can correct it in the next issue. Unless you specify that you do not want us to print your news, we will include it in the Chronicle. We reserve the right to edit for space and clarity. Thanks for sharing your lives with us! —Ed.

SUMMER PROGRAMS

1930s
See box for Hunter Rowley.

1940s
Renny Little (BC ’42–48; BC staff ’53–’55; ’60) and wife Jean are editing their respective Harvard and Radcliffe 60th Reunion Class Reports. Jim Hinkle (BC ’48–50) recalled his hand in naming one of Chewonki’s beloved cabins: upon arriving at camp in 1948, he was taken to a brand-new cabin called “Blockhouse.” “The other boys quickly started calling us the Blockheads from Blockhouse,” to which we took an instant dislike,” Jim writes. They were encouraged to come up with a new name, and “since most of us were from Boston, we quickly decided on ‘Fenway,’ the home of our beloved Red Sox.” Mr. Allen, Mr. Ellis, and the other higher-ups agreed, and it was official: ‘Blockhouse’ became ‘Fenway’ from that day on.

1950s
Dave Wade (BC ’57–61) is living and working in Portland, ME, as a photographer, and has recently exhibited work at the Kingman Gallery in Deer Isle and the Engine Gallery in Biddeford.

1960s
The work of photographer, filmmaker, and conservationist Jim Balog (BC staff ’71; TWT leader ’72; Salisbury Island leader ’73) is part of the exhibition “Branching Out: Trees as Art” at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, MA, through Sept. 2015. Jacksonville, FL, is home to Betty Byrne (BC staff ’70–72, ’74–76), who works in the box office of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra. This spring, the Bates College Alumni Association presented Professor Emeritus of Physical Education Chick Leahy (BC staff ’70–79) with the Helen A. Papaioanou Award for Extraordinary Service to the college. Ed Barker (BC ’78–80; MCS faculty) married Sarah Kurz on Southport Island, ME, in July. After honeymooning on Mt. Desert Island, they returned home to Cambridge, MA, where Ed runs a nonprofit community-based vegetable farm.

José de Arelliza (BC ’75–80; BC staff ’83–85) is the secretary general of the Aspen Institute in Spain, as well as a law professor at ESADE, in Madrid and Barcelona. Bege Reynolds (MR ’79–80) writes that her experience on the Neck “continued... to influence my job, a Waldorf kindergarten teacher [in Idaho], my family, and how I parent three children, my home, my chickens, my friendships, and my life in the outdoors.”

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1980s
Andy Barker (BC ’83–84; BC staff ’90, ’96; MCS faculty) reports that his family is “well and enjoying life in Vermont.” He savored many Chewonki moments this summer, including Scott Andrews’s retirement party in May and brother Ed Barker’s wedding (see 1970s news). Peter Herrick (BC ’82–84; BC staff ’90) lives in South Portland, ME, where he works at a local university. Ben Eldredge (BC ’87, ’89; BC staff ’97, ’99) is head of education at Cibolo Nature Center in Boerne, TX.

1990s
Bob Smith-Petersen (BC ’92, ’94, ’96–97, ’99; WT ’98; BC staff ’00–09) runs a small mobile massage therapy business in greater Boston. Mark & Ingrid Albee (Mark: farm manager ’90–05; Ingrid: nurse/health coordinator ’90–05) visited their son Pete (BC ’93–95; Mariners ’99), an engineer on fishing vessels out of Dutch Harbor, in Unalaska, AK, in August. “We had a wonderful time exploring the island and learning about the culture, fishing industry, unique history and nature,” they wrote. Meanwhile, Pete’s brother, Hans Albee (BC ’90–93; Mountaineers ’94; Mariners ’95; Mistassini ’96), was at Chewonki recently with his solar power company, ReVision Energy, to install some solar panels with students. Jamie Hannon (BC staff ’93–97) has helped start a nature-based school, Mountain Village Charter School, in NH. Dan Fox (BC ’95, ’97–00; BC staff ’02–05, ’08) is engaged to Iraina Miles. He recently began working at a company called Box in the San Francisco Bay area. Chris Bagg (WT ’94, BC staff ’99, ’02–06) had his best finish ever at the Ironman triathlon distance (2nd in the Challenge Penticton 2014) / Zoe Schneller Emery (WT ’96–97; BC staff ’98, ’00) began work at the Univ. of New England in the office of graduate admissions in June, and married Henry Emery in September. Jan Ruszkowski (BC staff ’97–98, ’00–01, ’09) and his wife, Ola, sent their best wishes for the 100th Summer Celebration from Poland, where they live with their three children (see photo).

See MCS 16 for news of Sean Gray (BC staff ’98–03); MCS 19 for Andrew Schulte (BC staff ’99); MCS 21 for Spence Taylor (BC ’95–97; WT ’98); MCS 22 for Elisabeth Christensen (WT ’96–97, ’99), and MCS 35 for James Watson (BC ’92–94; BC staff ’07).

2000s
Caitlin Ellis (BC staff ’01–02, ’06) says that she and husband Bob “welcomed a future Sag, William ‘Will’ Frederick, on March 23, 2014.” She has been teaching high school biology at Maclay School in Tallahassee, FL, but the family is planning a move to Washington, DC, where Bob has received the NOAA Knauer Marine Policy Fellowship next year. Steven Schubart (WT ’01) is studying agriculture at the Institute for Applied Agriculture and Food Systems at Vermont Technical College. Jason Chandler (BC staff ’02–03, ’06, ’10; WT staff ’05, ’11–14) and Caitlin Thurwell (see 2005 news) are on a pilgrimage by land and sea to the high altitude desert of Ladakh, to live and learn as part of an ancient Tibetan community in the Himalaya. Boulder, CO, is home to Madeline Bachner (BC staff ’03–05; WT staff ’06) and her partner, Dan. She is program director of a non-profit called the Cottonwood Institute. “We provide middle and high school environmental education curriculum that focuses on connection to nature and environmental service learning and action-based projects,” she writes. In September, Dash Davidson (BC ’03–05) moved to Seattle to begin working at Tableau Software as a sports data analyst. “We are loving
Meet a member of the Osprey Society

Renny Little:
Getting things going through the power of engagement

If you’re standing next to Warren “Renny” M. Little when someone shouts “Everybody up for a good camp cheer,” get ready. Renny’s going to give the Chewonki cheer and he’s going to give it with all the loyalty he feels after seven summers as a camper; three years as a counselor; 23 as a trustee; and 18 (and counting) as an advisor. Renny continues to possess the energy, determination, and enjoyment of life that propelled him through Chewonki, the Rivers School, Middlesex School, four years of track and field and studies at Harvard, “three years jumping out of airplanes” with the Army’s 101st Airborne Division, and the acquisition of a master’s degree in education from Tufts and a doctorate in education from the Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Some people his age are putting their feet up. Instead, “I’m up to my ears in a couple of ventures,” he says. That seems to be the timbre of his life.

Renny grew up in Brookline, Mass., and on a working farm in Essex. His mother was an authority on American decorative and folk arts. His father served as director of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (now Historic New England). They sent Renny to the Rivers School, where Clarence Allen was the headmaster, and he soon found his way to Chewonki. For this little boy who loved being outside and had a knack for having fun, it was a good choice. He thrived on the camaraderie and developed strong interests in woodcraft and nature studies.

Later, as a counselor, he worked with well-known Chewonki characters including Roger Tory Peterson’s son Lee (Boys Camp ’58-’61; camp staff ’65-’70) (“he was a good birder”) and former Chewonki President Don Hudson and his brothers. Former Chewonki Executive Director Tim Ellis was one of Renny’s assistant counselors. Bill Tyler (Boys Camp ’36; camp staff ’39-’41; trustee ’69-’02; current honorary trustee) was an important mentor.

“Of Chewonki, I have many fond memories and close friends,” says Renny. “The education I received there as a kid and what I learned as a counselor, too, gave me a base for my teaching.”

Teaching has been Renny’s work. Getting young people excited about learning came naturally to him. After an internship in the education department of the Boston Museum of Science, he went to Rivers to teach science and coach, filling the shoes of Hardy Ellis (Boys Camp head counselor, asst. camp director, program director, ’33-’61) when Ellis became assistant headmaster at the school.

Renny liked to take his Rivers students outside; he and they enjoyed science taught from “skin out,” focusing on the environment. His approach earned him a Teacher of the Year Award from the Massachusetts Audubon Society and an Environmental Achievement Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Although he enjoyed Rivers, he eventually left to help carry out Pres. Lyndon Johnson’s 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act. In 11 Massachusetts school districts and four regional high schools, he trained teachers from kindergarten to high school to include environmental education in their science curriculum. He also reached out to conservation commissions, planning boards, and boards of health to raise awareness of the importance of this approach.

When he became director of education at the New England Aquarium, he incorporated environmental education “and pulled on my knowledge from Chewonki again,” he says. Then came leadership of the Higgins Armory Museum in Worcester, where he expanded outreach to young people. Eventually he and his wife, Jean, returned to Cambridge, where he’s played many roles, including executive director of the Cambridge Historical Society and pro bono curator of Harvard’s Lee Family Hall of Athletic History.

Renny is part of a generation of generous, educated doers who believe in stewardship of the organizations they value. The alignment of his interests with Chewonki’s mission, his loyalty and natural congeniality, and the personal momentum that won him many a track event have made Renny a vital part of Chewonki. He is a member of the Osprey Circle and has given consistently to the Annual Fund since 1965. “What Chewonki is about means a lot to me,” he says simply. That’s why when you’re in Renny’s company and he gives the camp cheer, you should join him—and then give him a cheer of his own.

—A.L.

Please consider becoming a member of the Osprey Society, a group of individuals who’ve let us know that they have included Chewonki in their long-term financial plans. To learn more, go to www.chewonki.org/ospreysociety or give us a call.

Visit our website at chewonki.org / 23
Portland, OR!” writes Paul Taylor (WT staff ’03, ’05, ’07-10). “Claire is halfway through her program, Leadership in Sustainability Education. Paul is working as a lead guide for KAF Adventures, mountaineering and climbing guides. We’re exploring the Pacific Northwest and are excited to have recently celebrated our one-year anniversary in May!”

Abby Huckel (BC staff ’06) was married in Scarborough, ME, in April, with many Chewonki friends in attendance (see photo) “We’ve had a terrific summer visiting with dozens of Chewonki friends,” writes Abby. “Sometimes I feel that Chewonki has left me with a social calendar that is truly an embarrassment of riches.”

Jay Avis (BC staff ’07-10) and Amanda Burns celebrated their first wedding anniversary on an international Habitat for Humanity build in Bali. They run two primitive skills camps for students who attend the school where Amanda teaches 5th grade. Eric Nelson (BC staff ’07; WT staff ’08) and Kristal Rogers-Nelson (BC staff ’08) welcomed Emmett Crane Nelson on 1-22-14. The family lives in Salt Lake City, UT. Cam Smith (BC ’07-09; WT ’10) started freshman year at Georgia Tech in Atlanta, majoring in computer engineering. Seb Chwoyka (BC ’09; WT ’10-11; BC staff ’13) has been enjoying a gap year in Nepal and Peru. Chris Kremer (BC ’09; WT ’10-13) is currently attending Vassar College. Lucas Milliken (Maine Coast Kayak leader ’13, Boatbuilders leader ’14) is enjoying teaching 8th grade at Community School in Sun Valley, Idaho. “We traveled to Glacier National Park to camp and measure a glacier,” he writes. “The 8th grade has been measuring it for 6 years and we have pictures from the 1920s. The amount it has receded is astounding!” His class is also working with Anna Lappe, author of *Diet for a Hot Planet*, to help her write a young adult version of the book.

Jesse Dukes (BC staff ’00-05) spoke with an NPR reporter on Morning Edition in October describing his experiences embedded with Civil War re-actors honoring the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. He explored the re-enactors’ conflicting narratives about their Confederate ancestors in the Virginia Quarterly Review.

See MCS 29 for news of Emily Guerin (BC staff ’04); MCS 33 for Jane Koopman (BC staff ’08, ’10; WT staff ’11, ’13) and Jaz Smith (WT ’04; BC staff ’05; GC staff ’08-09); MCS 34 for Andrew Karp (BC ’00-04) and Kit Hamley (BC staff ’09; GC staff ’10; WT staff ’11); MCS 40 for Collin Knauss (WT ’08) and Zoe Mason (WT ’06; GC staff ’09); MCS 41 for John Russell (BC ’02-06; WT ’07; BC staff ’09, ’11-12, ’14); Semester 46 for Niall Griffin (BC ’05-08; WT ’09); and Semester 52 for Quinn Griffin (BC ’06-09).

2010s

Bethany Laursen (WT staff ’10-11) used her Chewonki skills to lead a team of scientists from Michigan State Univ. on a soil-sampling trip to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Christina Arey (GC ’10) has enrolled as a sophomore at the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts. Caitlin Thurrell (GC staff ’11; farmer/educator ’12-14) and Jason Chandler (see 2000s news) are adventuring their way toward Ladakh in far northern India, where they’ll be living with and learning from the traditional communities of this high plateau.

See Semester 45 for news of Nicole Smith (WT ’11); Semester 46 for Megan Robidas (WT ’11); Semester 48 for Teddy Simpson (WT ’12); and Semester 53 for Lucy Wanzer (GC ’10-11).

### SEMESTER SCHOOL

**MCS 1**

**Fall 1988**

Class Agent: Torrey McMillan, vmmcmillan@gmail.com

Regan Brashear lives in Oakland, CA, with her partner. After completing a master’s in social documentation at UC Santa Cruz, she finished her first film: *Fixed: The Science/Fiction of Human Enhancement.*

**MCS 2**

**Spring 1989**

Class Agent: Critter Thompson, critter@gmail.com

Brooke Lehman and her partner, Gregg Gofsky, have just opened The Watershed Center, a holistic retreat center for “changemakers” on a farm in Millerton, NY.

**MCS 3**

**Fall 1989**

Class Agents: Krech Paynter, tkpaynter@gmail.com; Will Redfield, wredfield@gmail.com

**MCS 4**

**Spring 1990**

Class Agent: Emily Rich, emily@teaguy.com

Hilary Greenwood and her husband, Dominic, live in Switzerland with their two sons. She lives about three villages over from Mitch Levesque.

**MCS 5**

**Fall 1990**

Class Agent: Laura Ledue, laura_howard@yahoo.com

**MCS 6**

**Spring 1991**

Class Agent: Andy Wilbur, andrew_wilbur@hotmail.com

“I’m thrilled to be back in New England,” writes Verónica Vázquez, who is the new math department head at Kimball Union Academy in NH.

**MCS 7**

**Fall 1991**

Class Agent: Brooke Guthrie, bgguthrie@gmail.com

Kate Gibson lives in London with her husband and two daughters. She works for InterContinental Hotels Group, leading a team that works to help the company’s hotels around the world reduce their environmental impact and have a more positive effect on the local community.

**MCS 8**

**Spring 1992**

Class Agents: Jenn Gudebski, jenn.gudebski@me.com; Sarai Hinkley, saraihinkley@hotmail.com

**MCS 9**

**Fall 1992**

Class Agent: Katie Wagner, kate@katiewagnersocialmedia.com

**MCS 10**

**Spring 1993**

Class Agent: Betsy Stubblefield Loucks, betsyroth@gmail.com

### Sharing the joy of paddling

Alexander (Zand) Martin (Voyageurs ’00; Northwoods Canoe ’02; Mistassini ’03) stopped by in September to say hello and deliver his book *Canoeing*, written for the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS). The 337-page book is a comprehensive explanation of all aspects of expedition canoeing, with lots of photos, including some from Zand’s Chewonki days, and diagrams. Zand had just finished leading a NOLS Yukon semester and was heading to New Zealand.
Anna Brown:
Meeting the climate crisis with skill and a moral compass

With hair over her shoulders, a winning smile, and modest manners, Anna Brown (MCS 16) could be the girl next door, and in some ways she is: she grew up in nearby Freeport, attended Freeport High School, and stays in close touch with her family in Maine. That makes it all the more fascinating that she’s living half a world away in Bangkok, Thailand, to tackle some of the world’s most pressing problems.

Anna is the senior associate director of The Rockefeller Foundation’s Asia Regional Office. She’s six years into a nine-year project called the Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN), a strategy for helping small and mid-sized cities deal with the impacts of climate change. She’s trying to “build awareness and capacity among city stakeholders” so they can properly plan to protect their populations and infrastructure in order to reduce damage, economic calamity, and human suffering. The cities in Anna’s purview, scattered across Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, and India, are experiencing rapid urbanization. When the effects of climate change intersect with quickly transforming land uses that concentrate people into one area, the poor suffer disproportionately.

The movement, availability, and scarcity of water play a key role in the stability of vulnerable sectors of any society. (FLOW students know this! See p. 15.) The Rockefeller Foundation is funding initiatives that “connect land use planning and hydrology” so that cities can preemptively “help households make homes more storm-resistant and secure” and protect access to water, explains Anna.

She and her team are investigating “a range of interventions” that they’d like to take to more cities in Asia and beyond. “There are thousands of cities that need this” she says. “There’s a lot of need—but this is also an opportunity to showcase strategies.” Money is scarce, but she regards this, too, as a chance “to find solutions that are cost-effective” and can be replicated in other places.

Anna’s work integrates science, engineering, economics, cultural differences, technology, politics—and compassion. Her determination to help Asian cities deal with climate-related threats such as storms, typhoons, and seismic activity springs from a courageous sense of social justice. She attributes this to her parents’ values and her experiences at Seeds of Peace, an organization that brings together young people from conflict-torn regions around the world. At the Maine Coast Semester, she found an intellectual rigor that challenged her emerging consciousness and academic goals. She went on to major in environmental studies at Brown and earn a master’s in urban planning at MIT, where she wrestled with “how you address ecological problems when there is such disparity in the world.”

A job with the Quaker United Nations (before her work with Rockefeller) allowed her to combine advocacy for peace and justice with development initiatives.

Anna calls the recent report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) “very sobering…the story line is much worse than we thought.” She has no illusions about the world’s difficulties. Yet talking to her is uplifting. She is committed to solving problems rather than complaining about them. She has a lot of good reasons to prevail, including Mirabelle, her daughter with poet Colin Cheney.

An envelope with a check for $1,000 from The Rockefeller Foundation landed at Chewonki last June. The foundation had presented an award to the staff member whose work best embodies equity: Anna. She asked that they send the check to Chewonki. Anna Brown is leading with mind and heart. Read Anna’s blog at www.rockefellerfoundation.org/about-us/our-team/anna-brown.

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In May, Alice Chong graduated with a doctor of pharmacy from Notre Dame of Maryland Univ.

**MCS 11**
Fall 1993  
Class Agent: Jess Green, jebby-green@gmail.com

In May, Alice Chong graduated with a doctor of pharmacy from Notre Dame of Maryland Univ.

**MCS 12**
Spring 1994  
Class Agents: Lara Fox, jlarafox@gmail.com; Becky Palmer Dickson, rebeccadickson@gmail.com

September was a busy month for Aimee Angel, who became an Australian citizen and got married in less than 24 hours! Her wedding to fellow Australian Craig Hammonds was followed by an outdoor dinner party in Sydney.

**MCS 13**
Fall 1994  
Class Agents: Erin Quinn, equirnis123@yahoo.com; Besenia Rodriguez, besenia@yahoo.com

Jimbo Schley spent the summer as the program director for the North Carolina Outward Bound Outer Banks Sea Kayak Program. He will be in Vermont this fall, and move on to the Everglades with Outward Bound in the winter. Ben Thompson and wife Courtney are excited to announce the birth of their son, Augustine “Augie” Thompson, born on 4-28-14 (see photo).

**MCS 14**
Spring 1995  
Class Agent: Erika Brown, erikabrown1@gmail.com

Colby Holtshouse is working at a medical device startup. In August, Jess LeClair received a master’s of fine arts in intermedia from the Univ. of Maine, Orono. She lives in Bangor, ME, with her husband, Matt, and two-year-old daughter, Gwen.

**MCS 15**
Fall 1995  
Class Agents: Fitz Cahall, dirtbagdiaries@earthlink.net; Emily Delias, emilyd@gmail.com; Glynis Roberts, glynis.roberts@gmail.com

Sean Gray (BC staff ’98-03) has been hard at work planning events from Boston to Paris, including Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto’s inauguration this year. He had the chance to catch up with Remy Mansfield and Biche Fessenden on a recent trip to Massachusetts. Lizzy Grubin is the operations director at Impact Carbon, a non-profit promoting access to clean energy technologies in developing countries.

**MCS 16**
Fall 1996  
Class Agent: Bailey McCallum, bailey.mccallum@gmail.com

MCS 17  
Fall 1996  
Class Agent: Page McClean, pagemcclean@gmail.com

In September, Page McClean (semester Spanish teacher ’03-’05) released Departures, her first studio album. She’s crowdfunding in hopes of taking the music on a house-concert tour of Europe, so visit her at www.indiegogo.com/projects/departures-album-release-european-tour.

**MCS 18**
Spring 1997  
Class Agent: Sarah Klain, s.klain@gmail.com

Chartery Quarcoo and his wife, Ashley, welcomed two new additions to their household this summer: Samuel Akwete Quarcoo and Julius Kwei Quarcoo, born 8-27-14. This past spring Chartery joined the U.S. Dept. of Justice as a trial attorney in the fraud section of the civil division.

**MCS 19**
Fall 1997  
Class Agent: Josie Rodberg, josierodberg@gmail.com

Six MCS alums attended the March wedding of Andrew Schulte (BC staff ’99): Ben Martell, Simon Fischer-Baum, Patrick McElhine, Clay Smith (MCS 20), Ian Schulte (MCS 25), and Alex Schulte (MCS 37).

**MCS 20**
Spring 1998  
Class Agents: Marley Aloe, marleyaloe@gmail.com; Kerry Granfield, kqgranfield@gmail.com

Spence Taylor (BC ’92-97; WT ’98) lives in Somerville, MA. “I have started another business called Evap-tainers. We are building small mobile refrigerators that run on nothing but sun and water to transport produce from small-scale farmers to market domestically and internationally,” he explains. Ella Moench and husband North welcomed a son, Rowan, in May. “I am taking the fall off from teaching in order to mom it up,” she reports, “and am looking forward to all the adventures to come.” Nate Wessler lives in Brooklyn and is a lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union, for which he works on digital privacy and police surveillance issues.

**MCS 22**
Spring 1999  
Class Agent: Louisa Pitt, lapitt@gmail.com

Elisabeth Christensen (WT ’96-97, ’99) recently accepted a position as an investigative attorney at the National Science Foundation’s Office of Inspector General, based in Arlington, VA.

**MCS 23**
Fall 1999  
Class Agent: Ariane Lotti, ariane.lotti@gmail.com

Marselle Alexander-Ozinskas works in philanthropy, making grants to support California’s conservation community. Liz Tunick married Andrew Cedar in Katonah, NY. “Work at the Smithsonian Institution continues to be fulfilling and interesting,” Liz writes, “and I remain excited about working in the international cultural sector.” Ariane Lotti and Dan Owen were married in April. She left her job in Washington, DC, this summer and is currently farming in central Italy. “Things are awesome up in the Ottawa Valley!” says Megan McCarrel. “Still busily catching babies in the wild country, and I am also looking forward to continuing my master’s of public health program in September.” Will Morris is living in Denver, CO, and working on CO2 capture technology development.
Cheunokki sweeps Maine kayak championships

Jane Koopman (MCS 33; BC staff/farm ’08; GC staff ’10; Penobsot Whitewater leader ’11; OC staff ’11; Umbagog leader ’13) and Ryan Linehan (WT leader ’99-’01; WT director ’02-’13; Family WT leader ’13) won the 2014 women’s and men’s Maine Whitewater Championships last summer. Tom Neilson (Northeast Rivers leader ’10;’11) also competed. Congratulations, paddlers!

This spring, Megan Madden received her MBA from the Univ. of Virginia’s Darden School of Business.

Emily Warner spent last year as a fellow at the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, DC, doing research for her doctoral dissertation. In September, she moved on to another fellowship at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Nellie Black recently stopped being a nurse at a small community hospital. Nellie has started a master’s program at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts. In August, Zach Strassburger moved to Winona, MN, to become an assistant professor of Child Advocacy Studies at Winona State Univ.

Megan Flemmenk recently moved to Portland and is teaching marine biology at Southern Maine Community College. This past summer she taught a field class for Sustainable Ocean Studies, a joint program between Chewonki and the Waynflete School.

Emily Layton writes, “This marks four years that I have been living back in Maine, loving the summer, the fresh farm food, running, and life with my boyfriend Nathan, his three young’uns, and my Maine Coon cat. I am looking forward to wearing dry socks and eating vegetables again. Looking forward to being back in Maine, loving the summer, the fresh farm food, running, and life with my boyfriend Nathan, his three young’uns, and my Maine Coon cat. I am looking forward to wearing dry socks and eating vegetables again.”

Juliet Dana recently stopped teaching middle school history and returned home to Maine, where Kate will be starting a new position as a primary care nurse practitioner.

Danielle Layton writes, “This marks four years that I have been living back in Maine, loving the summer, the fresh farm food, running, and life with my boyfriend Nathan, his three young’uns, and my Maine Coon cat. I am looking forward to wearing dry socks and eating vegetables again.”

Ellie Bomstein is thrilled to be moving to Charleston, SC, to serve as the food and agriculture project manager for the Coastal Conservation League. Jane Koopman (BC staff ’08;’10; WT staff ’11, ’13) plans to travel in South America during the winter. Jaz Smith (WT ’04; BC staff ’05; GC staff ’08-’09) is starting a place-based, Waldorf-inspired community school on Mount Desert Island, ME.

Andrew Karp (BC ’03-’04) manages the Centre for Social Innovation, a non-profit event space, and part of a shared workspace and community for social entrepreneurs. Kit Hamley (BC staff ’09; GC staff ’10; WT staff ’12; and Reuben Hudson were married this August in Biddeford, ME. Kit is starting graduate school this fall at the Climate Change Institute at the Univ. of Maine. They live in Jackson, ME. Doug Ray recently began a course of study in museum anthropology at Columbia Univ.

Upon reaching Canada in late September, Myla Fay (Umbagog ’03, Northeast Rivers ’04, George River ’05, MCS 36, GC staff ’08) completed a nearly five-month-long hike of the Continental Divide Trail! She says she is looking forward to wearing dry socks and eating vegetables again.

Visit our website at chewonki.org / 27
Margaret Ellis Day, June 7, 2014

Volunteers gathered on a beautiful morning to prepare the perennial beds for summer. Tim Ellis offered a disclaimer: “Margaret told me what to do and I’d do it. That’s the extent of my gardening knowledge.” Even so, he did a fine job of trimming the forsythia. Heart thanks to (front row, L-R) Sierra Morgan, Jenn Barton (with Zella), Sara Walbridge, Margy Foulk, Jonathan Appleyard; (back row, L-R) Anne Leslie, Helen Wield, Willard Morgan, Ruth Appleyard, Henry Barber, Patti Mendes, Tim Ellis, Susie Stedman, Lisa Paige.

MCS 36
Spring 2006
Class Agents: Teddy Newmyer, tnewmyer@wesleyan.edu; Chelsea Pompadur, cmpompadur@gmail.com

Marian Messing has matriculated at Yale Law School. She will complete the joint JD/master’s in public affairs with Princeton Univ. in 2017 and hopes to work in public interest law.

MCS 37
Fall 2006
Class Agent: Lizzy Tarr, lizzy.tarr@gmail.com

After graduating from Swarthmore in 2012, Avery Davis moved to Boston to start a Ph.D. in human genetics at Harvard.

MCS 38
Spring 2007
Class Agents: Franklin Jacoby, fjJacoby@cox.edu; Maddy Schwartz, madeleineschwartz@gmail.com

Emmy Masur recently started medical school at the Univ. of Maryland in Baltimore. Haile Morrell is a master’s student at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, where she is focusing on land and wildlife conservation. Olivia Woolam is working for the Lower East Side Ecology Center, a nonprofit that runs Manhattan’s only operational compost facility.

MCS 39
Fall 2007
Class Agents: Dana Golden, degs1@williams.edu; Madeleine Woodie, mwwoodie@princeton.edu

Emily Kirkland moved to Cambridge, MA, in March to take a job as the communications coordinator at Better Future Project, a nonprofit that works to build a grassroots movement to confront the climate crisis.

MCS 40
Spring 2008
Class Agents: Rachel Madding, rmadding@middlebury.edu; Nick McCleod, nwmcleod@sy.edu

Now a proud graduate of Brown Univ., Lucy Bates-Campbell is based in NYC working in science communication consulting and is planning to take off for an around-the-world backpacking adventure in 2015. Douglas Gledhill writes that he’s “thankful to have had the opportunity to attend Middlebury College as a part of the class of 2014.” He will be working for Amazon as a rotational operations financial analyst. After graduating from Colorado College with a degree in biology in May 2013, Collins Knauss (WT ’08) moved to Washington, DC, where he recently became the National Park Trust’s Youth Programs Coordinator. Zoe Mason (WT ’06; GC staff ’09) has been traveling around the Middle East and Europe for eight months, and says she’s “going strong with the nomadic lifestyle.”

MCS 41
Fall 2008
Class Agent: Kevin Coleman, colemank@gmail.com

“l graduated from Colorado College in the spring, with a BA in international political economy,” John Russell (BC ’02–’06; WT ’07; BC staff ’09, ’12, ’14) writes, “and... would love to be in touch with Chewonki connections in the Boston area in wealth management, finance, and business management.” Hank Stein finished his studies at the Univ. of Montana in May, with a B.S. in ecological restoration and a minor in climate change studies.

MCS 42
Spring 2009
Class Agent: Carly Blumenfeld, cnblumenfeld@gmail.com

Carly Blumenfeld will soon move to San Francisco to work for LinkedIn. Annie King graduated from Tufts Univ. in May, and will stay for a fifth year to complete a master’s in teaching for Early Childhood Education.

Semester 43
Fall 2009
Class Agent: Sara Clark, saracClark146@msn.com

Thank you, trustees and advisors!
Trustees, honorary trustees, and advisors who attended the July meeting gathered outside the Center for Environmental Education. Front rows, L-R: Laird McCulloch, Julius Alexander, Jerry Pieh, Bill Hetzel, Jr., Ted Deinard, Sandra Lehner, Dale Wright, Peggy Conver, Syd Roberts, Tori Macmillan, Gordy Hall, Jean Wilkinson, Jasmine Smith, Renny Little, Roseanne Saalfeld, Sam Buttrick, Sherry Thornburg, Joe Selle, Willard Morgan, Rebecca Marvil, Caleb Hemphill, Tim Ellis, Gary Spiess. Back row, L-R: Scott Beebe, Susie Rodriguez, Terry Marsh, Charkie Quarcoo, Don Hudson, Sara Kirby Mitchell, John Warren, Alyssa Pei, Charlie Gordy, Erin Quinn. We are so appreciative of all that they and their colleagues do for Chewonki.
Fulbright scholar. afterward architecture at Carnegie Mellon University and Yale and in Gothenburg, Sweden, as a leading volunteer teen trail crews in the Appalachian Mountain Club.

Paige Williams, paigewilliams@westminster.net; Noah Stone, noah2313@gmail.com

Katie Perkins is studying sustainable agriculture and food systems at UC Davis. Nicole Smith (WT ’11) recently moved to Chile to work at a renewable energy start-up in Santiago and Patagonia. Alana Thurston will spend the fall semester at the Marine Biology Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA.

Semester 46
Spring 2011
Class Agents: Ruthy Gourevitch, ruthy-gourevitch@gmail.com; Katie Kibler, kkibler@paceacademy.org; Clarke Rudick, clarerkudick@gmail.com

Jennifer Cutler (Maine Coast Kayak ’09) is a US Air Force Academy cadet in Colorado and she’d love to connect with Chewonki alumni out there. You can find her at C6Jennifer.Cutler@usa.edu. Niall Griffin (BC ’05’08; WT ’09) studied fat-tailed dwarf lemurs in Madagascar last summer as part of a team from Duke Univ. Megan Robidas (WT ’11) will spend part of the fall semester in Hangzhou, China. Over the summer, Alex Siebert worked for the Appalachian Mountain Club leading volunteer teen trail crews in the White Mountains. Megan Tischbein and her boyfriend hiked the Long Trail last summer. She met up for the day with Maritza Padilla and Luke Trautwein, and ran into Ruth Gourevitch and Alex Seibert at the Newport Folk Festival!

Semester 47
Fall 2011
Class Agents: Francesca Governali, francesca@maine.rr.com; Paige Williams, paigewilliams@westminster.ne

Many Semester 47 folks are returning from gap years to begin college. Olivia Cameron traveled to England, Thailand, and Nepal and has started at Oregon State Univ. to study natural resources and animal sciences. Emma Dadmun is a freshman at Whitman College. Francesca Governali has begun her studies at Dartmouth College. Maddie Kay has returned from travels in New Zealand and will be attending Dickinson College.

Semester 48
Spring 2012
Class Agents: Chris Coughlin, cdcoughlin@gmail.com; Miranda Mahmoud, miranda.mahmoud@gmail.com; Madeline Miller, livelaughluv094@gmail.com; Elizabeth O’Connor, oconnore@gfacademy.org

Katie Craighill spent the summer interning at a wildlife center in Savannah, GA, where she worked with cougars, bobcats, wolves, foxes, bison, and many other species of native North American wildlife. Teddy Simpson (WT ’12) is in his sophomore year at Colby College, leading trips for the Outing Club and continuing with Colby Improv.

Semester 49
Fall 2012
Class Agents: Harry Carter, harry@harrisoncarter.com; Minah Choi, mchoi@thacher.org

Phoebe Chatfield is enjoying her freshman year at Yale, where she’s gotten involved with Fossil Free Yale, an organization that is pushing the Yale administration to divest their endowment from fossil fuel companies.

Semester 50
Spring 2013
Class Agents: Atticus Carnell, jkc-tbc@comcast.net; Isabelle Mann, imann416@gmail.com; and Alison Tilson, atilson@nightingale.org

Phoebe Keyes, pvkeyes@gmail.com; Hannah Lafferty, hlafferty@friendscentral.org; Phoebe Keyes, pvkeyes@gmail.com; and Margaux Miller, margaloonumber2@comcast.net

Quinn Griffin (BC ’06’09) spent the summer working at the Villa Maria Kali Hotel in Tayrona National Park in Colombia.

In Memoriam

Timothy Scully Killiam (BC ’59’60) died on February 6, 2014, in Amsterdam. He was an architect, architectural historian, photographer, and illustrator. Timothy studied architecture at Carnegie Mellon University and Yale and in Gottingen, Sweden, as a Fulbright scholar. Afterward he restored a traditional wooden sailboat in England and set forth across the North Sea for Sweden. A storm forced him to Amsterdam, where he fell in love with the city and stayed for the rest of his life, becoming an authority on the history and architecture of canal houses and creating a number of illustrated publications about them. He also published many photographs, etchings, posters, and postcards.

Timothy was born on November 20, 1947, to Joan Richards Killiam and Paul Killiam (BC ’26’29; BC staff ’55’42; former trustee). His father, a producer and entrepreneur who excelled in business, was a graduate of Harvard and Boston Univ. School of Law. To make his life in theater and movies, was notorious at Chewonki until his death in 1998. He directed and starred in many camp productions that became legendary. The Killiam family’s connections with Chewonki began earlier, however, with a friendship between Timothy’s grandmother, Mary S. Killiam, and Clarence Allen. Timothy’s brother Thomas (BC ’66’67) and nephew Richard (’94) were also part of the Chewonki clan.

Frederick Kauders was never a Chewonki participant but he served as a wise and devoted camp parent, trustee, and honorary trustee for many years. Fred died on October 22, 2014, in Wickenburg, Ariz. Fred’s son, Richard (BC ’59’60’61’62; BC staff ’62’65), was his connection to Chewonki. Fred came to the U.S. in the fall of 1940 after a distinguished military career in Europe. Born in Prague, Czech Republic, in 1919, he attended Charles Univ. in Prague and the Sorbonne in Paris. During World War II, he served with the Czech Army in France and with the French Army, from which he received the Croix de guerre with a star. After settling in Salem, Mass., he and his brother founded a manufacturing company. The bombing of Pearl Harbor inspired him to volunteer for the U.S. Army; he served overseas in an intelligence unit from 1942 to 1945.

Fred lived most of his life on Boston’s North Shore and was always engaged in his community as an active leader in charities, including hospitals, his church, and other civic organizations. He loved to sail but found golf a good alternative in Arizona. He named Chewonki as a recipient of donations in his memory. For that and for his friendship over many years, we are grateful.

Common Ground Fair 2014

Members of Semester 53, faculty, staff, and alumni of all ages and stripes took a quick break from the fun to pose for the camera on Sept. 20 in Unity, Maine.
485 Chewonki Neck Road
Wiscasset, Maine 04578-4822

Are your name and address up to date? If not, please email alumni@chewonki.org and set us straight. Thank you!