Celebrating Chewonki’s Foundation
President’s Notes

News from the Neck

Chewonki: Then and Now
This summer marks the 100th summer of Boys Camp and the kickoff of Chewonki’s centennial year, 2015. As we honor the past, focus on all of the current activity, and look to the future, we have much to celebrate!

Human Ecology Projects
This new addition to the Semester School curriculum offers students a chance to dig into a subject of their own interest and also contribute to their community.

Farewell to Scott and Lucy
Longtime staff members Scott Andrews and Lucy Hull will retire in June. We’ll miss them, but their influence will be felt here for years to come.

Noticing Nature
“Doc Fred” marvels at some of the surprising adaptations of the Eastern Gray Tree Frog, “the most familiar animal you’ve never seen,” he says.

The Dirt on Chewonki Neck
Farm manager Megan Phillips announces the launch of “Our Farm & Food System.” It’s the new link on our website devoted to all the great work happening in our fields and kitchen and on trips.

Alumni & Friends
Wondering what we have planned for Chewonki’s centennial year? Get the skinny here, and mark your calendars!

People

Step It Up for Sustainability

Meet the Chewonki Circle
A special circle of friends are especially passionate about Chewonki and generous in their support. It’s our pleasure to introduce you to a few of them.

The cover photo (taken sometime in the 1940s) and other archival photos in this issue are made possible through the work of volunteer archivist Terry Marsh with help from Elizabeth Estes and Sara Kirby Mitchell.

Chewonki inspires transformative growth, teaches appreciation and stewardship of the natural world, and challenges people to build thriving, sustainable communities throughout their lives.
In the summer of 2011, I had the good fortune to host Doug Allen, son of Chewonki founder Clarence Allen; Doug’s wife, Louise; and their daughter, Tapley Sheresky, for what would be Doug’s last visit to Chewonki Neck. Doug had grown up during summers here, gone to war, and come back to teach nature at Camp Chewonki in the late 1940s. He had many rich stories to share. The visit was moving for all of us involved. Last spring Doug passed away at the age of 87, and so ended our connection to Clarence Allen’s most immediate descendants, his children. In the shadow of that loss we continue to strengthen our connection to the extended Allen family, including Clarence’s great-grandchildren, many of whom are involved with Chewonki in a range of ways.

Over our 100-year history, Chewonki stories from our founders to today’s alumni proliferate. And with those stories, we share life experiences and lessons. Indeed, it is through the telling and retelling of these stories that we connect to the traditions that offer meaning and structure to our lives and to Chewonki today. Through our stories we journey, we face challenge, we triumph, and we laugh, too! We connect to our core sense of self, and we are strengthened as a community.

As we anticipate our centennial year with the 100th summer of Boys Camp soon to begin, many of us have been working with a growing collection of stories of Chewonki. You will find a taste of what’s to come on these pages. MCS 15 alumnus and trustee Kevin Connors and his team of editors, Betta Stothart and Liz Pierson, are hard at work on a commemorative book of essays and photos from across the years. Chewonki advisor Scott Beebe is in the last stages of producing a CD of Chewonki songs that will be available this summer. And trustee Rebecca Marvil has been leading an oral history project. Many more Chewonki alumni and friends, led by Centennial Year Committee chair Roseanne Saalfield, are shaping events and activities that will mark the year ahead.

Chewonki’s work is becoming part of other collections as well. The Smithsonian Institution recently launched an online archive called “Community of Gardens” that showcases stories of gardens from around the country. Through former staff member Kate Fox, the gardens at Chewonki are now part of this compendium. It is an honor to place the early work of Kay Allen and Margaret Ellis there and to celebrate all who have pulled a weed, planted a flower, or transplanted a whole garden bed at Chewonki over the years.

Throughout this summer and the centennial year, we invite you to share your story or memory to enrich our timeline of 100 years of Chewonki which will be on exhibit during the summer of 2015. Alumni, students, campers, teachers, parents, and the community at large are all invited to add stories, photos, and other tributes that add texture to the fabric we weave together.

Come share a story later this summer during our Family, Friends, and Alumni Weekend, August 14–17 (see p. 21 for more information). And save the date now for our Centennial Celebration on August 14–16, 2015, when we will honor the past, celebrate Chewonki today, and look forward with strong vision to Chewonki’s bright future.

Feel free to contact Anne Leslie by phone, mail, or email (aleslie@chewonki.org) to contribute your story and help create a truly meaningful celebration of Chewonki’s first century.

With best wishes, as always,

Willard Morgan
Chewonki Gardens Shine in Smithsonian’s “Community of Gardens” Project

The invitation came in an email this past winter, from former staff member Kate Fox (Boys Camp staff ’03, ’05–’08, ’11, ’12), now a contractor in collections and education at the Smithsonian Gardens in Washington, D.C. Would Chewonki like to submit an article about its gardens for the Smithsonian’s upcoming Community of Gardens project? “I would love to give Chewonki a little shout-out and feature the story of Margaret Ellis and the gardens on the Chewonki campus, and their current caretakers,” wrote Kate.

Community of Gardens describes itself as “the Smithsonian’s digital home for sharing and preserving the stories of gardens and the gardeners who make them grow.” It’s an online, participatory archive that went live earlier this year. “We want to hear (and see) your garden stories!” proclaims the website. “Anyone who has a story, photo, audio, video, or interview related to gardening in America can participate.”

Margy Foulk, a member of our advancement staff and an avid gardener, heeded Kate’s call. With contributions from several other Chewonki gardeners, Margy stitched together a beautiful history and description of the Chewonki gardens. The passages about the late Margaret Ellis—former director of health services, wife of president Tim Ellis, and the mastermind behind Chewonki’s current gardens—are especially lovely. This one, for example:

“Born in England, she had a Brit’s sensibility for what a true English garden ought to be. She was practical and extravagant at the same time, abhorring unnecessary expense but lavishing time, energy, and love on her gardens. She made sure her soil was as rich as she could make it, with lots of compost. Her vision was broad, her attention focused and particular. She wanted the perennial beds at Chewonki to take the onlooker’s breath away.”

You can see photos and read more—not only about Margaret and other Chewonki gardeners but about Kay Allen’s Victory Garden, Salt Marsh Farm, the “Ladies of the Dirt,” and the plants themselves—on the Community of Gardens website: communityof-gardens.si.edu.

Chewonki’s sustainability initiatives were featured last December by the Green Schools Alliance, a global network of schools working together to solve climate and conservation challenges. GSA has more than 3,000 member schools on six continents. Each month, its website features a school that is excelling in the work of sustainability and climate change education. The December feature was titled “Chewonki: Green Is More Than the Color of Our T-Shirts.”

“It was pretty impressive to read our story,” said head of school Ann Carson. “And it was inspirational to hear about all the good work that so many other schools are doing to improve the environment.”

Ann extended a special thanks to sustainability officer Tom Twist and former semester alumna, teaching fellow, and cook Laura Hartz for their work on the feature. “This was truly a collaboration between the Semester School and the Sustainability Office,” said Ann. “I’m proud of the students and staff for their great work making Chewonki such a model of sustainability. I hope Chewonki friends and alumni will take a few minutes to read the story.”

You can do just that by visiting www.greenschoolsalliance.org and clicking on “Membership” and then “Featured Schools.”

Did you know the Chronicle is available online too? Visit chewonki.org and look for the link on the left, under “Popular Pages.” It’s a snap to share Chewonki stories with family and friends who may not get the magazine.
Town of Wiscasset Honors Chewonki

The Wiscasset Board of Selectmen honored Chewonki with a Business Recognition Award this spring. “The Chewonki Foundation is a major employer in Wiscasset and a significant asset to the town,” said board chair Ed Polewarczyk at the March 18 presentation.

Chewonki president Willard Morgan accepted the award with delight and said he looked forward to hanging it on campus. “Chewonki has been part of Wiscasset since 1918,” said Willard. “Although we happen to be situated at the corner of the town border, we like to be at the center of the community.”

Part of Chewonki’s mission is to encourage people to “build thriving and sustainable communities,” and Chewonki has long sought to engage with the larger Wiscasset community. One of the best-known examples comes from Wiscasset Middle School, whose eighth-graders have visited Chewonki every fall for almost 30 years. The program is now a three-night and four-day camping and learning experience in late October, and Chewonki donates two-thirds of the cost of the program to make it more accessible for the local school system. In partnership with the local nonprofit Teens to Trails, Chewonki also co-sponsors a three-week summer wilderness trip for two students from Wiscasset High School each year. Semester students volunteer in town, and Chewonki staff and students are frequent visitors to the Wiscasset Community Center and to local shops and businesses. “Chewonki is very fortunate to be located in this beautiful community with a rich history and with natural resources as an important part of the economy,” said Willard. “We consider ourselves a partner with the town, and believe that our future and Wiscasset’s future are deeply entwined. A strong partnership benefits both entities.”

Wiscasset comprises 28 square miles and has a population of about 3,700. In 2013, Chewonki employed 239 people on its Wiscasset campus.

Bowdoin Students Study Chewonki’s Educational Philosophy

Having Bowdoin College just down the road in Brunswick benefits Chewonki Semester School in untold ways. Guest speakers, films, and Bowdoin’s lovely art museum have long provided wonderful and convenient educational resources for our students. More recently, though, the exchange has become two-way: Chewonki has become an educational resource for Bowdoin students too.

For the past two years, head of Semester School Ann Carson has addressed Bowdoin students in the college’s Place-Based Education course. Offered jointly by Bowdoin’s Education and Psychology departments, the intermediate-level course examines theories of how people learn and the implications of those theories for the education of all students. Ann shares Chewonki’s educational philosophy and approach and also invites the Bowdoin students to visit Chewonki and see it firsthand. Last fall, three students took Ann up on her offer and used Chewonki for their course’s required Action Research Project.

Bowdoin seniors Cayla Liptak, Madelena Rizzo, and Turner Kelsey visited Chewonki several times, interviewing students and faculty, observing classes and weekend activities, and even joining in the fun for a Saturday morning Polar Bear dip. “Their goal,” said Ann, “was to see how Chewonki approaches education and community-building—in essence, to see what makes our school tick.” In addition to completing a research paper, the three students produced a 10-minute video about Semester School.

Afterward, the students raved about the experience. “It was incredible to spend time at Chewonki,” Madelena wrote to Ann. “We were welcomed like old friends; it was impossible to remain a passive observer. I was so impressed with the students’ maturity, and often had to remind myself that I was not in a college setting. Every member of the community was unique and celebrated for his or her individuality, and yet they were all connected by an underlying passion for learning, a passion for respecting the environment, and a passion for forging deep connections that would endure long after the semester ended.” Madelena concluded by saying, “I walked away from this experience with a renewed hope for the next generation.”

Ann looks forward to future cross-pollination with Bowdoin students. “It’s a win-win,” she says, “bolstering the educational experience for both groups of students.”
Traveling Natural History Programs
Welcome a New “Colleague”

Meet Athena, a Northern Saw-whet Owl and our newest teaching colleague. Athena came to us from a wildlife rehabilitation center in Freedom, Maine, last November and is unable to fly because of a wing injury caused by a car accident. She quickly acclimated to her new home in the Chewonki avaiaries and is now going out regularly on presentations to school, libraries, and other facilities. “She’s a huge hit in the classroom,” says TNHP director Keith Crowley. “With her small size and big eyes, she really captivates an audience.” Northern Saw-whet Owls typically weigh less than 5 ounces and measure about 7 inches high. They are common in forests across North America but are rarely seen, being noted far more frequently—including on Chewonki Neck—by their high-pitched too-too-too-too call. Chewonki’s Traveling Natural History Programs reach more than 20,000 students a year all over New England. “Athena is a great addition to our team,” says Keith.

Our Beautiful New High Tunnel Is Up and Growing!

Semester students, farmers, and the maintenance crew worked together last fall to erect the frame, and on a windfree November day they stretched the plastic over it. The 30- x 72-foot unheated structure—named the Berry House, because it sits on the western end of the garden called Berry—survived the winter snows just fine. “We’ll use it to grow heat-loving crops in the summer and to extend our growing season,” said farm manager Megan Phillips. The line-up includes peas, salad greens, spinach, and radishes in spring; tomatoes in summer; and more salad greens, kale, radishes, and spinach in the fall. The high tunnel was funded in part by a grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The Hollyday family, through the Harmon Foundation, provided additional dollars and also funded a new well and irrigation system for the farm.

Chewonki Girls Are Heading for the Hills—

and the mountains, lakes, ocean, woods, and rivers! Eighty-one girls, ages 10 to 17, will be learning about themselves, acquiring wilderness skills, and finding out how to be part of a close-knit community as they explore some of the most beautiful landscapes and waterways in the Northeast. Our Adventures for Girls this summer range from 10 days to 3 weeks. Bon voyage!
Welcome!

A flood of new—and in the case of the Outdoor Classroom, many returning—staff has brought a wonderful influx of energy to campus in recent months. We’re delighted to have them all, and are especially pleased to welcome three key new leaders.

Deborah Cook, Interim Director of Advancement and Communications
A Massachusetts native who has called Maine home for over 30 years, Deb is a graduate of Colby College with a master’s degree from the Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine. She joined us in mid-January, to provide strategic leadership and help us reach our goals in enrollment, development, and communications. Deb’s past positions include serving as media director for both Clinton/Gore campaigns in Maine, staff to Senator Patrick Leahy, outreach consultant for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and vice president for communications at the Maine Science and Technology Foundation. She has also served on and chaired the boards of GrowSmart Maine and the Institute for Civic Leadership, as well as had longtime service to the board of Maine Businesses for Social Responsibility.

“After a few months at Chewonki, it feels like all of my work has led me here,” Deb said recently. “I feel very fortunate to be serving Chewonki now.”

Deb enjoys kayaking, cycling, and hiking in Maine, on Cape Cod, and in the White Mountains. She is also a certified Kripalu yoga teacher. Deb and her husband, Tony Holt, live in downtown Portland and in South Bristol.

Emma Mabel Carlson, Manager of Summer Wilderness Trips
Emma Mabel Carlson is a familiar face at Chewonki, having been on our year-round staff from 2008 to 2011 in the Outdoor Classroom and as a wilderness trip leader. (She was among the leaders profiled in the last Chronicle.) We’re pleased to welcome her “home” after her two years at St. Lawrence University, where she was assistant director of the Adirondack Semester. Emma is a 2008 graduate of Colby College with a major in environmental education. Last spring, she and a friend through-paddled the 740-mile Northern Forest Canoe Trail, which travels across New York, Vermont, Quebec, New Hampshire, and Maine. “For 40 days I was consistently reminded of why I’ve pursued a professional path in outdoor education,” she said.

Director of outdoor programs Greg Shute said he is “particularly excited about Emma’s personal expedition experience, her experience in multiple trip elements (canoe, sea kayak, hiking, and winter travel), her professional outdoor leadership training, and the genuine enthusiasm she brings to the team.”

Lisa Packard, Director of the Outdoor Classroom
Lisa came to Chewonki from Newforest Institute, a permaculture farm and education center in Brooks, Maine, where she was executive director. “Lisa is a gifted teacher and administrator with a proven track record of developing topnotch environmental education curricula,” said Greg Shute on announcing her appointment.

Previously, Lisa spent six years at the Highlands Center for Natural History in Prescott, Arizona, where she worked closely with public school administrators and teachers to develop an award-winning outdoor science program for thousands of students at six public schools. Lisa has taught science, languages, and environmental subjects at Prescott College, Skyview School in Prescott, and Southern Regional High School in Manahawkin, New Jersey. She has residential environmental education experience at a 4-H center near Atlanta, Georgia, and urban teaching experience at the elementary and middle-school levels with Teach for America in Phoenix, Arizona. Lisa completed her undergraduate degree at UC Davis and a master’s in environmental education at Prescott College.

Farewell & Thank You!
Ryan Linchan, for the past five years director of summer wilderness trips, has been named Associate Director of Campus Life/Director of Outdoor Programs at Colby College. Ryan came to Chewonki as a wilderness trip leader in 1999 and quickly moved into a leadership position. While we are sorry to lose him, we are happy for his next step and, as Willard Morgan said, “glad to have him at Colby, where he can provide a reciprocal connection for staffing and programs between our institutions.”

After 11 years of what she calls “Chewonki bliss,” director of communications Betta Stothart decided to focus her life closer to home and her family, near Portland. Just two days after leaving Chewonki in January, she took her considerable energy and talents to Ethos Marketing, where she’s focusing on expanding Maine’s Own Organic (MOO) Milk brand. As Chewonki’s first director of communications, Betta devoted herself wholeheartedly to gaining increased recognition for Chewonki, the work it does, and its staff. We are fortunate that Betta is continuing to work on Chewonki’s centennial book, an important project which she has been part of since its beginning.

Visit our website at chewonki.org / 7

Our spring Outdoor Classroom staff (from left to right): back row: Andy Bezon, Leah Hart, Annalise Grueter, Becca Abuza, Lila Trowbridge; middle row: Tiffany Dumont, Clare Churchill-Seder, Carly Segal, Jenn Goldstein, Aaron Laflamme; front row: Lisa Packard, Scout Costello, Greg Shute, Hannah Billian
Chewonki: THEN AND

Deborah Cook and Jesse Dukes
Through its programs, its people, and its stewardship of its lands, Chewonki has for 100 years provided the structure, the relationships, and the process through which individuals can connect to a sense of place, find and express their sense of self, and discover a sense of purpose for their lives in the world. As we turn to honor the past during this 100th summer of Boys Camp and kick off our celebration of Chewonki’s centennial year, we honor the work and inspiration of the founders and the values and traditions cultivated since the early days. It is through this rich history that we celebrate Chewonki today.

Chewonki continues to change and evolve, fine-tuning programs and responding to the needs of the greater community to find opportunities for participants of all ages to connect with and learn from the natural world and discover, through shared learning and reflection, a sense of self and purpose in the world.

Come celebrate with us! You’ll find a list of events, starting this August, on pages 20–21.
Establishing the Place

Clarence Allen established Camp Chewonki to create a summer learning experience for boys that would connect them closely to the natural world. Former counselor and trip leader Jesse Dukes wrote a wonderful history of Chewonki for the 90th anniversary in 2005, “Chewonki: Celebrating 90 Years.” We are grateful to Jesse for allowing us to use or slightly adapt his text for the “Then” sections below.

THEN Chewonki Camp for Boys, originally called Split Rock Camp, began in 1915 when a young educator named Clarence Allen founded a boys camp on the shores of Lake Champlain, New York. In 1918 he moved his operation to Wiscasset, Maine, to the southern half of Chewonki Neck. Having purchased about 125 acres for $2,500, Clarence opened “Camp Chewonki, A Saltwater Camp for Boys,” with an enrollment of about 40. Inspired by his own experiences in nature, Clarence was on a mission to create the camp as a “school of the open” that would offer educational experiences in a rural setting that could be both a safe and a healthy learning experience to complement a boy’s academic year education.

Clarence and a committed staff ran the camp successfully through both world wars, the Depression, and into the 1960s. In 1962 a group of loyal camp alumni formed a nonprofit corporation called the Chewonki Foundation and launched a successful capital campaign to raise the necessary funds to buy the camp. After Clarence retired in 1965, the foundation hired a young teacher named Tim Ellis—who had grown up at Chewonki as the son of the assistant director, Hardy Ellis—to succeed him.

NOW Today, boys and girls come to Chewonki from across Maine, the United States, and abroad for programs that inspire transformative growth, teach appreciation and stewardship of the natural world, and challenge participants to build thriving, sustainable communities throughout their lives. Weaving the best principles and practices of natural science and environmental sustainability through all of its programs, Chewonki nurtures attitudes, behaviors, and skills to better people’s lives as well as their service in the world. In 2013, 463 boys and girls came to Chewonki for summer programs and wilderness trips, 84 students attended Chewonki Semester School, and 19,200 Maine students participated in Chewonki’s teaching through off-site natural history programs and on-site residential school programs. In 2013, Chewonki was able to provide close to $1 million in financial aid to campers and students who otherwise would have been unable to participate.

Clarence Allen chose Chewonki Neck because its rural character and access to great swimming made it a compelling location for a summer camp that focused on a connection to the natural world and the development of healthy, well-rounded individuals. Thousands who have come to the Neck since then have fallen in love with its majesty, from the tall pines that usher visitors down the drive, to the wide-open gathering spaces around the buildings, to the trails around the peninsula that lead to quiet spaces and inspiring vistas. Today, on a busy day in spring, summer, or fall, there may be 200 to 300 campers, students, and staff living and learning on Chewonki Neck.

It was more than 70 years ago—the summer of 1943—but I remember it as if it were yesterday.... Gas rationing was in full swing that summer, so there was really no alternative but to travel to Maine by train. From Pittsburgh that involved an overnight trip to Boston. On the appointed day my brother and I ... boarded the train just outside Pittsburgh. I don't remember many details of the trip, but I do recall the amazement with which I was introduced to the sleeping car, set up as a coach when we boarded and later converted to a sleeper with upper and lower bunks.

The following afternoon we crossed the bridge at Bath and headed to Wiscasset. On the day camp opened each year, the train made a special 'whistle stop' at the Montsweag station, which was nothing more than a hay field that had been specially mowed that morning. It was located just about where Route 144 now crosses the tracks on its way to Westport Island. We were quickly unloaded and hustled into cars and trucks for the short trip down Chewonki Neck Road to camp. I have a clear picture of a large man with a deep voice and a woodsman’s hat pulled down over his eyes, directing traffic and assigning us to vehicles. That was my first meeting with Hardy Ellis, Mr. Allen’s right-hand man.”

Excerpt from the forthcoming centennial book essay “Traveling by Train to Chewonki” by Bill Hetzel, Jr. (Boys Camp ’43–’48; Boys Camp staff ’54–’57; trustee ’69–’06)
Journey to Self-Discovery

Chewonki’s second director, Tim Ellis, and his staff built on Clarence Allen’s vision first by expanding wilderness tripping and then by offering year-round educational programs focused on science-based examination of the natural world.

THEN

By 1968, the oldest boys in camp were sent off to hike the Mahoosuc Range on the Maine-New Hampshire border. Thus began the Osprey Program, in which the oldest campers routinely spent a great deal of their summer in the wilderness. In 1970, the first Thoreau Wilderness Trip offered a group of older boys an entire summer on the rivers, lakes, and trails of northern Maine. In 1976 Chewonki began enrolling coeducational wilderness trips as part of an expanding effort to provide opportunities for girls.

In the fall of 1971, 40 students from the Rivers School’s eighth grade in Massachusetts came to Chewonki for a 10-day outdoor education program. The program was co-taught by Rivers and Chewonki faculty and emphasized rock climbing, map and compass, whitewater canoeing, and a rope traverse across Dead Man’s Gulch. The students stayed in groups of 8 to 10 with one Chewonki leader and one Rivers teacher. From this model, the academic-year program Maine Reach was launched in 1973. Designed for high-school seniors or gap-year students, Maine Reach ran for 10 years.

In 1987, Scott Andrews, former environmental education teacher, camp director, and assistant director of the foundation, was hired to develop a semester program that would better fit the traditional high-school curriculum while at the same time continuing successful elements of Maine Reach. The Maine Coast Semester (now Chewonki Semester School) for 11th-graders began in the fall of 1988, building on the principles of learning about self and the world through intellectual inquiry, small community living, and hands-on experience in the natural world.

NOW

Today, Chewonki Semester School has matriculated highly motivated and academically capable students from 320 schools across the country and abroad and has a total alumni base of 1,817. Chewonki students live on the Neck using the natural world around them as classroom, text, and recreation. Together with their academics linking study to the environment, students at Chewonki discover that everything is connected—the academic and the practical—to their lives and to the lives of their community.

Today, semester students, campers, and wilderness trippers can be found beyond the Neck kayaking along the coast, hiking up Katahdin in the summer and fall, and diving into snow caves in the North Woods in the middle of February after a moonlit cross-country ski.

“People always ask me what I want to do with my life, and I tell them I want to be outside. I want to sleep under the stars and feel the wind in my hair and the waves beneath my boat. I want to climb mountains and paddle through remote and untouched corners of the world. I want to travel and take advantage of all that life has to offer, and I have Chewonki to thank for this realization of how I want to—and can—live my life.

At Chewonki, I learned that I had the ability to push myself harder than I imagined when I summited Katahdin during my fourth summer. Every step of the way I could feel the muscles in my legs screaming and burning in protest, but I had my group with me and together we encouraged each other. I had never thought I could walk 100 miles with 50 pounds on my back, but as I stood atop Katahdin, surrounded by friends, I was invincible. I could do anything I wanted if I tried. I realized that with enough determination and hard work, anything is possible.”

Excerpt from the forthcoming centennial book essay “Have You Ever Heard of Chewonki?” by Amina Hughes (Wood Cove ’07, Wilderness Trips ’08–’10; Girls Camp Leadership Training ’11)

Deepening a Sense of Purpose

From the inspiration of its founders and luminaries such as Roger Tory Peterson and Rachel Carson, Chewonki began to secure its footing as a center for environmental education, creating a building and offering programs and demonstration projects to educate participants and the greater community.

THEN

In 1994, under the leadership of president Don Hudson, Chewonki began to create a series of curriculum materials for teachers to use in environmental education. Concurrently, the foundation began a capital campaign to build a new facility to house and expand the Environmental Education program.

Appreciation of nature and its essential role in learning and individual development were core to the Chewonki experience. Clarence Allen and Roger Tory Peterson, who was the camp naturalist for five summers while working on his seminal Field Guide to the Birds, shared a mission to connect each participant with the wonder and mystery of the natural world. The awareness of how individual action affected the environment grew over the years. In 1962, Rachel Carson’s Silent Spring was published, bringing...
national awareness to the need for environmental protections. With the advent of Earth Day on April 22, 1970, Chewonki responded with Eco-Week, a family camp program emphasizing an appreciation of the natural world through instruction and observation of ecological processes in the field.

**NOW** Today, stewardship of the natural world continues to be central to Chewonki’s mission. Each program challenges participants to build thriving, sustainable communities throughout their lives by coming to know themselves, their personal community, and the environment around them. The Chewonki farm produces 15,000 pounds of organic food that is served in 86,000 meals annually. Across campus and across the state, Chewonki has an impact as a demonstration site for forward-thinking technology, facilities, and systems that combine the best of the old and the best of the new. Chewonki has a carbon emissions reduction goal, hosts demonstration sites for solar and wind energy production, and maintains eight composting toilets that save approximately 88,000 gallons of water each year. The campus is modeling and teaching Zero Waste, with a campus-wide effort to get rid of our trash dumpster entirely. Together these efforts encourage behavioral changes in staff, participants, schools, and the greater public across Maine, and showcase techniques to move everyone toward greater sustainability.

Today, as current president Willard Morgan describes, “At Chewonki, we teach, learn, and explore year-round. Our approach is to base all of this activity in the natural world. What was instinct for our founders is now supported by research, which shows that outdoor learning in small communities spurs healthy childhood development, a deep desire to learn, and a connection to the natural world that promotes lifelong environmental stewardship. Chewonki alumni are net givers to their communities, and that is our greatest achievement.”

“I began my formal teaching career at Chewonki as an environmental educator. There I remember being captivated by the way my colleague Tim Harrigan could motivate and excite students…. One day I decided to teach like Tim. I took a group of students on a pond ecology class and launched into the lesson with the same loud and lively enthusiasm Tim exuded. The students looked at me as if to say, ‘What are you doing?’ I tried to do everything Tim did, and the harder I tried, the worse it got. The lesson ended up being a total flop. I remember walking back with the students and thinking I was not meant to be a great teacher.

One evening I shared with Tim how much I admired and envied the way he taught. I told him I had never seen anyone bring as much contagious enthusiasm to learning as he did.

To my surprise, Tim said he had always been envious of the way I taught, and wished he could incorporate my approach into his own teaching. I was thunderstruck by his comment…. But as Tim pointed out, I had an unusual knack for being able to take students and have them conduct a level of serious study and examination he was never able to do. Teaching, he said, was not just about exciting students. It was also about getting them to understand that learning involves rigor that isn’t always fun. He saw my gift as being able to get students to respond positively to disciplined learning.

So through Tim’s words and the honest sense of community at Chewonki, I found that great teaching is grounded in a deep reverence of who we are as individuals. I continue to spend my life as a teacher trying to polish my own unique teaching style, and think often of the woods, fields, and waterways of Chewonki where it all began.”


Deborah Cook is Chewonki’s new interim director of advancement and communications. Jesse Dukes is an independent journalist based in Charlottesville, Virginia.
Human Ecology Projects: A New Initiative at Chewonki

Ann Carson

Question: What do an urban vertical garden design and a folk song addressing the Portland-Montreal tar sands pipeline have in common? If your answer is “They sound very Chewonki,” you’re right, but to be more specific, these are examples of Semester School’s newly minted Human Ecology Projects.

Last fall, Semester 51 became the first group in which all students completed a place-based research project on a topic of their own interest. Students in our Environmental Issues class have always completed a semester-long Individual Research Project, and many have found it to be the highlight of their academic experience at Chewonki, if not of their entire high school career. What if all students completed a modified version of this intensely personal and rigorous assignment? The faculty had been discussing this idea for years, and after a year of planning, it finally came to fruition in the Human Ecology Projects.

The idea behind the projects is to offer students an opportunity to step beyond typical disciplinary boundaries, dig into an area of their own interest, develop their critical thinking skills, and create something that will contribute to their communities, either in Maine or...
elsewhere. With an eye toward our mission (see sidebar), each student picks a topic related to human ecology, defined as the study and improvement of the relationships between human and natural communities. We ask them to focus on an issue related to this place (northern New England) or their place at home, challenge them to delve deep into research during specific times set aside from our already busy weeks, and then ask them to pull their information together in a broadly defined “product.”

Gemma Laurence, from nearby Brunswick High School, found herself concerned about the tar sands pipeline being planned to cross Maine, so she spent the semester researching this Canadian fossil fuel and why it has become such a contentious national as well as local issue. Because Gemma is also a budding songwriter, we encouraged her to use her passion for music in her final product. The result was an original song titled “Flooded to Black.”

Kipper Berven, who attends The Thacher School near San Francisco, wondered how he might be able to promote local food in his urban home. He researched vertical garden designs and came up with one of his own that even included an aquaculture tank as a way to raise fish for food for his family and fertilizer for the garden.

After our half-day Human Ecology Celebration event, during which all of the students presented the results of their projects, we invited students to apply for a small number of minigrants (up to $500) to continue their projects after the semester. Kipper earned one of these grants and will be building his ingenious, space-conscious garden in his backyard later this spring.

When students were surveyed about their experience with the new curricular initiative at the end of the semester, they had ideas for how to improve it as well as strong praise. As one student enthusiastically put it, “I got to bring Chewonki home with my project.”

Our second group of students—the 42 students of Semester 52—wrapped up their Human Ecology Projects in mid-April, and they too were full of creative ideas for how they might contribute to improving their communities, here or at home.

We’re thrilled with the new addition to our curriculum and can’t wait to see what it generates in future semesters.

Ann Carson is head of Chewonki Semester School and teaches the elective course Environmental Issues.

Human Ecology Projects
A Sample from the First Year

SEMESTER 51
• How aware are Loomis Chaffee students about the environmental initiatives on campus and how could we increase their awareness and interest in sustainability? Ayanna Curwen, Loomis Chaffee School, Windsor, CT
• Is it possible to market kudzu as an efficient “do it yourself” food source to those in need of food? Dave Long, The Paideia School, Atlanta, GA
• Is it both financially and physically feasible for Chewonki to build its own aquaculture, and if not, what other methods can be used to aid us in making more sustainable seafood choices? Sophie MacVittie, Stuyvesant High School, New York, NY
• Is it feasible for the city of Portland, Maine, to be fully powered by offshore wind? Lucy Wanzer, Portland High School, Portland, ME
• What aren’t our food labels telling us and what do our food labels mean? Caroline Weinrauch, Milburn High School, Short Hills, NJ

SEMESTER 52
• Is it possible to utilize the energy generated in ergometers and exercise bikes to power electrical devices? Claire Benning, St. Mark’s School, Southborough, MA
• How have alewife populations been historically impacted by dams? Dale Lattanzio, Phillips Academy, Andover, MA
• How can local organic farms and gardens help reduce the extent of food deserts in New Jersey? Nina Pusic, Newark Academy, Livingston, NJ

Chewonki Semester School Mission Statement
At Chewonki Semester School we choose to approach our rigorous academics, physical work, and everyday living with responsibility and joy. Whether engaging in a spirited classroom discussion, harvesting tomatoes for our table, or planning Saturday night’s event, we live each day deliberately with an eye toward connecting the individual to the larger community. Students leave Chewonki with a strengthened ownership for their education, an awareness of their place in nature, and an understanding that they can make a positive difference in their world.
Do you mind?” Scott asks with a grin as he leans back in his chair and puts his feet up on his desk. His eyes glint with boyish irreverence. After 39 years of teaching, he can do whatever he wants.

It’s hard to believe that Stewart Scott Andrews didn’t always know that he was born to be a teacher. As a child, he loved to read. His father was a headmaster and history teacher; his mother tutored students with special needs. Scott grew up in New York City listening to teachers debate education in the family living room. He absorbed early that “a really good education matters,” and he loved everything about school culture. He just wasn’t sure he wanted to teach.

The summer after he graduated from Wesleyan, he landed on Cape Cod, where he worked as a garbage man and played guitar in bars at night. Later he studied classical guitar. What most caught his attention, though, was his first teaching job. He visited a farm with his students and noticed how engaged they were in learning there. When he read an article about Chewonki’s Maine Reach, it resonated.

Tim Ellis, then executive director, first hired Scott to teach environmental education. Chewonki was pretty simple then, Scott remembers, but Tim’s leadership was compelling. “The people here were fantastic,” says Scott. “That’s what drew you.” It was 1978. Aside from four years at Stoneleigh-Burnham School in the 1980s, he’s been here ever since, serving in many roles, teaching alongside his wife, Semester School art teacher Sue West, and helping raise their daughter, Margaret. In 1986, Tim asked Scott to become founding director of the Maine Coastal Science Center.

Gifts to the Annual Fund in honor of Scott will be earmarked for Semester School’s coastal science curriculum and related activities.
In her office in the Allen Center, Lucy is on the telephone with a donor. Her voice rises and falls in a musical cadence as she asks about children, grand-children, health, travels; then changes tempo as she describes what’s happening at Chewonki—program successes, the pressing need for financial aid, recent renewable-energy initiatives. Lucy has handled thousands of calls like this, yet neither her voice nor her intention has become shallow. With heart and mind, she believes in Chewonki’s mission. Her enthusiasm has nurtured the same belief in countless others.

The passion she has brought to her work has paid off. “Lucy has overseen tremendous growth in philanthropy here,” says president Willard Morgan. “All of us who work on behalf of Chewonki’s mission owe her our gratitude.” When she arrived 17 years ago, the Annual Fund goal was $140,000. This year it is $775,000. The endowment has grown from about $1 million to $7.2 million. Financial aid as a percentage of gross tuition has roughly doubled, from 10 to 20 percent. After cutting her teeth on a $4.5-million capital campaign, she directed one that raised $10.8 million.

It would be wrong to assess Lucy’s accomplishments only by numbers, however. The relationships she’s built are equally important. She cares about the people she loves, and she loves the people who care about Chewonki. “I still feel tremendous excitement at the start of a summer or a semester,” she says. Greeting students, families, and staff has never gotten old. She’s proud of this community. She’s proud of her development team and all they accomplish together. She’s proud of establishing a culture here in which “every donor matters, and connecting people and their resources to the mission of Chewonki supports superb programs that change young people’s lives.”

Lucy never expected this career. In 1997, she was hoping to get a job working with the Outreach animals but settled for the only position open at the time, in the development office. Four years later, she became its director. Her success springs from the intersection of her values and Chewonki’s mission.

Her parents were progressive educators who made sure she spent lots of time outdoors as she grew up in Massachusetts and Maine. She graduated from Bennington College and led wilderness trips for another camp. Chewonki’s educational priorities are as natural to her as air. “Children need guidance to understand the fragility of the world we live in, to learn the principles of sustainability, and to see their role in the stewardship of that world,” she believes.

Years before she joined the staff, her marriage to Bart Chapin (Boys Camp; Boys Camp and Wilderness Trips staff; former foundation advisor and trustee) made Chewonki part of her life. Their children, Margaret and Miles, are Chewonki alumni too. Lucy’s established a legacy of her own, however.

“When Lucy calls,” says former trustee Fay Shutzer, “you want to talk to her. She makes you feel like you’re part of Chewonki no matter where you are. She brings Chewonki to you.”

Lucy looks forward to time with her young grandchildren and to sailing with Bart aboard their 1964 yawl. Even so, she’s finding it difficult to let go. “Being in the middle of this vibrant community is something I will definitely miss,” she says. It’s a community she has done much to cultivate and can always call home.

Anne Leslie is a writer and editor in Chewonki’s development office.

Scott’s influence on faculty has been equally strong. “He’s always reminded us to believe in the best in every student,” says English teacher Amy Rogers. “His clear sense of what’s right springs from a very strong inner compass.” Paul Arthur, assistant head of school and ethics teacher, says, “I’ve valued Scott’s remarkable ability to balance principle and pragmatism—with perhaps a little more emphasis on principle!” Head of school Ann Carson calls him “a supportive and inspirational mentor for me—and for all faculty.”

In June, Scott and Sue are taking a trip to his beloved Scotland, where he’ll fly-fish, read some good books, and tune up his bagpipes. The echoes of his moral leadership and his music imbue the memories of hundreds of Chewonki students and staff. We’ll listen for them still.
It’s the most familiar animal you’ve never seen. When it perches on lichenous branches, its cryptic, gray-green-brown skin renders it almost invisible. Yet on sultry summer evenings, and when the air gets heavy as a thunderstorm brews, you’re certain to hear the raucous call of the Eastern Gray Tree Frog.

Its scientific name says it all: *Hyla versicolor*. *Hyla* for Hylas, the mythological Argonaut who became hopelessly enchanted by water nymphs, and *versicolor* for the frog’s variable hue, its ability to change color, chameleon-like, according to background, temperature, humidity, or mood, and for its color transformation as it develops from a comely, red-suffused tadpole to a superbly camouflaged adult.

One day last July, we were surveying the insect diversity of Chewonki’s Salt Marsh Farm. All morning we had caught bright green Meadow Katydids. But when we came to the farm pond, what we took for katydids in the shoreline vegetation, to our surprise, turned out to be tiny, brilliant green tree froglets, glittering like exquisite emeralds in the sun! Like Hylas himself, we were enchanted. Sadly, our “jewels” didn’t last. In a few days, they had faded to a drab olive, the beginning of their adult coloration.

Gray Tree Frogs are full of surprises. Even though they all look identical, it was discovered in 1970 that there are two species of Gray Tree Frogs: one with a typical chromosome number (24), now called *Hyla chrysoscelis* (Cope’s Gray Tree Frog), and the other with twice that number (48), *Hyla versicolor*. Furthermore, subsequent genetic research showed that *H. versicolor* probably arose through hybridization among three different tree frogs (*H. chrysoscelis* and two extinct species), followed by chromosome doubling. This type of speciation appears to be unprecedented in animal evolution.

*Hyla versicolor* and *H. chrysoscelis* also have different mating calls by which they maintain their reproductive isolation as separate, distinct species. *H. versicolor* males produce a slow, low-pitched, ringing trill, and *H. chrysoscelis* males give a raspy, faster, and higher-pitched trill. There is no call overlap, so when both species occur together, females rarely make a mistake.

It usually takes thousands of years to gradually evolve such isolating mechanisms, but not in this case. If, in the laboratory, one artificially produces Gray Tree Frogs with duplicate chromosome sets, that alone causes males automatically to make a slower, low-pitched mating call, and the females automatically to respond!

To artificially create tree frogs with duplicate chromosome sets requires nothing more than to “cold shock” fertilized eggs in ice water. This suggests a plausible and intriguing evolutionary scenario. According to molecular evidence, *H. versicolor* arose in the late Pliocene epoch, with the onset of the great ice ages. It is conceivable that advancing continental glaciers squeezed three geographically separate species of Gray Tree Frogs (one of them *H. chrysoscelis*)—each having 24 chromosomes—together along the glacial front. Crowding led to hybridization, and frigid water caused some hybrid eggs to spontaneously double their chromosome number. This automatically produced frogs with a new and distinctive mating-call response, such that they were both reproductively isolated from their parental species and simultaneously attracted to each other, regardless of specific hybrid origin. Instantly, our Eastern Gray Tree Frog was born!

“Doc Fred” directs the nature program at Chewonki Camp for Boys.
Growing the Chewonki Website

Megan Phillips

On our one-horsepower farm, where we so often eschew mechanization in favor of the collective effort of many hands, it might seem an odd choice to opt into website design and blogging. Yet the facilitators of Chewonki’s farm and food system (a fancy way of saying the farm and kitchen crews) just launched a new link at www.chewonki.org, aptly named “Our Farm & Food System.”

Why, you ask? It dawned on me last summer that the Chewonki website lacked any substantive information on our farming and food system. A visitor to the site might be able to deduce that we have a farm, that we eat meals together, and that participants work in our farm and kitchen. But where were the introductions to our livestock, the valiant tales of nutrient management and vegetable harvesting? Why weren’t we celebrating the kitchen’s delectable meals or the brownies cooked over a campfire on an Outdoor Classroom encampment? Every day, we put intention into cultivating connections between our students and campers and our farm and food. It requires a delicate balance between production and education, yet we weren’t extending the education beyond our own community. We wanted to do a better job of telling alumni, prospective participants and families, and past and future staff about the great work happening here.

In structuring the new webpages, we sought to celebrate the mission-centric work happening in the fields and kitchen and on camping trips. The site is thus divided into three sections, each focused on one aspect of the Chewonki mission: appreciation and stewardship of the natural world; thriving, sustainable communities; and transformative growth.

“Grow Your Food (and Fiber and Firewood)” details our systems of land stewardship and food production from plant to table. Many folks don’t associate the daily acts of feeding, clothing, and warming ourselves with stewardship, but Chewonki seeks to make responsible choices within our farm and food system that mimic natural systems and decrease our impact on the natural world. Visit this section to meet the farm livestock, learn about nutrient and forestry management, and read about the kitchen facilities. What renewable energy systems serve the dining hall and kitchen? You’ll find the answer to this and many more questions here.

“Grow Your Community” has information about how Chewonki cultivates connections through working and eating together. Become inspired to find meaningful uses for your hands, and learn about what we eat (good food, from good sources!) and how we eat (together!). And be sure to visit the Alumni Profiles to read about others doing inspiring food system–related work.

“Grow Yourself” offers stories by staff and participants who have been touched and changed by our food system. There are stories of long hay days, the power of worn work gloves, fixing fences, seeing a lamb born and knowing it will be raised for meat, and other reflections on the impact of Chewonki’s work.

The stories (and recipes, quotations, and memories) will keep coming through “Chew on This,” the tastiest blog from the Neck. Please let us know what you think of the site or, even better, share a memory you have of Chewonki’s farm and food system.

Bon appetit!

Megan Phillips is the farm manager at Chewonki.
Dear friends,

This summer marks the beginning of a year-long celebration of our centennial, honoring Chewonki’s past, celebrating where Chewonki is today, and looking ahead to Chewonki’s future. As you’ll see here and elsewhere throughout this issue, we have a lot planned for our 100th birthday! Please mark your calendars and join us! The events begin this summer and will continue throughout 2015. Please feel free to be in touch with us for more information.

Best wishes,
Chewonki Advancement Team
alumni@chewonki.org

Calling All Boys Camp Alumni:
Join the race to win the Sag/Hoc Challenge!

Commemorate the 100th summer of Boys Camp by making a gift to the Chewonki Annual Fund—and help your team win while you’re at it! When you donate, be sure to tell us whether you’re a Sag or a Hoc. Victory will go to the team with the most donors.

So come on, jump in! Join the Side-by-Side campaign (see back cover) by contributing today.

Help Chewonki raise $200,000 by June 30 and a special group of donors will match every dollar 1:1—doubling your impact and working side by side with you to keep Chewonki strong. Thank you very much.

Sagadahoc, a-Hockomock!... Chew ‘em up quick, Chewonki!
Family, Friends, and Alumni Weekend

Join us this August!

Thursday, August 14–Sunday, August 17

$350 per person; children 5–12 $175; under 5 FREE

Join camp director Garth Altenburg and his staff for a newly expanded Family, Friends, and Alumni Weekend. Take your pick of active learning opportunities for you, your children, or your grandchildren. Chewonki’s experienced leaders will be available all weekend for hiking, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, nature study, art or woodworking projects, bird walks, and much more. This is your chance to enjoy a relaxing Maine weekend at Chewonki in the company of other friends and families. Meet up with old friends, and make new ones!

For a complete schedule of the weekend’s activities, head over to www.chewonki.org/familyweekend. For more information, contact Holly Lowe at hlowe@chewonki.org or Leslie Hunter at lhunter@chewonki.org, or call them at 207-882-7323.

Saturday Evening Alumni Gathering

Celebrate 100 summers of Chewonki Camp for Boys!

Saturday, August 16 (afternoon and evening only)

$45 per person; children 5–12 $20; under 5 FREE

We hope you’ll be with us Saturday afternoon and evening, August 16, as we honor a century of Chewonki Camp for Boys! Together we’ll enjoy an afternoon swim, evening reception, cookout, and campfire. Come prepared to share and listen to stories and songs from the past 100 years of camp at Chewonki.

• Purchase your 100th Summer of Boys Camp T-Shirt
• Pick up a copy of Chewonki’s centennial CD—a great collection of favorite songs
• Pre-order the Chewonki centennial book—available fall 2014
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-Tobey. 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.

Key to abbreviations: BC: Boys Camp; EE: Environmental Education (predecessor to OC and TNHP); GC: Girls Camp; MCS: Maine Coast Semester, up to Semester 43; MR, Maine Reach; OC: Outdoor Classroom for Schools; TNHP: Traveling Natural History Programs; WT: Wilderness Trips

1940s
“Much joy and fulfillment for the staff, students, and alumni—especially those of the boys camp of the summer of ‘49,” writes Dick Crutchfield (BC ‘48–’49). “Many fond memories of my cabin counselor, Dr. John Papp, and camp director, Mr. Clarence Allen.” The photo that ran in last fall’s Chronicle of Clarence Allen deep in conversation with three young campers inspired this delightful note from Renny Little (BC ‘42–’44; BC staff ‘53–’55, ’60): “I suspect that by 1946, Clarence, then in his late 50s, may already have been having some trouble remembering the names of young campers. Often, if in doubt, his solution was to check the back of the boy’s shirt, where he knew there would be a name tag. Upon reading the name, he would remark ‘Did you wash your neck this morning?’ Other means adopted included admiring some personal item such as a baseball mitt which would (or should) also have had a tag for the names of young campers. Often, he’d just look at the shirt and say something like ‘Son, I know there would be a name tag.’ In 1946, Clarence, with his sharp mind and memory, may already have been having some trouble remembering the names of his young campers. Often, if in doubt, his solution was to check the back of the boy’s shirt, where he knew there would be a name tag. Upon reading the name, he would remark ‘Did you wash your neck this morning?’ Other means adopted included admiring some personal item such as a baseball mitt which would (or should) also have had a name tag. (One wonders what happened if the shirt or glove belonged to another camper).” Em Roberts (BC ‘42–’44) returned to Maine last year from his home in Anacortes, WA, for his 60th reunion at Bowdoin and his 66th reunion at Cape Elizabeth High School. Steve Swenson (BC ‘64–’67) attended the memorial service for John Eusden (BC ‘39; BC staff ‘42, ’46, ’47, ’57; advisor ’06–08; honorary trustee ’06–’13) in Randolph, NH, last summer. “I’ll never forget John and his brother, Ray (BC ’41, ’46–’47),” Steve says, “especially a ride in their beige Packard touring car.”

1950s
Fly-fishing is Joe Carpenter’s (BC ’56–’59) main interest; he pursues it in Michigan, Missouri, out west, and in Scotland. He has been married since 2011. (See photo.) He works as an industrial real estate broker in Michigan and Illinois, and is working on an internet-based patent.

1960s
Mac Jemigan (BC staff ’62–’63, ’67, ’93–’04) lives in San Francisco with wife Susan McMane. “Greetings from Ladakh!” writes Jock Montgomery (BC ’69–’74; BC staff ’76–’77, ’81–’82, ’93–’95, ’06–’07). “We had a superb trek on the frozen Zanskar River Canyon, here in the Indian Himalaya.” Next up, he says: scouting for a Snow Leopard photo tour in 2015.

1970s
James Brewer-Calvert (MR ’72–’78) and wife Betty are ministers in Decatur, GA. Jose de Areilza (BC ’79–’80; BC staff ’83–’85) is now Secretary General of the Aspen Institute España. Phil DeVice (BC staff ’78–’79, ’81, ’96–’99) wrote in with news of his family: “Son Jason (BC ’93–’94) got married in Vermont in 2012. Daughter Katie works for a lawyer in New Gloucester, ME. Daughter Amanda is working in South Korea at the Korean International School. Phil works at L. L. Bean and just wrote a book called Wiscasset and Its Times. Wife Margie (former kitchen staff) is still cooking at Bowdoin College, rated #1 college dining in the U.S.”

1980s
Ignacio Pulido (BC ’80–’82; GC/WT parent ’10, ’12–’13) lives in Venezuela, where he is founder and CEO of a management consulting firm and a food-retailing venture. His Chewonki-inspired love of the outdoors continues: in 2011 he and his family climbed Mount Roraima (the mountain featured in the movie Up!). (See photo.) Mary Van Buskirk (BC staff ’82; BC & WT parent ’05–’11) sent this fun tidbit: “My news is that my brother, Josh Van Buskirk (BC ’73–’75, ’77; BC staff ’79, ’82), had his first child at age 53—Laurin Van Buskirk—born 8-23-13!”

1990s
The Emergency Nurses Association elected Ingrid Albee (health care coordinator ’92–’05) New Hampshire Emergency Nurse of the Year in 2013. Trevor Braden (BC staff ’95–’96) writes that he’s “living in York, ME. Doctoring away! Surfing as often as time allows. Getting married to Kate Smith [this summer]!”

Joe Carpenter and his wife in Hawaii

Gray Davidson (BC staff ’97) and Deb Kmon Davidson (EE staff ’95–’96; BC staff ’97) continue to live life in Bozeman, MT, with their two girls (ages 2 and 5), dog, horse, chickens, bees, and cat. Deb is working to build a local food system in the region through service on the Community Food Co-Op board. Eric Hakanson (BC parent ’99) and wife Sandi spent a few days fly-fishing and enjoyed their stay at Big Eddy Campground. Congratulations to Reuben Hudson (BC ’95–’00; WT ’01–’04; WT staff ’05–’11) and Kit Hamley (MCS 34; BC staff ’09; GC staff ’10; WT staff ’11), who are engaged to be married in Maine this summer.

We are researching how climate and land cover affect nutrient loading in Maine watersheds and is also using peat cores to investigate seasonality and climate change in the Arctic. “Working at a horse rescue as a carpenter and gardener fills much of my time,” says Doug Lakin (BC staff ’97–’02). “Also, I have been toying around carving canoe paddles and building toboggans.” Dmitri Popov (BC ’92) reports from Russia that he has a 3-year-old son and says, “I do have a big desire to send him to Chewonki for summer programs once he grows up a bit more.”

James Reinhold (BC staff ’99, ’01–’02) is director of camp programs at Hale Reservation in greater Boston, serving 2,000-plus campers a day through six different agencies. He lives in Foxboro, MA. Javier Revuelta (BC ’92–’95; BC staff ’96) is working in Oxford, England, as an energy management consultant at Poyry Consulting. Last summer he finished his MBA at Insead School in Singapore and Paris. Alex Stoclet (BC ’99–’06) is living and working in London for UniCredit. See MCS 3 for news of Brandon Stafford (BC staff ’93–’95, ’97, ’04–’06); MCS 5 for Amber (Melosi) Aponte (BC staff...
‘94); MCS 9 for Brooke Wilkerson (BC staff ’94–’95; MCS 15 for Damaris Maclean (BC staff ’96–’97); MCS 16 for Jonathan Barrett (BC ’90); MCS 17 for Dan Wallace (BC ’89); MCS 18 for Sarah Klain (BC staff ’97–’99); MCS 21 for Margie Graham (BC staff ’93), Andrew Gustafson (BC ’95–’97; WT ’98), Julia Judson-Rea (BC staff ’99), Spencer Taylor (BC ’95–’97; WT ’98), and Eliza Whiteman (BC staff ’99); MCS 26 for Charlie Hale (BC ’95–’96, ’99); and MCS 27 for Alex Woodle (BC ’98–’00; BC staff ’01–’02).

2000s

Sebastian Chwoyka (BC ’09; WT ’10, ’11; BC staff ’13), who’s from Salzburg, Austria, has been enjoying a gap year before college. His travels have taken him as far afield as Peru, where he worked with children in an after-school program, and Kathmandu, Nepal. One of the highlights of his stay in Peru was the opportunity to visit Machu Picchu—wearing his Chewonki T-shirt! (See photo.) Warmest congratulations to Caitlin Scott Ellis (BC staff ’01, ’02, ’06; Admissions fellow, Semesters 43 and 44) and husband Bob, who welcomed William Frederick Ellis on 3-23-14. The happy grandparents are Fred (BC ’53–’56; BC staff ’60–’63, ’70–’72, ’76, ’79; advisor or trustee ’80–present) and Darcy Scott (kitchen ’70–’71). “I now live in Guilford, VT,” reports Emma Hallowell (BC staff ’06–’07), “where my husband Mike and I just finished building a house. In August we welcomed our first baby, Ada Hallowell Roberts. I’m taking the year off from teaching, but will go back to my job as a third-grade teacher in September.” Leah Kramer Heyman (OC ’07–10; TNHP ’09–’11, WT ’07–’11) and Adam Robert Williams (OC, WT, and farm staffs ’10–’11) were married on 2-1-14, by Jason Chandler (BC staff ’02–’03, ’06, ’10; WT staff ’05, ’12–’13; Semester School fellow, Semesters 43, 44) in a small family ceremony in Brunswick, ME. Leah is getting her master’s in education at the Univ. of Southern Maine, and Adam is working for Summit Achievement in Stow, ME. Jason is living in Canaan, ME, teaching tracking and outdoor living skills with local schools and land trusts. He looks forward to building a cedar and canvas canoe this spring and to developing the skills to start a home-staying collective. Katie Tremblay (OC staff ’01–’13) and husband Diano Circo, who live in Hallowell, ME, welcomed their second child, daughter Wren, on 1-2-14. She arrived during a lull in a week of wild weather, “dodging an ice storm, a blizzard, and arctic temperatures,” reported her parents. Four-year-old Nolan is the proud big brother. Alexander (Zand) Martin (WT ’00, ’04–’09) has embarked on another extraordinary expedition: a human-powered exploration of the Altai Mountains in Asia. Zand and his expedition partner intend to trace a 4,000-kilometer route through Kazakhstan, China, Mongolia, and Russia, carrying skis and bicycles—and not much else. You can learn more, and follow the travelers’ progress, at http://circlingthegolden-mountains.com and on their Facebook page. See MCS 35 for Becca Abaza (WT ’01–’05; BC staff ’07; GC staff ’08–’11; OC ’14); and MCS 37 for Hugh McCormick (BC ’03–’06; WT ’07; BC staff ’10–’13).

Semester School

MCS 1

Fall 1988

Class Agent: Torrey McMillan, vmcmillan@gmail.com

Paige Ruane recently had fun with Katrin McEldery Curson for the first time since Chewonki! Paige has started developing a documentary film project about new economic paradigms, using the lens of local organic farming, environment, and community.

MCS 2

Spring 1989

Class Agent: Critter Thompson, crittett@gmail.com

“Life is great out here in the Wild West,” writes Shea Andersen, who’s living in Idaho with his family, working as a communications and PR consultant. Along with partner Gregg, Brooke Lehman is opening the Watershed Center (www.thewatershedcenter.org), “an educational center focused on building healthy and dynamic social and environmental organizations, on a farm in Millerton, NY.” Marsha Lenz is “teaching fourth grade and loving it!”

MCS 3

Fall 1989

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

Brandon Stafford (BC staff ’93–’95, ’97, ’04–’06) and Sharon Komarow welcomed a daughter on 9-16-13.

MCS 4

Spring 1990

Class Agent: Emily Rich, emily@teaguys.com

Amber (Melosi) Aponte (BC staff ’94) is living on eastern Long Island with her husband and three kids, Sophia (6), Xander (3), and Lily (6 months), and working full-time as a communications specialist for Brookhaven National Laboratory.

MCS 5

Fall 1990

Class Agent: Laura Ledue, laura_howard@yahoo.com

Class Agent: Andy Wilbur, andrew_wilbur@hotmail.com

“This year has added two exciting roles for me,” writes Will Willis. He’s now teaching AP environmental science at Mecasburg Academy and driving his two children who are on a swim team (“also fun, though awfully time-consuming”).
education and advising to low- and moderate-income young people to ensure that they find an affordable path to and through college. She has also joined an advisory board of National Novel Writing Month. Will Hodges is teaching history and global issues at a public high school in Tucson, AZ. Edie Traina is associate dean of faculty and history at the Taft School in Connecticut.

**MCS 13**
Fall 1994
Class Agents: Erin Quinn, equinn241@yahoo.com; Besenia Rodriguez, besenia@yahoo.com

Lauren Lochner and her husband have a baby boy!

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

Erika Brown is living in Durango, CO, with 4-year-old twins Mason and Emery. Colby Holthouse and her husband made a recent move to accommodate new jobs as well as a new baby. Avery was born on 12-14-13, joining big sister Calla. Starrla Johnson came back from surgery on a broken wrist to run a marathon in Nashville and is planning her next race in April.

**MCS 15**
Fall 1995
Class Agents: Fitz Cahall, dirtbagdaries@earthlink.net; Emily Dellas, emilyd@gmail.com; Glyniss Roberts, glyniss.roberts@gmail.com

Damaris Maclean (BC staff '96–'97) is director of community service at Nightingale-Barnford School in NYC. Son Silas recently turned 2, and Damaris is expecting her second child any day!

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

Jonathan Barrett (BC ’90) enjoyed a bit of Maine this winter when Portland, OR, was hit by a rare snowstorm; he skiied through the streets and shared Chewonki-like meals and conversation with his neighbors. Nancy Hodges Watford married Ben Watford in late September over a creek on family property in Brevard, NC. They live in Asheville, where Nancy is a landscape architect and works as the watershed resources manager at a local nonprofit.

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

Page McClean is putting together her first studio album. Check out (and like) www.facebook.com/pagemccle-
clean music. Dan Wallace (BC '89) is living in Memphis, “busy teaching math, doing steelwork, making art, playing with my son, and loving my wife.”

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

After finishing up her master’s research, Nicole Casper is working at Shannon Point Marine Center in Anacortes, WA. Sarah Klain (BC staff '97–'99) is based in Nelson, New Zealand, doing PhD research on marine ecosystem services and marine renewable energy. “New Zealand’s landscape is spectacular, and Kiwi culture suits me well,” she writes. Abbi Long was married last fall to Shawn Baldwin; they now reside in Falmouth, ME, and work in Portland. Katie McAlaine is the marketing and development coordinator for Friends of the Eastern Promenade in Portland, ME.

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

Noah Brick recently married Erin Thompson. They live in NYC, where Noah is a law clerk at Chadbourne & Parke, focusing on renewable energy project financing. Liz Mygatt had a fabulous trip to India last fall; see photo and story at left.

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

Katie Cairoli just finished a master’s in sustainable design and planning and is putting her new skills to work at an ecological planning and design firm in Houston. Those who attended the reunion this summer (Andrew Gustafson, Malia Haddock, Kate Petersen, Ben Svenson, Spencer Taylor, and Eliza Whiteman) were able to witness and celebrate the Chewonki Neck engagement of Margie Graham (BC staff ‘99) to Noam Biala! Noam proposed to Margie on the Point, and the group toasted outside Ranch House. Having spent years on archaeological dig sites of 19th-century circus grounds, Andrew Gustafson (BC ’95–’97; WT ’98) is about to publish his dissertation on the topic. He will marry Cindy VandenBosch this spring in Brooklyn, NY. In February, Jason Hafer joined the two-person team at Sanofi Genzyme Biobusiness. Steph Horowitz and husband Alex Klein love living in Boston with their son, Charlie. “I’ve continued to grow my architecture firm, ZeroEnergy Design,” writes Steph. Julia Judson-Rea (BC staff ’93) is getting married this spring. Emily Meuser is in her second year of law school, with a focus on aboriginal and environmental law, and is keeping busy with 1-year-old son Matteo. Ella Moench is expecting a baby in June. “We are enjoying lots of hikes and yoga as I mentally prepare myself for this new adventure to come,” she says. Josh Ruzansky lives in NYC, where he works in the music industry. Spencer Taylor (BC ’95–’97; WT ’98) spends a lot of time cross-country skiing with daughter Hazel in tow. Celeste Travis is in San Francisco, working for a medical device company and expecting a baby girl this spring.

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

Louisa Pitt was married 11-23-13 with Zan Armstrong (semester teacher ’04–’06) as a bridesmaid. Rachel Wilson graduated from the MGH Institute of Health Professions with a doctorate in physical therapy and is now a fully licensed physical therapist. She is finishing a year-long clinical rotation at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston and lives in Cambridge.

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

Marseille Alexander-Ozinskykas works for a private family foundation in San Francisco. She and Meredith Benedict recently reconnected after running into each other at yoga. Liz Barker and husband Ford live in Old Greenwich, CT, where Liz is teaching at the Brunswick School. She’s also doing graduate studies at Columbia University. Ellie (Shepard) Forrest is living in Queenstown, New Zealand, with husband Iain Forrest and their 2-year-old daughter, Charlie. Rebecca Garfield is teaching middle-school Spanish and serving as sixth-grade dean at Hackley School in Tarrytown, NY. Emily Inzeinstein and partner Meg had plans to kayak in Baja in late March. They were able to connect with a bunch of Chewonki folks at Beth Schiller’s wedding on her farm in October. As of the beginning of the year, Megan (Nuttall) McCarron is back to work full-time as a midwife in the Ottawa Valley, after the May 2013 arrival of twins Maren and Silva. Will Morris is living in the Denver area and “still burning lots of jet fuel with the premise that I will develop technology to decarbonize the power grid, and still skiing when I can.” Julia O’Hern has been sailing, teaching third-graders, and sonar mapping the sea floor in the Gulf of Mexico. Brian Roberts joined the corporate office of Sprouts Farmers Market in Phoenix, AZ, in 2012. Andrew Schapiro is still in San Francisco, where he leads a team of designers at Airbnb. Anna Stevens and husband Brent bought an apartment in Brooklyn, NY. In November they welcomed a baby girl, Isabel Maureen.

MCS 24
Spring 2000
Class Agent: Nora Gouge, nfgouge@gmail.com

MCS 25
Fall 2000
Class Agents: M.A. Moutoussis, maryangela.moutoussis@gmail.com; Chris White, cstuartwhite@gmail.com

Charlie Hala (BC ’95, ’96, ’99) lives in Oakland, CA. “I got married last September,” he writes. “On the work front, I’m still at Google, managing public policy and government affairs for Google[x]. It’s the team that works on some of the more experimental projects like self-driving cars, Google Glass, and Project Loon (balloon-powered internet), among others. I also started a nonprofit with some friends called Global Health Corps, and we’re still going strong in our fifth year.”

MCS 26
Spring 2001
Class Agent: Andrea LaRosa, andrealarosa@gmail.com

Alden Alexander moved from Chicago to Manhattan in June 2013. She joined CBRE and works in retail leasing. She continues to sail competitively on her boat New Zealand out of Newport, RI. Megan Flenniken is a PhD candidate at Stony Brook Univ., studying marine invasive species. “Although I very much enjoy my research,” she writes, “the highlight of this past year was living aboard a sailboat with my partner. I hope to one day sail around the waters near Chewonki!” Alex Woodle (BC ’08–’09; BC staff ’01–’02) got married this past August (see photo). He and his wife, Kathryn, live at Grinnell College and currently live in Pennsylvania.

MCS 27
Fall 2001
Class Agent: Chris Clark, clizzy@gmail.com

Emma Glidden-Lyon has started her first year at Duke’s Nicholas School of Environmental Management. Zach Goodnough has been living in Shanghai since graduating from college. Matt Stenovec is currently serving as the IB coordinator at Soundview School in Lynnwood, WA, and teaching humanities in grades 5–8.
Myla Fay (Semester 36; WT ’03–’05; GC staff ’08) hiked 2,100 miles—solo—on the Pacific Coast Trail last year. Now she’s hit the trail again, to hike the Continental Divide Trail all the way from Mexico to Canada. What’s more, she’s raising money for Chewonki along the way!

Myla will be covering the 3,100-mile CDT with her boyfriend, Jeff Howell. “I love backpacking and believe that it has benefited me in many ways—gaining self-confidence, becoming more fit, working toward goals, slowing my mind, and introducing me to new people, places, and ideas,” she wrote on her blog in April. “Both Jeff and I also believe that it is mostly a self-serving endeavor, and we feel there is opportunity to use backpacking as a way to give back to others.”

Myla and Jeff are especially interested in raising funds for girls programs at Chewonki. “Any amount helps!” they say. “We suggest $62, which would be a penny for every mile each of us walks and would roughly pay for one camper’s meals for a week.”

There’s a great interview with Myla at www.thehairpin.com. She was also mentioned on New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof’s Facebook page. You can follow Myla and Jeff’s hike and learn more, including how to make a donation to Chewonki, at www.mylahikes.com/support-chewonki. Thank you, Myla and Jeff!
Bridgton, ME.

photography at Shawnee Peak in completing a residency in design and College of Art in Portland, interning studying graphic design at the Maine of the Challenge activity. He’s Camp staff as Papa Heron and head finished his fourth year on Boys

Hugh McCormick

Last summer, Hugh McCormick (BC ’03–’06; WT ’07; BC staff ’08–’09) finished his fourth year on Boys Camp staff as Papa Heron and head of the Challenge activity. He’s studying graphic design at the Maine College of Art in Portland, interning completing a residency in design and photography at Shawnee Peak in Bridgton, ME.

MCS 38

Spring 2007

Class Agents: Franklin Jacoby, fjJacoby@coa.edu; Maddy Schwartz, madeline Schwartz@gmail.com

Liddy Hepner is a student at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, where she’s working on her master’s in public health concurrently. She has been hiking and has plans to snorkel and kayak in the Florida Keys.

MCS 39

Fall 2007

Class Agents: Dana Golden, dega@williams.edu; Madeleine Woodle, mwoodle@princeton.edu

Angela Baglione is a teacher’s assistant and garden manager at a school for children and adults with multiple disabilities. She looks forward to getting back to farm life this spring. Matteo Bessone graduated from Warren Wilson College in Asheville, NC, in May with a BA in creative writing and has been spending time in Nicaragua, volunteering with an organization called Paso Pacifico on a stingless beekeeping project. He plans to work on a farm in Brunswick, ME, this summer. Alex Pratt is still in Atlanta, attending GSU for English. After graduating from Warren Wilson College in 2012 with a B.S in sustainable agriculture, Cammie Taylor spent 6 months farming across Italy. Now she’s working on dairy farms in Massachusetts. She aims to find a way to return back to Asheville, NC, with partner Hudson Lee and start her own small farm and food-related business. Abigail Wilson is a consultant in Washington, D.C.

MCS 40

Spring 2008

Class Agents: Rachel Madding, rmadding@middlebury.edu; Nick McCleod, nwMcCleod@sr.edu

Lucy Bates-Campbell is student director of volunteers at Ashoka U (The Exchange). Jenna Paul-Schultz is spending the year traveling. “Right now I am spending 5 months living in Kathmandu,” she writes, “volunteering for an NGO that runs a women’s and children’s shelter; writing grant proposals for them and learning to play the ukulele!”

MCS 41

Fall 2008

Class Agent: Kevin Coleman, Colemankj@gmail.com

Lucy Bates-Campbell is student director of volunteers at Ashoka U (The Exchange). Jenna Paul-Schultz is spending the year traveling. “Right now I am spending 5 months living in Kathmandu,” she writes, “volunteering for an NGO that runs a women’s and children’s shelter; writing grant proposals for them and learning to play the ukulele!”

MCS 42

Spring 2009

Class Agent: Carly Blumenfeld, cnblumenfeld@gmail.com

Lyla Amini will be hiking the Pacific Crest Trail this summer after graduation. Sophie Anderson is graduating from college this spring and was recently nominated for a Peace Corps assignment in Guatemala. Carly Blumenfeld will soon graduate from Northwestern and is currently interning for Yampot, a start-up in Chicago. She’ll be heading out to San Francisco to work for LinkedIn. Diego Kendrick continues studying business at Curtin University in Perth, Australia. Graham Oxman reports, “I’m currently a junior at Bates, studying geology. I will be in the White Mountains all summer studying the effects of the Acadian Orogeny on the Rangeley Formation, which is this thesis topic.”

Semester 43

Fall 2009

Class Agent: Sara Clark, saraclark146@msn.com

“I have had an amazing year,” writes Jamie Harrison, “starting with a semester abroad in Australia where I studied marine biology and terrestrial ecology. I spent the summer in Colorado as an intern learning about permaculture and working with children on a farm. Last semester I studied at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA, and researched oak trees on Martha’s Vineyard. Now I am back at Carleton to finish up my junior year.”

 Semester 44

Spring 2010

Class Agents: Charlotte Allyn, charlotteallyn@gmail.com; Hannah Perkins, hannah_perkins@me.com

Morgan LaPointe (WT ’07; GC staff ’12) is enjoying life in Montana. She stays busy leading trips for the Univ. of Montana Wilderness Association, finishing her wilderness studies minor, and working at the Wilderness Institute. Over the holidays she saw semester-mates Erica Lehner and Molly Lovejoy. Molly is at Hampshire College, studying world water issues and sustainability.

Semester 45

Fall 2010

Class Agents: Katie Rush, katierush@westminster.net; Noah Stone, noah1313@gmail.com

Hannah Cabot transferred to the Univ. of Pennsylvania and was on the undefeated ice hockey team! Alana Thurston is a sophomore at Haverford.

Semester 46

Spring 2011

Class Agents: Ruthy Gourevitch, ruth-gourevitch@gmail.com; Katie Kibler, kkkbler@paceacademy.org; Clarke Rudick, clarkeRudick@gmail.com

Ethan Chamberlain is studying civil engineering at UVM. He plans to live at home this summer and work as a carpenter with his father. Jennifer Cutler (WT ’09) is a Cadet Third Class at the Air Force Academy. Peter Nocka is attending Lewis and Clark College in Portland, OR, where he’s studying environmental studies and economics. He plans to study abroad this summer in Tokyo. Megan Tischbein is on the Colby College Woodsmen’s Team.

Semester 47

Fall 2011

Class Agents: Francesca Governali, francesca@maine.rr.com; Paige Williams, paigeWilliams@westminster.ne

Olivia Cameron is on a gap year trip to England, Thailand, and Nepal. She will be starting work with an environmental education program near Seattle this spring and will begin studies in natural resources at Oregon State this September. Francesca Governali and Leo Turpan coincidentally ended up on the same trail crew in Patagonia and spent three weeks volunteering together

Help Us Stay in Touch!

There’s a lot of fun in store for Chewonki alumni and friends that we don’t want them to miss! Especially as we plan for our centennial celebration, we need to know how to reach our alumni and friends so we can notify them of regional celebrations.

If you are getting the Chronicle, we obviously know that alumni parents or friends of Chewonki live at this address. However, if you know of anyone who now lives elsewhere, please let us know! If you haven’t already done so, please update mailing and email information at alumni@chewonki.org.

Thank you!
People

for Conservación Patagonica. Francesca also ran into Tessa Dibble (Semester 49), who was on a family vacation in Patagonia. Maggie Johnson adventured in Australia and New Zealand to begin her gap year. This spring she’s heading to Nicaragua to intern for a community service program and from there will intern at a clinic in Bolivia. Maddie Kay is in New Zealand until late May, exploring both islands, staying in hostels, and making friends with all of the sheep. Abigail Taubman is a member of the class of 2017 at Pitzer College.

Semester 48
Spring 2012
Class Agents: Chris Coughlin, cdcoughlin@gmail.com; Miranda Mahmoud, miranda.mahmoud@gmail.com; Madeline Miller, livelaughliv94@gmail.com; Elizabeth O'Connor, oconnore@gfacademy.org

Teddy Simpson (WT ’12) is a freshman at Colby. For spring break, he co-led a Colby Outing Club trip to Olympic National Park in Washington.

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

See Semester 47 for news of Tessa Dibble. Emma (Savannah) Solomon will attend Wesleyan in the fall.

Semester 50
Spring 2013
More than 20 semester-mates gathered in January at Georgia Bloom’s house in New Jersey. They had a wonderful time playing pool, chatting, singing and playing guitar, sledding, and hugging—lots of hugging!

Semester 51
Fall 2013
Emma Bessire and Maddy King are starting an environmental club and trying to install a composting system at their school in Brooklyn. Sophia Brown is working on a hydroponics window gardening system with her school science club. Sophie MacVittie is taking classes at the Museum of Natural History.

Elizabeth Rovit and Caroline Weinrauch are starting an organic garden at their temple; the produce will be given to food pantries.

Semester School Faculty & Staff
Dave Liebmann (faculty ’93–’96; current trustee) and wife Anna Catone are the proud parents of Miranda Grace Catone Liebmann, born 4-2-14. Sustainability officer Tom Twist is now a familiar face to several hundred thousand Central Maine Power (CMP) customers. When customers opened their April bill, they found an insert with a photo of Tom smiling in front of Chewonki’s new electric car, which CMP helped fund. Also in April, Tom was one of three experts invited to participate in a panel at Bowdoin College to discuss the future of cars. (Think biofuels?) See MCS 22 for news of former math teacher Zan Armstrong.

New Babies on the Neck
We have two new prospects for Boys Camp! Jack Emmer Valentin Mooney was born 2-14-14, to Rosita and Orville Mooney (maintenance crew), and Gus Wilder Bezon was born 3-24-14, to Haley and Andy Bezon (assistant director of the Outdoor Classroom and Summer Wilderness Trips). Hearty congratulations to all!”

Chewonki Has a Switchboard Site!
Want to know more? Chewonki alumnus Kieran Hanrahan (Semester 43, Wilderness Leadership Expedition ’13) helped create the new online tool Switchboard, and Chewonki is using it! Switchboard is a resource-exchange site for people in a particular community—a school, a neighborhood, or a company, for example. Ever wondered if there was a Chewonki alum living in Colorado? Are you searching for a used canoe, seeking advice from someone who hiked the Appalachian Trail, or looking to sell your old mountain bike? The Chewonki Switchboard is a great way to connect, letting you ask for what you need, and offer what you have, within the Chewonki community. Simply post an “Ask” or “Offer” and make it happen! The site is easy to use—and free—and has no advertising.

Chewonki has tested the site with staff and now invites all of you to join too. To get more information and to create an account, go to https://chewonki.switchboardhq.com.

In Memoriam
James Whittlesey Crowell (BC staff ’71) died on January 11, 2014, at the age of 88 in Hanover, NH. Jim received a physics degree at Yale University in the ROTC program and after serving in the Navy was instrumental in starting an electrical company that made heaters for in-flight meal service. He also taught science for 35 years at Cardigan Mountain School in Canaan, NH.

In a recent email to Chewonki, Jim’s nephew Paul Crowell (BC ’71; BC staff ’78–’80; BC staff ‘82–’84) said “Jim was the original Crowell connection to Chewonki.” Other relatives who attended Chewonki include Jim’s son Thomas (BC ’71; BC staff ’76–’77) and nephew John Crowell (BC staff ’77; BC staff ’78–’80), Paul’s brother.

“Jim was an enthusiastic outdoorsman, and he loved nature and music. He lived a very full life until the onset of Alzheimer’s disease several years ago,” reported Paul.

Jim is survived by his wife, Debby; daughter, Debbie; and son, Tom.

Thomas Minot Dudley (BC ’45), 83, of Durham, NH, died on December 26, 2013. A graduate of Dartmouth College and the University of Virginia Law School, Tom practiced family law in Portsmouth, NH.

Tom had a lifelong passion for sailing, which began with his first lessons at Camp Chewonki. From racing on Lake Sunapee with his brother Dick to cruising Maine and the rest of the New England coast from the 1960s every year through this past summer, Tom loved spending time on the water. He could often be seen sailing in November, hauling his boat out of the water only once there was snow on the deck.

Tom is survived by his wife of 57 years, Dudley-Webster Dudley; daughters Morgan and Rebecca and their husbands; granddaughter Lauren; and his brother Peter Dudley. He was predeceased by his brother Richard (BC ’45–’47). A celebration of Tom’s life will be held on June 19 at Portsmouth Yacht Club in New Castle, NH.
Spring in New England is a changeful time, advancing and retreating unpredictably each year in a series of skirmishes with winter. Here at Salt Marsh Farm, we walk carefully along the edge between the seasons, working to bring in the winter’s wood even as we begin to turn our attention toward the summer’s gardens. We start early and long-season crops indoors long before the snow melts from the fields.

Back in March we had tiny onions, celery and celeriac, green herbs, and spinach all germinating in nursery soil. Some of these are still growing in the farm’s small greenhouse until they can be transplanted outside, while others have already been transplanted into beds protected by one of our two plastic houses.

In addition to the small hoop house already in our fields, we also have a 72- by 30-foot high tunnel now, constructed last fall (see p. 6). The high tunnel’s plastic walls trap light and heat and are strong enough to stand up under the snows of winter, protecting the soil beneath. Plants can begin to grow as early as mid-February in this unheated but sheltered environment, though slowly: the short daylight hours are still limiting.

The high tunnel will allow us to begin our growing season earlier in the spring, when the gardens are still too wet to be plowed. It will also extend our season in the fall, allowing us to plant a late crop of greens that we hope will see us partway into winter.

Raising food sustainably in a home garden is different only in scale. With season extension, the principles at play are light and heat—and a cold frame is really only a greenhouse writ small. These simple structures are bottomless boxes that can be placed over a garden bed, with glass or plastic tops that you raise and lower to provide ventilation. They trap light and heat and protect soil from hard precipitation or other stresses. Simple cold frame plans are easy to find, either in books or the vast resource of the Internet, and can certainly be built at home. The simplest—and certainly an affordable—design may well be four hay bales with a salvaged window laid across the top. A southern-oriented slope of the window can be helpful to harvest more sun, and from there the possibilities extend upward until your cold frames become small, functional works of art. You can even repurpose some of your Mason jars into tiny cold frames!

Small high tunnels are also gaining in popularity with backyard gardeners, and again, ample information is available online and in gardening books. According to one source, even a small high tunnel can provide an additional four to six weeks of production in both spring and fall. Although more expensive than a cold frame, a small high tunnel can be built for as little as a few hundred dollars. It’s also forgiving enough in design to make a good do-it-yourself project—assuming you follow the cardinal rule of waiting for a windless day to put on the plastic.

The bottom line: Canned beans aren’t the only option for home-grown vegetables in early spring. If the idea of eating your own vegetables for more months of the year appeals to you, explore the options and start experimenting with extending your garden season.
Meet the Chewonki Circle!

Chewonki is fortunate to enjoy support from a wide variety of alumni and friends who make contributions of almost every size. We appreciate each one! The Chewonki Circle is made up of donors who give $1,000 or more annually, and it now has 188 members. We have the pleasure of introducing you to a few of them below. If you’d like to join this special circle of friends, please contact Deb Cook, interim director of advancement and communications, at dcook@chewonki.org or (207) 882-7323, ext. 116.

Chris and Sue Klem

When Chris and Sue Klem were searching for a camp for their son, Eric, they asked a Pennsylvania family who was in the camping business for a referral. When the family enthusiastically recommended Chewonki, Chris suddenly remembered stories a college friend had told of being a Chewonki camper and counselor. This friend said that Chewonki was where he’d found himself. “Chewonki has a huge reputation,” says Chris.

Eric started at Chewonki when he was 11. He liked the noncompetitive atmosphere and strong connection to the salt water, and his parents were impressed by the skills he was learning and by the mix of camp activities. They realized that Chewonki was a larger organization than the camp and the Outdoor Classroom, which both Klem children attended in eighth grade with their schools in Massachusetts.

Eric went from camp to several years of wilderness trips. His Mariners trip (one of two; he insisted on sailing in both directions) led to meeting John Foss, captain of the schooner American Eagle, which led in turn to a job aboard for nine summers and fueled Eric’s passion for sailing. While Eric moved on from Chewonki to work and college, he was always returning to see friends, take Wilderness First Responder recertification courses, and participate in alternative energy forums (another of his passions). With degrees in engineering from Dartmouth, Eric now does mechanical design work in the medical field. He and his wife, Lizzie, keep a cruising sailboat that points down east whenever time permits.

The Klems’ daughter, Catherine, experienced only one summer with Chewonki, on the West Branch Explorers trip, but it was formative. She went on to hike segments of the Appalachian Trail, then worked for the Appalachian Mountain Club in New Hampshire. That led her to Middlebury College, several summers on the AMC hut crew in the White Mountains, and work for Overland camps. She’s now teaching math and leading outdoor trips at the Island School in the Bahamas.

Sue and Chris began supporting Chewonki when their children were here and are still giving. While some of their philanthropic loyalties have shifted as their lives and their children’s have evolved, the Klems have never forgotten Chewonki. Sue puts it simply: “It’s an awesome organization.”
For Oliver and Cynthia Rodman, Chewonki is a family tradition. Their sons, Matthew and Stephen, arrived on Chewonki Neck in 1974, Matt as a counselor and Steve as a camper. Each came back summer after summer. Their daughter, Heath, joined the fun in 1982, working in the kitchen. Years later, when he joined Chewonki’s advisory board, Matt wrote to president Don Hudson, “Every day since [my first day at camp], in ways small and large, Chewonki has had an enormous influence on my life. The lessons learned, the skills acquired, the friends made; all are integral to the person I’ve become.”

When Matthew died tragically of a brain tumor in 2000, his family created a legacy at Chewonki in the form of a scholarship fund. The Matthew Rodman Scholarship Fund has now grown to more than $444,000, with an annual draw of over $16,000, thanks to contributions from Oliver and Cynthia; Matt’s wife, Mariellen Rodman, and siblings Stephen, Heath, and Lydia Rodman; the extended Rodman family; and Matt’s many friends. To date, 24 children have been able to come to Chewonki summer programs as a result of this fund.

Matthew’s daughters, Laurel and Anna Fern, continued the legacy when they came to Chewonki for wilderness trips and Chewonki Camp for Girls, respectively. Says Oliver, “Chewonki is something we never forget. It’s engrained in us as a family. The scholarship fund gives us a great feeling because we know that it creates opportunities for children who would otherwise be unable to come to Chewonki, from the inner-city to rural Maine. It makes us happy to be able to provide them with wonderful experiences.”

He continues, “The land itself at Chewonki is important, along with teaching young people to conserve, respect, and take care of the environment. Chewonki is beautiful. Even driving in on the road makes us feel good.”

Having friends as generous and caring as Cynthia and Oliver Rodman strengthens Chewonki in so many ways. By helping deserving young people join the Chewonki family, they have kept Matt’s lively spirit present here. It’s an inspiring legacy, and one that we appreciate every day.

Oliver and Cynthia Rodman

For Oliver and Cynthia Rodman, Chewonki is a family tradition. Their sons, Matthew and Stephen, arrived on Chewonki Neck in 1974, Matt as a counselor and Steve as a camper. Each came back summer after summer. Their daughter, Heath, joined the fun in 1982, working in the kitchen. Years later, when he joined Chewonki’s advisory board, Matt wrote to president Don Hudson, “Every day since [my first day at camp], in ways small and large, Chewonki has had an enormous influence on my life. The lessons learned, the skills acquired, the friends made; all are integral to the person I’ve become.”

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At Chewonki, wonderful things happen when you’re side by side: campfires, paddling, hiking, harvesting, and even fundraising. Loyal friends like you work together each year to raise the dollars that promote excellence in all of our programs and make a positive difference in young people’s lives. It’s been that way for 100 years! Please do your part and give as generously as you can to the Annual Fund.

Here’s a special reason to give today: help Chewonki raise $200,000 by June 30, and a group of dedicated donors will match every dollar 1:1—working side by side with you to reach the Annual Fund goal of $775,000. At Chewonki, your participation always matters!

Thank you for being part of the Chewonki family and staying by our side as we step into the future.