



THE ALUMNI CHRONICLES

LAKE OF THE WOODS CAMP FOR GIRLS AND GREENWOODS CAMP FOR BOYS

IROQUOIS CABIN MEMBERS: 2020

LWC/GWC Alumni have been busy in their years since camp and we are thrilled to report on all the good news. In recent years especially, there have been an increase in future Greenwood campers and we'd like to introduce you to some of them below.



DRAYTON SMALLEY

DOB: June 28, 2011

PROUD PARENTS: Christine (O'Connell) and Ralph Smalley

HOMETOWN: Glenwood Springs, CO

FAVORITE FOOD: Milk

FUN FACT: Doesn't mind getting licked by large dogs (and his parents MET at LWC/GWC)!

FAVORITE HOBBY: Hiking, sleeping, eating, bouncing, and swimming

SIBLINGS: Adopted sister (a black lab named Molina)

MOST EXCITED FOR CAMP IN 2020: To swim in the lake and go climbing!



LUKE FREIRE

DOB: June 24, 2011

PROUD PARENTS: Sara (Criz) and Mike Freire

HOMETOWN: Marlborough, MA

FAVORITE FOOD: Formula

FUN FACT: Luke hates car rides, but loves swings

LATEST MILESTONE: giggling and grabbing at toys

SIBLINGS: 3 year old sister, Ella

MOST EXCITED FOR CAMP IN 2020: water-skiing and learning all the camp songs!



LIAM BANOFF

DOB: November 1, 2010

PROUD PARENTS: Amy (Atlas) and Jeremy Banoff

HOMETOWN: Riverwoods, IL

FAVORITE FOOD: Yogurt

FUN FACT: Liam was born on mom's 30th birthday

LATEST MILESTONE: Crawling

MOST EXCITED FOR CAMP IN 2020: Color Days!



TOBY WELLING

DOB: April 14, 2011

PROUD PARENTS: Elyssa (Jacobs) and Simon Welling

HOMETOWN: Chicago, IL

FAVORITE FOOD: Gerber Oatmeal Cereal

FUN FACT: Toby has been sleeping through the night since he was 2 months old.

MOST EXCITED FOR CAMP IN 2020: water skiing, singing in the mess hall and meeting new friends from around the world!



SIMON BAKER

DOB: July 29, 2010

PROUD PARENTS: Mandy (Rieff) and Jason Baker

HOMETOWN: Portland, Maine

FAVORITE FOOD: Milk, milk, milk

FUN FACT: Simon was walking at 9.5 months keeping Mama and Dada very busy.

FAVORITE HOBBY: Climbing on everything!

SIBLINGS: "dogeeee!" Our faithful old dog, Solveig.

MOST EXCITED FOR AT CAMP IN 2020: Climbing Wall, Waterskiing, Olympic Days



TYLER POWELL

DOB: October 8, 2010

PROUD PARENTS: Anne (Mewhinney) & Tim Powell

HOMETOWN: Melrose, MA

FAVORITE FOOD: Close call between cheerios and any kind of meat (he takes after his dad!)

FUN FACT: His middle name (George) has been passed down for 4 generations

FAVORITE HOBBY: Tormenting his big sister

SIBLINGS: 3 year old sister, Reilly
MOST EXCITED FOR CAMP IN 2020: Probably swimming, he's quite a fish! Either that or hanging with his buddies Toby and Liam

WHERE ARE THEY NOW



The LWCGWC Alumni Chronicles extends a heartfelt congratulations to Lake of the Woods Alumni **Lilly Berger** (1994-2002) on her work with the Peace Corps over the past two years. Lilly, a 2009 graduate of Colorado State University with a degree in social work, has been living in San Benito Poite, Toledo Belize since graduation. As part of the Peace Corps Partnership Program, Lilly had spearheaded an effort to build a footbridge for efficiency and safety for her town. Find out more about her incredible contributions below:

I have been here for 2 years now. I finish my service on Nov. 4th, 2011.

I live in one of the most rural mayan villages in the Toledo District of Belize. Toledo is the most impoverished district in Belize. My village name is San Benito Poite. There are about 600 people living there. It takes about 3 hours by bus (down dirt roads) from the local district town of Punta Gorda which is where I do my shopping. In order to reach the village we have to cross a river. There is a vehicle bridge but the bridge was built

through the river and not over it so during the rainy season the bridge is completely submerged under water. Because of the backup of water, the flooded river has created an off spill which is pretty much a new river. Whenever we need to leave the village we have to cross both of these flooded rivers. The high school students cross everyday trying to reach school. We wake up at 3am to walk down to the river to cross b/c the bus leaves at 4am.

After experiencing how horrible this river crossing experience is, I decided to try and build a foot bridge. I started to talk to the local Ministry of Works (MOW) and the planning took almost a year. The MOW found a bridge design to build a cable suspension bridge. They are providing some of the materials, labor and transportation of materials. I agreed to find the rest of the funding for the remaining materials. I was accepted to the Peace Corps Partnership Program and I raised about \$7,000USD. As of 10/1/11, construction of the bridge has not yet begun! We keep pushing the date back because rainy season decided to start late this year. We have purchased all materials, bull dozed a path to reach the construction site, and collected local materials such as rocks and lumber. We plan to start building ASAP and actual construction should only take about three days.

We know that the people of San Benito Poite will be forever grateful to Lilly and her project!



Congratulations to newlyweds **Rachael (Katz)** and **Michel Licker**. The happy couple were married on Sunday, September 18, 2011 in Boston, MA. Rachael, a LWC alumni was surrounded by her camp friends in attendance (Left to Right: **Shana Dorn, Lauren Leviton, Karly Segal, Rachael Katz Licker, Carrie Benjamin, Lindsay Saewitz and Alexis Gewertz.**) The Alumni Chronicles wishes the Lickers a happy and healthy marriage!

COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING AT CAMP

SCOPE Swimathon

We are SO proud of our campers for the success of our second annual LWC/GWC Swimathon! The Swimathon benefits SCOPE Midwest, a nonprofit organization that works to send economically disadvantaged youth to not-for-profit sleep away camps throughout the Midwest. Lake of the Woods and Greenwoods campers raised over \$2600 while swimming for SCOPE Midwest on July 3, 2011. Twelve of our first session campers fundraised prior to camp and collectively completed over 800 laps in our own lake to send more than 5 kids to camp. We're so proud of our kids for giving the gift of camp and look forward to tripling our numbers in 2012!



Community Service

We have been offering an elective class at camp called community service for several seasons. This purpose of this elective is for campers to work together to make our camp environment cleaner, safer, greener and more spirited. Our campers love this class and have looked for ways to expand what we do into the town that makes camp possible, Decatur. In 2010, our community service class was bussed to town where they painted a gazebo, weeded the main park's garden and even did some planting. Our sights were set a bit bigger for 2011 and we were thrilled when we received permission to paint an entire mural honoring Decatur within the same park. We're thrilled that generations of Decatur residents will see the mark left by our campers. Kudos, Community Service, it looks great!



FAMILY CAMP WEEK

Relive your days as a camper in Decatur during our annual Family Camp Week. Held in the third week of each August, this is a fun and exciting opportunity for the entire family to enjoy.

Please visit our website at www.LWCGWC.com to find more information. Below is what some of our families say about their experience at family camp:

WHAT WAS THE BEST PART OF YOUR WEEK AT FAMILY CAMP?

"Hanging with the other families that we have gotten to know over the years, and watching my kids (and us) interact with the staff."

"The staff, the patience of the waterski instructors, my kids' smiles..."

"Trying new activities and watching the pride on my children's faces as they accomplished new feats."



Dear Alumni:

We'd like to take this opportunity to inform you of a tragic incident that occurred at camp this past season. On July 20, a 15 year old Greenwood camper drowned in the lake during an organized and supervised cabin swim.



On the day of the accident, the heat index exceeded 110 degrees. This particular cabin group decided to go swimming to cool off and as protocol, had the proper number of lifeguards and "lookouts" to monitor the swim. Moreover, as with all evening swims, this one was held at the Lake of the Woods swim dock where a light was on. The swim began at dusk.

We would like you to be aware of our waterfront policies that have been implemented for decades:

- 1) All campers are required to take a mandatory swim check on opening day prior to participating in any water activities.
- 2) Any camper who does not pass the swim check may not swim in the deep water swim area and may not participate in any water activities.
- 3) In all water activities, aside from swimming, campers are required to wear life jackets.
- 4) The only swimming our campers and staff are allowed to do in the hours of darkness is in our swimming pool, (located on our two week campus) which has both under water and overhead lights.
- 5) A buddy system is used during all free swim at camp.
- 6) All waterfront staff are certified lifeguards with CPR and First aid. We have approximately 42 lifeguards each summer at camp. This number meets and exceeds both the state of Michigan and American Camp Association requirements.

On July 20, our emergency response plans were followed as planned. Having prepared and trained for nearly every circumstance, our team of lifeguards initiated our emergency response plan and together with our on-site medical team immediately began a search and rescue. We immediately called 911 and the child was taken to the nearest hospital.

The days following the tragedy were presumably some of the most challenging throughout our 77 year history. Our focus remained on creating a physically and emotionally safe environment for our current campers and staff. We were grateful to have grief counselors from the Center for Grieving Children of Portland, ME with us for days following the accident to counsel all of our staff and meet with any camper who needed to be heard. We are proud to report that all campers remained at camp and that while we all mourned, this united our camp family and that cheering and spirit resumed in the dining hall and beyond in the days following.

We have spent a great deal of time reflecting on where to go from here and we are proud to announce the implementation of a new under water swim detection system called the Wahoo Swim Monitor System. The Wahoo Swim Monitor System tracks each swimmer with sensors worn as lightweight headbands. Please visit their website to learn more at www.wahooosms.com.

Finally, we'd like you to know that the prosecutor's office has determined no criminal act or negligence that warranted charges and has officially ruled this tragedy as an accident.

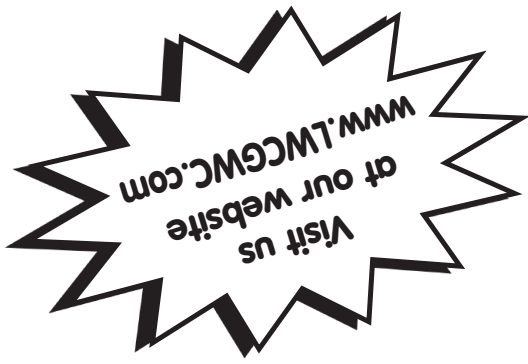
Should you have any further questions about this event, we invite you to call our winter office at 847-242-0009.

Thank you for your continued support throughout this difficult time.

SUMMER: 84600 47 1/2 Street. Decatur, MI 49045 • p. (269) 423-3091

WINTER: 650 Vernon Ave., #202. Glencoe, IL 60022 • p. (847) 242-0009 • p. (888) 459-2492 • f. (847) 242-0008

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LOOKING BACK ON THE 2011 SEASON

Our 77th summer in Decatur marked another filled with spirit, tradition and excitement! Our campers participated in many of the programs that many of us have loved during our camp days, including: The Bryn Mawr Show, trips to the Warren sand dunes, Olympic and Color Days, The Vassar Mock Trial, Capture the Flag and so much more.



The new and improved Big House.

The biggest physical change to camp this season was our brand new Big House. While we were sad to see the old one go, our new office has been an incredible addition to our camp's operation! Beyond the enlarged office and meeting spaces, our new big house has expanded living quarters for our administrative staff, lots of storage and even a conference room. Most importantly, we still have a screened in porch! Feel free to come visit if you're in the area next season!

As we look back on a great season, we also look ahead to what is to come. We're thrilled to announce the implementations below for our 2012 season!

- ▶ Another Gaga pit!
- ▶ Resurfacing of the roller hockey/go-cart track
- ▶ Resurfacing of the LWC and GWC basketball courts
- ▶ Brand new Malibu ski boat
- ▶ Continuing our cabin remodeling at both LWC & GWC