



Red Pine Times



Christmas 2007

www.redpinecamp.org

Camp '08 looks great

By Barry Bickerton

Chair, RPC Operating Committee

I recently drove to camp with Operating Committee colleague Michael Lachance to check the site and to meet with custodians Rick Zieman and Tom Sauer about winter projects.

The trip along Hwy 60 was dramatically different this year than last (when golfers were out and the fields remained a faded green.)

This December, snowbanks lined our route, icicles sparkled along farmhouse rooflines and we found the camp covered with a blanket of pristine snow.

With the exception of wild turkeys scurrying between cabins in the Grove, the camp was serene and undisturbed.

It is in the context of this peaceful setting that I reflect on the success of our 2007 camping season – and consider the promise that lies beneath the snow.

By all accounts, 2007 was one of the best years on record. We had a wonderful staff -- led by coordinators Ted Edwards and Janet Stefanyk. Good weather, first-rate facilities and delicious food also enhanced holiday time with friends and family.

2008 promises to be another great year. Ted and Janet have agreed to lead the senior staff team again. The food services contract with G.B. Catering is in place and plans are underway to expand the RPC's fleet of boats, to add to the children's playstructure near the Tuck Shop and to further improve the programming.

Applications have been received for senior staff positions and interviews will take place over the holiday season. We have a very large number of high-quality applicants and the hiring process will be



Peace on Earth and Goodwill to All

– B. Bickerton photo

Sunlight and snow on the Chalet roof at Red Pine capture the beauty of the season and remind us of the promise of another wonderful summer at camp. To everyone in the RPC family, a safe and healthy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

extremely competitive.

When senior staff hiring is complete, we will turn our attention to junior staff. The application deadline is Jan. 31 and interviews will be conducted through February and March. As always, please contact Barb in the camp office for information.

Our positive outlook on 2008 is possible thanks to the work of all the volunteers who made the camp run so smoothly last season.

They include two long-time members of the RPC Operating Committee, who have 'retired' from volunteer duties to take on new challenges. Joni Campbell and Linda Short devoted countless hours and contributed greatly to

our camp in their respective roles overseeing operations in Family Program, L.I.T. and Crafts. A sincere and heartfelt "thank you" to them.

New Operating Committee members are Deirdre Clift, who is responsible for Family and L.I.T. programs, and Cheryl Edwards, who is responsible for Crafts. Continuing to work on your behalf on the Committee are Brian Cornelius, Michael Lachance, Jodi Sinclair and Frankie Menna.

In closing, from those of us who volunteer throughout the year – and dream of what lies beneath the snow – to all of you, best wishes for a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year. See you at camp!

Circle these dates:

Dec. 15: Deadline for senior staff applications

Jan. 14 to Feb. 8: Shareholder and returning camper booking period.

Jan. 31: Deadline for junior staff applications. (Contact Barb Fisher for information at 613-828-0700.)

Mar. 1 onwards: New camper requests will be taken by phone.

May 24-25: First work party weekend

June 7-8: Second work party weekend

Looking ahead to the summer

RPC Tickle Trunk

We are always looking for new items for our costume room – old Halloween costumes, funny hats, props, bridesmaid dresses. Donated items can be brought to camp and are always put to good use!

- Dee Clift

Gently-used tents needed for LIT overnight

The LIT overnight to Big Island is a long time Red Pine tradition which our LITs and staff look forward to every year! Last year we were successful in having overnights for our 2nd and 3rd year LITs, 8 weeks in a row thanks to Mother Nature and a group of dedicated staff and LITs. This out-trip provides an opportunity for our teenagers to put into action their cooking and fire-making skills while developing a strong sense of Red Pine community with memories that last a lifetime! We are always looking for gently used tents (6-to-8 person) with all the working parts to keep our inventory stocked. So keep us in mind when you do your spring clean up and email Deirdre Clift at j.clift@sympatico.ca if you have any tents or other camping equipment you would like to donate.

- Dee Clift

H2O:

We had a fantastic summer in 2007 on the Waterfront. The new shade and rain structure was welcomed on hot sunny days as well as a nice spot to sit on rainy days. There will be a few new additions to the Waterfront next summer. We will be purchasing a new camp boat to replace our 15-year-old "115 hp" motor boat. In response to camper comments, we saw the need for more **Hobie Waves**. There will be three on the waterfront next summer.

- Frankie Menna



Wild Turkeys in the Grove

A December visit to Red Pine by Barry Bickerton and Michael Lachance found that Rick and Tom are not alone when the Grove is under a blanket of snow. Wild turkeys abound! At left, Rick Zieman, Michael Lachance and Tom Sauer.

- photos by B. Bickerton

Tuck Shop launches pre-order system and new clothing items

Flannel PJ bottoms and boxers, vintage t-shirts, and "dry tech" t-shirts, and children-sized t-shirts are just some of the items which will dazzle the Red Pine Clothing inventory in 2008. In addition, campers will be able to pre-order prior to the opening of camp to ensure that stock will be available to all campers. Details on how to pre-order will be included in your registration packets. Ready yourself to be decked out in Red Pine apparel this coming summer.

Also, special thanks to all those who made the 2007 Tea and Tuck such a success by greatly depleting our past inventory in order to make room from 2008 stock.

- Brian Cornelius

Calling all 11-and 12-year olds!

Over the winter months we are changing the "Adventurers" program. We have listened to your comments and we are dedicated to adapting the activities to suit these pre-teens. A new meeting place and orienteering are just 2 of the new

ideas that we have planned. If you have other activities to suggest please contact Jodi Sinclair by email at jodi.sinclair@ocdsb.ca

- Jodi Sinclair

Looking for...

In Junior Program we are always looking for toys and equipment. If you are thinking of getting rid of plastic picnic tables, toy strollers, toy high chairs, wooden puzzles, baby toys etc. please think of Red Pine. If you have any of the above items, please let Jodi know.

Where there's Tea, there's Tuck

Second Annual Tea and Tuck puts campers in holiday spirit

Hundreds of Red Piners turned out for the second annual Christmas Tea and Tuck on Dec. 1 in Westboro.

Christmas treats were shared, gallons of tea was consumed and campers took advantage of incredible Tuck Shop bargains.

Thanks to all those people who took part, volunteered and baked goodies.

A special thank you to Katy Burnett and Donna Edwards.



Wilma Drinkwater and Barbara Fisher were decked out in Red Pine red!



Camp kids were the focus of games and songs.



Betty Campbell cuddled Week 1 camper Lilliane Poirier, daughter of Natalie and Carl Poirier and sister of Isabelle and Caroline.



Former junior staffers entertained the campers with Christmas carols and their delightful sense of fun.

A glimpse of the Dining Hall: The Red Pine mantle awaits campers' return

