



THE KNOLL NEWS

William Lawrence Camp
110th Season 1913-2022

Volume —2022/1

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Spring 2022



Director's Message from Nat Crane:

Clearly the game of baseball was king in the years following World War II, and that was reflected here on the Knoll. I hear stories of regular games against other camps as well as locally organized teams. Before the 'new' baseball field was put in, baseball was played on the Knoll. If you look closely enough, you can see where the infield was, after which the outfield sloped up toward the present climbing tower. The backstop was about where the Gaga Pit is. Alas, baseball's popularity has waned.



Nat with nice Erie steelhead in November 2021!

However, sports remain an integral part of our program and we continue to play other camps in basketball, soccer, arena soccer, flag football and the occasional tennis match. Lacrosse has emerged as a primary sport, and we've added skeet shooting for the Seniors. Riflery and archery remain incredibly popular. We compete regularly against other camps in these activities and generally do very well. In fact, there is a bit of a cult around archery at WLC. We have tried to add an archery match as a new tradition alongside riflery in our competitions against Fleur de Lis. The results have not been in FDL's favor, so their enthusiasm for embracing this new tradition is tepid at best.

Meanwhile, the Camp program, as well as the facilities to support that program, have expanded extensively over the decades. We have both a high and low ropes course that includes the impressive climbing tower. The old Senior wayside was converted into a woodshop. The old tennis courts were divided into paved areas for arena soccer and street hockey. Our international staff have introduced touch rugby, cricket and Aussie Rules football. We have a very complete gym in the basement of the Centennial Lodge. Our waterfront remains robust while adding wakeboarding and tubing. Fly fishing and fly tying are taught from our new waterfront building. We teach an activity called Wilderness Skills that is very popular with the campers. And of course, we have a complete outcamping program where campers can sign up for two to three-day backpacking and canoe trips. Summitting Mount Washington is a primary goal for our Senior campers.

(Director's Message continued on page 2)

WLC has evolved with the times to offer one of the most comprehensive programs in camping. Each program area is properly staffed, well-maintained and fully-equipped. We can certainly be extraordinarily proud of our program which meets the needs of a wide cross-section of today's campers while instilling skills for a lifetime. Sorry for baseball's lack of demand, but we will continue to remain open to change as society demands. However, rest assured, we will remain unplugged! Nat



Enrollment for summer 2022 is open for a full season! Don't miss out. Get your application in today! LIT and staff positions are still available.

Have a friend who will be new to Camp? Tell them about our **New Parent Open Houses** in June! See page 4 for details.

WORK WEEKEND IS MAY 7
Bring your gardening gloves and your Bill Larry Camp Spirit to Camp on May 7 to get Camp ready for the summer!



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Thoughts of summer help us get through days like this! We can't wait for Camp to start!

Password: Saying 'How Can I Help?'

By Nicolas Rimalovski, LIT blog post 2021

Over the last 7 weeks, I have come to find that being a LIT isn't easy; far from it actually. However, I've come to find joy in every aspect of it. Don't get me wrong, the task of doing dishes or cleaning the waysides isn't fun, but I find joy in the realization that when I complete those sometimes tedious tasks, I have done something good for something I love. This year at Camp has taught me what the 5 most important words of the English language are. Surprisingly they aren't the 5 d's of dodgeball (dodge, duck, dip, dive, and dodge). Instead, they are "How can I help you." I have learned that each day, if you ask that person, place, or thing you love, "How can I help you?", they will always respond. You will always find some joy in those tasks. As I see it, the goal of life is finding the people you love and spending your time making their lives easier. In my case, the place for me is William Lawrence Camp, and I know for sure that no amount of dishes, wayside cleaning, or hole digging could ever keep me from loving this place.



Things We Could Use

Many thanks to Paul Hendrickson for donating a new catamaran sail, as well as to Bill Gaver for providing us with some useful woodshop equipment. Considering supply chain issues, we are actively purchasing necessary program equipment now for the upcoming summer. Thank you to Trustee Mark Hyde, a North Face employee, who was able to get us a hefty discount on 11 new Terra 65 backpacks. But this still represents an outlay of over \$1,000. However, our list of needs remains robust. Your help is greatly appreciated.

- 4 new tents (~\$200 per) for outcamping
- Woodworking equipment, including a chop saw (~\$250), a band saw (~\$250-\$350), and a router with router table (~\$400)
- Golf cart(s) for administrative staff including our nurse
- AV equipment including a portable PA system (~\$500)
- Chest freezers (~\$800 per)
- Commercial ice maker machine (~\$3,500)
- New 9.9 HP Honda outboard (~\$3,000)
- Aqua Finn/Sunfish sailboat (~\$4,000)
- West Marine Classic Dinghies (\$750)
- Used vehicles such as a full-size 4X4 pick-up truck, a Tahoe/suburban-style SUV, and/or a crossover SUV



Spread the word!

Our recruiting efforts have gone virtual this year and we need your help! We would like to host virtual info sessions with prospective families. If you know anyone interested in learning more, we would be happy to set up a phone or Zoom call with them. Please email Camp at knoll@wlcamp.org to schedule a conversation with Associate Director, Jessica Paquette.

In true WLC fashion, these are not hard sells and there is no commitment to Camp expected. We want to share information and spread the word about our amazing Camp!

Mark Your Calendars! 2022

May 7

Service Weekend

Come help open up Camp. After a delicious breakfast at 8:30 AM, Nat will divide attendees into work crews. A full lunch will be provided, as well as a hearty dinner. Cabin accommodations are available, and breakfast will also be provided Sunday morning at 8:30 AM, after which all will depart. No Friday meals are served, but cabin dwellers are welcome to arrive Friday evening.

June 4 & 5

New Parent Open Houses

Two chances for enrolled families to talk with the Director, meet some staff and take a guided tour of Camp since drop-off will be Kiss and Go again this summer. Current and former staff are encouraged to attend whenever possible to help lead tours. If you wish to bring or send a prospective camper family to one of these open houses, please have them contact Camp to arrange a tour time. If you'd like to visit on a different date, please contact Camp.

June 9—17

Certification School

June 18—25

Staff Training

June 26

CAMP BEGINS!

July 16

Board of Trustees Meeting – we hope at Camp!

August 13

Camp Ends

August 15-19

Camp Kesem, Dartmouth chapter

August 21-26

Camp Kesem, Chestnut Hill chapter



Goose Droppings...

Dear Campers,

I think if there is anything that we need to get out of the last two years, it is an understanding that all bad times pass. Whether they are solved or just come to an end... bad times pass. We first learned that lesson when we were homesick at Camp. Like everything else, it eventually passed, even though at first, it seemed it wouldn't. No problem has the ability to last forever. We figure it out, or we move on from it. Our job, really, is not to figure out how to forever avoid the difficult stuff. That's an impossible task, anyway. It's the difficult stuff that makes us grow and be stronger. Our job is to look at all of life's tough moments and have the presence of mind to say to ourselves: "Here we are again. Don't panic." Camp has taught us that, as well.

Sure, we can get impatient with outcomes; and, on some level, we sometimes probably should. Wanting to find a way to solve a problem sooner rather than later is a healthy mindset.

But remember, if you have a fight with another kid, if you are feeling sad because times are bad, if things didn't go your way, I get it. That makes you human. During those moments, we may fool ourselves into thinking this will never end. In those moments, let me encourage all of you to remember that there was NO time in your life that stayed sad or difficult. Eventually things get good again, if for no other reason than that's how things work. That's the pattern. That's the rule.

I sit here in my school classroom on a snowy February day. As I type this, I picture sitting on the green grass of the Knoll, with the sun beating down, and the gentle wind on my face. I can hear campers laughing somewhere nearby, as I look out over Lake Winnepesaukee. I imagine all these things and I know that good times are coming. And here's the kicker... because I know this, the good times are now. Get your exercise, eat well, and mostly stay out of trouble, and I'll see you soon.

Sincerely,

Goose

Development Committee Update

We'd like to thank everyone who has donated to our Annual Fund thus far. As you may know, we are actively fundraising in order to afford a 'new' ski boat. Our Giving Tuesday mini-campaign successfully added a boost toward our goal of raising a minimum of \$50,000. We still have a way to go, so please consider making a donation. In addition to the ski boat, Camp has other needs that the Annual Fund supports, whether it be vehicles, lawn & garden equipment, appliances, or other items. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

**Donate now
using this
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Spotlight Profile: Neil Hulbert

Love, Adventure and WLC

By Jessica Paquette



When COVID hit and WLC had to find a way to stay afloat, I was invited to my first WLC Board of Trustees Development Committee Meeting. The man leading the meeting was the Development Committee Chair, Neil Hulbert; a man I had never met before. It was immediately apparent that this man was a seasoned veteran of this committee. His knowledge and leadership shone brightly. As the meeting progressed, his wit, passion for Camp, and integrity became obvious as well. Neil has seen WLC through the fundraising campaigns for the lodge, the waterfront building and most recently the For Lawrence We Stand COVID campaign, all of which have been extremely successful. Not only is his 12-year reign as the Development Committee Chair impressive, Neil's life has been inspiring. Neil Hulbert has lived a life full of love, adventure, and, of course, Camp!

While growing up in Belmont, MA, Neil and his brother, Wayne, must have been regaled with stories from their cousin, Dirk, about Dirk's idol, Owen Carle, and William Lawrence Camp because both boys decided to attend, even though Dirk was 15 years Neil's senior. Neil was just 9 when he started camp in 1954, two years after his brother. The first week of summer was not what Neil expected, and he wrote a letter home instructing his parents to pick him up the following Sunday because he was miserable. Though they didn't comply, his parents saved that infamous letter, which Neil still has! Camp must have turned around for Neil because at the age of 13 he became the youngest Brave, now Woodsman, at that time. Neil recounts how one year later Rick Brown beat his record by a month! Neil continued his tenure with WLC, becoming a tennis instructor, then the head of Athletics, and finally the Executive Counselor, a one-year position that Director Eddie Pratt created instead of the Assistant Director role.

Although Neil's last summer attending Camp was 1969, he made sure that the summer counted! Neil convinced his girlfriend of one year, a nurse, to attend Camp with him that last summer. He arrived late to Camp due to taking the Bar Exam but sent Martha on ahead. Luckily she made fast friends with then Associate Director Dan Crowley and his arts and crafts instructor wife, Suki, as well as Neil's best friend at Camp, Bob Jones AKA Jonesy. Neil and Martha hold the very prestigious status of being one of three couples where a WLC staff member married the Camp nurse!

(Spotlight Profile continued on page 7)



(Spotlight Profile continued from page 6)

Prior to starting a very successful career in law, Neil taught high school history and civics at Massachusetts Hospital School in Canton, MA. This was no ordinary school. Students at MA Hospital School are physically disabled with disabilities ranging from paralysis to Spina Bifida to being paraplegic. Neil recounts how he taught some of the students in person and many of the students via closed circuit TV because they were confined to their hospital beds within the school. One of his favorite memories from his two-year teaching stint was taking the students out to a Chinese Food restaurant. There was a lot of coordination due to the need for nurses and vans to accommodate the students, but it was the first time some of these kids had ever been to a restaurant!

Neil's teaching career gave him and Martha the opportunity to go on many adventures. In 1970, they spent the summer backpacking in Scandinavia after a brief entrapment waiting for a rental car to be built in Paris. That's a story you'll have to ask Neil about! The biggest adventure Neil and Martha had was moving to Hawaii. In 1971, after Neil learned about Hawaiian life from his Boston University School of Law roommate and Martha learned about Hawaii through a brief stopover on her way to become the WLC nurse, the two decided to purchase one-way plane tickets, pack their suitcases and move! As a nurse, Martha found a job immediately. Neil took a little longer but eventually was hired as a law clerk for a judge. When the judge left the court to become a full-time lawyer, he brought Neil with him. Neil ended up working at that law firm for 22 years and becoming partner. He then left that firm and spent 25 years at another firm in Hawaii, eventually retiring after negotiating a merger between his firm and the largest law firm in the world.

While in Hawaii, Neil and Martha raised two sons whom Neil lovingly calls Jonah the Younger and Noah the Elder. Neil loved raising his boys in Hawaii. They didn't wear shoes to school until 7th grade! They were the minority, as only 10% of the students were Caucasian, and Jonah and Noah spent the majority of their time outdoors. Since both Neil and Martha were very familiar with WLC, they sent their boys there. Neil recounts how in those days, there was no worry about putting the boys on an airplane from Hawaii with a layover on the West Coast to finally reach Boston where a WLC staff member would bring them to Camp. Neil did insist on picking the boys up and would come a little early so he could spend time with Jonesy. This is also the time Neil became friends with his old camper - and the Director at the time - Jon Haycock. Noah and Jonah ended up going to college on the East Coast and then marrying and settling down in the Northeast. This brought Neil and Martha home from Hawaii in 2005, and they settled in Maine.



Back in the Northeast, Neil continued to work for the law firm based in Hawaii and commuted there four times per year at first and then eventually just once a year until he retired in 2019. Neil took up woodworking and has turned out a kayak, wooden pens he sells in Cambridge, wooden bowls, and a beautiful rattle for this author's new son, and he is currently building a boat with Jonah the Younger. Unfortunately, Neil lost the love of his life, Martha, in 2021 and recently visited Hawaii to spread some of her ashes in a meadow just beyond a bamboo forest on one of her favorite hikes. It is evident that Neil's love for his wife, sons and Camp runs strong. We are grateful for all Neil has done and continues to do for WLC.



IN MEMORIAM

Martha Hulbert



Martha Woodman Hulbert, of Woolwich, ME, passed away on October 4, 2021, at the age of 77. She is survived by her husband Neil Hulbert (Bill Larry Man and long-time member of the WLC Board of Trustees), sons and former campers Jonah and Noah, daughters-in-law Kate and Pam, and granddaughters Sophie and Sarah. Martha met Neil on a blind date. In 1969, Neil graduated from law school and decided it would be fun to have one more summer at Camp. He suggested to Director Owen Carle that Martha would be a great camp nurse, and Owen hired her. During that season, Martha and Neil became engaged, and they were married in November of 1969. That made Martha a member of WLC's most exclusive society: Camp nurses who married counselors. (Only three such marriages have occurred.)

Martha began her nurse's training in the mid-1960's at Massachusetts General Hospital and subsequently worked at the VA Hospital in Roxbury, MA, and Newton-Wellesley Hospital. In 1971, Martha and Neil moved to Hawaii, where she was hired by Queens Hospital. She enrolled in the nursing program at the University of Hawaii (UH) and became a registered nurse. She also received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from UH.

Martha was passionate about the rights of families impacted by adoption. In 1967, she had an unplanned pregnancy and relinquished her son for adoption. The imposed secrecy and anonymity regarding adoption informed the rest of her life. In 1989, she founded The Adoption Circle of Hawaii as a support and advocacy group. She successfully lobbied for reform of Hawaii adoption law in 1990. Three years later, having commuted monthly to California, Martha received a Master of Arts degree in Psychology.

In 2005, Martha and Neil moved from Hawaii to Maine, where Martha continued her social activism. She founded Truth in Adoption, Maine, a nonprofit organization advocating for adoption reform. She lobbied for adoption reform in Maine, Massachusetts, and Hawaii. For her work in adoption reform, Martha received the U. S. Congressional Angels in Adoption Award. Martha was proud of her efforts to work imaginatively, speak honestly, and make a difference in the lives of so many people, most of whom she never met.



Camp Family News

Alex Roguet, son of our Trustee and Board Treasurer, **Betsy Roguet**, was a camper from 2014 through 2019. Alex is having another great year skiing for the Holderness School (Plymouth, NH), where he is on the U-16 USSA alpine race team. He is also on the NH State team, which is made up of the top 10 boys and girls in the State.

The group picture shows his team at the season opener at Sunday River, where Alex came in first in his age category. Since then, he has had three podiums in slalom and GS. He will be competing in the State championship in February and is hoping to make it to the Eastern Championships in March in Vermont and then Nationals, which will be held at Sugarloaf in April.



It has been a whirlwind of an off-season for Associate Director, Jessica, and her family. They welcomed their son, Parker, into the world on October 22nd. He's just



adorable and has already started helping in the WLC Office! Jess (**now Jessica Paquette**) is looking forward to having the youngest camper at Camp this summer! On January 8th, Uncle Natty, Justice of the Peace, officiated the wedding of Jessica and her husband, Myles. They had a small ceremony in their

home surrounded by their kids. As if that wasn't enough, Jessica and Myles purchased a new home in Tamworth, NH on January 14th. They are excited for all the new changes and are looking forward to what the future holds!



Richard Hersee was a camper here for just the year 1951, but he continues to have wonderful memories of his time on the Knoll. Here are just some of the memories which he shared with us in a December 2021 letter which accompanied the picture: “I participated in a boxing match in a ring held outdoors with gloves, obviously, but no helmets that I can remember.” “Roy [Henderson] drove us to a girls’ camp where we participated in a rifle shooting contest.” “I was part of a stage production held in the ‘Barn’, I believe it was Brigadoon.” “I became a ‘Brave’ during the second session that year, which meant that I had to spend the night alone in the woods and write a paper explaining what the camp meant to me.” “I shall never forget our foot trip to Shaw Mountain and swimming in the pond at the base of a waterfall – mighty cold!” “I find it difficult to look at these faces and think that I was 15 at the time and now I will be 86 next month.”

We hope you had an awesome birthday,
Richard!

HELP US KEEP OUR RECORDS UP-TO-DATE!

Let us know your current postal address, preferred phone number, and preferred email address. Use this QR code to fill out the online form.
Or visit wlcamp.org and click the link on the homepage under **Lost Larrys**.



Campers and counselors from the 2000 decade will remember **Liam Neish**, who was on staff for 8 of those years, and everyone may remember the CFN article about his son, Harper, in the Fall 2021 newsletter. We recently had an update from Liam himself, whose life has changed greatly over the last couple of years. He and Harper are now living full-time in their new “bachelor pad” and loving it. Liam works with behavior and emotional issue pupils at the Dundee High School, coaches soccer there and at a private club 3 times a week, and teaches Outdoor Education at school every Monday. To supplement his income, especially during COVID times, he has used his years of experience “Hole-Diggin’ on the Knoll” to open his own property maintenance company and has been outside from March to November doing the full slate of fun and not-so-fun Hole-Diggin’ tasks. He is hoping to bring Harper to Camp in summer 2023, when he’ll be 8, and do some hole diggin’ on this side of the Pond. We can’t wait!

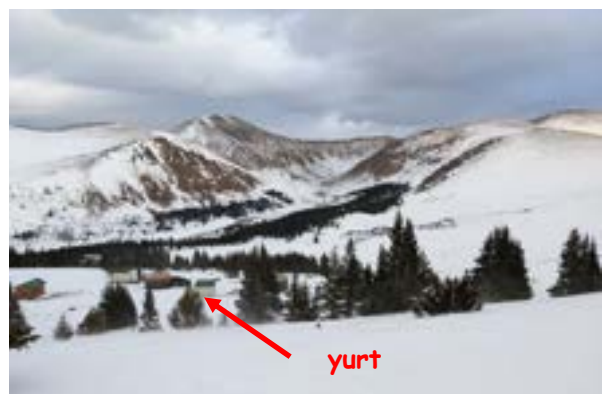




On Sunday, October 24, former camper (2017-2019) **Sam Ackerman** of Hingham, MA, earned the honor to participate in the Head of the Charles Regatta in Cambridge, MA, as a member of the Boston College High School Rowing team. It was a tremendous accomplishment for a freshman to make the team. His boat competed in the Men's Youth Eight U-17 competition. After an amazing day of racing, BC High finished 11th overall among US high schools, guaranteeing entry for next year's Head of the Charles. A bright rowing future is ahead for Sam!



For a number of years now, a group of Bill Larry Men who were all campers in the 2000 decade and counselors in the 2010 decade have been spending a weekend at camp in early January. Camp provides a great jumping-off spot for trips to various New Hampshire ski and snowboard areas, as well as a warm, safe place to hang out and catch up with old friends. This year's group consisted of **Joe Caruso, Kevin O'Neill, Tom Cleary, Michael Natsch,** and **Andrew Nagle**. While not here this year, they are often joined by **Alex Camerino, Chris Hyde** and **Ross Fidler**. Other groups of alums wishing to spend a similar weekend at Camp in the winter months are encouraged to contact Camp and speak with Nat to work out an arrangement.

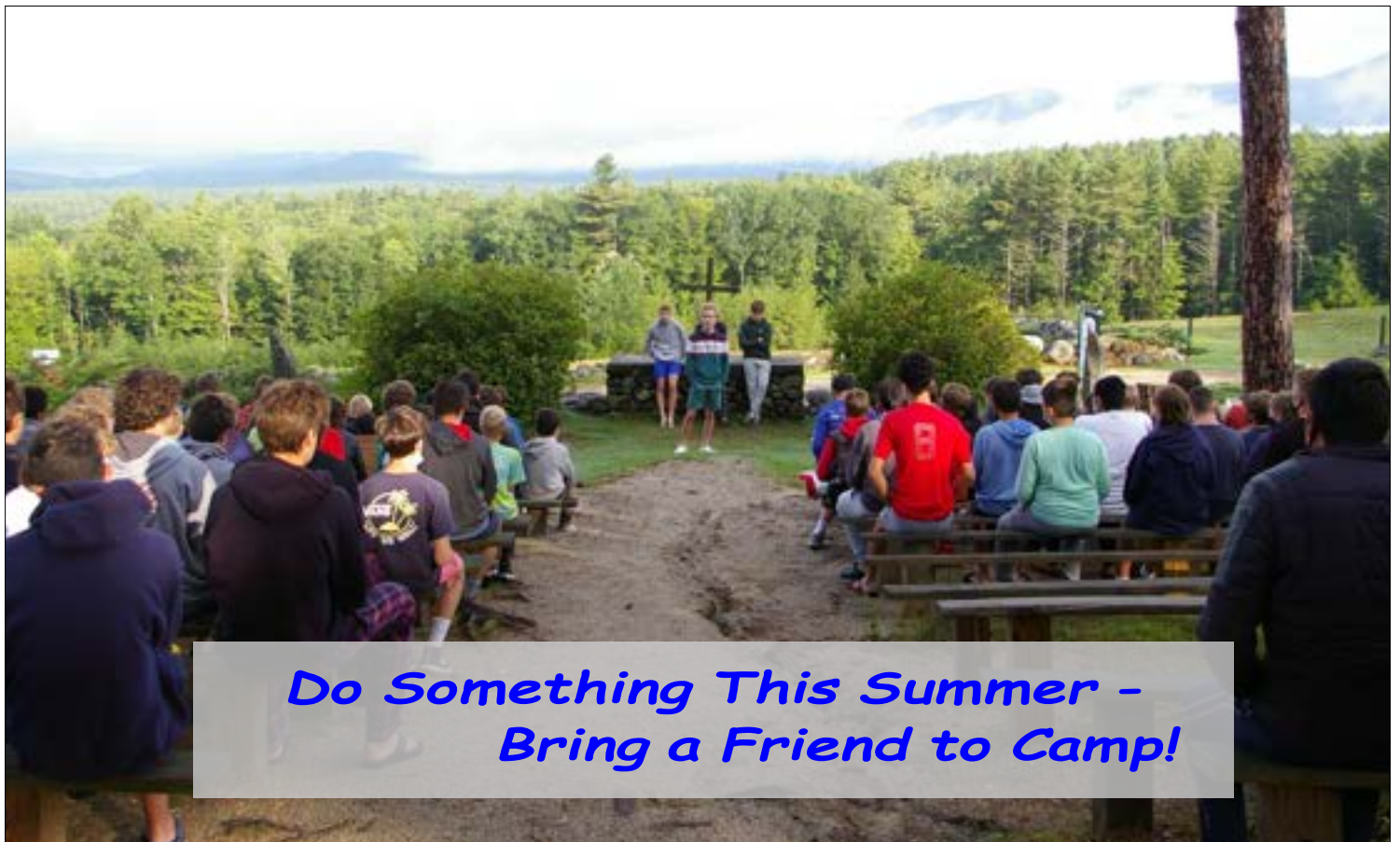


Geoff Peyton, WLC alum, was happy to get back to his annual ski trips with friends in February 2022. This time they gathered in the Breckenridge area of Colorado. A few of them also hiked and skied 6+ mi. with all their gear to spend a few days staying in a yurt.

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