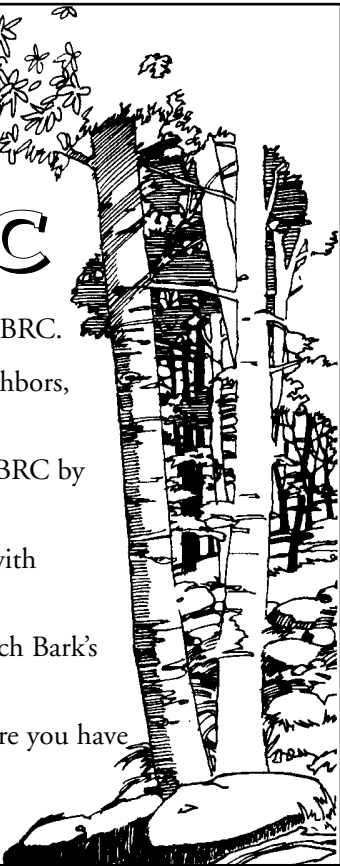


Mark Your Calendars for 2007!

| | |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| June 1 | BRC Summer Office Opens |
| June 3 | Spring Clean-Up Work Weekend |
| June 18 | BRC Staff Orientation |
| June 23 | C.I.T. Orientation |
| June 27 | BRC Opening 1st Session |
| July 8 | BRC 1st Visitation Day |
| July 14 | McWain Pond Association |
| July 21 | BRC 1st Session Ends |
| July 22 | BRC Opening 2nd Session |
| July 22 | Cubs Camp Session I |
| July 22 | Maine Wilderness Adventure |
| August 2 | Cubs Session I Ends |
| August 3 | Cubs Session II |
| August 4 | Alumni/Board Day |
| August 5 | BRC 2nd Visitation Day |
| August 12 | MWA>Returns |
| August 14 | BRC for Boys Ends |
| August 14 | Cubs Camp Session II Ends |
| August 17 | BRC Family Camp Begins |
| August 21 | BRC Family Camp Ends |

It's
Easy to
Help BRC

- Send a tax-deductible donation to BRC.
- Promote BRC among friends, neighbors, family and colleagues.
- Refer a prospective camper to the BRC by phone or email.
- Host a gathering of BRC alumni with Directors Deering and Mattson.
- Send us news to include in the Birch Bark's Alumni News column.
- Ask us about our "Wish List" before you have your spring yard sales.
- Join us for Alumni Day–August 4.



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

P.O. Box 148
Waterford, ME 04088

BIRCH ROCK CAMP



A nonprofit corporation

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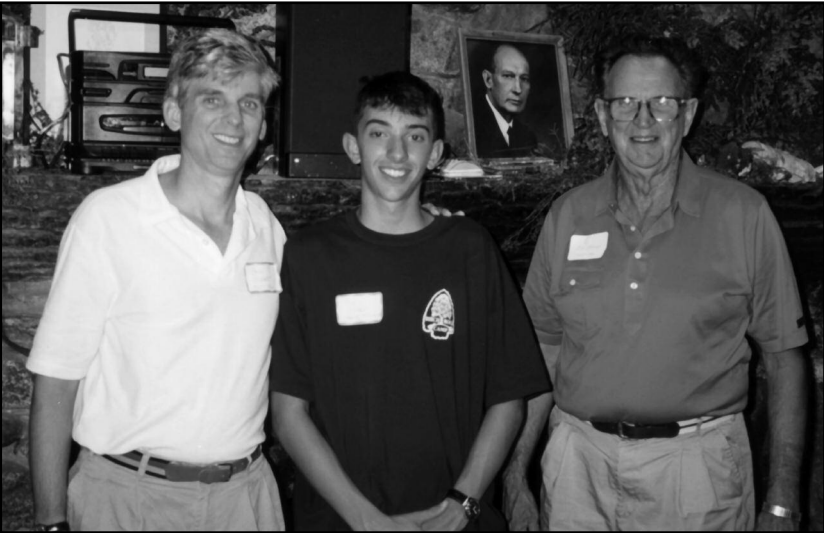
www.birchrock.org

Rich Deering, Alumni Director • Michael Mattson, Camp Director

THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF BIRCH ROCK CAMP

ALUMNI PROFILE: "THE STONE FAMILY"

By Beverly Stone – wife, mother, and board member – In her own words:



Bob, Rob and Ed Stone

Introduction to Birch Rock Camp

Bob Stone's life-long affection for Birch Rock Camp began years before he joined the Board of Directors in 1994. As is typical for many 12 year old boys, Bob Stone looked forward to spending the summer months enjoying the freedom from school work and the daily routine. For Bob, this meant spending the whole day at Old Garden Beach in Rockport, MA. However, Bob's grandmother, Dorothy Stone, thought otherwise. She had been introduced to Birch Rock Camp for boys by her friends Onie and Chief Brewster, and subsequently sent her son, Edward Stone, to BRC during the late 1920s and into the 1930s. Ed was at Birch Rock for seven years, including two years as a counselor. When Ed's sons, Robert and Rick Stone, were old enough, Dorothy thought they should have the BRC experience as well, and she was instrumental in sending both boys to camp.

Bob was 12 years old his first summer at Birch Rock Camp in 1960. Although hesitant at first to go to camp, he quickly adapted to life at BRC. His favorite activities were riflery, swimming, archery, and canoeing. He earned many badges in these activities, and you would not be amazed to learn that he still has his BRC banner with all those badges pinned on. Not surprisingly for a boy who grew up on the water, Bob earned his Loon and Duck on McWain



Bob Stone

Pond. He especially liked the overnight camping and canoe trips, "capture the flag" and the campfires. He remembers still his counselors during his three years at BRC: Robin Massey, Jim Marion, Ung Kim, and Wayne Brumaghim to name a few.

A Wife and Mother's Point of View

Bob attended BRC for only three years, 1960 – 1962, but his experiences from BRC have stayed with him. Before we had children, Bob would tell

Continued on page 2



REFLECTIONS FROM THE ROCK

by Rich Deering '73 –
Community & Alumni Director

“Let us all put our head where are feet are.....” Time and again, day in and out, in this age of instant messaging, I-tunes downloading, cell phones, blackberries and the often frenetic, fast-paced juggling of work and family dynamics, we are all moving faster than we are able to fully comprehend. Adults and children are multi-tasking like never before with phones attached to their ears and computers on their laps. (Yes, I am guilty!). We correspond with abbreviated text diction and hip-hop slang, instead of concisely crafting a letter or for goodness sakes a formal thank- you note! Our daily momentum is being driven by not the quality of what we achieve daily, but by how much we can physically and emotionally juggle. Just ask yourself if you can fully recollect what you did in detail last week? It’s a crazy “life-wheel” we spin. It personally reminds me of our pet hamster spinning on his caged wheel....around and around and around.

Fortunately, Birch Rock provides a nurturing sanctuary of “time out.” One of the best gifts camp life has to offer its community members is the opportunity to step away from the hectic, often chaotic lives they live and those of their families. Yes, campers have the opportunity to make their own activity choices, but they also have the unique moment to just be boys. They can sit by the lake and hear the loons call; read a book; talk with staff and fellow campers from various cities and cultures while being completely unplugged from technology and the reality of their home life.

At BRC, we embrace this exchange of lifelong learning by remaining true to the ideals written by our founders, Chief & Onie Brewster: *A boy cannot grow solely on food, sleep and safe living and playing conditions. He also needs the challenge of something new to learn and explore, the close contact with nature and many kinds of challenges to meet and master other than those he can find his home or his school.*

As we collectively provide and support this nurturing environment for our campers, we have to also be mindful to take “time out” and remain unplugged in order to cherish the gifts that each day brings us while keeping our head where are feet are.....

In this edition of the Birch Bark, we are once again delighted to share some of our graduating high school seniors’ essays and anecdotes. Additionally, our Alumni Profile features a wife, mother and board member’s perspective about our camp community spanning now 3 generations. A heart-felt thank you, Beverly Stone and to our outstanding graduates. May the best be yet to come for you all! And we hope to see many BRC alumni and families this summer on the shores of McWain! RBD.

Continued from front

me about BRC with a gleam in his eye. He would regale me with stories of swimming in the pond when it was still cold, the evening campfires, the skits of both campers and counselors, and, of course, Chef Albert’s popovers and brownies. The sum total of my camp experience was one week at a Girl Scout Camp for two summers. My experience was nothing like Birch Rock, and I was certain BRC was where we would send any future sons. One summer day, Bob and I made a trip to Maine, and decided on the spur of the moment to stop in at Birch Rock. That was my introduction to Albert and his brownies. I was definitely hooked from that point on.

From the time our son Rob was just a little tyke, Bob would recount stories for him of Birch Rock Camp, hoping that he would be eager to go when he was older. I wanted our son to have that BRC experience, because I had vicariously experienced it myself for years. I had heard stories of the caring counselors, the great camaraderie, the nature adventures, and best of all, the good food.

Rob, typical youngster, anticipated his first summer at BRC in 1989 at age 8 with both anxiety and excitement. I, typical mother, felt the same way. Rob was a shy kid. How would he fit in at BRC? He had never before spent more than a few nights away from home and parents. But my worries subsided when we dropped him off that first day. The camp director Toby



Bev and Rob Stone

Brewster and all the staff welcomed Rob and made him feel right at home. When I received that first letter home with accounts of how much fun he was having and news of all the new friends he had made, I knew that sending him had been the right thing to do. His counselor, Robert Christie, told us stories about Rob that I could hardly believe. My son was the king of the “strut?” He was getting prizes for the best made bed? He earned four bullseyes in archery in one period? Incredible! By the end of his time there that first year, I was amazed by his transformation. He was more self-reliant, more outgoing, more polite, and, to top it off, he could and did make his bed and did a great job. It was clear that BRC had captured another Stone. Rob attended BRC from 1989 – 1996, missing only two years so he could try other things. He was a CIT his last year.

There is one story that will explain what Birch Rock means to both Bob and Rob. In the summer 1993, Bob and I went to Birch Rock at the end of the first session to pick up Rob who was not going to stay for the second session. Rob had mixed feelings about leaving. He was having a good time, but wanted to be at home, too. So, we encouraged him to stay. I think he felt bad about his parents making a three-hour drive and then not coming home with us. But he didn’t change his mind and we left after lunch. We had driven two hours and were less than one hour from home, Rob suddenly realized that he really did want to stay at Birch Rock for the second session.

Bob decided right then he would drive Rob back the next day, Sunday, if the camp would have him back. When we arrived home, he made a quick phone call to camp. We learned that they had put the remaining campers from Rob’s cabin into other cabins, but they would be happy to reopen the cabin and put everyone back together. Sunday morning, Bob and Rob left

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

The first two weeks flew by and before I knew it, parent visitation day had arrived. The sight of my parents rekindled my feelings of homesickness that had subsided. My mom asked jokingly if I wanted to leave with them and when I said I would, she was taken aback. We talked about how I wouldn’t have the chance to earn certain badges if I left and that there wasn’t much going on at home. So, I decided to stay, and that decision has changed my life.

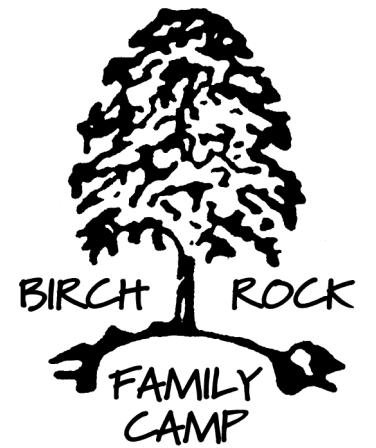
Birch Rock has been a place where I have grown and fallen, a place where I have succeeded and failed. Most importantly, it has been a second home to me, and it is where I have become the person I am today. At Birch Rock Camp, I have learned how to be a gentleman, and how to be friendly and brave. I have been taught to apply the mottoes Help the Other Fellow, and Lead by Example. It is more than a camp to me; it’s an unexplainable feeling that has brought me back for nine consecutive years. The bonds I have formed and the friendships I have developed over time are incomparable. Birch Rock is a place to which I will be connected for the rest of my life, even when I am unable to return.

Many phrases define Birch Rock, one being a community of individuals. A community is defined as a social group of any size, whose members reside in a specific location, share a government, and a common cultural and historical heritage. Every individual provides input in a unique way in this environment. Without the presence of individuality there is no variation and change. Without variation and change there is no development and progress, and without development and progress there is no success and prosperity. All of these key factors are essential in the success of a community.

The Birch Rock community could be compared to a pack of wolves. The story of the wolf pack, told every year at camp, is as follows: There was once a pack of wolves that relied on each other for survival. When there was an opportunity to catch a moose or large animal they would all work together. One wolf would chase the animal until that wolf got tired, and then another would take over. Eventually, the prey would tire and be caught. Due to this tactic, the wolves never went hungry. This worked as long as each wolf pulled his own weight. The story goes on to tell about a wolf that decided not to put forth an effort. When it was his turn to hunt, he simply gave a poor effort, assuming everyone else would do the work for him. Other wolves noticed this behavior and began to act equally. Soon enough food was escaping and the pack began to starve. Numbers diminished and the pack weakened. Each wolf realized that survival was dependent on their individual efforts. From then on the wolves vowed not to leave the task up to someone else. Their success returned and the pack revived to full health. The strength of the pack is the wolf and the strength of the wolf is the pack. This principle is exercised every day at Camp. Beginning in the morning at cabin clean-up, each camper is responsible to clean up his own area. If one camper fails, the whole group suffers, because the cabin will not pass inspection.

Another influence Birch Rock has provided for my development, is defining who I am. I no longer am striving to impress the popular group. Up through elementary and middle school, the intention of the average kid was to be in with the cool crowd. I felt as if I had succeeded if I had the acceptance of who everyone labeled as popular. It took a few years at Birch Rock for me to realize that this wasn’t of any importance. It wasn’t until this time that I became aware that my own personal actions and thoughts were acceptable and I was now content with my own worth. When I broke the shell of impression I was able to positively grow and teach myself who I was. Birch Rock brought out the true being inside me. Style, composure, and confidence were traits that were no longer embarrassing or confidential. For once it was cool to be different.

I always ask myself what I would be like if I hadn’t gone to camp. I can’t imagine being anywhere near where I am today. I am proud of the person I have become and I can only guess what I will become. I have learned how to work with myself and how to work in a community. As I age and move on through life I am going to carry with me the meaning of a community of individuals and the meaning of individuality and mature into the best person I can become.

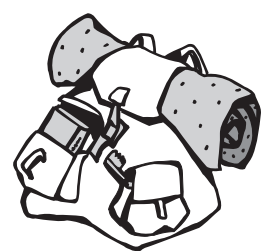


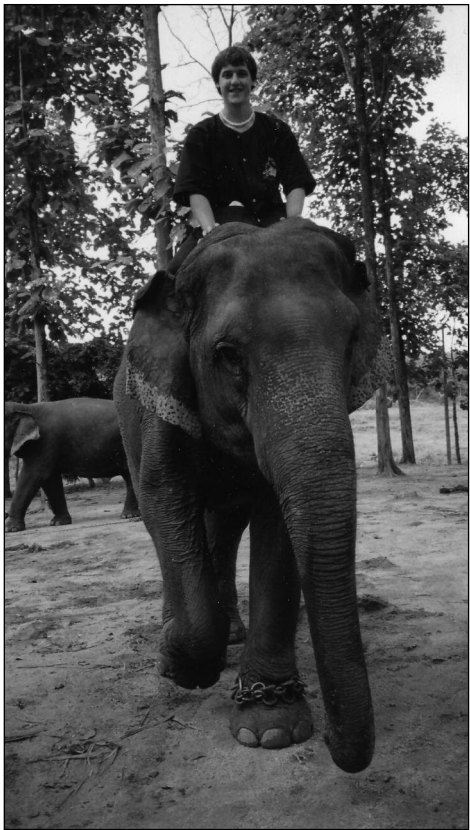
COME ONE COME ALL...

Season 6 is filling up, and we hope you and your family can join us too.....

Birch Rock’s Family Camp provides an opportunity for families to experience a combination of recreation and fun in the Maine woods on McWain Pond. These special days are designed for families to retreat and refresh themselves for the “work and school” world and rediscover their own enthusiasm for lifelong learning. Most of all, Birch Rock Family Camp is a time to relax and enjoy!

Family Camp is a wonderful venue for all ages to enjoy camp life in group activities or just do your own thing! Each family member may sign up for daily activity offerings which are facilitated by Birch Rock’s talented staff. This program is offered in **August 17 – 21** with flexible days of attendance. For more information, visit our website: www.birchrock.org.





Sebastian Weeks in Thailand

HOME AWAY FROM HOME

By Sebastian Weeks '97 –05, S06

When placed in a new situation or environment, I tend to be more reserved than I usually am around my family and friends. I don't show all the different faces of my personality and it takes time for me to trust and connect with someone so that I can reveal my true character to him or her. It is not that I'm necessarily shy or reserved by nature. I am just conscious of how my actions and words affect people in my environment. I am careful about how I express my thoughts to those whom I don't know well. It is for this reason that I am extremely close to my family and friends. I know that I can trust each and every one of them and that they know me well enough to unconditionally accept my personality. It is with them that I can really be myself and freely express my character.

Wanting to give me a challenging and transformative experience, my parents made it possible for me to spend four weeks in the summer of 2005 in magnificent Thailand. I was connected with an adventure learning organization known as Rustic Pathways that had an elephant camp, summer experience in Lampang, Thailand. Although I would miss the support of my loving family, I was excited and relished the opportunity to travel on my own to an exotic country.

When I arrived in Bangkok, I experienced an overwhelming yet exhilarating tsunami of new sights, sounds, and smells. English was spoken as a second language, baht currency was exchanged instead of dollars, and the tropical heat was sweltering. After a week of touring the cities of Bangkok and Chang Mai with the Rustic Pathways students and staff, I became comfortable with the Thai culture. I was ready and excited to experience the rustic elephant camp.

In the coming week, at the elephant camp, I became acquainted with the duties of being an assistant mahout or elephant trainer. I learned that the relationship between a mahout and his

elephant is similar to a secure marriage between humans. There is a strong bond that is forged over a long period of time in which the mahout is completely devoted to his elephant as is the elephant to his or her mahout. The rest of the people in my program and I chose the name of the mahout and elephant out of a hat. I selected Lai and his elephant, Pang Khord. I hoped to learn as much as I could from Lai and feel that mahout to elephant connection. Pang Khord gradually became accustomed to my voice while I learned to mount and dismount her as well as bathe and ride her bareback. We began to bond as I had hoped.

Having only a week in the elephant camp, I made it my goal to express who I really am and not simply reveal a superficial snapshot of my personality. Since the elephant camp was a unique place that not many people ever visit or experience as a mahout assistant, I knew I needed to savor every moment I was there. When the mahouts offered the students the chance to play Decraw, a blend of soccer and volleyball using a wicker ball, I immediately jumped at the opportunity. Through this game I was able to show my athletic side and it proved to be an effective means of connecting mahouts, students, and staff.

Nearing the end of the program, all the students and I rode our elephants into the jungle where we would eventually camp. In preparing the campsite, I came to appreciate the value of bamboo as I learned that everything used to cook was made straight from the bamboo in the jungle. Cups, platters, rice cookers, even the grill was made out of bamboo. As we were waiting for our meal we strengthened our relationships by creating rings from bamboo.

To cap our elephant camp experience, the students and I sat around a fire accompanied by our mahout mentor. With the help of a translator, we shared our elephant work with our respective mahout. As I talked with Lai I told him how Pang Khord tested me and that she was rebellious. I also felt that once she was able to trust me, we both got along so well. He agreed and told me that I had learned how to become a good mahout. After our conversation, we danced around the campfire and solidified our bond. It was at this point that I lost all remnants of being self-conscious of what I was doing. I was enjoying every second of my elephant camp experience, knowing I had the support of all my peers and most of all Lai, who could really dance. Though I was thousands of miles away from my family and culture, I realized in that jungle that I never felt more at home.

A FEW BEDS REMAINING!!

June 27 – August 14

As we count down to opening day, we would appreciate your help in letting us know of any potential campers who might enjoy the BRC experience this summer. Please let us know at: birchrock@aol.com



Nick Musciano

Being Myself


by Nick Musciano '98-05, S06

Every morning before school, my sister goes through the long, drawn-out process of selecting her wardrobe for the day. This clothing-selection process is directly proportional to the time available. Therefore, in some respects, I'm lucky it's a school morning, since I am the chauffeur and I hate being late to school. I ,on the other hand, simply pick out a polo-style T-shirt and shorts or pants, depending on the weather. This morning routine takes me roughly four minutes, whereas my sister can take up to an hour selecting the perfect ensemble.

That's where I'm different; I'm not worried about being judged by my appearance or by what people think of my clothes. If people don't like my choice of non-ripped jeans, then that's their problem. I wake up every morning and select some articles of clothing that are comfortable and that will look presentable; that's about my only rule. I also go my own way when it comes to music or sports teams. I'm an Orioles fan—often I am the lone Orioles hat in the sea of Red Sox caps. In fact, I find the whole trend idea rather unsuitable for me.

Being myself is very important to me, and buying into all of the fads and trends is just going to cover up who I really am, and I can't live with that. How can people truly express themselves if they're trying to look like and be like everybody else? Maybe for some people, hopping on the bandwagon is what they really are all about. It doesn't matter to me what other people do in this situation; I have plenty of other things I really care about, such as my health, my family, and my close friends. I am secure enough not to hide behind the uniform of trends. The fact of the matter is that it doesn't bother me what other people think about my style or appearance; as long as I am satisfied, that's all that really matters.

My resistance to trends also stems from the fact that I am a very practical person and, in many ways, very frugal. Lots of people have a problem with wasting money; I can't stand spending a cent more than what I think is reasonable. To me, spending twenty dollars for a trendy new DVD is ridiculous; if I really want it, I'll wait until it's down to a reasonable price. When my friends and I are out at the mall (which isn't often) we avoid stores like Abercrombie, because we know that everything in those stores is overpriced and trendy. In fact, I've never even set foot inside an Abercrombie, and I don't intend to. I'm more likely to be home hanging out with my friends or walking around my house switching off lights and other electronics that are not in use; something about wasting that energy, which ends up wasting money, annoys me. Being practical is definitely part of who I really am, and I'm not afraid to show that by wearing what I want.



For the 2007 season, Birch Rock Camp is introducing a shorter program for new campers only, ages 7-10. We will be offering two 12 day sessions. These two Cubs sessions will allow a young camper to attend an introductory program as a way of settling into our welcoming community.

Here's the session information:

Cubs Camp I July 22-August 2
Cubs Camp II August 3-August 14

For more information about this program and/or our camp, you can reach us at (207) 741-2930, through email at birchrock@aol.com, or explore our website at www.birchrock.org.

My Second Home

By Andrew Clemence '98 – 05, S06

It was 1998 and I was only nine years old. Over the winter, I had attended a gathering of Birch Rock alumni, in order to learn about the camp. They made it seem as if it were something I could not live without. It sounded like a great idea at the time.

However, as I approached the lodge, on opening day, I held a mixed feeling of anxiety and nervousness inside me, similar to the first day of kindergarten. When I stepped out of the car, I was instantly greeted by a group of counselors with welcoming smiles. I was overwhelmed by the commotion, but simply stuck out my hand to meet the others. I was told many times that I would have a great summer and that I had nothing to worry about. I was homesick, but pushed all sadness aside as I made new acquaintances. I was very aware that this was going to be a summer of new experiences here at Birch Rock Camp. I was going to have to open my views and perspectives and grow mentally and physically. I was filled to the brim with excitement, about to explode. All the while, anxiety was seeping out of every pore in my body.



Andrew Clemence Skiing

Continued on page 7

Winchester, MA at 5 am and arrived at camp in time to have breakfast with his buddies. Rob would return to Birch Rock for three more years and always stayed the full 2 sessions!

Life After Birch Rock

Bob has stayed connected to Birch Rock in some way all these years since he was a camper. In 1994, we both became members of the Board of Directors.

Bob treasures the experiences he had and is grateful for the lessons he learned there. To this day, whenever he meets a family with a young son, he will steer the conversation to Birch Rock Camp. While there are no grandchildren yet in our family, he is hoping for the chance someday to see the fourth generation of Stones at BRC.

I will tell one final story that personifies how the experiences campers have at BRC stay with them forever and can be carried over to experiences later in life.

In the summer of 1999, Rob went off to Lehigh University. During Orientation Week, he went on a three day canoe trip

with a group of other freshman. The idea here was that now these kids were on their own and wouldn't have their parents around to help them in tough situations, an analogy to beginning college life. When they reached the site where they would camp for the night, the trip leaders divided the large group into smaller groups and told everyone that they, the kids, were in charge of setting up their camp, pitching their tents, getting their drinking water, and cooking their food. After watching his group trying to figure things out, Rob took charge and got everyone organized. Luckily for the kids in Rob's group, he had the BRC experience! Not only was Rob able to start the fires for the all the groups, but his group was the only one that pitched their tent well enough that it didn't fall down in the middle of the night!

As a wife and mother of Birch Rock alumni and a member of the Board of Directors since 1994, I feel as if I, too, have lived part of the Birch Rock experience. I look forward to our summer Board meetings at camp. This is when I can see the boys and staff go about their various activities with great

enthusiasm, feel the excitement of someone finishing his whale, and share in the at lunch. A few years ago, the Board met for a weekend in September at the camp. It was quiet with all the boys gone, but nonetheless, I could hear the echos from all the excitement that past summer. After our dinner at camp that night, we did the "flour cake," a game I had seen done with the campers several times but never experienced myself. One by one the Board members succeeded in removing some cake without toppling it over. On my second turn, I was not so lucky. I would be the one who had to remove the "prize" without using my hands! It was then that I realized I had become an alumnae of Birch Rock Camp.

I can say that I have learned a lot from my association with Birch Rock Camp. I am so impressed by the caring attitude of all BRC staff, past and present. This caring is not just for the boys who attend, but also for the quality of camp experience that they have. Everyone truly lives and believes in the BRC motto, "Help the Other Fellow."

John & Martha Eaton
David Florence Family
Willie Feuerman Family
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Philip Goodwin
Stuart Goodwin Family
Matt Gunderson Family
Peter and Rosie Haas
The Herzig Family Foundation
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Lyle & Patty Voss
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William, Sebastian &
Robert David Weeks Family
Nat & Silence Weeks Family
Albert Webber
Seth & Bea Wheeler
Whizzer & Meg Wheeler
Keith & Lilo Willoughby
Mark Wright
Nathaniel Young Family
Andrew Ziegler Family

Our Thanks,

By Campaign Chair, David C. Weeks '70s

Your donation is an acknowledgment of the value of Birch Rock in character and community development. Just as we are appreciative of the "gifts" BRC has given to you, the camp is grateful for your "gift." Your contribution and support has helped us to enhance and sustain Birch Rock's special summer camp experience. We graciously applaud the following 2006 Capital, Endowment, Annual, Scholarship and In Kind gifts to the Birch Rock Camp Community.....

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Dick & Tina Duffy

~ ALUMNI NEWS ~

Captain Charles Plumly '40s of Ellijay, GA writes that he has fond memories of his summers at BRC and the 1943 season at Kimball Union Academy when the McWain Hillside campus was closed and the campers resided in NH due to the World War. He remembers fellow Birch Rocker **Bob Cleaves** '40s and **Chef Albert** '30-80s. Birch Rockers oldest camper **Dr. Bill Carleton** '26-27 cannot believe it has been over 80 years since he was one of the original 13 campers. Bill and his wife are residing in Shrewsbury, MA. **Todd Vincentsen** '80s, S90s and his wife Stephanie are enjoying parenthood on the Maine Coast. After years working successfully in the computer industry, Todd has his own home construction business.....**Daniel Apicelli** '90s is completing his bachelors degree in sociology with a concentration in criminology at San Jose University. Dan looks forward to traveling around the USA and heading East post graduation and hopefully to BRC. ...**Andrew Chase** '90s,S00s has just completed his commercial pilot's license in Daytona Beach, FL. Andrew and his family have relocated their home from the chilly winds of Yarmouth, ME to the warmer climates of Beaufort, South Carolina....**David Schlafman** '60s is marketing his own Sport Pilot Encyclopedia @faaeztest.com. Dave has recently moved from Long Island, NY to the Okeechobee, FL....**Bradford Corbin** '90s, S00s has been on the move since graduating from University of Colorado in 2005 and moved to Jackson Hole, WY where enjoyed running the Gondola all winter and snowboarded everyday. He continued to work at Jackson last summer. Brad's message to BRC: "I think about BRC all the time and I sure do miss all the fun times and great people and that wonderful piney smell in the air. Keep chopping wood and carrying water.".....It was great to hear from **Wayne Brumaghim** S60s who was a counselor for Chief and Onie Brewster for five summers. Wayne recalls: " **Bob Stone** '60s was one of my favorite campers and we still keep in touch today. I have not missed too many summers visiting Maine and BRC since 1965. As you know, I was in the military and used to sneak away to camp to see the Brewsters when I was state side. My connection with BRC is ongoing and remains so until I expire. **Alex Melberg** '00s participated in a cross-country trip and hiked in all the nation parks of Utah (Zion, Bryce, Arches, Mesa Verde....etc), toured the Grand Canyon, floated in the Great Salt Lake and even went to a "Dude Ranch" in Colorado.....**Dan Gacetta** '70s commutes back & forth between ME & CT as he enjoys his new professional adventure with Aura 360. This independent marketing firm specializes in the creation, management and production of innovative brand integrated marketing services including Jeep World of Adventure Sports on NBC, The Raid World Championships, Men's Health Urbananthlon, TGR and the SCORE Baja 1000. Dan and his wife Cynthia have a future Birch Rocker in the wings.....