

The Pine Needle

BELGRADE LAKES, MAINE

JULY 2015

THE STORY OF SENIOR KATAHDIN by Julian Spiro

As we left Chimney Pond campsite, it was drizzling. Nothing more, nothing less. It was chilly, but only in comparison to the hot, humid weather we had enjoyed in the past three days of Senior Katahdin. We slowly ate our oatmeal, stalling, not wanting to leave the relative warmth of our hastily assembled tarp and Whisperlite camp stove. However, eventually we were forced out and began the trail.

As we reached the trail head, the ranger popped out of her cabin. We inquired about the weather. She told us that it might clear up the late afternoon, but she added that you could never really tell on the mountain. That didn't encourage us, but we started anyway, our only goal the next water break. The hike itself wasn't particularly hard, and on a nice day, it would be quite enjoyable. But in the pouring rain and steadily rising wind, it wasn't so pleasant. There were so many beautiful viewpoints, except for the fact that all we could see was thick whiteness.

We kept hiking, even after we saw two people turning back. But we made it, even through an incredibly steep part. We progressed through the cold and finally made it to the peak, where we huddled against a small pile of stones. Then, as if it were some kind of cheesy romantic comedy, the sky cleared and all bad weather ceased as the sun came out.

MY FAVORITE SACRED ANIMAL by Jacob Merrill

My favorite sacred animal is Ghubb Ghubb the Seahorse because he is very old but still rocks the detail and color that he originally had in 1922.

He has a very easy chant:

Ghubb!
Ghubb ghubb!
Ghubb ghubb ghubb!
Ghubb ghubb ghubb ghubb!



PIC HAIKUS

The King Kababa
Sits on top of Mount Philip
With his animals
-Jacob Merrill, age 13

Early morning blue
Jumping into the water
One Hundred Percent!
-Julian Spiro, age 13



De-tripping after Saddleback trip

PINE ISLAND DUST BALL REVIEW

by Aidan Enck, age 12

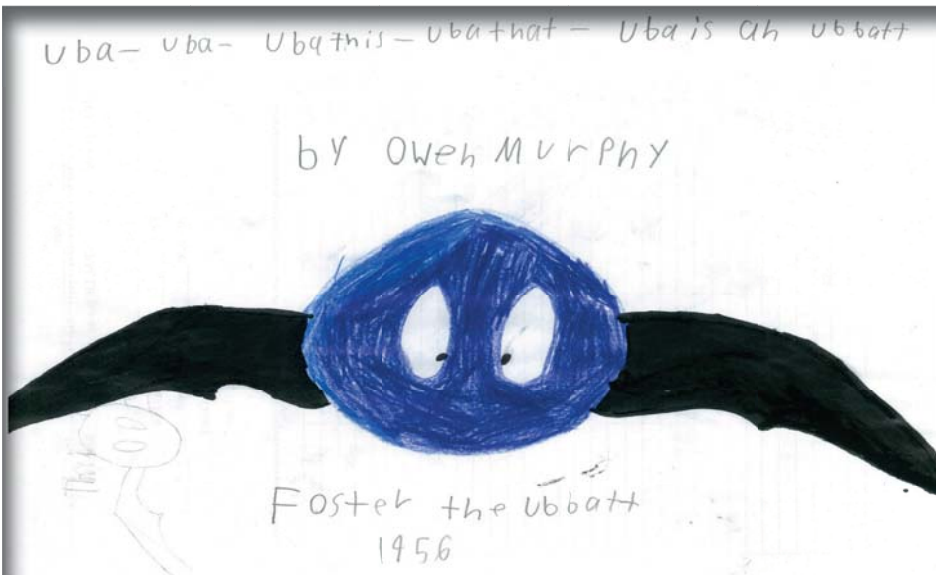
Dust ball is a fun game if you know how to play it. Once you get the ball, you can take three steps at the most. After that, you have to throw it at someone. If the ball hits them, they are out. If the person catches the ball, you are out. If you are a camper, you would probably try to get staff out. If a lot of staff have gotten out, staff will start to try to get you out!

In normal dust ball, the person who gets you out will probably eventually get out.

Then when they get out, you can go back in. So it is not that fun to get out by a "corner hider." A corner hider is someone who just hides in the corner for a long time. Most corner hiders are not staff!

In regular dust ball, it is hard to win because one person would have to get everyone out. In Elimination it is easier. In Elimination, if you get someone out, that person can never come back in.

So that is pretty much it!



LIFE OF A PIC HEAD WAITER

by Ben Byman, age 13

At the end of every lunch, the O.D. announces the P.M. life-guards: head, swim float and alternate. After this, they announce the head waiter for the meal. It is always a senior camper, and he is in charge of making sure the dining hall gets clean after the meal.

The O.D. announces me as head waiter. After the meal, the waiters start clearing the tables. I notice one table doesn't have a waiter. As the waiters finish clearing the tables, another waiter comes in. He makes an excuse, but I don't buy it. After that, the waiters sponge their tables without a problem.

When we sweep the floor, one of the waiters wants to leave. I say no. He spends the rest of the time complaining. One of the waiters sits down on a bench and isn't doing anything. I tell him to get to work. I make the late waiter in charge of the dust pan. He complains and wonders aloud why I put him in charge. After ten more minutes of this, the dining hall is clean. I am so happy to survive another head waiter session!





Waiting for their race at our annual Regatta

2015 CLUB HONK REVIEW

by Max Klivans, age 11

Club Honk is an evening of musical acts held every summer the day of the camp picture. It began this year with the Hype-Beast, who hyped up the crowd but did little to give an idea of how good the following performances would be.

The first musical act was Henry DiCapua on guitar while singing. He was very good. Next up was Matt Moss-Hawkins on ukulele and Noah Solt, also on ukulele. Noah is always good, and Matt only increased the awesomeness.

I don't remember the order of acts after that, but some I remember are Johnny Credit Card and the Hippy Cowboys. The last song by Johnny Credit Card was pretty mean to the Hippy Cowboys (or, as he calls them, the Hippy Dippy Cowboys). That Johnny Credit Card guy is a real jerk! The Hippy Cowboys were really good. They were by far the most memorable act of the night.

Club Honk was really good this year!

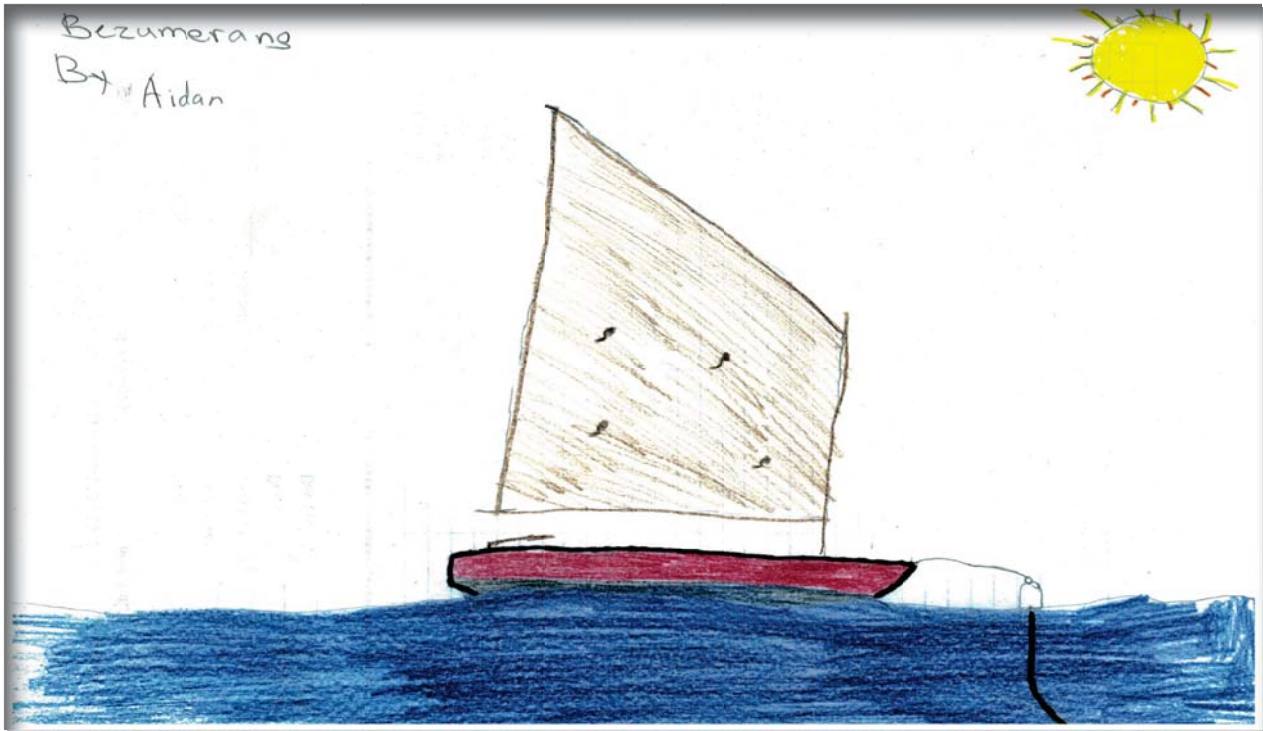


Hamming it up during rest hour outside the Kopa



Lining up for kayak race in Regatta

MORE CAMPER ARTWORK



IMAGES FROM A CAMPER CAMERA
by Caleb Hunter, age 12

