

# The Pine Needle

BELGRADE LAKES, MAINE

JULY 2017

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## Trip Report: Senior Katahdin by Charles Schell

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*Katahdin, the tallest mountain in Maine, lies in Baxter State Park in the northernmost reaches of the state.*

At 3 a.m., when nighttime still covered the state of Maine in darkness, the Senior Katahdin sunrise hike had begun. Our trip leaders, Walker and Justin, had awakened my fellow Pine Islanders and me from our cozy lean-tos and led us into the cold of the night. We started our sunrise hike walking through the woods on our way to the Cathedral trail in the dark, using only our flashlights to shine the way.

When we arrived on the Cathedral Trail, we found that it is mainly just large boulders packed together to form a rugged path to climb up. About an hour and a half into our hike, we stopped at a rest point along the trail and watched as the first glimpse of light rose above the horizon. We only needed to hike one fifth of a mile to reach the summit.

When we finally got to the summit, we were a bit weary but very excited that we had hiked to the top of the tallest mountain in Maine and we were amazed by the wonderful views.

*Continued on page 3*



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## Perseverance at PIC by Tyson Boynton

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Every beautiful Maine day, you wake up contemplating what activities you will spend your day doing. Will it be Tennis-Sailing (Ten-Sail)? Or Archery-Shop (Arch-Shop?) The combinations and possibilities are endless. Well, not endless. There are 11 activities and 110 overall combinations of two activities, which is quite a lot if you think about it. This may seem already like a lot of choice, but the activities are more conglomerate. In each activity there are a variety of ranks and blocks to earn for learning new concepts.

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Edition CXVI

**Perseverance** *continued from pg. 1*

All activities are open to everyone from a complete neophyte to an expert who has mastered many skills and is ready to teach newcomers.

Recently, I have been hearing arguments about whether it is a good thing to sign up for the same activities every day. Some see it as an idiosyncrasy. Others as pure devotion towards that activity or perseverance towards a rank. Me? I have to side with it being seen as perseverance. This is my third year as a Pine Islander. The last two years, I had tunnel vision towards an activity called Woodcraft. This activity is all about making fires, building shelters, and learning to use new tools like axes and knives. I attempted to sign up for Woodcraft everyday. From the first day I got to camp I was determined to get my Guide (the second to last rank in woodcraft) in my first year. I got my first two ranks pretty quickly using skills I learned from my last camp, but my Guide took a little longer. I eventually got it with a lot of perseverance, but I ended camp with some regret. The regret came from wishing I had done sailing more. Towards the end of camp, my friend Will encouraged me to join sailing for a few activity periods, and by doing this I earned my first and second ranks. At the end of the season I regretted that I spent so much time in Woodcraft and less in sailing.

In my second year, I was gunning for my master rank in Woodcraft. It used to be called



“E-Leader,” but the name was recently changed to “Axe-Wielding Fire God,” which just made it sound even more awesome. I didn’t want a repeat of the last year, so I switched it up a bit: Ten-Sail, Wood-Sail, Ten-Wood. I ended up getting my Axe-Wielding Fire God and about half of my skipper, which I felt pretty proud about.

This year, I have shown a lot of perseverance in the activities I love, but I’ve also mixed shop and fishing into my usual cycle. I ended up enjoying shop a lot and I recently completed my first project, a small shelf. I’m still persevering in activities that I’ve always enjoyed, but without the tunnel vision I had my first year. Now I can see both sides of the argument: perseverance is a good thing but it shouldn’t keep you from exploring new things.

**Hisspahtahdisspah  
The Snake  
1952 & 2001**

By Jacob Merrill



Woodcraft by John Treadwell

One of my favorite Pine Island activities is woodcraft. I'm drawn to this activity because it requires you to use your mind and your body together. This is great for when you are in the woods and need to be able to know what to do in any given situation. Woodcraft also teaches you how to use a knife, how to make a fire, and how to respect your campsite. By taking woodcraft you learn the basic skills you need on a camping trip. For example, you learn how to make a tarp shelter and a hemlock shelter. A hemlock shelter is made by using big sticks to make your base, then using hemlock to fill in the gaps. If you do it correctly you would be able to sleep in the shelter without getting wet if it rained. Another thing you learn is how to use an axe properly. They teach you how to carry an axe and cut wood. Of course they teach you how to make fires with some birch and a lot of hemlock. All of this is why I love this activity. If you love the woods, you'll love woodcraft!



Senior Katahdin *continued from pg. 1*



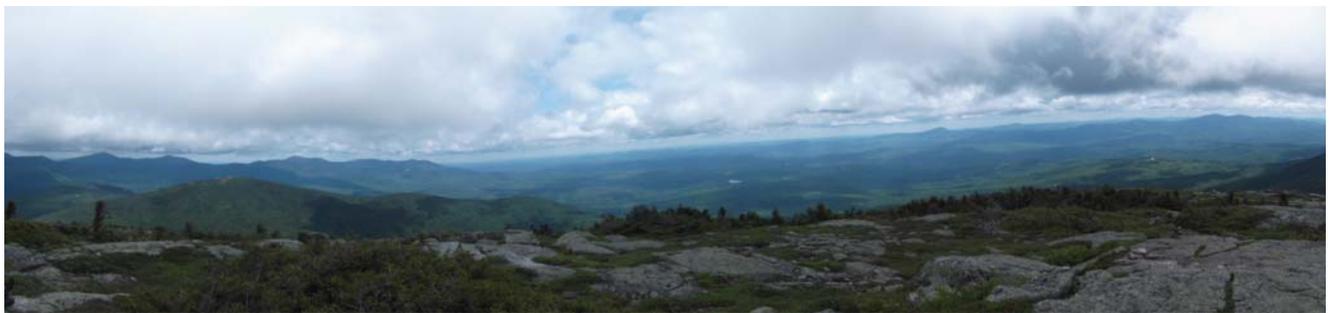
We got our pictures in fast because the cloud cover came in only a couple of minutes after we reached the top. Walker and Justin made "Jiffy Popcorn" and it was a delicious snack after an early-morning hike. We then went half-way across "Knife Edge," which is a very narrow trail with shear drops on either side. Then we retraced our steps and started our descent on the Saddle Trail. This started off with ridge hiking for one third of a mile. Then you hike down a steep gully which leads into the woods.

After about an hour we reached Chimney Pond campsites, where we had started our early day. It was only around 11:30 in the morning and we were already ready for bed!

**Mind Wrestler** by Benjamin Lew

Two campfires ago we experienced our first mind wrestling in two years. It was a match between the reigning champion “Cerebral Hemorrhage” and the challenger “John Synapse”.\* The first move was made by Synapse. He performed the Freudian Slap which was a strong start by John. Cerebral Hemorrhage came back though with the Neural Knee which by my standards is a pretty strong move most people wouldn’t get back up from, but John Synapse isn’t like most people. He got up. He came back with the Amygdala Masher and almost cracked Cerebral Hemorrhage’s skull, but Cerebral Hemorrhage has a strong skull to protect all those brain cells.

*Continued on page 6*

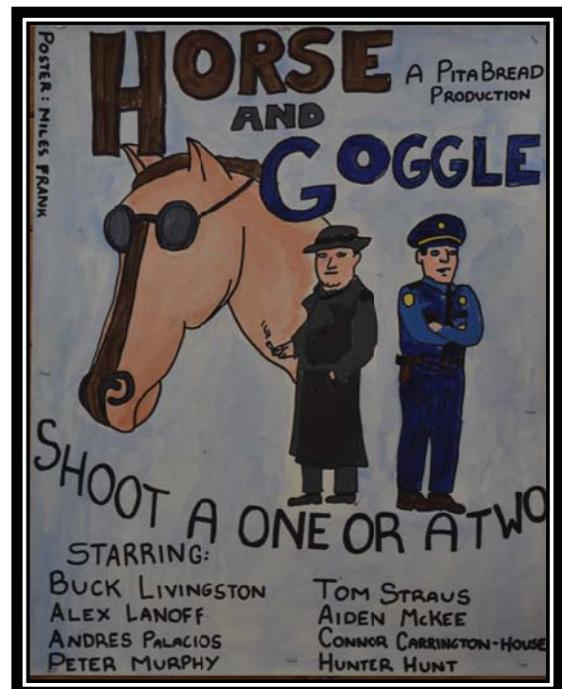


*View from Maine Peaks trip. Photo by Silas Hunter.*

**SNS Reviews Presents: *Horse and Goggle***  
by AJ Powers

It was a beautiful PIC night, but this was no ordinary night. Because this was the night of *Horse and Goggle*, the amazing PIC waiter game turned into a highly thrilling SNS (Saturday Night Show). This SNS was directed by Matt Miller and Dan Bristol. As the show started no one knew what to expect, but if you looked around half-way through, everyone was on the edge of their seats. This is because this SNS was full of suspense, laughs and action. It started off with James Horse (Buck Livingston) as a detective who had just made a major mistake. As a result, Horse was moved to traffic duty and assigned a new partner, a rookie named Peter Goggle (Alex Lanoff).

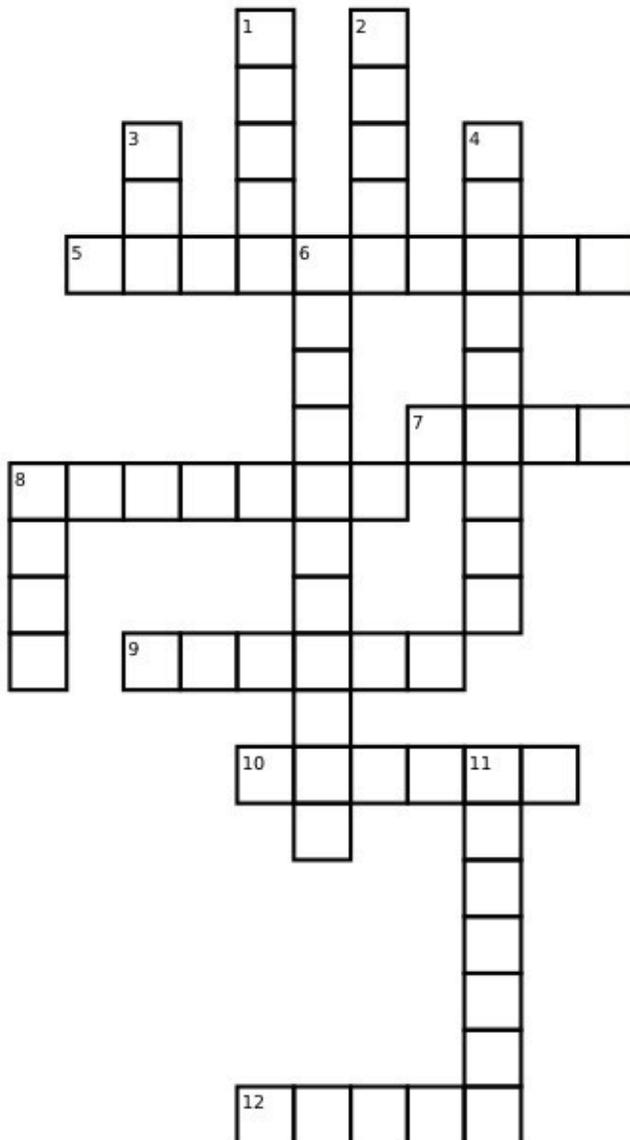
*Continued on page 7*





*The Artemisia and War Yacht* by James Burrell

**PIC Crossword Puzzle** by Aidan McKee



**Down**

- 1. a type of boat that involves multiple people
- 2. we live in these
- 3. one of Ben Swan's cats
- 4. the first mythical animal
- 6. the point system for the Sunday games
- 8. an activity about making projects
- 11. Robin Hood is great at this

**Across**

- 5. the island we are on
- 7. a common bird found on the second island
- 8. the activity where a cove boat is ridden
- 9. the kayaking bible
- 10. rank in archery before Jr. Bowman
- 12. the first rank in fishing

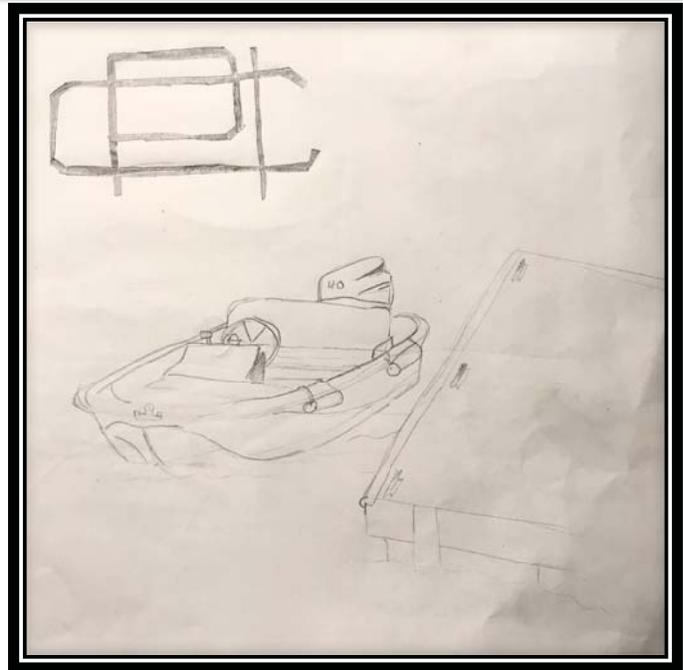
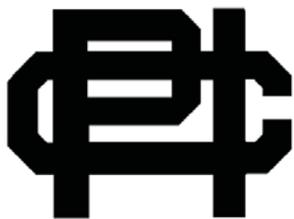


Answers on pg. 7

**Mind Wrestler** *continued from pg. 4*

Cerebral Hemorrhage did something special using the Hippocampus Hit which John Synapse had never seen because it's banned in South America so it was very effective, but don't count John Synapse out. He came back with a Stem Snatcher! This move is illegal in North American so he got a penalty of 20 seconds of watching reality T.V. Cerebral Hemorrhage, now in a rage, did the Cerebellum Smack which John Synapse barely got up from, but Hemorrhage wasn't done. He ended it with the most powerful move. The move of moves. Most people die trying to do this, but Cerebral Hemorrhage was the champion. He couldn't lose his title. So he finished with the Brain Slam and won his fourth championship in a row. A world record. He is now crowned the best mind wrestler ever to live!

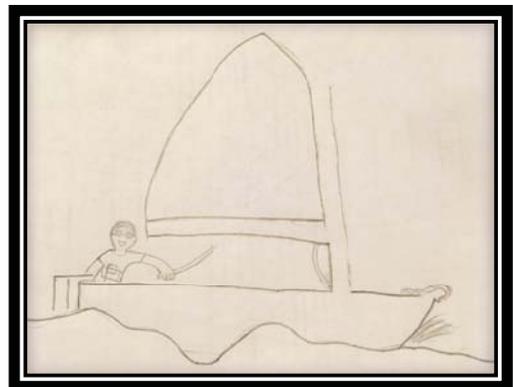
\*Cerebral Hemorrhage bore a striking resemblance to Harry Swan, while Johnny Synapse was a dead ringer for Tommy Mottur. – ed.



*The Whaler at the Dock* by Teddy Trippe

**Catboats Acrostic** by AJ Powers

Catboats  
 Are  
 The  
 Best  
 Of  
 All  
 Time  
 Sailboats



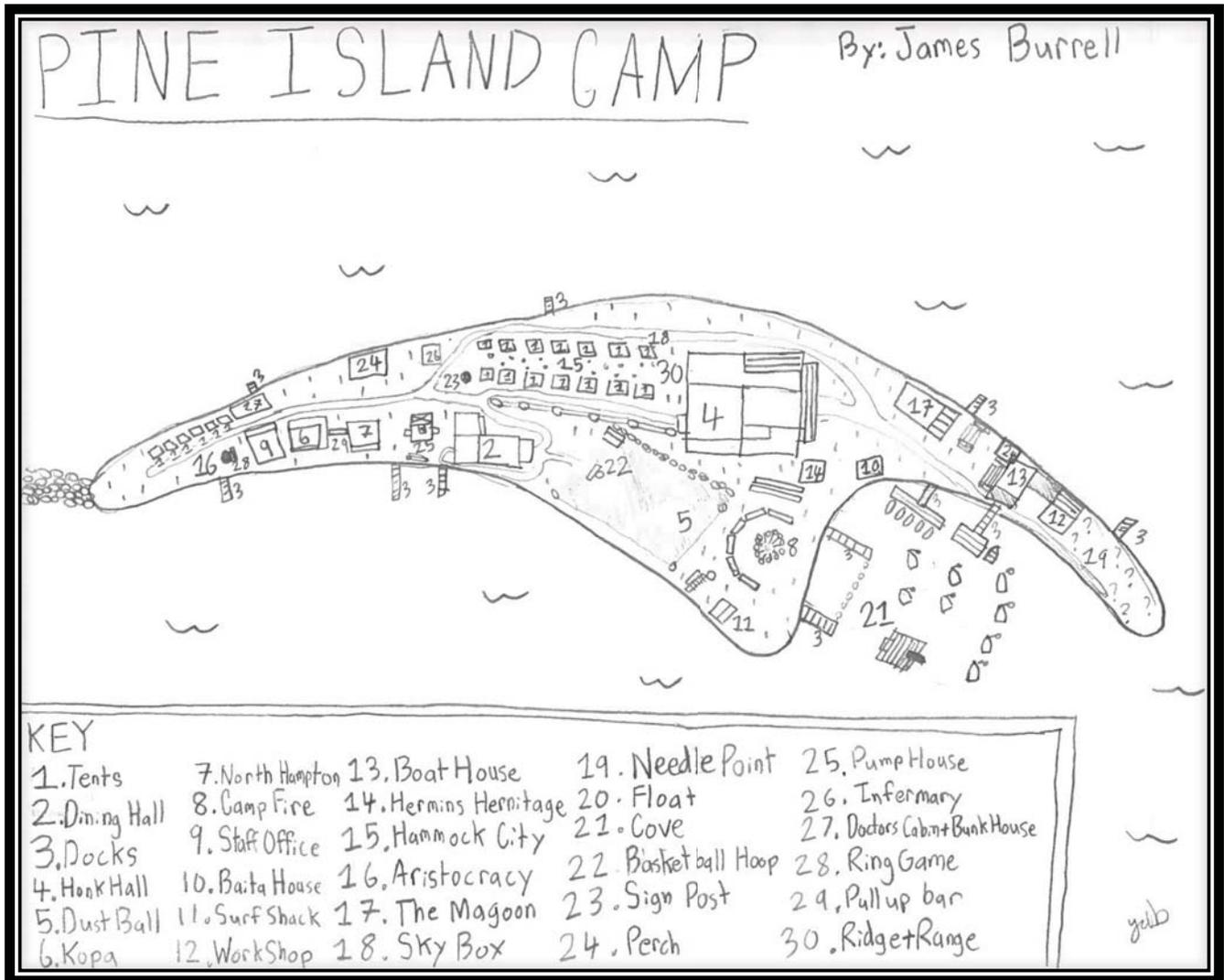
*Water Skiing, Pine Island Camp Style.*

**Horse and Goggle** *continued from pg. 4*

The two started off with Horse treating Goggle like dirt because he was a rookie, but as the show continued, an unbreakable bond formed. Just when this happened the story kicked up, leaving Horse and Goggle going after “The World’s Smallest Arms Dealer,” who just stole the Weapon of Destiny. As the hunt continued for the World’s Smallest Arms Dealer (Peter Murphy), more and more clues were uncovered and the master plot was revealed: it was a scheme against the President. In the midst of saving the President, Horse was shot and killed, leaving Goggle alone. But, a new

partner was awaiting! Who knows, maybe there will be a part 2...*Goggle and Snorkel?* This SNS was an extremely well-directed and performed show. Great job Matt, Dan, and all the actors who devoted their day to make this 5-star SNS. Great job, guys!

Head reviewer, AJ Powers



down: 1. canoe 2. tents 3. Ali 4. Skaboorch 6. intangibles 8. shop 11. archery across: 5. Pine Island 7. loon 8. sailing 9. kayak 10. yeoman 12. guppy