

GENEVA *Pre-*GEMS

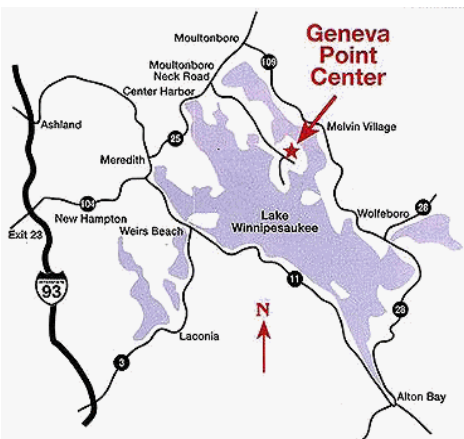
YOUR BIRTHDAY WISH DIDN'T COME TRUE. THE GEMS IS STILL HERE.

Let the 101st Year Begin!

*You think year 100 will be tough to top?
Well, we'll show you!*

OK. We admit that last year's Centennial celebration of NNESRE was special. But that doesn't mean that this year's 101st session will pale in comparison. How can we say that? Well, ye of little faith, let us give you a few examples of what might happen this year and then you can decide whether or not this is indeed one butt-kicking, knee-slapping place to be from July 29 to August 5, 2017!

- Opening night program will feature Bruno Mars. Or Mick Jagger. Or Leslie Dockendorff. I don't know. I can't remember. But it will be one of those.
- Barn dancing music will be provided by Kenny Chesney. Or Toby Keith. Or Jon Arnold. Again, something like that.
- The Bill 'n Barb show is going to be broadcast via satellite to 17 different countries. Unfortunately, none of them speak English and will, in all probability, mistake Bill's jokes for infomercials.
- The Weston campfire is going to offer cash prizes for the people who can shout "Thursday, roast beef!" the loudest.
- The food promises to be even better than last year. (Never in our lives did we think we would say that.)
- This year's bonfire will be encircled with La-Z-Boy recliners and Chaise Lounges.
- The Hoot will be broadcast to those same aforementioned 17 non-English speaking countries who will decide that Americans are indeed crazy and begin to evacuate their embassies.
- Bruno Mars, Mick Jagger, Kenny Chesney, and Toby Keith will realize that they were supposed to be here earlier in the week and try to sign up for the Coffeehouse but will be turned away because the last slot was taken by Wes Gunderson's listing of one hen, two ducks, three squawking geese, four limerick oysters, five corpulent porpoises, six pair of Don Alverzo's tweezers, seven thousand Macedonians in full battle array...
- Contestants in the watermelon seed spitting contest are rumored to be taking steroids. This year's winning seed may very well blast through The Chapel screen doors, over the stage, and through the back window.
- The closing ceremony will feature an embarrassing display of Bruno Mars, Mick Jagger, Kenny Chesney, and Toby Keith begging to play guitars and sing while having candle wax drip down their fingers.
- The softball game is still going to be a poor example of fellowship but I guess we can't have everything.



How Do I Get Thar From Here?

Remember when everyone queued up for the two pay phones on the GPC campus? In honor of those bygone days, and in the event of a cyberattack disabling all cell and GPS service on the eastern seaboard, and because we know you'd miss it if it weren't here, and because we are trying to use up column inches, we bring you.....

From the south, take I-93 North to exit 23 and turn right onto route 104 for 9 miles. At the junction of Route 104 and U.S. Route 3, take a left onto Route 3 for approximately 1 mile. At the traffic lights in Meredith, bear right onto Route 25 (stay on Route 25) for 8 miles. Take a right onto Moultonboro Neck Road at the traffic lights (just beyond the Service Station) and travel for 5.7 miles. Bear left at fork in the road. Turn left onto Geneva Point Road and follow to the Geneva Point Center entrance sign.

Check in – July 29 after 3:00 PM • Check out – August 5 before 10:00 AM

LIVE WINNI 2017

Sharing Our Treasures

Hmmmm.... Bet you are expecting a pitch to donate to the Scholarship Fund. I won't disappoint; it's coming. However, the theme of "Live Winni: Sharing Our Treasures" is really a celebration of the fact that nobody just comes to Winni, sits back and enjoys the show. We all bring ourselves and make it the extravaganza that it is. If we all came and just kept to ourselves, it would be more like the rest of the world – work, school, church, neighborhoods, etc. – where getting out and making connections can be difficult. That is not to say that connecting with people at Winni is easy – we are who we are – but there is a joy about the expression of ourselves at Winni that makes it remarkable.

Sure, Barb Siftar is the Queen of all things Barn Dancing – but if nobody showed it would be Barb dancing by her lonesome (and I've seen that – it is entertaining, but just for a while...). But it is when YOU and your two left feet join into the fray that makes it the spectacular that it is... It is when YOU and your weird human trick make your debut at the Hoot that it becomes THE show. It is when YOU dip your toes into the Winni Swimmi and make a mark for yourself that it becomes a race. And

especially because so many of us have been coming to Winni for so many years, it is when YOU do something different, step outside your comfort zone, that you can amaze people by your willingness to try something new.

Winni is this great experiment of a community where tradition, spirit, play, and growth come together in one week for an always evolving yet similar experience – kind of like trying a new comfort food. It is new and different but has its foundation in something familiar and calming. So, the invitation is to bring the new you that has evolved over this past year. Live large and be part of the community. Share who you are and what you have to help build relationships to keep us strong and vibrant. Share your treasure to make it the WINNI week you needed to go back and make the world a little mo' better.

And while you are sharing your treasures.... be sure and look for the articles in the Pre-GEMS about our Scholarship Fund and our newly anointed "Give A Shift" campaign to help everybody have a great week at Winni.

Bill and Joann Milford

Co-Deans



What's New At GPC: *NNESRE Insiders Spill the Beans*

At a phone meeting with GPC, NNESRE insiders Leslie Dockendorff, Lisa Garcia, Bill and Joann Milford were privy to all the news that GPC wants us to know... This includes:

Food, Glorious, Food:

If you loved last year, you are gonna *love* this year. Same great cook, Dave, and basically the same menu tweaked by our very own Food and Diet Coach, Lisa Garcia, to make sure your carbs are carbed, your gluten free is free of gluten, and us gluttons can be gluttonous. Milk will also return to the way mother nature meant for us to have it, in cartons, in a mini-fridge.

Everything's Fine at Chapel Line:

It has reported and written in blood that GPC has indeed, renovated *all* the Chapel Line cabins – for that new look, new smell, appearance for the same old people who smell the same. Therefore, a plastic surgeon agreed to come this year to make sure Chapel Line residents don't make the cabins look bad.

A New Roof Over Your Head:

The Chapel which we always knew was holy, apparently was also holey – i.e. letting water in-- so a new roof was added to the Chapel to keep souls saved and soles dry. They also painted the floor so when you are doing yoga, you have an extra coat of paint to cushion your cushion.

Pining for Pines:

Apparently, whilst the Chapel was getting a good look, it was noticed that many of the pine trees around it were declining and with a big wind blowing, could be leaning on or busting up them new shingles. So, you may notice the absence of many pine trees that previously surrounded the Chapel.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE 101ST SESSION

We've Got Class!

Notes from some of our course faculty...

Radical Hospitality for a New Year

Rev. Dr. Hope N. Luckie

If the current social and political realities are getting you down, come and find a place where you can talk and be heard, where you can listen and learn, where together we can be community through radical hospitality and care. Or as Dorothy Day says:

*We have all known the long loneliness
and we have learned that the only solution is love
and that love comes with community.
It all happened while we sat there talking,
and it is still going on.*

We will gather each day for conversation, connection and community.

* * *

Woodcarving with Reinaldo

Let me help you access the woodcarver in you!

I teach a mostly non-electric, sustainably inspired wood spoon carving class. Below are all that happens in class during the week: wood identification, understanding wood grain, safety, knife and tool sharpening, sculpting, whittling, sawing, splitting, carving, and finishing.

Wood and tools are provided! What you could bring, if possible: comfortable work gloves; tools: hook, knives, gouges, hand saw, to share if possible; and all are encouraged to bring wood that you personally want to work on or share.

Bringing utility and beauty out of a piece of wood once considered dead and, at best, en route to the wood stove, is honoring it!

* * *

International Folk Dance: New and Improved!

Barb Siftar & Bari Prince

How, you ask, can folk dancing be new or improved? Here's what's new – TWO teachers! Also new – we have traveled the globe (okay, maybe only a small area of the globe, like mostly Massachusetts) to find new dances to bring to Winni. Some of these dances will be more complex than what we usually do in the barn at night, but each will be broken down and taught step by step. What's improved? We're not sure. But we are sure that you will love this

class! Dress in comfortable layers, wear comfortable shoes, bring a water bottle and come share your treasures on the dance floor.

* * *

Videography and the Art of the Story

Fran Silvestri

The class will focus on completing six projects, interviews with six individuals who have a long history of attending Winni, have experienced its growth and changes during several decades and have benefited from being part of the Winni family.

To accomplish these interviews, we need the following:

- Photographers who enjoy portraiture
- Videographers who are willing to document the full interviews and if you have editing capability great, but not necessary
- Young Interviewers who will work alone or in small teams to conduct the interviews.

This will be quite a bit of fun and a chance to be engaged and capture Winni history. We will share our knowledge and skills of photography, videography and basic journalism to prepare for the interviews. The best part, we will make it all happen through working and learning together.

* * *

And the times, they are a-changin'...

(as are some of this year's courses)

"Trans Rights in the Current Political Climate" (Ab Weeks) and *"Story Telling"* (Robin Brady) are being replaced by:

Lindy Hearne and Lynn Adler a.k.a. Adler and Hearne's Breakthrough Songwriting

Using the songwriting process as a kind of 'song therapy' to work on a life problem or challenge, to celebrate a joy, to express love, to wonder about a mystery, to inspire personal change, or to simply get outside your comfort zone and try your hand at something you've never tried before. Our goal is to help others experience the release and energy that can come from taking something that's been working on them *on the inside*, and finding a meaningful way to express it in song. No instruments needed or required but if they help you with your writing and you have them, bring them!

* * *

Work Out for the Ages

Let's work out the Winni Way—no equipment, no weights, working out off the land we love (with Susan Nisson, 57, & future daughter-in-law, Melissa Goldstein, 26)

Let's work out for one hour a day off the land that we love and our own body weight. Every day will be a different profile of workouts to show you how to move effectively for your own style, pace and level. We will have discussions on nutrition and diet as well, so bring your questions. We will do one day of water aerobics, which is easy on the joints, so you will need a bathing suit. Mandatory are sneakers, a bottle of water, and a towel! These work outs are intended for anyone that would like to learn how to work out if you have little experience with fitness or for the hard-core gym rats.

Susan has been a fitness instructor for 35 years in various arenas at the gym such as weight training, kick boxing, water aerobics, spinning, and personal training.

Melissa has her Bachelor's degree in Athletic training/sports medicine and her Master's in Nutrition with a concentration in nutrition and exercise physiology. She is also a certified personal trainer.

PUMP IT UP!!!! IN GOOD HEALTH

Susan and Melissa

Yoga

Jennifer Brosious

Yoga as currently taught runs a really wide gamut - I will be teaching a class that is as inclusive as I am able to (in 55 minutes!)- starting with centering, basic instructions plus variations available for those who want to physically challenge themselves further, and closing with a brief meditation.

Also, if there is sufficient interest and/or need, I would be willing to do a single session in chair yoga - how to adapt basic yoga postures to be done while seated and using a chair to aid in balance. This would be offered at a separate time. It would be helpful if those interested would email me ahead of time: jbrosious@sbcglobal.net

If you have them, please bring: yoga mats and props (and extras to lend if they've got them), and please be sure names are on them! I will be bringing some mats and props, but it's often not quite enough.

Namaste, the light within me recognizes and honors the light within you.

* * *

To find out more about all of the 2017 Program courses, go to: www.campwinni.org/courses.html

Winni Ed. School Registration (Ages 0-18)

Don't wait another minute! Please register your youngsters so we can get to know them. 2017 Winni Ed School Registration is online: www.surveymonkey.com/r/MXJW3JS

Ice Cream for Breakfast! Coffee for Cocktails!

Scoop Shop Is Open 6:30 AM To 10 PM

Apparently, GPC has figured out that the cash cow that gives us our ice cream at night and coffee in the morning is worth keeping open all day (except meal times) because they figured out you keep your wallet with you ALL the time. So, this will give you a good shot of scratching "Eat a 5 Gallon Container of Ginger Ice Cream in a week" off your bucket list. Have at it.

Winni Bazaar Returns

Some camps are stylish. We prefer to be bizarre.

Annual Winni Bazaar will take place in the Meetinghouse main room on **Monday afternoon from 1-3 pm**. Anyone wishing to offer creations, music, hand-made gift items, etc. as a vendor should give \$20 to Leslie Dockendorff for a table fee which will go towards the Scholarship Fund for NNESRE. Please let Amy Bruch know by Sunday afternoon if you would like to have a table at the Bazaar.

Governance Reminders

What—Do you think this camp just comes together by itself?

Nominating Committee will meet with the Executive Committee on Wednesday, **August 2nd at 1:00 p.m.** and the Trustees will meet on Thursday, **August 3rd at 1:00 p.m.**

Meredith Smith • Chair, Board of Trustees

**DON'T FORGET YOUR
NAMETAG OR LETTERED NECKLACE!**

HELP WANTED

“Give A Shift”

Because Your Momma Told You So

Your fellow Winnites who take on leadership positions at NNESRE are awesome folks. They help plan during the year and often spend a LOT of time during the week running around doing things to help events run smoothly. And too often, they spend time above and beyond the call of duty. And therefore, this year we have our “Give A Shift” program. This is where you can identify some parts of the week that you might be willing to help with for a couple of hours to help our leaders relax a little more! It is really easy and it will make a BIG difference. Please click the link below and it will take you to a website where you quickly click activities you might be willing to help with and for how much time. That’s it. Then, if a Coordinator needs some assistance, they will have you on a list so you can be contacted. You are always free to decline and choose what you like to do. So, help us TODAY by “Giving A Shift” and fill out the quick online form! Click here:

Surveygoldcloud.com/s/5D2A5E69B42B4082/223.htm

‘Greetings from your Co-Chaplains

We are looking forward to being with you all for WINNI week, especially in our new role as Co-Chaplains. As you have already heard our theme is *“Live Winni: Sharing Our Treasures”* ... no, this is not about money! It’s really about the people and places we treasure in our hearts. We hope you will come prepared to share about the places, people and the parts of yourself that you treasure the most.

Speaking of sharing, we would appreciate your help in any way you would like to offer with **Morning and/or Evening Watch**. We are looking for folks to share their gift of song, reading, poems, stories, etc.... If you would like to help please email Kevin (klsmith1920@gmail.com) or Diane (kevydi@aol.com).

Peace, Kevin and Diane

KUDOS TO KEVIN!!! - GPC made a special point of acknowledging the extraordinary effort and time that Kevin Weston has put into assisting GPC recently with work on the Siftar Cottage. All hours volunteered at GPC go into a NNESRE volunteer bank that can help us save on our bill if we accrue enough hours. Thanks Kevin for all your good work!

Our Winni Scholarship Fund

Now – More Than Ever

I don’t need to tell you, but GPC’s costs keep going up, therefore NNESRE’s costs keep going up, and ergo, your costs keep going up. For an experience where many of us feel like we are roughing it, it is an expensive venture. However, it is a value-added experience where everyone who comes makes it priceless. So please be aware that as each year’s prices go up, more NNESRE campers are being priced out of being able to come... and so they rely on the NNESRE Scholarship Fund to help them get over the hump to make it affordable. So, if you have had a good year, make it a GREAT year by donating to the Scholarship Fund so that everyone who wants to come to Winni can do so

The Gems needs you

.... And not just to bring us chocolate

Got anything you want to contribute to this ~~rag~~ esteemed publication? Come on, admit it: we’re your heroes and you desperately want to be with us in the Gems office for a bit. Imagine how you will be able to tell your grandchildren that sure, some people may occasionally meet Springsteen backstage, but YOU got to hang with Joe and Kate for a while! Lots of stuff happens around campus away from our little world at Chapel Line and if you don’t tell us, we can’t write about it. So, stop on by and follow our lead. Make stuff up, lie through your teeth, squeal on your friends and neighbors. In other words: be one of us. And don’t forget to bring chocolate.



THE MORE YOU KNOW...

Reminders & Other tidbits of Info

Dancing in the Barn

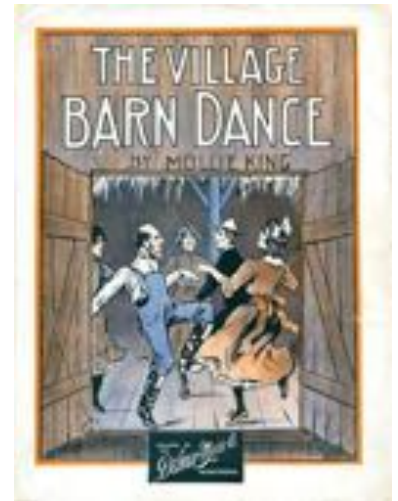
from the irreplaceable, indefatigable, irresistible Barb Siftar

POP QUIZ: What is Barn Dancing?

- (a) A Winni activity for adult couples who attend in stiff square dance skirts or bolo ties and know all the steps.
- (b) A Winni must for old-timers and new-comers where dances & games of all kinds are taught step-by-step in a very lively atmosphere. Held in one of the "spirit" places of Camp, The Barn. And you can come as you are!
- (c) When a large post and beam structure comes to life each night at Winni and larks about the Green with its doors and windows flapping.

The answer is B of course!

Disclaimer: Winni Barn dancing is **NOT** this photo! Although we HAVE had some pretty interesting outfits displayed at Barn Dancing.



Plaques for the Memorial

One of our great traditions is honoring many wonderful people who were members of our community who have passed on. When you are at camp, head down past the Council Ring and you will see the Winni Memorial – a wall of hanging plaques between two trees. The plaques swing gently (mostly – depends on the weather) in the breeze as you are able to sit and remember and or imagine the personalities who helped to shape NNESRE.

If you would like to honor someone who has been a member of our community, please send your request to Hans Seitz at hseitz02@cox.net **by July 10th**. Plaques are \$25 – payable to the Business Manager when you are up at camp. You will need to supply the name, year of birth, first year at Winni, and year of death of the person (or persons) whom you wish to be remembered.

Thank you to Hans for the TLC and craftsmanship he puts into caring for our Memorial.

Editor's note: And for those of you who are new at camp:



Taking Care of Business

*Your love gives her such a thrill
But your love don't pay our bills*

Hello, campers. So far, we have 285 campers signed up this year and there is still room for more! If you know someone who wants to share the Winni experience, there are still rooms at the Geneva Woods! (And Inn 3rd floor, Lakeview Lodge and tenting). Thank you to all that have paid their invoices (40%). But, if you (*and you know who you are*) still owe the business manager (me, Leslie Dockendorff) money, I would really appreciate payment **by July 14th** (otherwise the \$25 late will be applied). Also, Registration will again be on the Inn porch, so be sure to check in with me when you arrive. Have a wonderful week and if you have any issues, see the Deans! (Just kidding... maybe.)

REMINDER: CHECK IN TIME IS 3:00 PM SATURDAY JULY 29 AND CHECK OUT TIME IS 10:00 AM SATURDAY AUGUST 5, 2017.

Peace,
Leslie Dockendorff,
Business manager
Jdock488@sbcglobal.net

À La Geneva Point Center

Peter Claypoole, Director



Tick Tacks (Your) Toe

There aren't more than usual, but Peter has decided it is worth mentioning that all campers are encouraged to check for ticks. While this has long been a pastime for many amorous campers, Peter is encouraging general tick-wareness.

Coordinate Your Evenings

Dear Winnites, we are so excited to share another year with you at the beloved GPC. Monica is a new addition to the Evening Coordinator team this year and we have worked together to plan and create our evening events! All of our annual events have remained on their traditional nights (Weston campfire, Barb & Bill concert, coffeehouse, etc). We look forward to enjoying our ol' "go-to"'s with you all, including the historical Hootenanny! While we begin to revive it's everlasting place in our schedule, we hope you all have considered and prepared something exciting to do on stage whether you are dancing, reciting a monologue or breathing fire (make sure to have proper authorities available). We will also be introducing two new events, a Camp-wide Scavenger Hunt and a Live Family Feud game. So, bring your strategy, your friendly attitude, and your competitive face.

We are also asking for volunteers to commit to one event during the week to help set up and break down. For more details check the Winni 2017 Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1754586954779518/> or contact Stacie Finlayson or Monica Seaman. If anyone is interested in leading a **fireside chat** you can contact us as well.

See you there! • Stacie Finlayson & Monica Seaman

YOU are the King of Klean

Peter also provided kudos to our late-night lake gazers and their reputation for cleaning up after themselves. He reminded all Winnites that whatever you bring down to the lakeside should be brought back from the lakeside. Leave no residue of you. So, bring trash bags if you plan any late-night get-togethers and remember to haul it all back up with you.

Take Time in Life [not on the 'Pike] ... or you've a long way to go

Travel issues for The Mass Pike in the Boston area for camp travelers--Two Travel tips if you take the Mass Pike, I-90, to get to Camp Winni:

#1 - All the toll booths have been removed from the Mass Pike and instead your Fast Pass (EZ-Pass) will be automatically charged at other spots along the highway. If you do not have a Fast Pass (EZ-Pass) they take a photo of your license plate and send you a bill in the mail. At the interchanges where the toll booths used to be, you need to slow your speed because often police are posted there.

#2 - I-90, The Mass Pike in the immediate Boston area. **AVOID THIS AREA COMPLETELY** and take Route 95 around Boston. Construction Shutdown begins July 26 and goes until August 28. I-90 (Mass Pike) will be reduced from four lanes to three lanes in each direction in Boston between the Allston Interchange and the Beacon Street Overpass. And it will be reduced to 2 lanes in both directions from 9:00 PM on July 28 to 5:00 AM on August 7 (with additional lane closures during off-peak hours).

101ST WINNI WEEK AT-A-GLANCE °

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orientation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barb & Bill & Co. Concert 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winni Bazaar Weston Family Campfire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Memorial Service Softball game Nominating Committee Hoot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trustees meeting Winni Swimmi Coffeehouse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seed-spitting Closing Ceremony

* This schedule is subject to change due to weather, better ideas, or just because we wrote it wrong the first time

NNESRE 2017

NNESRE = Winni

Help make this week happen!

There are many positions that have been created over the years to make sure that we *all* have a memorable week. See below the positions and if you're interested (or know someone who would be great), please connect with someone on the Nominating Committee (below):

Nominating committee (*this committee includes 3 Trustees & 3 self-selected non-Trustees*): Trevor Morrissey, Haley Nisson, Robbie Wilcox-Smith, Mike Nisson, Leslie Ganley, Bobbie Davis

Trustees: Winnites who oversee the conference as a non-profit organization. These volunteers participate in 2-3 meetings a year (one during Winni) and make important decisions, like whose turn it is to mow the labyrinth. Trustees have officers that includes Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Officers of the School:

(The following positions, except for Business Committee Chair, include a full or partial "staff exemption package" that offsets cost of attending Winni)

- **Dean** – responsible for overall program and implementation of Winni; leads orientation, meals, and other operational needs
- **Chaplain** – plans and implements each night's evening watch and the memorial service, as well as coordinating people to lead morning watch each day before breakfast

- **Business Manager** – deals with all things money, registration, etc.
- **Business Committee Chair** – heads committee for the Trustees that deals with business and finance needs of NNESRE
- **Program & Evaluation Chair** – head of committee that appoints faculty to lead courses, then facilitates evaluations of Winni week
- **Ed School Director** – coordinates and hires teachers & assistants for morning classes for ages 0-18
- **Ed School Assistant Director** – assists Ed School director with needs during the week
- **Evening Coordinator** – organizes all activities that occur after dinner (except evening watch)
- **GEMS Editor & Co-Editor** – create this newsletter every day
- **Archivist** – maintains the archives of all Winni documents over the history of NNESRE

Additional staff positions:

- **Program faculty** (10 positions) – lead courses (2 periods/day) in the areas of: religious/spiritual, social/political, and/or personal development
- **Ed School teachers** (~8 positions) – lead activities for first 2 periods each day for specific age groups
- **Ed School assistants** (multiple positions) – assist in activities such as for lead teachers of age groups, or supervising playground or 3rd period swimming

Talk to the Nominating Committee ASAP!



And because some things cannot be improved upon...

I wish for so many things. I wish I knew everybody here at camp just a little bit better. I wish I still had my 1971 Dodge Charger. I wish I had more hair. But most of all, I wish I could just come up with witty packing poems like Din Stevens used to. So, from last year:

Packing it in

I'm Going to Winni, and I'm Bringing....

'Twas the night before Winni, and both near and far
The Winnites were stuffing their stuff into cars.
With the pre-GEMS in hand they each ticked off the list
To make sure there was nothing important they'd
missed.

No matter your costume, your shoes or your bag,
Please do top it off with your trusty nametag.
So bring yours along if you've already got one.
If not, we'll have stuff for a made-on-the-spot one.

For the cabin bring sheets, and things cushy and comfy.
Without them the mattress is pretty darn lumpy.
A fan for the nights when the weather is hot
Extensions to plug in the fan and what-not.

Perhaps your own coffee, if you like a good brew.
But the GPC coffee shop is pretty good, too.
A rope for a clothesline for wet suits and towels,
For Trugnala Rumjana...bring a few vowels.

A cooler that's packed with drinks of your liking.
To sip at the campfire or take with you hiking.
Bring goodies and snacks, to have and to share.
(You may need a break from the GPC fare.)



LIVE WINNII

For the beach (and the campfire) a portable chair,
Sunglasses, a hat with a visor (there's glare).
Bring sunscreen aplenty, for days that are sunny.
Umbrella and raincoat for days that are runny.

Bring potions and pills for whatever may ail you:
Bug bites, insomnia, foods that assail you.
A flashlight to help you with night-time trailblazing,
A blanket to use on the Green for stargazing.

Quarters for laundry, and also detergent,
'Cause sometimes by midweek the laundry gets urgent
Bring check, cash or credit to shop the Bazaar.
The best deals on Winnepesaukee – by far!

Bring instruments, music, your best singing voice,
Because there'll be singing – there isn't a choice.
Bring shoes for the Barn dance, with all generations.
With Barb at the helm, it's a sure-fire sensation!

Bring your very best Hoot act, honed to three minutes.
(That's total -- for you and for everyone in it.)
For the Coffeehouse maybe a song or a reading,
And a cushion to soften the folding-chair seating.

Bring Frisbees and board games, gloves, bats, and balls,
Hula-hoops, hackysacks, playthings for all.
A book for the beach, or the cabin at night,
A camera with which you can capture the sights.

As always, we end with a list of the things
That we all have but that we would rather not bring:
Calendars, date books, work stress, to-do lists,
The things that inspire us all to be Buddhists.

So, leave those behind as you head on your way
Breathe in and breathe out, and take in the day.
And most important of all as you travel the miles,
Bring a heart full of friendship & even more smiles!