



CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Raquette Lake News

Summer/Fall 2012

Volume 12, Number 2

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Upcoming Events

For a list of our Upcoming Events
www.cortland.edu/outdoor

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Raquette Lake News is published twice a year (fall/spring semesters) by the Center for Environmental and Outdoor Education at SUNY Cortland.



An Antlers Update by Kimberly Pietro

As the newest vice president to join SUNY Cortland and an outdoor enthusiast, I was pleased when an alumnus recently shared the book *Last Child in the Woods* by Richard Louv. It's a must-read for anyone interested in outdoor education. His views are illustrated by this quote, "The future will belong to the nature-smart—those individuals, families, businesses, and political leaders who develop a deeper understanding of the transformative power of the natural world and who balance the virtual with the real. The more high-tech we become, the more nature we need."

As the staff of SUNY Cortland's Environmental and Outdoor Education Center at Raquette Lake prepares for the winter season, the College thought it would be a good time to update friends, students and alumni about the fundraising, legal process and business plan as it relates to the transferring of the Antlers property from the College's Auxiliary Services Corporation to the Cortland College Foundation.

A letter of intent between the foundation, the College and ASC has been signed. In addition, a transfer agreement between the foundation and ASC also has been signed. Last but not least, considerable progress continues to be made on the 30-year lease between the foundation and the College.

The Cortland College Foundation has committed to raising \$1.5 million for the Outdoor Education Center as part of the \$25 million Educating Champions: The Campaign for Cortland. To date, \$413,992 has been committed. The fundraising staff has recently submitted numerous large gift proposals to potential donors and continues to pursue other major gifts and naming opportunities. Once we are further along with the transfer process, the foundation will solicit a broader group of individuals interested in the Outdoor Education Center.

The terms and conditions of a 30-year lease are very complex. When the lease agreement terms are mutually agreed upon by the College and foundation, the College will seek approval from the Attorney General's office and the Office of the State Comptroller. Our collective goal is to have the lease submitted to both offices by Dec. 31.

At the request of the foundation board, the director of the Outdoor Education Center at Raquette Lake, Rob Rubendall, wrote a comprehensive business plan for the facility. As a living, working document, it will continue to evolve as the College looks to develop a sustainable, year-round programmatic framework for both properties. As many of you know, the College remains committed to providing \$1 million in capital funds to update Antlers.

A phase one environmental audit has started, and the firm conducting the audit will provide a report soon. Prior to the property transfer from ASC, the College will address all remediation issues. Although this is something that could potentially delay the transfer, it will not derail it.

We want to thank all Outdoor Education Center supporters for their patience. SUNY Cortland continues to transform student lives through outdoor educational experiences at our facilities. The foundation is pleased to hold this valuable asset on behalf of the College so that all students, for many decades to come, will have the opportunity to shape their lives and enhance their Cortland experience by connecting with nature and its restorative powers. SUNY Cortland's mission to become the national leader in the promotion of physical, emotional, cultural, and social well-being of all community members is a top priority.



From the Director's Desk

First of all, our hearts go out to the many alumni and friends affected by the devastation of Hurricane Sandy in October. We hope your lives and those of your families will return to normal as soon as possible.

With the temperature dropping into the 20s at night and barely breaking the freezing mark during the day, it can't be long before the lake will freeze and we enter our short, but beautiful winter season. It's a good time to reflect on what the busy summer months have seen here on Raquette Lake. It included a full slate of student and alumni programs, new groups and old, and much progress on the transfer of Antlers. We hope you will enjoy this issue of the *Raquette Lake News* and keep in touch with us throughout the coming year.

Three major projects were completed at Camp Huntington this year. First, the Durant Dock was completely rebuilt as stage one of the waterfront improvement project. Waldron Carpentry finished the job by midsummer and provided us with a high water alternative to landing boats on the Main Dock. We hope to complete the project next summer by rebuilding the Main Dock itself, adding new lighting for the flagpole, and replacing the Adirondack chairs, benches and sign. Second, the Spruce Dormitory roof was replaced with a standing seam steel roof that should last decades. You may not know that Spruce was one of the three buildings added to Camp Pine Knot during the Collis Huntington years from 1895-1900. It was used to house his male servants. Finally, with the help of 60 physical education students and instructors in August, we spread new gravel on every foot of our campus paths and roadways. Those of you who were here in the fall know what a difference it has made, and we wish to thank again all of you that contributed your time and effort.

As this newsletter goes out, we should be putting the finishing touches on the three promotional videos for which shooting began last winter. By capturing three seasons of activity at both Camp Huntington and Antlers, we hope to have an enticing visual representation of the possibilities available at the Outdoor Education Center for our incoming students, current students and alumni. Many faculty, students and alumni contributed testimonials about the impact of our programs on their lives and those of their students. Watch our website for information on how to view these videos soon.

We ended the fall season this year with an open house for second-year faculty at SUNY Cortland. Hosted by experienced faculty and supported by several students from



Workers apply waterproof underlayment to Spruce Dormitory roof.

the SUNY Cortland Recreation Association, the seven new faculty and their families were treated to all the great activities that the center has to offer – hikes, paddling, nature study, historical tours, and even the ropes course. In the evening, we provided refreshments and a stimulating discussion about what kinds of programs exist now for students and prompting of ideas for new and innovative ones in the future. By offering these open houses to new faculty, we extend the network of informed and supportive members of the Cortland community and make it more likely that new departments will take advantage of the learning opportunities here.

Of course, the transition of the Antlers property to the Cortland College Foundation and the investment in both the facilities and a Raquette Lake endowment occupy much of my time and thought. Please take time to read the update from Vice President for Institutional Advancement Kim Pietro to learn more. And thank you for all the support and encouragement you have provided to take on this exciting challenge. I look forward to seeing many of you in the coming year.

Watercolor Workshop



Joan Goldwyn practicing techniques.

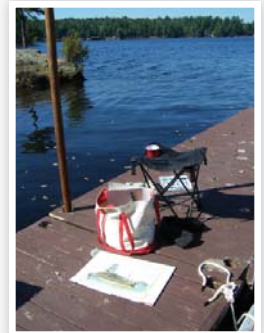
In September, Barbara Schooley '72 instructed a week-long watercolor workshop at Antlers. Nine alumni, faculty/staff and their guests participated in the informative and relaxing program. The class had an assortment of students from beginner to advanced.

Each morning new techniques were taught and practiced, followed by afternoons of painting au plein air. Afternoon painting vistas included Antlers, Big Island and Camp Huntington's autumnal mountain landscapes. Daily critiques coupled with question and answer sessions helped the students' work progress.

The course began with an explanation of brushes and uses followed by the color wheel and blending. The class quickly progressed to include sketching, drawing placement and perspective to color layering, masking and other tricks of artists.

The group also enjoyed a slide presentation about renowned artist Winslow Homer and his Adirondack works. Homer began his career sketching the American Civil War for *Harper's* magazine, and in later years, changed mediums to oil painting and watercolor. A majority of his work includes New England waterscapes; however he spent summer vacations documenting Adirondack scenes. Techniques the group learned were expanded on during this session.

Of course, the week was not all work, there was plenty of time to paddle, play games and relax. The highly successful watercolor workshop will be offered again in Sept. 2013.



Big Island au plein air



The Durant Dock is completely rebuilt.



Left to right, co-founders Dora Ingolfsdottir, Wayne Ouderkirk, Chris Evans. Photo by Nadine May Lewis.

“Interaction of Theme, Setting and Dedicated Faculty”

This is the formula that Marlene “Chris” Evans, founding mentor of SUNY Empire State College’s Adirondack Residency, claims has kept this unique educational program alive and well at Camp Huntington for sixteen years. Co-founders Wayne Ouderkirk and Dora

Ingolfsdottir worked with Chris to create an environmental residency in 1997 that combines community focus on a specific environmental issue each year, while offering up to eight specific courses for credit that include online learning and discussions with two to three days of plenary sessions, history and time to connect with the beauty of Raquette Lake and its environs. The course is traditionally held the second week of October, and rarely has Mother Nature failed to provide a show of fall colors to underscore the importance of protecting precious areas like the Adirondacks.

A pre-residency is usually offered for credit beginning on Monday through Tuesday morning, with the majority of students arriving by boat after lunch to spend the next two days and nights together. There are certain traditions that are always honored, including a welcome reception prior to dinner the first night, coffee on the dock as the sun rises, an historical tour of Camp Huntington hosted by the director, several plenary sessions with guest speakers and a concert by famed Adirondack singer and storyteller Bill Smith. Bill has performed at all sixteen residencies and never fails to leave the crowd howling at his outlandish tales about growing up in the North Country.

Lori McCaffrey is the administrative hub who pulls the various components of the residency together each year. Core faculty offer a slate of standard courses that are modified each year to meet the overarching residency theme, and new faculty are invited to propose additional courses that they will teach throughout the fall online as a complement to the time spent at Camp Huntington. The residency would not be successful, however, without the enthusiasm and endless curiosity brought to it by the students, many of whom return year after year while pursuing their degrees at SUNY Empire State College.

This fall marked a special occasion for the residency beyond the sixteen years of its life. Co-founder Wayne Ouderkirk announced his retirement from SUNY Empire State College and



Fog lifting at dawn is the theme of Sean Klinglesmith’s photo. Sean was a student in Alan Stankiewicz’s photography class at the 2012 Adirondack Residency.

for the first time in residency history did not teach a course of his own. He was honored with a cake on the last evening and presented with a beautiful print of Silver and Golden beaches from the collection at the Adirondack Museum. Like Chris, we expect to see Wayne many more times at the residency during his retirement, as his passion for environmental causes and the value of residential, community-based learning will not permit him to stay away for long.

The formula of theme, setting and dedicated faculty is one that characterizes many of the longstanding, successful programs held each year at Camp Huntington. The Adirondack Residency stands apart in combining innovation and tradition as well as its impact on the environmental sensitivities of its participants. It is also a shining example of collaboration between SUNY partners in pursuit of a more environmentally literate society and the willingness of SUNY Cortland to share the gem it has in Camp Huntington.

Sharing Across the Ages

A number of years ago the Metcalf Endowment Board, a fundraising component for the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Studies Department under the umbrella of the Cortland College Foundation, began hosting a retreat at Antlers with the intent of gathering alumni to relive their Raquette Lake experience and raise money. A student representative joined the group to talk about what it was currently like to be a student in the recreation department. The group quickly realized the value of this gathering was about sharing between current students and alumni both formally and informally.

The retreat has grown into a reunion that student members of SUNY Cortland’s Recreation Association (SCRA) and alumni eagerly anticipate. Alumni range in graduation years as do the students. Students lead get-to-know-you activities before dinner. John LaRue ’89 has developed a game generator that invites the alumni, their guests and students to take turns creating games for the entire group. The reunion also offers opportunities for hiking, paddling, touring Camp Huntington and more.

A new element was added to the reunion this year with the COR 101 freshmen experience class Building Community Recreation staying at Camp Huntington. The class also began with ice breakers and introductions. On Saturday morning LaRue brought his game generator to Camp Huntington for the freshmen to try out. They slowly began to lose their inhibitions and play!

After lunch the freshmen were led on the low ropes course by some of the SCRA members while the remainder of the reunion group toured Camp Huntington. Once the tour was over and the ropes course experience debriefed, the groups all met up in Metcalf Hall. The alumni and upperclassmen broke up into areas of professional interests such as community recreation, outdoor recreation and therapeutic recreation. In speed dating fashion, freshmen moved around the room hearing from each group about their paths from SUNY Cortland into the professional world and back again. Time also allowed for a question and answer session. At the conclusion of this activity, some upperclassmen stayed at Camp Huntington to lead kayaking, while the rest of the alumni and SCRA members headed back to Antlers for some free time.

Saturday evening both sides of the lake were filled with games, laughter and playing.

The weekend was capped off with a bright sunny Sunday morning, just what both groups needed to wrap-up their experiences. Wanda DeWaard



Joanne Langendorfer Hastrich '80 and Cynthia McGlynn '82 tagging a butterfly before release

'75, who raises, tags and releases monarch caterpillars in her home state of Tennessee, brought a box of chrysalises with her and worried they would hatch before she returned home. As predicted, seven butterflies hatched and spurred an impromptu lesson on the life cycle of monarch caterpillars followed by their tagging and release.

You can readily appreciate the metaphor of the three stages of monarch life cycles: freshmen caterpillars, upperclassmen chrysalis and alumni butterflies. The spirited weekend was a success for all involved. Check our Upcoming Events page on our website for next year's reunion.

Cortland Alumnus Builds Teamwork Among Soccer Team

When Gil Palladino graduated from SUNY Cortland in 1974 with a B.S. Ed. in Recreation Education and in 1976 with an M.S. Ed. in Recreation Administration, he had no idea he would someday look back on 27 years of coaching the boys' soccer team at Clinton High School in upstate New York. His career instead was devoted to people with disabilities, first as a recreation therapist and later an administrator and director of quality management. But in 1986, he was hired to coach the Clinton Warriors junior varsity boys' team and in 1993 took over as head coach of the varsity.

Gil and his wife, Patricia Grant Palladino,'74 met in college and married just three weeks after graduation. Neither had returned to the Outdoor Education Center until the summer alumni camp in July of 2011, where plans to bring the Clinton soccer team to Camp Huntington began to emerge. After experiencing the sense of bonding and appreciation for working together in the dining room and dormitories during alumni camp, Gil saw the value of providing a similar experience to help form a team with his 18 young men, who were coming off one of the most productive seasons in Clinton school history and needed to create their own goals and self-confidence among a younger group. With a little juggling of the calendar and lots of communication back and forth, a plan was finalized in the spring of 2012 to come over Labor Day Weekend.

The schedule included time to canoe, kayak, hike and hang out around the campfire at night, as well as take an historic tour of Camp Huntington on Sunday morning. The highlight of the weekend, though, was Saturday's ropes course program, facilitat-

ed by Kevin Corcoran and crew. "Participating in the high ropes course along with the low ropes course really developed courage and trust amongst everyone," Gil wrote. "Players who were exceptional on the soccer field maybe weren't so exceptional on a wire 50 feet above the ground. I was also able to watch and make a selection of my captain for this year's team based on what I observed all weekend long ... and that captain ended up being perfect this year. It all started at Camp Huntington."

A concept was introduced to the team during the weekend that became a theme throughout the season. Desmond Tutu originally described the South African philosophy of ubuntu or, "I am what I am because of who we all are," in his teachings on diversity and world peace, but the Clinton soccer team took it to heart in their own terms. In his end-of-season banquet speech to players and parents, Gil credited the experience at Camp Huntington and ubuntu with helping form the team that had yet another successful year on the field.

In reflecting on the Clinton program and where it came from, I am reminded how important it is that the Outdoor Education Center provides a resource not just for current SUNY Cortland students, but for alumni who have the passion and knowledge to share the magic of this place and the outdoors with their own constituencies. With careful planning and an understanding of how a community can be created in an isolated natural environment, these programs present essential opportunities to young people to learn an important extrapolation of the ubuntu ideal, "You can't be human all by yourself." Our congratulations go out to the entire Clinton boys' soccer organization for completing a journey they started at Camp Huntington as 18 individuals and along the way became a team.



Gil Paladino '74, M.S.Ed.'76, (front center) with the 2012 Clinton Warriors soccer team. Photo by Mike Murrock.

Father and Daughter Share An Adirondack Tradition

For 33 years, Alan Stockholm traveled from Cortland to the Outdoor Education Center every summer to teach Adventure Education for Teachers with his colleagues in the SUNY Cortland physical education department. His journey to Cortland is an interesting one, and the family legacy of teaching at Camp

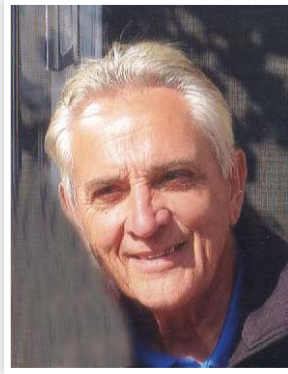
Huntington isn't over yet, as his daughter, Cheryl Knickerbocker, continues to come here each spring as a teacher with Cincinnatus Central School.

Al's mother was the first Cortland alumna in the family, graduating with a teaching degree from the then Cortland Normal School. Al grew up on a farm in Montrose, Pa., and attended East Stroudsburg State College, where he completed his undergraduate degree in physical education and health. It was there he developed an interest in basketball, which brought him to SUNY Cortland in 1965 after completing his master's degree at Maryland. That year, Coach Reuben H. "Barney" Williams was on a leave of absence to complete his doctorate, and Al took over his responsibilities. After completing his own doctorate at Indiana University and returning to teach at East Stroudsburg for one year, Al was hired in the Physical Education Department and to coach men's basketball. His area of academic interest was the science of kinesiology and physiology, which we now call biomechanics.

As soon as he arrived at Cortland in 1968, his colleagues Joe Pierson and Tom Steele, among others, suggested he come to the Outdoor Education Center and teach in the two-week practicum course in outdoor education required of all physical education majors. Until he retired in 2001, he never missed a summer course, and his love for the lakes and mountains of the Adirondacks grew. This love became part of the Stockholm family tradition, and many summer weeks and weekends in the spring and fall were spent paddling or hiking with his wife, Nancy, and their three children.

Daughter Cheryl remembers these years fondly, though she says she couldn't identify the particular lakes that they frequented. "I just remember the five of us packed into a canoe and camping in primitive sites around the Adirondacks when I was little. My dad spent at least two weeks every summer at Camp Huntington, but I don't think I had ever gone there until I became a teacher." When she finally did arrive at Camp Huntington, it was with Beth and Karl Klein's Adirondack Classroom graduate education class for in-service and pre-service teachers to learn how to incorporate Adirondack history and environmental education in their lesson plans. The result of her participation in this course with several other teachers from Cincinnatus Central School was an annual trip in May with their high school environmental science students that is now in its ninth year.

Cheryl received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from SUNY Cortland in health and health education. She understands



Al Stockholm

the value of bringing students from Cincinnatus here to appreciate the outdoors without the distraction of electronic games and devices. Though she admits that during her teenage and college years the outdoors didn't play a big role in her life, she has come back around to spending more time there as an adult. She credits the introduction she got to camping in the Adirondacks with her family as a child for a deep-seated love of the environment. Now as a teacher, she gets the chance to share that love with her students at Cincinnatus.

Who knows how long the Stockholm family will stay connected to The Outdoor Education Center and to helping young people become aware of the importance of wild places? But an indication of that might be that Al still comes to camp each summer to support Adventure Education for Teachers 45 years after teaching his first course here. It is these personal stories of lifelong devotion to outdoor education and its generational impact that make the Outdoor Education Center at Raquette Lake something worthy of our pride and support.

Bill Hein Makes A Big Impact

The Outdoor Education Center at Raquette Lake hosted a senior recreation, parks and leisure studies student, Bill Hein, in a summer internship position again this past summer. This year's intern hailed from Long Island, where he spent his previous summers working at a nearby golf course and later at Robert Moses State Park. This outdoor experience made him an ideal candidate for working at Camp Huntington and learning about the total operation of an outdoor center.

Bill's first assignment was as a teaching assistant for the Outdoor Education Practicum, a required course that he had completed himself as a student in the summer of 2011. His student experience on the course was very formative in introducing him to the field of outdoor recreation, and he was honored to be selected to assist in teaching it this past summer. His good nature, team spirit and uncommon strength of character made him a favorite of the students on his course.

Upon completion of the two-week assignment, Bill went through an extensive orientation and training to prepare him to help out in all areas of camp management. He ran the camp store, provided supervision and guidance for canoeing and kayaking, and built a number of activities for the low ropes course. He also led a variety of games and hikes for alumni families, helped out with the mowing and trimming, and designed a program for high school students that he and two SUNY Cortland Recreation Association (SCRA) friends delivered in July. Bill was



Cheryl Stockholm Knickerbocker '83



always enthusiastic about whatever he was working on, and his infectious good nature had a positive effect on everyone in camp.

As a former history student, Bill took a special interest in Camp Huntington and its origin as the first Great Camp in the Adiron-

dacks, built during the Guided Age by railroad tycoon Thomas Durant and his son William. He learned to give guided tours of the facility and even created a podcast that visitors can now use to tour the camp on their own. In addition to his contributions to the historical program, Bill conducted a comprehensive analysis of the center's accessibility for people with disabilities that will help group leaders decide if this is an appropriate facility for their needs.

Bill's major project was working with the director of the Liberty Partnerships Program from the University at Buffalo to create a three-day teambuilding and leadership development retreat for urban high school students and their college-age mentors. The planning process allowed him to translate theory from his academic studies into practice in the field and receive immediate feedback. He recruited two of his former classmates, Olivia Joseph and Robyn Perez, to come up and help him with the program delivery. The opportunity to communicate goals, objectives and risk management strategies with his peers was another key learning element of his internship. In the end, the program went off without a hitch, and the Liberty Partnerships Program was delighted with what the staff provided. In debriefing the program with Bill, he commented that he learned a great deal about keeping a positive attitude when working with varied groups and being flexible to change the plan when weather or other factors throw you a curve ball.

The internship was Bill's last official duty prior to graduating in August. We were happy to see him back at Raquette Lake for the Hearts of Gold alumni reunion in September and want to wish him well on his transition into the career world. Wherever your path takes you, Bill, you have made an indelible impression on us and contributed to the outdoor education center in many ways.

Nature Nook

Hyla versicolor, also known as a gray tree frog, is a species of small arboreal frog measuring between 1.25 to 2.25 inches. While being labeled gray tree frogs, they can range in color from nearly white to almost black with green hues blended in with a white underbody. Their skin is warty looking and can camouflage over time to match their surroundings. Gray tree frogs have

bright yellow-orange patches on the hind legs that are only visible while the frog is jumping. The frogs have big sticky toe pads to aid in climbing. Females are larger than the males and have a lighter colored throat.

Gray tree frogs can be found up and down the East Coast from southern Canada to northern Florida and as far west as central Texas. The frogs are most commonly found in moist, deciduous woodlands in swamps or nearby water. They are nocturnal and mostly solitary; however, they descend from the tree tops at night to breed and chorus.

Copes Gray Tree Frog, *Hyla chrysoscelis*, set itself apart in two ways from the common gray tree frog. It has a shorter, faster call and has an extra set of chromosomes. Copes gray tree frogs are found across the southern United States.

The acrobatic frogs can jump from branch to branch to land a tasty meal. A variety of small bugs such as ants, beetles, crickets, grasshoppers and moths make up the gray tree frog's diet.



Photo Courtesy of Doug Pens '64

Female hyla do not croak or sing. However, males will produce mating calls and chorus at night. Their songs are resonating or buzzing trills that are mostly heard in spring and summer. The female selects her mate based on his call.

Female gray tree frogs tend to lay their eggs in shallow water attached to vegetation to keep them from floating away. Eggs can also be found in standing water in ruts or vernal pools. Upwards of 2,000 eggs can be laid in smaller groups of 10-40. Tadpoles hatch in three to six days and have rounded bodies and high wide tails. Metamorphosis into froglets happens in approximately two months and full maturity in two years.

Gray tree frogs hibernate during the winter months surviving cold temperatures. The frogs produce glycerol that is spread throughout their bodies like antifreeze. They hide under bark, leaves or rocks on the forest floor for a long winter's nap. Warming temperatures in the spring thaw out the gray tree frogs. As temperatures reach 60 degrees, a new season is welcomed back with the sound of the frogs in the trees.

Adult Education Teaching Opportunities

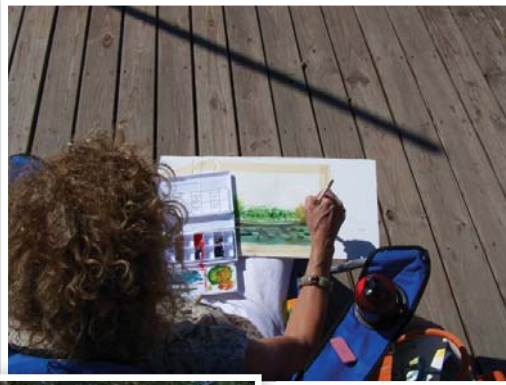
Do you have a skill or hobby that you would like to share with other SUNY Cortland alumni in the form of adult education? Examples might include cake decorating, digital photography, hiking, kayaking, plant identification, history, poetry, etc. We have space for a session or two Sept. 15-20 at Antlers. Contact Rhonda Jacobs '01 with ideas and suggestions.

Alumni Picnic



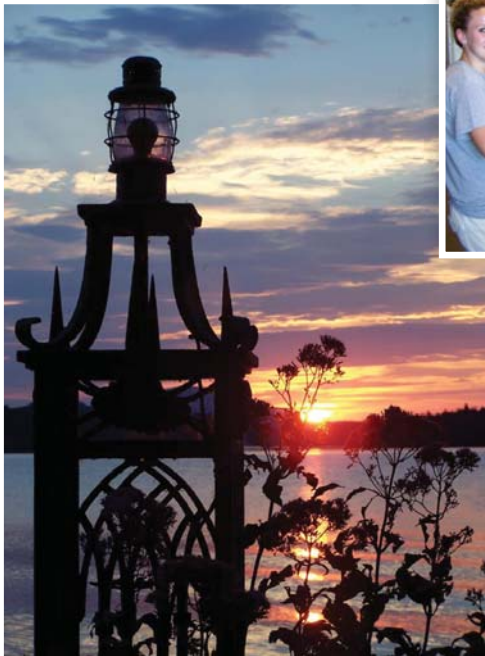
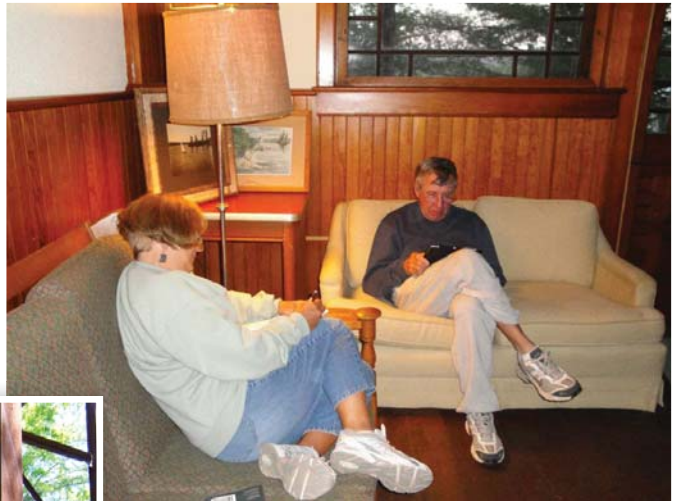
Watercolor Workshop





Alumni Camp 2012





**Thank you for wonderful
summer/fall season!
See you next year!**