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Dave Ryder

A tribute by Dave Hughes

Just who is this David Franklin Ryder we have come to Pasquaneý to honor this Saturday? And how did he get here? The Annual tells us he came from Newton Upper Falls in Massachusetts. We also know that he is the great-nephew of Pasquaneý great Nelson Curtis. I know that he arrived late to Camp in 1951 recovering from an appendectomy. Mr. Charlie asked me to show him around. He was little. He was shy. And he was hurting. That I was commiserating by explaining the intricacies of Dana Porch to a future Pasquaneý icon still boggles the mind.

How many strong interests have each of us had which started at Pasquaneý? Dave is no exception. He hit Ben Wood’s waterfront and started developing those canoeing skills which would later figure in some epic canoe tilting. He encountered Jay Borden’s insistence on meticulous detail in the Shop where he produced an impressive laminated bow. He realized how decidedly he could improve on the skills of outdoor camping shown to him on Belle Island. He wrote an award-winning natural history essay. And he showed early sailing prowess in the Weasels, those beamy old plywood gaff-rigged boats which once constituted the Pasquaneý fleet. Those boats could really book wind was a challenge David courted. In fact, as an adult he later adopted a Weasel, as did I.

As an older camper and C.O.I. Dave achieved mastery in canoeing and sailing and woodshop and hiking and camping – a mastery which, when coupled with his kind concern and intuitive understanding of people, would make him an unusually effective teacher of skills, as well as an inspiring example of carefulness and persistence. David’s generosity with his interests, his inclusiveness, and his gentle leadership by example were strong contributions to the summer of 1955 when he was honored as “Most Faithful Boy.” That he would go on to become one of Pasquaneý’s greats is in the next chapter.

So, who is this David Franklin Ryder? He’s my friend. And, by the way, he’s also my senior canoe tilt partner. Champions, 1954. We’ve never been beaten. We doubt that we could be. Just ask Dave.

[Editor’s note: The following speeches were given during the 2011 Reunion Banquet in honor of Dave Ryder. The timeline above stretched across the Shop porch and sparked stories of Dave from many guests. Other reunion highlights included a canoe tilt tournament, singing around the campfire and a group “Circle” in Baird Hall where guests discussed how Pasquaneý influenced their lives.]
Dave Ryder
A tribute by Dick Beyer

Dave Ryder was an older camper when I arrived at Pasquaney as an eleven-year-old new camper in 1954. Two of my counsellors then are here today -- Clay Morton and Dave Reed.

As a camper, Dave was active in the shops, electrician in the theater, winner of Best Essay in nature, one of three senior sailors, on the Long Walk, and winner of that famous canoe tilt with his partner who just spoke, Dave Hughes.

In his first four years on the council, Dave put his energy into the nature program. He signed my nature merit badge for scouting. I recall assisting him during second rest stripping trees for the nature hut in 1958, which he built with just an axe and an auger. After completion, it was used for overnights to observe wildlife in the evening and early morning. I joined him on the first exploratory trip to find Nancy Pond, when we found that the maps had it in the wrong place. My camper year memories of Dave are most vivid from that trip, as I watched in awe this mountain man scale the headwall in his moccasins. Coming down was even more impressive!

In the 1960s, Dave transitioned from nature to lead the sailing program, while building up the Notchpost program, spending two weeks there each summer. Dave and Melinda were married in 1961 and honeymooned at Notchpost that June! From 1965 to 1968, Dave and Melinda lived at the Mary Lamb. One of those summers, they hired my girlfriend [and future wife], Linda, as a babysitter for their two-year-old son, Donald. Dave was purposely not on the council in the years when Donald was a camper. So it was exciting to break the news in 1980 to Dave and Melinda, who were staying in our cabin, that Donald had been named Most Faithful Boy, as Dave was twenty-five years earlier. After Donald’s camper years, Dave returned to take over the shop program, and we all know what happened after that.

Two themes emerged as I thought about Dave’s 60th anniversary at Pasquaney: The first is that things that Dave does get bigger. We had a premonition as he wrote in the 1959 Annual, “Like a cancerous growth, the Museum infiltrated the White Birch office to take over the entire building … improvements included an equipment room, drying rack containing six bins, meteorological instruments including a hygrometer, two barometers, a rain gauge, wind vane, and several other small additions.” We all know about the expansion of the shop program over the last thirty years. But we may not know that in his work as Professor of Media and Communications at Fitchburg State College his department was the biggest one when he retired, with over 400 students!
The other theme is his transition from his first thirty years in nature to the second thirty with the shop program. First we noticed that he was cutting down trees to build shop additions. Next there was wood storage taking over the museum. And finally, trees on the lane started disappearing as new lines went in to power the expanding shop program! It all had me wondering about what the nature program would be today if he hadn’t moved to the shop.

Dave has been a good friend, in the camp sense (not Facebook), for 57 of the past 60 years. Linda and I have been friends with Dave and Melinda for 46 of their 50 years of marriage. Their daughter, Cindy, babysat our kids. We have shared weddings -- ours, as well as our kids, Don, Cindy and Wendy. Many campers over the years thought that Melinda was my wife, since she was helping at the office each morning for the past twenty years. We enjoyed the confusion. We both have a love of travel and have shared some trips, including helping Melinda get to 400 birds on her North America life list last winter in Florida. Please join me in a heartfelt toast to Dave on his 60th anniversary at Pasquaney and to Dave and Melinda on their golden anniversary tomorrow.

**Dave Ryder**

A tribute by Vin Broderick

I did not know Dave and Melinda very well my first summer as a camper. Dave was a quiet counsellor, and I did not sail, his activity. There was usually a rush for the sailboats at the start of the activity period, but I was not in it. Melinda ran the Mary Lamb, which added to the mystery that surrounded them for me, but I did not go there much. Dave and Melinda were not at camp during the summers after 1968, and I first got to know them on their periodic visits and winter hikes, when Dave taught us about electrolyte replacement.

I began leading Notch Post trips about the time that Dave returned to do the same. At the start of my first Notch Post
1980: In June, Dave retires from Fitchburg; under his tenure the communications department becomes the largest in the school with 400 students; builds addition to the Nature Center.

1981: Dave returns to the council full time, takes over as head of the Shop.

1982-1984: Dave serves on the council with son, Don.

1983: Dave builds Bathhouse addition.

1984: Builds showerhouse and laundry addition.


1988: Melinda takes over camp store.


1994: Grandson, Peter, born on July 30th.

1995: Granddaughter, Anna, born October 8th.

1997: Construction of new wood storage building for the shop; granddaughter, Lindsay, born June 19th.


2000: In June, Dave retires from Fitchburg; under his tenure the communications department becomes the largest in the school with 400 students; builds addition to the Nature Center.

2006: Melinda becomes the first curator of the historical museum; she begins cataloging, sorting and scanning old photographs and records.

2007: Grandson, Peter, starts as a camper.

2008: Shop Porch built.

2009: Shop Porch built.

2010: Grandson, Max, starts as a camper; 60th anniversary of Dave’s first summer as a camper.

expedition as a counsellor, Dave and I walked to the Nancy Cascades while the boys and my fellow counsellors set up tents. He explained how to spot and repair water damage on the trail and what I should be looking for to prevent erosion in the future. That walk up the trail served as my foundation for years of trail work. When I was given the task of building new tent platforms at the Long Walk site, Dave showed me how to operate the portable saw mill so our group could mill the hemlocks and pines we felled for the construction.

Dave was nature counsellor, as well, before my tenure at Pasquaney. You can still see evidence of the nature influence in his shop work and his eagerness to teach boys the connection between the tree and the woodworking project. The nature influence also may be evident in Dave’s expansion of the shop program into the nature building, using it for wood storage. That eye for good trees and the expansion tendency manifested itself one day when I was walking to the Infirmary and encountered Dave, Mike and Alden Cadwell walking toward me carrying a long fresh-cut poplar log between them. I commented on what a good log it was and asked where they had found it. Dave said out at the end of Tree Talk Ridge, over the stone wall. “Oh,” I replied, “On the McLane’s property. The McLanes have always been wonderful neighbors.”

Dave’s careful inspection of the woods for useful trees echoes his careful inspection of the dorms as Inspection counsellor, a role which earned him the affectionate nickname, “The General” from one generation of counsellors, in part because they know it makes him uncomfortable. As we have mentioned already this weekend, Dave enlisted boys, counsellors, and alumni to build many of the structures on the camp property: the Nature Hut, the Bathhouse extension dedicated to Billy Hill, the shower house, the back wing on the shop, Centennial, the Wood Storage building, the renovation of the Nature Center, and, with Ted, the Porch on the Shop.

These construction projects had a special allure for the international campers. They were drawn to Dave’s patient
empathy. Here, with the clear task before them of putting up a building and with Dave’s uncluttered communication, the difference in language did not seem to matter. They knew their work was valued, and they felt known. Alumni have referred to the Shop as a sanctuary, a place of peace and comfort, despite all that racket and sawdust.

Dave has been a mentor to boys, counsellors, and directors. I appreciated his partnership in persuading Mr. Gem-John that Circles would be a good addition to Pasquaney, that we should carry water on hikes, and that we should eliminate Bug Juice and sugar cereals. Back in those days, we hiked without water and carried our lunch in a denim bag on our belts. We tied windbreakers and sweaters around our waist. After one council meeting in the 1980s, Dave asked me if I thought we were not teaching the boys the right lessons about hydration, especially as we stopped being able to drink out of streams. We talked with Gem-John about having the boys carry water on hikes. That change precipitated the need for daypacks to carry water bottles, and the denim lunch bags vanished. At supper, we used to eat Sugar Pops, Sugar Smacks, and Frosted Flakes to start the meal, often with mountains of sugar on top. Dave was influential in talking Gem-John into abandoning the sugar cereals and the sugar, probably the bug juice, too. [Editor’s note: here there was heavy booing and hissing.] I wanted this truth to get out there; the weekend cannot be all glory, Dave. [laughter]

When we were campers at Notch Post, Dave had a big impact on our diet. Gumbawaukee (sp.) – 3 ounces of chocolate, 3 ounces of raisins, and 3 ounces of peanuts – was our lunch each day. Some of his groups had a day of eating only what they found, mainly snakes and frogs.

At our gathering by the history museum, I mentioned that with Dave we got a great package deal. Melinda has for three decades now run the camp store, this well after her oversight of the Mary Lamb. On countless opening days she has distributed uniforms. And now, in addition, Melinda is our volunteer curator at the museum. After years waiting for Dave to return from the shop when he got absorbed in a problem or discussion long past his scheduled return to the Woodlot, their cabin on the lake, Dave now waits for Melinda to return when she gets absorbed by a museum project.

Thank You Cesar Collantes!

On behalf of the Pasquaney community we wish to thank Cesar Collantes for his tireless work as leader of the 2011 Alumni Reunion. “The Coordinator,” as his admirers call him, donated countless hours of his time and brought his planning expertise and experience from the 2006 Reunion. Cesar recruited and empowered a talented group of alumni to help with logistical tasks, and they removed much of the burden from the camp administration who could then keep the focus on the boys during the 2011 season. Cesar’s ability to see the big picture, keep track of the details, and communicate effectively was matched by his enthusiasm for camp, his genuine affection for other alumni, and his “Pasquaney spirit”.

Cesar lives in Centreville, Virginia with his wife, Caroline. The couple celebrated their 25th anniversary this fall. When not planning Pasquaney events, practicing his quoits toss, or daring his aide-de-camp, Michael Hanrahan, to take on his boss in a canoe tilt, Cesar works for the FAA in Washington, D.C. as a management analyst.

Cesar Collantes, “The Coordinator,” running down the schedule during the banquet in honor of Dave Ryder.
Her abundant service there has been a huge gift to Pasquaney. I have been very grateful for Melinda’s insights, perspective, and advice as an educator over the years.

In the same way, it is not just the activity that Dave runs, the construction projects or the woodworking, that carries power with the boys and counsellors, but also how he mentors us and passes his wisdom to others. So when Ted McCahan, the current shop head, calls me to the shop to explain why they need a new building or a new expensive piece of equipment, I know that Dave has passed Ted more than just the shop keys. Dave’s ideas have been very helpful to me in running council meeting. The adventure, the exploration, the work that Dave initiated at Notch Post continues to resonate in alumni long after their camp years, whether Dave was the counsellor or not.

When Mike Hanrahan asked alumni in finance a few years ago about the ways in which camp has had an enduring impact, the single activity that they mentioned most was their trail work expedition and the modeling of a counsellor there.

I asked Greg Carlson, a former camper now eighteen, who is here this weekend, how he would describe Dave. He said that Dave is honest and direct. He doesn’t sugar coat things. He is very helpful, open, and respectful of everyone. He treats you well, as an equal. As a result his leadership is powerful because other people respect him. He wants to help. You can see he enjoys helping people.

As we walk up the trail with Dave, we all learn from him and lean on him a lot. But notice, I am still very much using the present tense. As Drake’s Prayer says, “when we endeavor any great matter, it is not the beginning, but the continuing of the same until it be thoroughly finished that yieldeth the true glory.” There may be a lot of glory this weekend, and this has been a great opportunity to thank Dave for all that he has done, but we don’t consider Dave’s tenure at Pasquaney to be anything close to thoroughly finished. There is a lot of glory yet to come, and we expect him to stay around for a good, long time.

Above, center: Dave Ryder and Tom Oleson. At right, from top to bottom: Jared Smith calls alumni campers to a meal; Peter O’Reilly is congratulated after a home-run; Jimmy and Jack Hooker (rear boat) battle Dean and Blake Rice in the canoe tilt tournament; from left Jono Babbitt, Howie Baetjer, Tim Platt and Vin Broderick serenade Dave Ryder.
Mr. Vinnie: I want to start us off by introducing Peter Ryder who has just finished his sixteen-year-old summer at Pasquaney; his father, Donald, who was a camper and counsellor from ’75 to ’85; and then you know this guy [points to Dave Ryder]. But, Peter’s got the distinction of being the first camper-aged guy to ever give a Tree Talk. [laughter & applause]

Don: Thanks everyone. As part of alumni weekend, we thought it’d be interesting to speak about three camp experiences covering three generations of Ryders, three camp directors, and 60 years of camp history. We’re going to relate some personal anecdotes about our time on the hillside and share why those memories are important to us. For some of you, we might relate a shared memory and, for others, we might give you an insight into a period of camp that may be new to you. I think you’ll find it remarkable how camp has changed over time but remained aligned with its bedrock mission and values. First up is Peter, my son.

Peter: Thank you. I do not have many early memories of camp when I was a small boy, but the few I do have are incredibly strong. During this past summer I was constantly reminded of things I’d seen on previous visits to camp when I was much younger. I remember sitting in chapel with my wonderful grandparents, Dave and Melinda. I remember walking up to Mem Hall and having the biggest lunch of my life, with the biggest balls of ice cream and crushed-up Oreos that later became known to me as “moon rocks.” And I remember visiting the Shop on almost every occasion. [laughter]

Most of all, however, I remember seeing Dave in his fancy camp clothes, and I remember him introducing me during lunch. And I remember the applause that was given to me. Those are the fondest of my earlier memories. Seeing and hearing Dave introduce me to the camp gave me a sense of belonging that was only reinforced when I came to Camp as a camper. I do not consider myself an expert of camp when I was only eight years old, but these memories prepared me for my first summer on the hillside.

Even though the fundamentals have changed very little over the past 116 years, I felt very fortunate to be a part of some of the new traditions that have become part of Camp Pasquaney. Some of these traditions include the 16-year-old skit and the 16-year-old breakfast—which the younger boys have come to love—and these did not exist a mere ten years ago. When I brought home my blue Pasquaney lantern, I had to explain to my dad what it was and that every 16-year-old got one now, every year. One of the biggest physical changes to me has been the new Dana Porch, where I slept all summer, and that now sleeps eight instead of four. It has a view of the lake, instead of a wonderful view of the Wilson dorm roof. [laughter] As many sailors of this generation know, we are not allowed to step into a 420 while rigging it, because the boats are stored on a dock. Many years ago the boats had to be rigged while the boats were in the water. And on windy days, boys could be easily hurt by the boom smashing them in the face after raising up the mainsail. Even the 50-year-old crew shells were replaced this summer, after much deliberation from Mr. Vinnie and others.

There are many times during the day when we are able to reflect on the day to come and the day behind us. Rest is a perfect opportunity because everyone is quiet and there is a lot of time. Another great time to do this is during prayers. Prayers have not changed one bit since my father went to camp. We still recite the same morning and evening prayers, and we still say the Lord’s Prayer afterwards. However the best time I’ve found to reflect on camp is during Circles. During Circles we are able to think about and discuss the more important topics of Camp without the concern of being ignored or laughed at by others. Circles can either be funny or serious, but, no matter what they are, I always felt great walking away from them with thoughts on what I’ve done and what I’m going to do with my summer. You can probably tell it was shock to me when my dad told me that he did not have Circles as a camper. I can’t really see how this is possible, [laughter] because Circles have always been a place for me to discuss either times of pain or times of happiness.

This past camp season was truly my best season on the hillside, and I know my peers feel exactly the same way. I accomplished everything I wanted to on the hillside, and I had tons of fun doing it. At the same time, the values that Camp preaches year after year were reinforced in my mind, and I walked away from Camp feeling mentally better about myself, better than I ever have in my life. As this past summer was my last as a camper, I learned how truly special this place was. I now have a core set of values to live by and guide me for the rest of my life. Values such as loyalty, leadership, sportsmanship, honesty, and hard work, just to name a few, will always guide me down the right path. I have some of
the best friends I’ve ever had, and probably ever will have. These parts of Camp are the things that never change. The friendship, the rock-hard values, and the supportive community that is fostered here will never, ever change. [Applause]

Don: My first memory is a very clear picture in my mind of lying in my crib and looking at the roof beams above the Mary Lamb. [laughter] I remember splashing around the tiny little beach on the lake and playing in the woods with Bill Platt. I remember gatherings of big, towering people in the kitchen. I also remember what I think is my first sailing experience when my dad took me out in one of the camp boats and the passion, joy, and enthusiasm in his face. I think in your pre-teen years, you closely observe your parents so you can decide as a teenager what aspects to embrace and what aspects to discard. [laughter] And I think one brief moment for me kindled a love of sailing that I still have and which was passed on to Peter.

Remarkably, my earliest memories are completely bound within a 100-foot radius around the Mary Lamb. I have no recollection of upper camp or of meals at Mem Hall. In the 1960s, as my mom has said, Camp wasn’t completely family friendly. [laughter] In my time I’ve seen this change dramatically, which may be one reason why Vinnie has a luxury that not many camps have with so many experienced senior counsellors supporting him.

In the intervening years between the Mary Lamb and my first year as a camper, there was little camp talk at home beyond an occasional visitor or a short conversation at the dinner table. Perhaps my first camp experience was seeing the close friendships between my dad and his camper friends.

1975 was my first year as a camper and my first year as a camper and also Mr. Gem-John’s first year as director. I was a very shy 11-year-old, but, of course, the campers in the parking lot waiting to help me with my trunk were a great first impression. I’m not sure I said more than ten words that summer, but I was a sponge soaking up this new place. Even though I didn’t really speak, every single person made a point of making me feel a part of the community. I remember Peter Harvey, an older camper, inviting me to sit next to him during one of the waterfront picnics. This was an unremarkable action on his part that had a remarkable impact on a young boy. I’ve since been on the other side of that, having campers during my council years relate something unremarkable that I did that was important to them. I think that is part of Pasquaney’s secret sauce: a value system where something that would be remarkable elsewhere is simply commonplace here.

From that first year I remember the cannon blast, Gem-John’s unique laugh and penetrating eyes, Sunday tubs in the lake—when it always seemed to be cloudy and cold—Ted Church holding court of the Office porch, and Vinnie and Howie Baetjer’s leadership in Wilson and Jackson. In fact, many of us in Wilson in 1975 had such a great experience we decided to stay in Wilson for a second summer in 1976. [laughter] Tradition seemed important, so why not sleep in the same bunk for two years? My expedition was to Mayhew, where we were one of the last groups to play water baseball on the beach. Finally, I remember from 1975 opening the path between camp and the Stanwood Cottage, where Mr. Charlie was living, and Bumpson, not for the first or last time, showing up for a matter of pomp and circumstance. [laughter]

Over my remaining years as a camper and counsellor there were many constants. Gem-John always knew the Phillies and Red Sox scores at morning showers; Howie would open the screen in Mem Hall so he could see exactly what kind of wind was on the lake; and Kirk’s exuberance was so high that, sometimes, his table in Mem Hall would literally be vibrating. Meals were one of the most enjoyable times because of the sometimes intense
conversations. This is probably what were our Circles. These routines and experiences were powerful anchors for a growing teenager to rely upon as maturity came on. Even as I changed and as the world around me changed, Bubbles always sat in that seat at the Bathhouse, Gem-John and Asha were walking by the ball field at ten, and my friends and I lived by the phrase ‘What Would Vinnie Do?’ [laughter]

One unique memory for me is coming to camp two or three weeks early during my council years and working with Gordon Adams and Mason Westfall opening camp. I usually gave Hobbs Field its first mowing of the year. I tramped from hilltop to lake shore collecting downed limbs into enormous piles. Once a week, Mason and I would take the trash to the transfer station and tremble before the woman who inspected our clear trash bags and would make us open and sort them if she saw anything amiss. [laughter] And then one day, instead of wearing work clothes, I changed into a uniform and became part of the community. At that time I was working for some spending money at college, but, in hindsight, this was an extraordinary opportunity for me to get to know Nelson, Gordon, and the Adams family and see how critically important the Adams family is to the fabric of Pasquaney. That example of loyalty and continuity is not unnoticed by campers and reinforces in such a tangible way loyalty, friendship, and hard work.

My last year as a counsellor was in 1985. Home plate at Hobbs Field is where left field is now; tub was in the lake; there was a big box with a tiny orange screen called a computer in the Office; Cardigan was a trunk room, there were four bunks on Dana Porch; the COD let the fire phone ring three times and then listen; the fire truck—manned by Pasquaney counsellors—was in the barn across from Nelson’s house; Townley had just dumped a bucket of WD-40 on the Nature Center’s hinges and forced open the door; there were still cigars at the smoker; and I didn’t want to because at the Baptist camp if you violated any of the rules they would take you out to the flagpole which was in a field in the bright sun, and you had to take off your shirt, sitting with your back against the pole, and they would tie your hands behind the pole. And on an early tour of Pasquaney I had heard about the blacklist and the chain gang [laughter], so I had really pictured working on the side of a highway shoveling dirt. So I was not at all happy about coming to Pasquaney. But I came. And, the first person I saw on Dana Porch was Dave Reed. And he had such a warm smile; he welcomed me and showed me to my dorm. He really made me feel comfortable. I only had two sisters, and up to this point I had a bit of a speech problem, and I was just getting over stuttering. So I had been bullied and chased — and to live in a dorm with twenty other guys was frightening.

Well, it was quite different. I came in to an enabling environment. I hated baseball, I’d never touched a tennis racquet, never been in a canoe, couldn’t hike. Because whenever I ran or hiked I’d get a pain in my abdomen, so I was a little overweight when I came as a camper. Well, the camp doctor, Dr. Anderson, because of this pain, took me to Plymouth hospital and they x-rayed me. And they discovered that my appendix was twisted in half, so whenever I exercised it would pinch, so that was the cause of my pain. And I tell you, that turned my life around. I hated hiking, I couldn’t run, forget it! Give me a saw and a chisel — that was it. But Pasquaney unblocked that for me, Hughes, who was really active in the theater, knew I knew a little bit about electricity, so one day he asked me to go to the theater with him. Well then I could work in the control room with electronics, and I could help build frames and put this cotton cloth on them. You would mix up some hide glue and water and spread it, and it would tighten the cloth and that’s how we made sets. The hardest part was having to go on stage. But I did perform in Brown of Harvard, and I stood up against the back with an oar. That was my role! [laughter] But the friends that I formed have lasted a lifetime. And the teaching that occurred, what I learned was the importance of enablement. And career-wise, in higher education as the chairman of a department, that Pasquaney ideal of enabling others stood me in good stead.

And let me say this much, that I’ve lectured on four continents, but this has been the hardest talk I’ve ever given. [laughter and applause]
During the summer of 1912, my grandfather’s cousin, almost a sister to him because they grew up in the same household, took a summer trip to New Hampshire with her mother. Fran was a 26-year-old teacher. From where they stayed in a small farmhouse, Fran heard a commotion across the street and went to explore. She discovered the very beginning of a summer camp for girls, and Mrs. Hollister invited her to remain as a counsellor when the girls arrived. That began a warm association that lasted for 31 years, the last years as director.

On this celebration of Camp Onaway’s Centennial, I feel a deep sense of gratitude: Gratitude to my cousin Fran for first linking our family to Onaway and introducing it to my mother and my sister; To my sister Kathy, who, after hearing Mr. Charlie speak at Onaway Chapel, encouraged me to go to Pasquaney because she thought it would be a good match; To Carol Southall and Anne Conolly, for their strong friendship and support to me and to my colleagues Bob Bengtson and Sam Punderson at Mowglis. That tradition of partnership between directors was particularly strong when Pasquanaway’s director, Charlie Stanwood, married Onaway’s director, Ellie Buell.

Not long after I became director of Pasquaney, Carol and I organized a gathering of Pasquaney and Onaway counsellors one April weekend to talk about what we do. In addition to triggering a lot of ideas, that discussion further confirmed that Onaway and Pasquaney share the same values, though we have our own rituals and traditions to teach them – for example, we sing, but we don’t sing as much as you do.

Other camps for boys have felt pressure to start their own camps for girls. We have never had to worry about that because when someone asks, we can reply that we already have a sister camp a half-mile up the road that pursues the same ideals we do.

Communication between our camps and the partnership of our councils has steadily strengthened. You never know when it will be needed, for example, when we have to switch all the Pasquaney boys to Onaway and all the Onaway girls to Pasquaney without seeing each other. And while I am on the subject, I am not sure I ever formally thanked you for feeding our boys breakfast that morning. We had plenty of food left over, and I understand that you all ran out very quickly.

And speaking of partnership, our senior counsellor met his wife at Onaway, and there have been many Pasquanaway weddings. A bunch of those couples are here tonight: Ouisie Freeman and Bob Bulkeley, Blakely Brown and Rick Crevoiserat, Caroline Mabon and Alden Cadwell, Kathy Sanford and Eric Bonnet-Eymard, Anne Legg and Doug Reigeluth, Barry Pendergast and Tom Stambaugh, and I am not sure if Iris and Jack Bolton are here, but I know plenty of relatives are. [Speaker’s note: when I returned to my table after speaking, I found tablemates Carol Southall and Alison and John Curtis looking at me, and instantly realized that I had neglected to include them on my list.]
by Dick Beyer

Over sixty New Hampshire environmental leaders gathered at Eastbourne Place on August 21st to hear Helen Gemmill announce a tremendous gift to conserve land in the Newfound Watershed and to honor her father, longtime Director John Gemmill. Those present included directors of seven non-profit organizations, Vinnie Broderick (Pasquaney), Anne Conolly (Onaway), Jane Difley (Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests), Mike Bartlett (New Hampshire Audubon), Don Berry (Lakes Region Conservation Trust), Boyd Smith (Newfound Lake Region Association), and Roger Larochelle (Squam Lakes Conservation Society), as well as fifteen trustees from those conservation organizations and the hard-working members of the Newfound Land Conservation Partnership.

Vin Broderick welcomed the crowd to Pasquaney, talked about Mr. Gem-John briefly, and introduced Helen. The following are excerpts from Helen's remarks:

It is so fitting to be at Eastbourne today to make this special announcement in honor of my father, who called this home for decades, and where I was born and baptized and raised. I know he is smiling down on us all now...

There are no words that could do justice to the debt of gratitude I owe to Dick Beyer and Vinnie Broderick, who have helped me shape this fund. I simply could not have done it without their thoughtful reflections on my father, their quiet inquiries to folks here on my behalf to help illuminate the best ways to frame the gift, and their steadfast commitment to what would best honor my father...

My father was raised on a farm in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and spent summers here on this hillside at Camp Pasquaney. Throughout his upbringing and education, it was here that he returned every summer, and those formative experiences here developed into a lifelong devotion to this place in general, and to environmental issues and conservation in particular. As a young adult fresh out of graduate school, he moved to New Hampshire full-time and embarked upon a career of civic engagement and service that would last to the end of his living days.

As an educator, he instilled a sense of reverence for this place into all the young minds under his charge, and, as a legislator, he fought to ensure that access to clean water and pristine landscapes would be a birthright for all those who experience New Hampshire. He also raised me to love this place, and with a fervent environmental ethic. I remember countless days as a child walking through these hillsides with my father, playing in the streams; delighting at finding the rare (and in my child’s eye, magical) lady slipper; eagerly awaiting the first strawberries in spring and finding the best wild spots for them; betting on when ‘ice-out’ would occur each year; jumping in the lake as early as possible in the springtime; taking water samples to help with the local water quality effort; counting loons on the lake; and roaming aimlessly and endlessly through the hills with our dogs…
Land in Conservation and Land Owned by Camps in the Newfound Watershed, September 2011

11. J. Tyson Stokes Memorial Forest
12. Bear Mountain
13. Green Acre Woodlands
14. Ash Cottage
15. New Hampshire Audubon
16. Camp Mowglis
17. Camp Onaway
18. Camp Pasquaney
My father directed Camp Pasquaney for 23 years, and served on dozens of boards around the state during that time. He also served in the State Legislature in his 20s and 30s, and was Chair of the House Education Committee. The central and unifying theme of his work was environmental conservation and education.

Which brings us to the gift today. My father’s parents established a charitable foundation in 1961 and ran it from their farm in Bucks County. Their four children became involved as they grew into adulthood, and, tragically, over the course of the 1990s, my grandparents and three of their children passed away, my father included. My capable and accomplished Aunt Betsy took the reigns of the foundation, and guided it to support causes that were close to her parents’ hearts. In recent years, Betsy, along with my cousins and I, decided to spend down the foundation, and to donate that beloved farm in Bucks County to an agricultural college where my grandfather had been deeply involved for years…But there was one last mission for the foundation, an opportunity to honor our beloved family who made such bright marks on the world and who have passed away: the crafting of memorial gifts for my Aunt Kitty, my Uncle Bill, and my father. As an only child, I was entrusted with determining how to allocate an appropriate memorial gift for my father.

My thoughts quickly turned to New Hampshire and to the Newfound Watershed. My initial conversations with Dick and Vinnie on the topic of how to structure such a gift centered around the themes of conservation, leverage, long-lasting impact, collaboration, empowerment and education…This gift will be two-pronged:

1. It will focus on education, outreach and fund development of existing efforts. It will create and fund staff time to coordinate land conservation efforts in the Newfound watershed.

2. It will incentivize land protection: It will create a transaction fund to ‘grease the wheels’ of land conservation for landowners to put easements on their land. This fund will help cover costs such as surveys, appraisals, stewardship, and legal fees associated with land protection, as these often arise as deterrents for those considering conservation…The fund total will be $750,000.

I hope that this fund will be a good friend to this lake and these hills… And I hope that it will help many generations make the link between human well-being and the natural environment.

I want to close with an excerpt from a talk my father delivered in 1977, the year I was born, here in the Camp Pasquaney chapel. The topic is loyalty, and you will hear in his words his commitment to service, and above all his keen hope that others would find great solace and inspiration in...
The Lakes Region Conservation Trust is a member-supported, community-based, non-profit organization. The Trust unites private philanthropy with voluntary community service to protect key conservation properties and to endow their stewardship in perpetuity. Since 1995, the Trust has protected more than 16,500 acres of conservation land, bringing its total protected properties to more than 18,500 acres, including more than 22 miles of protected shore frontage on the region’s lakes, ponds, rivers and streams. During this period, the Trust has raised more than $25,000,000 in donated assets. In most cases, the Trust seeks to secure the conservation, study, and recreational use of its lands through direct ownership, the oldest and most established form of property holding. The Trust responds to local conservation and recreation priorities by protecting properties that have clear conservation value and demonstrated community support.

The Newfound Land Conservation Partnership was founded in 2009 to establish a local resource center for landowner and community education about conservation options in the Newfound region. The Partnership came about as a result of efforts led by the Newfound Lake Region Association with the involvement of representatives of camps, local conservation commissions, regional land trusts, and others interested in preserving treasured open lands.

The NLCP is made up of three principal partners. The NLRA, whose Land and Watershed Committee serves as a local resource for landowners interested in learning more about conservation; the Lakes Region Conservation Trust (LRCT); and the Society for the Protection of NH Forests (Forest Society) provide their expertise to carry out land conservation transactions and hold easements. All three organizations have mission-driven interests in conserving land and water resource in the Newfound region.

Dick Beyer spoke next, as a longtime friend and colleague of John Gemmill, about John’s work in conservation saying, “His example was a strong influence in my involvement in non-profit work, particularly with conservation organizations.” He also spoke about what this gift will do for the Newfound Lake watershed:

Great things have been happening here in the past decade: The Newfound Lake Region Association (NLRA) has recently completed a Newfound Watershed Master Plan, which is now in the implementation phase. The Forest Society has done significant land protection work in our watershed, especially on the west side of the lake with their Quabbin to Cardigan Initiative. The Lakes Region Conservation Trust (LRCT) is currently working on a number of projects in the watershed, some of which will be completed this year.

About two years ago, Martha Twombly, then Program Director of the NLRA and now working for the Forest Society in development, called several meetings of conservation-minded folks in the Newfound area to talk about forming a land trust for our watershed. Successful land trusts have existed on Squam and Sunapee for many years. What came out of those meetings was a group of about 15 dedicated people who have been meeting monthly and working with landowners in the watershed. We decided that, rather than...
starting a new land trust organization, we would form a partnership with three organizations: The Newfound Lake Region Assn., the Forest Society, and the Lake Region Conservation Trust. We are an advisory group which is working on building relationships with landowners and educating them on conservation options. When projects are ready to be formalized, we hand the work over to a land trust, probably either LRCT or the Forest Society, but not limited to those two partners. Audubon, the Nature Conservancy, New England Forestry Foundation -- any group operating in the Newfound watershed may eventually do projects here. We call our committee the Newfound Land Conservation Partnership…

Helen’s remarkable gift honoring her father and my lifelong friend could not have come along at a more opportune time. Our land partnership is working on one project of 150 acres which we hope to announce next month; another three projects totaling 462 acres should be completed by year-end. In the pipeline, hopefully for 2012, are another three projects totaling 1,270 acres. In early discussion are 7 more projects totaling over 1,100 acres. If all these projects are successful (14 in all), we could potentially protect over 3,000 acres in the watershed in the years just ahead.

So “thank you” hardly seems adequate, but I have been saying it many times a day for months as Helen and Vinnie and I have been working together on this wonderful gift. The timing is perfect; the information we need to set priorities is all in place. And, as an old environmental friend used to say instead of “good-bye” on the phone -- ‘Off we go!’

To update the figures cited at the August announcement party, as of mid-November it is clear that we will complete five new easements in the Newfound watershed totaling over 800 acres before 2011 draws to a close. One of them is a roughly 130 acre piece abutting Pasquaney to the north which is being protected by alumnus Lawrence Caperton and his family. Helen has recently chosen the Lakes Region Conservation Trust as the fiscal agent for what was just named the John Gemmill Newfound Fund.

This fund is already helping to make these projects happen this year. One landowner decided to donate an over 500-acre easement after hearing this new fund could help with the transaction costs.

The John Gemmill Newfound Fund

Above, from left to right: Betsy Gemmill, Helen Gemmill and Priscilla Gemmill at the Gemmill Lodge dedication in 2005; Helen Gemmill on Hobbs Field in 1981; John Gemmill reading from At Good Old Siwash during a campfire in 1989.

If you would like to follow Helen Gemmill’s leadership, and help conserve land in the Newfound watershed, you can make a donation to the Lakes Region Conservation Trust, P. O Box 766, Center Harbor, NH 03226. Please add a note that it is for the John Gemmill Newfound Fund. This fund makes grants to assist with transaction costs (appraisals, surveys, stewardship, and legal costs), and staff time to conserve land in the Newfound Watershed. Any amounts needed to purchase conservation land will be raised separately on a project-by-project basis.
Alumni News

Alumni notes are listed under the decade in which the majority of their camper years fall. If camper years are evenly split in two decades, they are listed in the decade in which the alumnus was an older camper.

The 1920s and 1930s

It was good to have Loosh Biglow back on the hillside with his son Luke in October, when the leaves were at their peak. He had questions about people who were here with him and recalled a lot of singing, especially Sunday evening hymn sings and quartets with Nick Bolton.

David deLaine Black passed away in January 2011.

Captain Richard W. Hyde died in July. He began his career in the military in 1941 when he was commissioned in the Navy. During World War II he was part of the amphibious campaigns in North Africa and Italy and took part in the amphibious assaults on Kwajalein, Leyte, and Okinawa. Following the war he entered the Regular Navy as a Lieutenant Commander and served on staff with Carrier Task Forces in the Mediterranean. He also commanded a communications station in London and later oversaw communications for the Pacific Fleet during the Vietnam War. His final assignments before retiring in 1972 were as the Commanding Officer of the Boston Naval Station and the Naval Station, Newport, RI. He earned numerous awards during his career. Following his years of service he helped found the Mountain Valley Medical Clinic in Londonderry, Vermont, and volunteered at Ormond Memorial Hospital.

Lester Hoyt Watson died in October. He graduated from Noble and Greenough School in 1935 and Harvard College in 1940, where he was a member of the Owl Club, DKE and Naval R.O.T.C. He served in the Navy during World War II, commanding several submarines. Following the war he worked for Pan American Airways, Smith, Kline & French Laboratories, and later Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution until his retirement in 1985. While there was no sailing at camp during his years at Pasquaney, his obituary indicates he would have been a strong member of the PYC due to his love for introducing young people to the joys of sailing.

Edward Richardson passed away in November 2010.

The 1940s and 1950s

Dick Beyer writes, “After serving 24 years as a Mayhew trustee, I’ve decided to step down and devote more time to the growing land conservation work going on at Newfound. Mayhew is a wonderful organization with a terrific staff and strong board, doing great work with NH boys, so it is hard to leave their board, but probably way over time to do so. I have just agreed to join the Lakes Region Advisory Board of the NH Charitable Foundation, which assists the statewide group in choosing among the many deserving grant requests. Linda and I took a trip to Holland and Belgium this fall where we enjoyed dinners with several Pasquaney folks: Chris and Kristyna Caperton in Amsterdam, Axel Bohlke and Sylvain and...”
Donat Willenz’s parents (Philippe and Myriam) in Brussels.”

William S. Clark passed away in November 2010.

Richard Flender died in October at the age of 82. Dick served on the council and, after graduating from Yale in 1952, he served in U.S. Air Force. He earned his law degree in 1957 from the University of Virginia and briefly practiced law before becoming at banker at JP Morgan for the next 35 years.

Bruce Leavitt died in October 2009. After graduating from Harvard, he earned his law degree from the University of Michigan Law School and went on to work for the Santa Rosa City Attorney’s Office for 31 years.

Jack Spaeth retired from his work with the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut after 32 years working there.

Derwin Stevens lives in Cornwall, New York, just west of Middlebury, where he teaches part-time. He spent most of his career teaching physics at the State University of New York (SUNY), Ulster Campus.

Henry DuPont was recently appointed the new Head of COWI Wind North America. He has over thirty years of experience within the U.S. wind industry.

Steve Powers and his wife came by camp to look at the history museum in September. The grandson of Pa Lillard, Steve gave copies of Pa’s autobiographical writings to Melinda Ryder this summer as well as pieces Pa wrote about Rod Beebe, who worked for him at Tabor Academy for many years when Pa was headmaster.

John Edmund Slater died last September. Many alumni from
the 1960s will remember his tennis clinics on Court 1. Away from Pasquaney, John was president of the U.S. Court Tennis Association from 1971 to 1988, and was inducted into their Hall of Fame in 2008. After serving in World War II where he fought in the Battle of the Bulge, John worked for McGraw Hill until he retired as Senior Vice President of the Energy Information Services Group in 1995. **Giff Slater** writes of his father, “He was very remarkable and gave both my brother and myself Camp Pasquaney to be nurtured with values of integrity, honesty, kindness and trust. I owe my experience at Camp Pasquaney to my father who knew real men would make me into a real person. I live his values and Pasquaney’s values every single day.” **Nathanael Slater** writes, “It was always meaningful for [my father] that he was able to spend time at Pasquaney teaching tennis. He talked often of that experience during the last year of his life. He often mentioned that Pasquaney was just the place he wished he could’ve been part of as a child. He was a faithful boy, and I now see men and women just like that, wherever I go, in time. The Birch Porch tennis ball picture [shown on the following page] is from a book, coming into completion, *Abc Dadb*. The heart of it is the girls [his daughters] exploring the hillside when we spent some summers there (my ex, their mom, was a camp physician under John Gemmill and then Vinnie). Art can only go as far and as deep as love; Gil Bovaird produced art which, I believe, expresses the essence of the Pasquaney spirit in a way which can be enjoyed together with others. Well, the idea came along that the early reader, the abc, could be more - and for fathers and daughters, and something like The Long Walk - as full of life exploring paths whether on the trails or back home at camp. It is Long Walk Redux. The *Abc Dadb* blog used for discussions with agents is http://earlyreadersnathanael.blogspot.com/2011/09/abc-dadb-color-studies-post-in-pre-wc.html

I teach secondary math and sciences in San Antonio area public schools, largely through the grace of being a Special Programs Teacher Faculty at UTSA. I also work as a sous chef at a restaurant in Boerne.

Rowing crew began at Pasquaney, continued at Middlesex School (fours with 3rd at Quinsigamond), and then on to Cornell where my eight placed fourth at The Head of the Charles. Two other members of the team had seats in the Montreal Olympic eight. ‘The fitness of that experience alone gave me the capacity, still present, to be a good cog who enjoys life and people, and believes the best is yet to be!’

**The 1970s**

In mid-November **Sam Bemiss** had the pleasure of a week-long visit from Mr. Vinnie, who was in town to tend to the Richmond contingent of the Pasquaney flock, and to attend the centennial-year leadership symposium at St. Christopher’s School. Sam writes,

*Below: first-year counsellor Chip Carpenter helping to serve a meal in Mem Hall to Doug Reigeluth (at left) and Neal Cory (at right).*

Gregg Stone writes, “It appears that my three children have completed their camper and council years on Newfound Lake, but I enjoy returning as a continuing Trustee. I am investing in small businesses, primarily in healthcare, and happily spend time on the water coaching Belmont Hill crews as well as my daughter, Gervie, who has Olympic aspirations. I am also active with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston as well as other charities.”

After retiring from the Navy in 2005, **William Wildrick** spent 5 1/2 years as a Resident Senior Fellow at the Joint Special Operations University in Florida, representing the Navy Seal community. He has now semi-retired in California.
“Having Mr. Vinnie as one’s guest in Richmond is not at all unlike having a visit from the Mayor or from some very popular celebrity, as virtually everyone in town knows him, remembers him fondly, and wants to stop him and reminisce at length. It was no surprise that the boys (Willy, Sam, Jeb and Eli) were delighted to see Mr. Vinnie but, as it turned out, the girls (Elsie, Charlotte, Rosie and Kona), too, were quite pleased with his visit. Elsie, Rosie and Kona were particularly glad to have such a compatible companion to join them on their long morning hikes, and Charlotte was surprised and fascinated to observe an example of a male who conducts himself consistently as a gentleman. She had apparently not theretofore believed that this was possible.

“The leadership symposium treated 3,200 people from throughout the Central Virginia region (and from as far away as Hebron, New Hampshire!) to talks by such inspirational leaders as General Colin Powell, the remarkable Chinese Ballet Dancer, Li Cunxin (a.k.a. Mao’s Last Dancer); global water pioneer Doc Headley; Rhodes Scholar and humanitarian, Wes Moore (The Other Wes Moore); and record-setting eco-adventurer, Robyn Benincasa.

“A week later, the Bemisses (numbering, with one friend, seven people and two dogs) drove in one car to Elsie’s parents’ home in South Londonderry, Vermont, for Thanksgiving. Though this location put us out of physical, but not electronic, reach of the Hanrahans’ Turkey Bowl South, it put us within easy reach of the McNierney’s beautiful and venerable home in Groton, Massachusetts, where Willy and Sam had the privilege of joining a large and eclectic Pasquaney crowd at a splendid Turkey Bowl North.

“Now safely back in Richmond, the Bemisses are enjoying a busy fall and getting ready for the Christmas holidays, which we hope will be a merry time for the whole Pasquaney flock.”

Cesar Collantes joined the Midnight Run Team this fall, the annual Pasquaney college football jubilee. “We met at the U.S. Naval Academy and watched USNA defeat Troy. Great time with some alumni who were campers in the early 1980s when I was a counsellor. Great seeing Nate Carmody, Peter O’Reilly, Eric Bonnet-Eymard, Alex Southall, Jay West, and Brandon Neblett All in all it was a good outing! Alex Southall, the event organizer, has already planned the next one: October 6, 2012 in Tuscaloosa, Alabama for the ALABAMA -vs- GEORGIA game. Could be another ‘Alabama Jubilee!’” Mark your calendars early!

Neil Freebern is living in Vermont with his wife and their ten year-old daughter. He has his masters degree in education and has been teaching music for over twenty years at both the high school and college level. As a teacher, administrator and musician he has won numerous awards from local communities, music festivals and colleges. Currently, he is the Performing Arts Chair at Burr and Burton Academy of Music. His early talent at the trumpet translated into playing the bugle during his camper years. He writes about camp, “What you are doing is so very important for the lives of young boys. It seems that many Pasquaney campers become teachers... wonder why that is?”

Matt Harris is working as a software engineer at Google.

Ralph Ludington wrote to the office after reading about the rebuilding of the Nancy Pond gunge bars in the last issue of the
White Birch. “I was one of those fortunate campers who was involved in building that trail forty years ago. It was such fun — a direction was picked and we just went on an organized rampage knocking down everything in our path. I remember we created those gunge bars whenever we hit a swampy area. I understand the current necessity of conservation and why the wood for the gunge bars needs to be brought in, but doing it the way we did back then was much more fun. We wandered off the trail and found and cut down those trees, cut away all the branches, and then peeled off the bark. The bark came off pretty easily, and the trees then looked like huge straight bananas, and they were slippery and hard to carry. Rather than splitting the log down the middle, we would lay the log down and put notches near each end for the supporting logs. Then we would roll it over and a counsellor would cut numerous notches in the log along its length with a chain saw. We would then use pickaxes to break off those pieces, which would create a rough surface great for keeping a firm footing for others to hike. I remember working on sections of the trail extremely similar to the original one pictured because it still shows the various left over small chunks of wood laying on the ground on each side of the log as we left them. I wonder if the new ones are slippery on the walking surface which appears smoother than it should be. We got to be such a muddy mess, that at one point after a camper’s boot came off, he no longer cared and just started dancing in the mud. We all joined in dancing and ended up slinging mud at each other, it was a dirty sloppy mess, and we had a ball!”

Kirk and Sharon Phelps are pleased to announce the birth of Forest Cord (P23) on Father’s Day (June 19, 2011). He arrived just in time for the opening of P11 and thoroughly enjoyed this summer’s chapels, meals, and skits (one of which highlighted him as the grandson of Zeus)! In addition, Choco-dog had a blast in his first
The 1980s

In early August Al Bocock, his wife, Amy, and their four children moved to Annecy, France, for a year. “The ostensible reason was to learn French, but we also wanted a change from our normal routine in Salt Lake City - to get out of our comfort zone. We’re coming along slowly with the first goal and have succeeded wildly with the second goal. It has been a great experience, but that’s not to say we have loved every minute of it. Many days start off with tears as the kids head off to their French schools (without having taken French before we arrived). Amy has a new running companion who is several levels below her Salt Lake running partners. And the European debt crisis and market volatility have taken me well away from my comfort zone. All that said, life here seems to be getting easier. The kids’ French is coming along and their ski season with the Annecy ski team is about to kick into high gear. My French is also coming along, but at a slower pace than Amy’s. One highlight of our trip was a weekend in Paris with the Brent Powells, complete with an overly physical Powells vs. Bococks soccer game in the Luxembourg Gardens. After

Paris, we drove up to Normandy where I had another Pasquaney experience. In the Bayeux Cathedral is a stained glass window, donated by the D-Day Association, with Drake’s Prayer, ‘...Grant Us Also To Know That It Is Not the Beginning / But The Continuing Of The Same Until It Be Thoroughly Finished / Which Yieldith The True Glory.’ We have much French to learn, and many croissants to eat, before this adventure is thoroughly finished.”

Cameron Dewey and his wife welcomed newborn Rafe Paulsson Dewey to the world last January. Cameron writes, “Miraculously, he has survived his first year unscathed by the overwhelming love and affection from his two older sisters Naemi (5) and Vivienne (4)! I’m hoping the experience will toughen him up for his career on the Hillside! After close to 15 years working as a stock broker for major financial institutions I decided to set up my own advisory firm earlier this year. It’s been a great challenge and loads of fun with all the ups and downs you would expect from being an entrepreneur! If there are any Pasquaney alumni out there passing through the Zurich region, please do look me up!”

Brian Dunlap writes, “We have a sort of 70’s-80’s reunion going now [at camp], quite by accident. Anna (my oldest daughter) was in a cabin group [at Onaway] with Kurt McCandless’s and Jim Bolton’s older daughters. Jack Bocock and Chris Granger, Neil Russakoff, Art Woolverton, Bill Mathai and Don Ryder, the Crevoiserats, Tad Davies—there are a lot of familiar faces on opening and closing weekend!”

Peter Harvey writes, “I am in Reno, Nevada, happily living in the wild west—paddling, hiking, and climbing as much as possible, and making a living working for Patagonia. Gave up on a real job ten years ago and happy to be living large in the biggest little city. Guess not all that far from the Phelps’ homestead out in Lovelock which is maybe 90 miles east of us. Life is very simple and clean. No kids but a girlfriend in my life; never had the urge to marry so we have not. But it’s been more than twelve years now so I suppose we are kind of married and happily so.”

Jon Meredith writes, “We have spent the fall settling into our new lives in Durham, North Carolina. It has been a great change for all of us. I am the Middle School Director at Durham Academy. It is an exciting and challenging job where I rely on lessons I learned at Pasquaney every day. My

summer on the hillside.

Elliott Smith is now living in Calgary. After picking up his daughter from a camp in Vermont he stopped by Pasquaney this past summer for a brief visit. He commented, “We toured the waterfront, tennis courts and baseball field, up to Jacob’s Ladder, the chapel and tree talk ridge. Everything looked great; updated or newer in some respects, still the same in the important respects.”

At right, Davis Tyler slides home in 1987. Looking on is the team captain, Vance Dubuclet. The next year the baseball field was rebuilt and home base moved to its current location.

Above: Barkdile Maynard and his three children. From left, Spencer, Elizabeth (born in March) and Alexander.
First off, I should note that my brothers and I had the privilege to join Pasquaney and share in this unique experience thanks to Charlie Platt. I am not sure if many of you know, but Charlie served as a “Big Brother” to my older brothers when our mother got us involved in the program after our father passed away in 1981. As you all know, Charlie was a special person and definitely a Pasquaney Legend. We lived in Fairfax, Virginia, and the trip up to New England was a good fit.

I started attending Pasquaney in 1984 where I was the second to youngest camper, with a July birthday. I still remember the ginger ale, cake and ice cream at Eastbourne. I was a camper until 1989. During this time, I learned so many lessons at Pasquaney and was given so many great memories. My first lesson was how to shake someone’s hand and look them in the eye to introduce myself. My first summer I was a shy kid and learned quickly that this is the first thing we do when we meet a fellow Pasquaney camper or alumnus. Definitely a trait that has given me much confidence over the years. I am sure many would agree with me.

Many people recall my older brothers Tim and Galen. My siblings were surprised that I was putting in so much time in recent years up at the hillside as Michael Hanrahan 2.0. Upon realizing there was another Mike Hanrahan, I received many jokes and ribbings as my brothers let me know that I was a counsellor, assistant director, got married, had another daughter, and so on and so on. But this is definitely one of those great coincidences in life, and I am glad I had the chance to meet him this summer and get to know him a little more.

Today I reside in St. Louis, Missouri. We relocated here in 1986, and I have lived here ever since. After graduating from the University of Missouri, I returned to St. Louis and entered into a sales executive position in the Telecom Industry. I have been in sales for the last seventeen years and enjoy it a lot as every day is different. Not to mention I get to sell and play with VoIP and other interesting technology. I work with medium to large businesses to deploy communications and network solutions to save money and grow their business.

Now a little about my family. I met my wife Heather thirteen years ago. We have been happily married for nine years and live here in the St. Louis metro area about ten minutes from the famous Arch. My wife is a life-long St. Louisan. We have two children. Our daughter, Ellie, is six-and-a-half years old and our son, Bixby, just turned four and is slated to start camp the summer of 2020.

Things are great here in the Midwest; and my friends, family and colleagues just celebrated the amazing playoff run and World Series 2011 victory for the St. Louis Cardinals. I enjoy trout fishing here in the area as we have some of the best trophy trout fishing in the country.

It was so refreshing to visit the camp this summer at the reunion and reconnect with everyone. It was amazing that we could see each other and pick up where we left off just like old times. As we all know, Pasquaney is a wonderful place and has been a great experience that has positively impacted us in the best ways imaginable.

I look forward to seeing all of you again in the upcoming years. And as always, if any current or past campers are in the area, please look me up. I would be glad to show you around town.

Michael Hanrahan

I joined Pasquaney in 2000 as a counsellor having never been a camper. In fact, I used to mercilessly tease my best friend, Owen Fink, for wasting his time going to “some strange camp in New Hampshire” rather than spending his high-school summers in our two-man band. Today, I could not be more thankful that Owen brought me to Pasquaney, and after eleven seasons the experience continues to be deeply rewarding and enriching. Seldom do we encounter a community where, to paraphrase Mr. Charlie, the pursuit of our best selves is in no way incompatible with pure fun and lasting friendships.

While sitting at Table 2 in Mem Hall during the 2000 season a camper asked me, “Mike, I thought you weren’t a camper?” When I responded that he was correct, he pointed above us and said, “Then why are you on the 1984 Canoe Race plaque?” That was the first of many Mike Hanrahan confusions. Returning alumni from the 1980s have often looked at me quizzically after an introduction and wondered aloud how I became six inches shorter than they remember. Of course, I could not have asked for a better person to be associated with after meeting Mike for the first time this summer in a universe-shaking moment. Carrying on the Mike Hanrahan legacy is often a challenge, especially on Hobbs Field where his nickname, Grandslamrahan, has proven decisively elusive!

Inspired by my early council years, I started teaching grade school in the early 2000s before joining Pasquaney full-time in the fall of 2005. I live with my wife, Aimee Wadeson, and our daughter, Adelaide, in Kensington, Maryland, and I commute to the hillside for a week out of each month in the winter. We are expecting a boy in February and could not be more excited for the 2024 season when Bixby Hanrahan can show him the ropes.

Michael Hanrahan
The 1990s

Jesse Allen is working on scripts and films at night in New York City while he works as an assistant Editor during the day at Moondog Edit in Midtown. Several years ago he was a finalist in the IFP Film Week for his script on Hiroo Onoda, the Japanese soldier who thought World War II was going on for 30 years while on a Philippine island from 1944-1974. “My recent script is about New Hampshire rum runners and has gotten into the higher rounds of the Austin Film Festival and Sundance Script lab - but still waiting to see how far it will go … My wife, Manja, and I will be traveling over the holidays to visit Jon and his boat in Thailand. Jon, I should mention, finally has a date to get married to his fiance of 3+ years, the lovely Swede, Jenny Thomander. They’re getting hitched on September 1st, 2012, in Mallorca, Spain. In other news, I just ran into a fully-bearded Gordon Holmes last month, who recognized me at a gathering in honor of my first boss here in New York City. He works in film as well and is excited to get the chance to meet up with me, Joe Dillingham, and Robbie Caruso. We talked for about an hour and had one of those odd ‘it’s a small world after all’ moments when we realized how many mutual people we knew outside of camp. A great addition to the Pasquaney in New York City legion.”

Anders Bohlke welcomed his son, Isidor, to the world last April. He is currently working as the Coordinateur académique - Executive Master Immobilier at the Louvain School of Management in Brussels.

Brent Powell took a year off from the Derryfield School to live in Scotland with his family. “We are having a great year so far. We’ve been in Edinburgh since September 1st and that’s been great in many ways. Having the kids in school here has been fascinating and Wendy had really gotten to focus on her art in a way she never has before. We are heading north to Loch Ness and the highlands tomorrow and then will be here through Christmas.”

West Riggs was surprised to discover that an upstairs neighbor in his building in Hong Kong, Sammy Malhotra, would be attending Pasquaney last summer. The Malhotras later took a trip to Lenk, Switzerland, to visit Vikram Saini’s sister at the Winter Term and ran into more Pasquanians in Lyons George, Chuck Platt and the Harvey family.

Bill Sanford wrote this summer, “Katie and I are doing well down here in Durham. Katie’s actually finishing her first semester teaching first year Duke PT students and is a welcoming a well-deserved break. Ironically, one of her students rowed with Nate Carmody and me at UVA - small world. In the meantime, I continue to work on the Heart Failure service at Duke hospital. We’ve been a little short-handed recently which has made for some long days, but all-in-all I’ve been managing to survive. I see Forest Granger on the wards every once in a while. And when I bump into Magnus Ohman, he always smiles as he thinks about the fun his son [current camper Henry Ohman] is having up on the hillside. It’s been too long since I’ve last visited Camp, and I’m hopeful that 2012 will be a time when Katie and I can visit again.”

Roger Young writes, “Things are chugging along here in Richmond. My wife and I love the area and take as many walks along the James as possible.”
working in renewable energy development, and it’s looking like we’ll build two utility scale solar plants in Arizona this year… a project a long time in the making.”

Jameson Case is pursuing a graduate degree at Loyola University in Chicago.

Kevin Cattrell writes, “I’ve been teaching English at Gann Academy in Waltham, Massachusetts, this semester and playing some rec-league ultimate with the kids, which reminds me of Sunday afternoons on Hobbs Field. In September, I defended my dissertation on psalm singing in colonial New England at Rutgers. My first ever experience of the ritual I was researching was in the Pasquaney chapel. One summer in the 1990s, Townley Chisholm organized a harmonized rendition of Psalm 121 (‘I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills’; a psalm I automatically hear in Mr. Gem-John’s voice). Teaching — or ‘learning,’ as Dave Ryder rightly calls it — has been fabulous. I have been learning a ton. Gann is a wonderful, supportive place.”

Charlie Dillingham is still living in San Francisco where he works for Apple in retail. Based on customer service surveys Charlie ranks the highest out of 400 employees. He is applying for a two-year Apple Management training program that begins next April.

Joe Dillingham continues to work in New York City and was recently cast as a voice over for a national Mountain Dew advertisement. The work made him eligible for future Screen Actors Guild jobs, broadening his opportunities. You can view the ad here: http://www.theblacklaser.net/2011/11/01/mountain-dew-game-fuel-raid-or-my-first-real-vo-job/

Murray Fisher and his wife, Emily, welcomed their first child, daughter Grayson Scott Fisher, to the world in December. The Harbor School, co-founded by Murray, was recognized last spring by The New York City Landmarks Conservancy for the restoration of a school building. The EPA also honored their Oyster Restoration and Research Project, classifying the Harbor School as an environmental leader. The school will celebrate its tenth year this summer and plans to open a second facility, a Marine Science and Technology center, in September 2012. “It’s analogous to the bathhouse and waterfront. If anyone wants to be the future Bubbles, let us know!”

Phil Gerity, his wife, Shannon, and their daughter, Katie, welcomed the newest addition to their family, Nicholas Joseph Gerity, in early November.

Jackson Theodore Gregg was born on September first to happy parents Peter and Heather Gregg. Jackson’s uncle, James Gregg, has already bet a pint of Ben and Jerry’s that Jackson will take home the 2024 Sub-Junior Dinghy race title!

Matt Gunther is living in Washington, D.C., with his fiancée, Kristin. The couple met while studying at the University of Virginia Darden School of Business. Vin Broderick will officiate at their wedding this May.

Jamie Stover reports that all is well in New York City. “I’m about to start my second year leading the development and redevelopment efforts for Aimco, one of the country’s largest apartment owners based in Denver that has recently begun investing in New York City apartment buildings. This winter I’m looking forward to a fly fishing trip to Belize over the holidays and keeping in shape with lots of competitive hockey. This spring I’m looking forward to becoming an uncle for the first time and attending Ed Swenson’s wedding in the Bahamas.”

Back row, from left: Scott Kennedy, John Bourgeois, Joe Dillingham, Weston Pew, and Jesse Allen.

The 2000s

Long time friend of Pasquaney Walter Faithorn died in early November at the age of ninety-six. Walter married Lisa Kneeland Carpenter in 1989, mother of Chip and Rory Carpenter, and grandmother of Austin Carpenter. The couple moved from Washington, D.C., to Newfound Lake in 1993, less than a mile south of Pasquaney, and they soon became a wonderful and...
gracious part of the community. Walter was born in 1915 and grew up in Chicago prior to attending Phillips Academy and later Harvard. He served in the Navy during World War II as the captain of a submarine chaser off the Atlantic coast. He joined the manufacturing company Stewart Warner following the war and continued there for forty-four years, eventually retiring as Vice President and Manager of International Operations. Walter did not slow down after retirement but rather devoted much of his time to service, travel and enjoyment of the arts. Walter’s kind smile, keen wit, and gentle spirit will be missed many in the Newfound Lake community.

Vin Broderick saw many of the Pasquaney flock at the Head of the Charles in October, an event which has become more and more of a Pasquaney reunion in the last decade. Former Trustee Nelia Newell was there to cheer on her sons: Will Newell’s boat won the Lightweight 8 event in the US National Lightweight team out of 17 boats; Alex Newell’s crew came in second place to the National Team in the Harvard Lightweight 8. Bill Manning, assistant Head Coach to Harry Parker at Harvard, saw his heavyweight boat win the Championship 8 event, beating the US National Team by 6 seconds. Brian Young’s Penn crew was in the same race. Alex Kent, rowing in Hobart’s first boat, came in 11th of 40 in the Collegiate 8s. Rob Rasmussen raced in the Club Singles for Potomac Boat Club. Current camper Jamie Mazzio-Manson raced in a double with his father, Jay, in the Parent-Child double, finishing fifth out of 23 boats. Gregg Stone placed 7th of 68 in the Grand Master Single. Gervie Stone, daughter of Gregg, won the Championship Single decisively, by almost 30 seconds.

Isaac Cadwell spent the summer working at Concord Academy Summer Camp in Massachusetts.

Sam Carley is a junior at Bowdoin studying English.

Rich DeSalvo is enjoying his first year teaching and coaching at Eaglebrook School, a junior boarding school in Deerfield, Massachusetts. “It’s a great community to be a part of, not unlike Pasquaney. I’m also enjoying the beautiful scenery in western Mass and the close proximity to Pasquaney friends. Last month I met up with Will Kryder, Charlie Platt, James Gregg, Phil Hooper, Will Newell, and Mike Morris in Boston to celebrate Mike’s birthday.”

Will Elting is living in Portland, Maine. He is happily employed at the Boys and Girls Club as a recreation coordinator, “using skills accrued from my Pasquaney career daily.” In his spare time he “keeps it groovy” as a volunteer DJ on WMPG, a community radio station, and enjoys taking in as much live music as possible. He also has been playing semi-competitive disc golf and plans on taking his newly acquired skills back to the hillside soon. Will and his girlfriend recently adopted a puppy, which has been a test of both patience and cleaning techniques but well worth the effort.

Bo Harwood worked with Chris Mudge this past summer at Camp Horizons. He also spent time working at a genetics laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine, and enjoyed hiking in Acadia National Park during his free time.

Will Kryder has been working for Ron Suskind for the past two-and-a-half years in Washington, D.C., helping with his most recent book, Confidence Men. The book generated substantial news both inside and outside the beltway and was #2 on the New York Times nonfiction bestseller list. He joined the Pasquaney Board this spring as the Young Alumni Trustee.

Alex Newell writes, “I had a very successful fall rowing season, rowing 7-seat in the 1st Varsity lightweight boat. We were undefeated in Lightweight collegiate competition, winning the Princeton Chase in the 8+ and the 4+ (where I sat 3-seat), and coming in second at the Head of the Charles to the US National Team in the 8+, a boat stroked by my brother, Will Newell. I’m taking courses on the Classics and Roman history during my Junior year [at Harvard] and am looking into jobs teaching once I graduate.”

Tris, Sam and Ian Munsick performed “A Munsick Family Christmas” with their father, Dave Munsick, at the WYO Theater in December.

Tyler Ostholthoff was accepted to the Officer Candidate Course for U.S. Marine Corps and will begin training in January 2012. “Upon Graduation, I’ll accept my Commission as a 2nd Lt. Marine and will be set to attend The Basic School (TBS) for another six months. Upon completing a final one-week field exercise...
assessment, I’ll be given my Military Occupational Specialty and attend somewhere between 10 and 24 weeks of further training depending on the field before being stationed somewhere around our great nation.”

Harry Pearson spent the summer working at a school in Harlem, New York. He wrote, “I have been mainly tutoring, making copies and filing (the great thrill of an internship) … It is actually pretty fun at times but doesn’t compare to a game of Hobbs Field baseball or a canoe tilt.”

Charlie Phelps was selected First Captain of the U.S. Military Academy’s Corps of Cadets for the 2011-2012 academic year, achieving the highest position in the cadet chain of command. As First Captain, Charlie, a Military History major, is responsible for the overall performance of the approximately 4,400 member Corps of Cadets. He follows in the footsteps of other notable First Captains such as John J. Pershing, Douglas MacArthur and William Westmoreland.

Alec Raiken was accepted to the Nova Southeastern University Post Bacchalaureate program for Master of Biomedical Sciences in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, last June.

Ian Robinson will be performing with the Batsheva Dance Company in New York City on March 10th.

Robbie Stone writes, “I spent the spring off from school and enjoyed ‘the real world’ immensely. I worked in two different boat shops in Bristol, Rhode Island. At one, I was paid a good wage to work on bright work on museum piece boats from the Herreshoff Museum and to work on class racing yachts. At the other shop I was an apprentice working on exotic, fast carbon fiber boats. I learned a lot and got very itchy. When I make my grand reappearance on the council circa 2020, I will bring back the boat shop with style. With the summer I got an amazing gig working on the winner of the 1962 America’s Cup, Weatherly, a wooden boat so beautiful and powerful it would make The General [Dave Ryder] faint. This involved sailing around Narragansett Bay every day. Again, I learned a lot as well as got quite crispy. I plan to return to Weatherly this coming summer. I returned to school and to rowing this fall. However, by October it became apparent that rowing was going to be incredibly painful for the rest of my life, so with a tear in my eye I walked off into the sunset, which is OK. I am much too obsessed with sailing to be sad about rowing. I look forward to starting my thesis and to finish the sailboat I am building in Rhode Island.”

After graduating with a degree in Hotel & Restaurant Management from Penn State in May, Chris Wittman moved down to Charleston, South Carolina, to begin work as a sales manager for The Middleton Place Foundation. This historic property includes America’s oldest landscaped gardens and the former home to one of South Carolina’s representatives at the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Arthur Middleton. When the summer heat faded, the fall season exploded with weddings, corporate events, and tours keeping him plenty busy. Chris wrote this summer, “There is hardly a day that goes by where I don’t stop & think about all those years as both a camper and a counsellor. In my recently furnished apartment I proudly display my camp Annuals on the bookshelf as a reminder of those glorious summers on the ‘hillside above Lake Pasquaney!’ Funny, as I write that line, the words play out in my head with the roar of 100+ voices. I actually spent the better part of last night reading all seven of my Annuals from cover to cover. From my first entry in the 1999 Daily Log to the Adams 2008 dorm photo, there are so many memories in between those pages: adventures, setbacks, triumphs, and friends - no, more than that - family! Needless to say, I have been brought back to a time in my life that I truly cherish and will not soon forget.”

by Bob Bulkeley,

Once Route 302 was made passable to Notchpost after tropical storm Irene, several groups investigated and reported extensive damage to our campsite area and the brook itself. The storm had gouged the bank on the campsite side of the brook, creating a cliff-like cut that ranges from 15 feet at the commissary tent platform to over 50 feet approaching the Short Walk path to the brook. The streambed of Nancy Brook is not only moved some 25 feet southward, but it is also 6-8 feet below its original height, leaving our tubbing area high and dry. Dozens of pine, spruce, birch and hemlock trees lay across the brook with a knot of trees and root systems of some 20 trees over the cooking and eating area.

In mid September ex-Notchposters Bulkeley and Broderick took a full Sunday to tackle the mess. The goal was to open a pathway upstream and start cutting through the tangle below the commissary tent. With chain saw and bow saw, some 20-25 trees were cut leaving only the stumps. Brush piles and 3-4’ logs abound in the area toward the Inn and Nancy’s grave. We left that first day’s work tired but fulfilled and fully aware that more work needed to be done. The bear box was under the trees. Pete and Willy later removed it, repaired it, and returned it to the main tent platform area.

In early October, a second crew of Bob Bulkeley, Vinnie Broderick and Mike Hanrahan left early to spend a full seven hours working on the tangled mess. We were joined by Chuck Platt, who drove from Maine. The brook was full and crossing it was tricky, especially with lots of gear—chain
The shift in the stream has left the former tubing area, above right, high and dry.

saws, ropes, bow saws, axes, a peavey, lunches, fuel and bar oil. Any attempt to keep our boots dry was short lived, and we spent much of the time in the water, chain saws in hand. On this trip, it was quite apparent how unstable the rocks and boulders in the brook were. It might be a long time before there is a firm streambed. As we cut one vital tree, the rock it was supporting rolled to a more permanent place; that it would not crush us was a paramount concern. By one count a full dozen tree stumps were wedged under the two large white pines that we have left bridging the waters and acting to shore up the bank on the campsite side. By day’s end, these stumps were out of the watercourse. After a brief perusal of the upstream terrain, we strung a large, red “DANGER” tape from the commissary area to the Short Walk campsite to keep the unsuspecting from falling off the cliff.

The greatest fear was that the trees would create a dam and aggravate the brook’s cutting into the bank, further compromising our campsite and maybe at some point rendering the brook only marginally usable. It is likely that subsequent fall flooding has brought down more debris and trees and the spring run-off will undoubtedly do more damage. It is clear that a crew will have to visit Nancy Brook in early June to take care of these additional problems and to lay out the new paths to the brook from both Long Walk and Short Walk campsites. Irene dealt a harsh blow, but Notchpost still is a wonderful site, fully usable, but radically changed.
The Alumni Work Weekend serves as a small annual reunion and opportunity to give back to camp in a physical way. Over the past five summers alumni have come to the hillside to fulfill unique camp projects, to celebrate a historic camp anniversary, and to, if only for a weekend, build a small Pasquaney community, taking ownership of the hillside as if they were campers again. In both productivity and as an opportunity for alumni to reconnect with camp, the weekend has already surpassed expectations and come to fill a valuable niche in the Pasquaney schedule.

The weekend crews have cleared invasive plant life from the grips of the tennis court fences, collected and organized items for the historical museum, thoroughly cleaned and painted the kitchen and galley, and cleared small trees from unwanted views around camp. Beginning at the end of the 2006 camp season, the tennis courts were covered with plastic during the off-season to prevent weeds from seeding and growing. Since 2007, alumni at the work weekend have unwrapped the courts in early June, saving the council an enormous amount of time during Council Camp. Mike Kenny, who built several of our courts and helps to maintain them, observed prior to the 2011 season that Pasquaney’s clay courts were in the best shape of any he had seen in New England.

This past June a small group of alumni once again quietly gathered on the hillside for the 5th Annual Alumni Work Weekend. A hot week turned into a cold and rainy weekend, but the weather, as usual at Pasquaney, did not stop the enthusiasm, cheer, or productivity of the group. This year’s big project was a complete makeover of the trip room, located in the back of Baird Hall. Packs that were once piled on the floor are now hung on poles along one side of the room; tents and gear have been organized into large open shelves by expedition; tools which were
The 2009 Notchpost Anniversary hike. From left to right: James Gregg, Vin Broderick, Paul Peou, Richard DeSalvo, Matt Cattrell, Michael Hanrahan, Alden Cadwell, Caroline Cadwell, George Reigeluth, Jay Peters, Dave Ryder and Chip Carpenter.

Heave Away, My Bonnie, Bonnie Boys!

2010 Alumni Work Weekend

Once neatly hung over a stretch of twenty feet of wall are now well organized in less than half the space; and a new movable 8’ by 4’ foot bench in the middle of the room provides a flexible workspace. The makeover improved expedition organization and saved valuable planning time for campers and counsellors alike.

In 2010, the 50th Anniversary of Notchpost was celebrated with a hike to Nancy Cascades guided by Dave Ryder. It was Dave who led the first Notchpost Expeditions from Nancy Brook into the Pemigewasset to rebuild the trail destroyed in the 1938 hurricane. Dark Green t-shirts for the weekend were appropriately equipped with a crossed saw and grub-hoe placed above the weekend’s slogan “Celebrating 50 years in the Gunge.” The event was highlighted by a toast and photos at the Cascades, libations courtesy of Chip Carpenter.

To visit Pasquaney during a summer is to see camp in motion and at its best. The hillside is full of conversation, instruction, and laughter; goals are being set and accomplished; and between circles, tree talks, camper meetings and sermons, communication is strong on all levels. While visiting a summer in full swing gives a glimpse into life past and present at camp, some alumni have found the Work Weekend to be a chance to build a slice of their own Pasquaney summer through their own work and activity around camp. Kevin Cattrell once said, “the ideals, the ethics, the life lessons all emerge out of activity. Shared memories and shared values are only strengthened ... by doing things together.” The projects completed by the crews are physically beneficial to Pasquaney, but the greatest success comes from the opportunity to revive the Pasquaney spirit within us. The weekend at its best serves the ultimate goal of Pasquaney in pushing us all to be our best selves. As Mr. Gemjohn said, “I hope all of us may aspire toward our best selves, to recall that “good and kind feeling” which united us here, to renew those good memories of our childhood so that we, each of us, may in ways large and small contribute to the betterment of others, may let our light shine forth.”

AND GRAPHICS: 2007-2010

2009: Notchpost Celebrating 50 Years in the Gunge

2010: Heave Away My Bonnie, Bonnie Boys!

2011: Alumni Reunion

2011: Alumni Reunion
Fundraising Underway for New Crew Shells

Pasquaney’s fleet of crew shells has lasted well over forty years. Over a year ago volunteer alumni began fundraising to purchase four new shells, new oars, and new racks for the shellhouse. Thanks to the generosity of several families, two shells, two sets of oars, and the racks were purchased last summer. The new carbon-fiber boats are considerably easier for younger oarsmen to lift and lower into the water. The telescoping storage racks allow campers to stand on either side of the boats when transporting them to and from the shell house, reducing wear considerably and ensuring this set will last another forty years. The boats can be rigged for sweep rowing or, for younger campers, sculling. If you are interested in donating funds to the remaining shells and maintenance fund please contact the office at (603) 225-4065. A dedication ceremony for the new fleet is planned for this summer.