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EDITORIAL

Why does someone spend hours of work each summer trying to publish the book you are holding in your hand? As I have attempted to fill the large shoes of former editor Tom Stambaugh, this is a question I have found myself asking at times over the past seven weeks. After some reflection, I've come up with an answer to my own question. The Annual not only puts into writing and pictures the events of the past summer, it also tries to capture the intangible qualities of a season at Pasquaney. These qualities are embodied in Tree Talks and Chapel Talks, in the personal character of campers and counsellors, and in the good spirit that exists on the hillside.

Pasquaney is a place unlike any other on this earth. It is a place where a person can be an individual yet have a strong sense of community. It is a place of idealism, commitment to a common purpose, learning, and growth. Margaret Mead once said, "Never doubt that a small group of dedicated individuals can change the world. Indeed, they are the only thing that ever has." Let us carry Pasquaney's ideals into the outside world and strive to change it for the better. The excerpts that follow come from this summer's Tree Talks. Some of the intangible qualities Pasquaney aims to develop and protect are discussed. A. L. S.

Jamie Stover on Keeping an Open Mind: From meeting new and different people to listening to talks such as these, we are learning how to keep our minds open. Keeping an open mind gives us a more optimistic attitude towards new ideas and people and makes it easier to face each situation. This attitude gives us the opportunity to experience more and take chances. Through our experiences we gain the knowledge that enables us to lose many of our prejudices. Jim Creamer on Truth and Honesty: Everyday in some way or another we have to deal with honesty... not only with each other, but with ourselves. One phrase I have heard Mr. Gem-John use many times on this hillside is, "What you are speaks so loudly I can't hear what you're saying." If you develop a habit of lying, others will see that and will have a hard time believing you, even when you do tell the truth. If you do tell the truth all the time, as hard as it might be, it will be

recognized and you will develop a reputation for honesty. This reputation will draw people toward you. To thine own self be true. If you are true to yourself, then telling the truth to others will be easy.

Ed Swenson on Perseverance: Pasquaney is an excellent place to set goals and follow through with them. Sometimes it may seem difficult to think of others before ourselves, to be courteous, to pick up that piece of trash, but we must strive to persevere and stand firm all the time, especially in the midst of the challenges that test who we really are. Follow your heart and do something until you succeed. The harder you work, the greater the rewards.

Brad Cragin on Confidence: Confidence can be a wonderful thing for those that have it, but it may be seemingly unattainable for those who do not. Confidence is entirely self-contained. It is not a function of what others think, but should be a function entirely of what you think. There is no magic formula that one can use to become a confident person. We must learn to believe in ourselves by taking pride in our accomplishments. With time and maturity, we will all realize what great people we are, and others will too.

John Ward on Passion: It is my call to you to discover your passion. Find the one thing that you covet, that makes you peaceful and at one with yourself. When you focus all of your potentially reckless energy toward your passion, there is no limit to the development that will occur. You will learn and become more knowledgeable about your passion, but more importantly you will become more knowledgeable about yourself. Teach others with the enthusiasm and heartfelt energy you have discovered and feel every time you experience your passion. When you find and develop your passion, you open the door to a new world, a world of enlightenment

Dan Albright on Wealth: Wealth is much more than material possessions and money. Wealth implies fullness in life that is not always apparent superficially. There are intellectual and perhaps even spiritual aspects to wealth. Being wealthy can reflect an optimistic attitude on life that can make you and others happy and content. To be wealthy is to appreciate what you already have and to be thankful. Without a deeper perspective on wealth, it is tough to be truly wealthy no matter how much money you have. Pasquaney is all about wealth. The moral lessons taught, the habits instilled, the selfless service encouraged, the discipline and other traits of good character applied, and the perspectives gained are all invaluable aids in gaining wealth. Remember the things you've learned in your summer or summers at Camp and go home, and be wealthy!

Kirk Phelps on Showing Appreciation: Why give thanks? Why do virtually all cultures around the world have traditions that involve the expression of gratitude? For me, showing gratitude is a celebration. It is, simply, a way of celebrating the actions and the existence of an individual. To understand the importance of giving thanks, put yourself on the receiving end. How do you feel when someone recognizes you for a job well done? I believe it is not only the individual acts of kindness but the reciprocal displays of appreciation that make for a strong community. What are the contributing factors that have created such a strong sense of community here at Pasquaney this summer? Think about it.