



## THE PASQUANEY ANNUAL

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### ANNUAL EDITORIAL

(One of the highlights of the 2002 season was a series of outstanding Tree Talks. Here are some excerpts.)

**“Refreshing.”** So Tim Dittmann described the 108th season of Camp Pasquaney. Choosing to return to camp for another season certainly allows one to sink back into the comfortable environment that Pasquaney provides, but our summertime home offers a more far-reaching refreshment. Like a restorative ‘tub’ in Nancy Brook, a summer at Pasquaney leaves one invigorated and energized for a return to the outside world. “It’s just a summer camp,” we say to those who ask what we did with our summers, but sometimes those who ask aren’t so sure. Parents and friends often notice something different. The relaxed smiles, the restored sense of self, the newfound thoughtfulness of actions, all speak of some greater purpose that draws us to the hillside. Pasquaney provides us an opportunity to be our best selves, to forge a thoughtful, considerate, appreciative character. The ultimate measure of a summer comes from our achievement of that goal, and the manifestation of that character in our treatment of each other. That aspect of camp, the universal acceptance we experience, makes a summer at Pasquaney so “refreshing.” What I hope this Annual does is refresh the memories of this past summer, and more importantly, makes us all consider how we can help fashion similar experiences in the world outside of camp.

### **SLK Briggs Anderson on Cultivating the Pasquaney Garden**

Respect is the soil of our community. It provides the nutrients and stability needed to give a positive environment so Pasquaney can grow. While our respect is reinforced in the community through things like duties and inspection, the most important aspect of respect is the respect for one another. We show our respect by offering the cereal before taking it ourselves, by being positive when somebody strikes out on Hobbs Field, and by listening to another’s wishes and concerns. By respecting one another, we show that we understand the importance of being unselfish... The last part of our garden is the trust needed to enrich and encourage the growth of responsibility and respect in our community. Trust is the air of growth of responsibility and respect in our community. Trust is the air of Pasquaney’s garden. Our responsibility towards our duties will not work without the trust that others are taking responsibility themselves. The principle of respect towards others would fail if you did not trust that others would respect you as well.

Without trust our community would not work. Everybody would carry around large backpacks with all of their belongings inside. Thus, swimming a half-mile would become nearly impossible. Every time you listen to good advice from a counsellor or a good friend you place trust in our community and provide much needed air to our garden. Please, let nobody have a shortage of air.

### **Chris Reigeluth on New Experiences**

This past summer and fall I spent a semester in Cape Town, South Africa. Before my departure, I was incredibly nervous and scared about what new experiences might lie ahead for me. The thought of studying abroad in a country so different from my own scared me, and I had no idea what I was getting myself into...I went to Cape Town with the hope of stirring up what had been a fairly comfort-filled and stable life. While in South Africa, I experienced a great deal of many exciting, and unsettling experiences, but, by far, the most memorable of those experiences came when I was driving away from the Cape Town International airport. I was knocked over by what I saw and could never have prepared myself for the scene that lay before me — on both sides of the highway, and completely undisguised, stood miles and miles of townships. I was immediately overtaken by feelings of emptiness and disgust — emptiness, because I was unprepared for what I saw, and disgust, because the poverty that confronted me was real and seemed hopeless. Seeing the townships on that first day was a pivotal experience during my stay in Cape Town, and when I left South Africa, I left with a greater knowledge about my own ignorance, along with a fresh grasp of reality that just five months before had been missing from my life....Pasquaney is a perfect place to begin conquering one's fears and insecurities. We live in a community that fosters risk taking. But it is important to realize that Pasquaney is only the beginning and once you have left the hillside above Lake Newfound, it only gets harder and harder to throw one's self at new experiences. So this summer, get in the habit of trying new things and charge head first into the experiences that scare you the most, because in the end it will be those experiences that make the difference.

### **Michael Hanrahan on Finding your True Character**

I had to turn back. But I left the mountain unbeaten. Within a few days, my father and I would leave Pakistan having never made it to K2. All of you will live this experience in one form or another. All of you will raise yourselves to meet challenges, set out with all of your acumen and passion to build a tower of accomplishment higher than the highest clouds. And all of you will see this tower crumble like dry sand. And when that moment comes, when what you have lifted up has fallen, when what you have created is destroyed, when what you have put everything into has become nothing, when your world collapses about your ears and the tears stream your face in torrents – at that moment, I have only one bit of advice for you. Fall to your knees, stretch out your arms, and thank whatever higher power you choose for the opportunity which is now before you. For in that moment, in that instant, in that second you will find the clarity of your true character. Looking inward I saw not what I could not do, but all that was still to be done. I saw friends' arms waiting to embrace me, I heard laughter and music yet unsung. My cup was not half-empty, neither was it half-full, rather was it running over. All of you will find conflict in life, and all of you will be given the chance in conflict to discover yourselves. What you find there, and whether you make of it good or ill, is up to yourselves. What you find there, and whether you make of it good or ill, is up to you. I hope that all of you find the strength and courage to make good.

### **Alden Cadwell on Soul Time (Karos)**

The Greeks spoke of two different kinds of time. Chronos refers to seconds, minutes and so forth, and Karos means soul time, the time when chronos is forgotten and real living begins. Seconds become inconsequential, and there is ultimate focus or flow, the zone. The Greeks were not the only ones to think of time in this manner. Buddhists strive for this state during meditation. Now how does this apply to camp?

Right away I can think of one aspect, hikes. Yes hikes can be long, boring and sometimes brutally painful. But Karos can make an otherwise brutal hike very rewarding. Hiking is physical, but it is also a large part mental. So the next time you're trudging along on the trail try focusing on the set of feet in front of you and let your thoughts slip to the back of your mind and see what happens. Karos is not confined to physical aspects of camp. It can also occur during a performance on stage. The lines flow, the acting comes naturally as though trying harder would mess it up. There are many places on the hillside where you may slip into Karos. So be aware of what you are doing rather than imagining the end result. Stretch your limits, and find your recipe for Karos because the only constant feature of all Karos moments is the love with which they are carried out and the rest is up to you.

### **Weston Pew on Confronting Change**

We obviously can't control time, and we can't control the changes that happen around us, change is inevitable. But we can control how we react to those changes. And it is those reactions that shape who we are and how we live our lives. In order to make the most of changes in our lives we need two things: courage and discipline. We need courage to truthfully look at ourselves and recognize what we need to change to become fuller people. And we need the discipline to implement those changes to better ourselves and our lives. If we don't have the discipline to carry out changes then we will remain the same, and we will have wasted opportunities to grow. Over the next few months, and over the next few years, all of our lives will change. Some of us will change schools, some will move to different towns and cities, some will graduate from high schools and colleges, and some will get married and have kids. My wish for us today is that we have the courage and the discipline to confront these changes with open arms and use them to bring out the beauty, the color, and the sharpness of our characters and our lives.

### **Trey Winstead on Working Towards Goals**

Four years ago, when I left Pasquaney after the summer of 1998, I was unsure of my future. I had left Pasquaney which is full of trust, nurture, and friends, to arrive in a sea of people whose only concern was looking out for themselves. I didn't have a handbook for achieving my dreams. I didn't have someone teaching me and guiding me through every step of the way. Where did I look for the answers to my questions? As Cat Stevens sings, "I listen to the wind, to the wind of my soul." I sailed on that wind, but what did I use as my rudder, to steer my decisions. I used the ideals and values that I learned at Pasquaney. I used the principles "to have a friend, be one," "STOP and THINK," and if I wanted to reap a destiny, I needed to start by sowing small acts. I ended up spending a year and a half in LA, I worked for FOX television, I started a small production company and filmed a documentary on street performers around America, and I began to realize that my dream of being in the movie business had become a reality. I took risks, sailed through my fears, and gave it a try. If I had never taken the chance, the leap of faith in myself, and listened to the wind of my soul, I would never have accomplished my goal. Cat Stevens sings, "For you will still be here tomorrow, but your dreams may not." That is why you need to take chances, to embrace changes, and follow your dreams. Greet every day with a breath of fire, with the willingness to

take risks and try new things. As the Grateful Dead sing: "Wake up to find out that you are the eyes of the world, and wake up to find out that you are the song that the morning brings." Go sing your song as loudly and lovely as you can, ride on the wind of your soul, and always remember that you will still be here tomorrow, but your dreams may not.