

Red Pine Times

Winter 2015

www.redpinecamp.org



With 2015 all packed up and put away after a busy holiday season, the Operating Committee is looking forward to our next camping season in 2016.

A quick look ahead to 2016 would let you know that we continue to focus on improving the core infrastructure of the camp. This spring we will be doing some maintenance on things you might not see including some upgrades in the kitchen and some modifications to the electrical systems. What we hope you will see are the first steps in the “Flushie” renewal program and some cleaning and painting in the Dining Hall. We will of course be continuing to develop and deliver the same level of programming you have come to expect from Red Pine Camp.

Looking back, it is amazing what we were able to accomplish this summer with our fantastic staff team and our dedicated volunteers. The volunteer team includes Crafters, doctors and nurses, Adult Programmers, Yoga Instructors, Task Team Leaders, Cabin Cleaners, Painters and more there is always someone willing to give some time and energy back to Red Pine Camp. If you have ever been a volunteer with Red Pine Camp, we thank you.

Some of our key accomplishments from 2015 include:

- addressing erosion issues around cabins 25 and 26
- raising and repairing the foundations of cabins 1 and 2
- repairing the foundations of the bandwagon and the hearth house
- replacing the Pabulum pit in the grove
- repairs to a Voyageur Canoe
- staining new bunks for staff cabins



All of these items (and many more) were organized and accomplished by volunteers during our two Work Weekends in the spring. If you would like to sign up and help us out during one or both of these weekends, let us know with your registration in the New Year.

There is one volunteer I would like to mention by name and thank publicly. Cheryl Thompson has been a dedicated member of the Operating Committee since 2007 (when she took on the Craft program) and has been the Chair of the OC for the past four years (2011-2015). Cheryl’s dedication, organization and calm leadership has been a great asset to the OC and to Red Pine Camp. I know I speak for everyone on the OC (and I hope for all of you) when I say “Thank You Cheryl for everything you have given to RPC”.

Paul Saker
Chair, Operating Committee

Junior Program Corner

– Rose McNiven

This past summer a great time was had by all thanks to Erin and Cyrus who lead a superb junior team. The staff kept our young Red Piners happy and content throughout the summer.

There were lots of lots of nature games and activities as well as the popular eco-garden that was continued this summer.

Already there is lots of planning and preparing for the coming summer. We hope that the JP Kids are counting down to their week that they attend in the summer and preparing to have fun with the junior staff again in 2016.

Have a great winter and see you under the pines this summer.

Dear Shareholders,

In an effort to reduce paper, Shareholders are encouraged to communicate with the office their desire to receive email communications instead of hard copy letters. If you received a paper AGM shareholder package last year and would like to receive a paperless copy, please contact the office with this request and include your most often checked email address. If you already only receive the paperless AGM package we thank you for your assistance with our efforts.

The RPC Office

Craft Corner String Art for the Holidays

– Barbara Lukas



The holidays would not be complete without making a craft inspired by Camp. Give this easy one a try on your own or as a “Parent with Child” activity. It will get you warmed up for many more new ideas coming your way next summer.

To create a beautiful String Art piece, trace a 4 “circle on the wrong side of white cardboard. Divide the circle into equal parts with a pencil mark. Cut the circle out and then clip around the outer edges. Knot thread, string or embroidery floss. Place the knot in the back of one of the slots and pull thread through. Now just experiment and play with the patterning.

There will be many more string art patterns to play with by the summer. Would a Red Pine tree made on reclaimed pine wood from the bottom of the Ottawa River strike your fancy? Of course, we will have our usual array of leather and general crafts to let your talents soar.

Happy holidays to you all from the Craft Staff and Volunteers.



Check us out on Facebook! Keep in touch with Red Pine all year long by liking our Facebook page. Our Facebook page continues to grow with over 1000 “likes”. Please be sure to continue to share your favorite Red Pine photos with us.

Prop Shop Talk – Paul McKenzie

This year I thought I would answer some questions the Committee and Board have been receiving from various campers about RPC property.

Q: Why did we raise cabins 1 and 2 instead of replacing them completely?

A: In short, only their floors and foundations needed repair. By raising two cabins at one time and replacing the shingles we could bring them up to standard without doing more than we needed.

Q: Why have the washrooms not been upgraded? They are showing their age!

A: They certainly are showing their age, however safety items in the camp were put ahead of refreshing the fully functional washrooms. We are also looking for a volunteer team to tackle this job – and I think we have one team to try to address one washroom in 2016. The refresh of washrooms is a surprisingly complex job and it will take a while to refresh all of them in camp.

Q: Are more Honeymoon Suites planned for 2016?

A: Not at this time. We are continuing to evaluate the balance of cabin sizes to demographics of the camper population and right now we do not feel more suites are required.

Q: I hear you are removing the drawers under the beds.

A: Yes, we have a multi-year plan to replace all of the beds that have drawers, with self-standing beds that are a bit higher, allowing storage of suitcases or bags under the beds. The spaces behind the drawers are “mouse condos” and create huge messes requiring cleaning during work weekends each year. Cabins will be easier to clean with movable beds.

Q: The new mattresses all have vinyl covers. Is this the new standard?

A: Yes. We have a multi-year strategy to replace foam mattresses with vinyl coverer mattresses. It will take another three years to fully replace all mattresses.

Q: Why was the new Cabin 43 built so close to the road rather than down in the trees like the old cabin was?

A: We would have had to cut down three large trees. We decided to keep the trees and move the cabin about 15 feet farther away from the water.

Q: Why is cabin 43 so high?

A: New building regulations mean that all newly constructed cabins require foundations. Thus we now have to build concrete posts, which raised the cabin higher out of the ground. Having said that, it was built higher than planned; future cabins will be lower. We will also be building a deck out front of cabin 43.

Q: Why three levels of bunks? They looked too high!

A: Yup. We tried it and agree; it was too high. We have re-arranged the bunks.

Q: What projects are on the plan for 2016?

A: We have a long list again for 2016 and it may be one of our most ambitious summers yet for construction. Watch for more details a little later...and as always we will be looking for volunteers.

The Winds of Change are Happening on the Waterfront – Heather Earl

My name is Heather Earl and I am thrilled to be joining the Red Pine Committee team. I know I will be filling some rather large shoes, left by Paul Saker, but look forward to the challenge of being the Committee member responsible for the waterfront. The Red Pine waterfront is a magical place that I was lucky to call home for several summers many moons ago and I look forward to the opportunity to give back to a place I love so much.

By all accounts the summer of 2015 was a huge success. Thank you to the hard working staff and the work party volunteers for all of their effort and enthusiasm. Big splashes were made, sailboats were raced and waterski turns were carved! Although the lake may not be frozen yet, the boats are all tucked away, the docks have been pulled in and A dock is still there. We are excited to report that we have put the final plans to rebuild A dock on our Christmas list this year. We have heard that the Engineers and construction team are dotting the i's and crossing the t's on these final plans to help rebuild our beloved dock. The start date for this massive undertaking is still to be determined. Also on our Christmas list are some new paddles and lifejackets for all ages.

Looking forward to the summer of 2016, we are predicting hot, dry weather at camp with a 100% chance of fun. This spring, along with our amazing work parties, we are hoping to find some talented volunteers to help stain and protect the inside of our beautifully refurbished war canoe. A special thank you goes out to Jason Dudar, who continues to spend countless hours restoring our fleet.

Although it seems far away, I know it won't be long until we find ourselves back at Red Pine. I am looking forward to a fabulous summer, and I am sure you are too, see you then!

***Your Friends
Can Receive
RPC Notices
Too!***



Share this QR code with your friends to sign them up for RPC email notices and special updates.

Returning Campers there is no need to sign up again however, make sure your current email address is up to date so you do not miss any important information. Click **“Update Profile/Email Address”** at the bottom of your last Red Pine Camp communication email to update your information. In addition:

- during the registration process, update your email and address information so the office can reach you (especially if you are on a waitlist)
- Shareholders make sure your information is up to date by clicking on the bottom of the RPC emails – and choose to receive your communications via email to save paper and postage costs.

Office Update – Christine Brown

Happy New Year from the Camp Office!

While many are quoting “Winter is Coming” the Red Pine Camp office is busy preparing because “Booking Season is Coming”. The camp office continues to



hum with activity over the off season months by performing financial year end processes, collecting applications for Camp Directors, Senior & Junior Staff, booking off season camp rentals and preparing for the Shareholders Annual General Meeting. The Committee members are busy tackling the camps infrastructure renewal projects and setting their sights toward the upcoming camping season to plan for another fun-filled summer. Instead of visions of sugar plums dancing in their heads, the Board is visioning the next five-year plan for Red Pine camp. There is never a dull moment here in the office.

When looking toward the summer, the Committee will soon be contacting our wonderful volunteer team for their availability as well as encouraging campers who have not yet volunteered to contact the office at redpine@redpinecamp.org to raise their hands. There is a variety of volunteer opportunities around camp: Spring Work Weekends; Special Task Teams & Projects; Family Programmer; Craft Volunteer; Medical Volunteer and Sunday Service Leader. Speaking from experience, volunteering at Red Pine is a great way to meet fellow campers and to give back to the camp.

Most importantly, please make sure the office has your most current email address. Campers will be receiving important emails shortly reminding you of upcoming information such as: Junior Staff applications; Camper booking and deposit deadlines and Work Weekend dates. You will find the current 2016 summer season sessions are posted on our website so that you may make your summer plans to not miss a moment of the RPC fun. Watch Facebook and our website for updates and communications as well.

Wishing you the best of the Christmas season and looking forward to seeing you at camp in 2016,

Christine Brown
Business Manager, Red Pine Camp

Word of Mouth, Still the Best Advertizing for RPC

Last summer saw a high number of new campers enjoy our rustic cabins and beautiful location. It also experienced an unusually high number of open cabins in some weeks. This March first, invite your friends to place a booking request with Red Pine Camp. If your friends are flexible in their summer plans, we encourage them to make special note of their availability to improve their chances to enjoy Red Pine.

LIT and Family Program

~ Mike Sinclair

Red Pine Camp would not be as successful without its volunteers and the amazing group of Family Programmers we have each week! So much creativity was seen this year with themes such as Western Week, Heroes and Villains, Heroes, The Pink Panther, The Amazing Race, Art in the Pines, Sports and Canada Coast to Coast.

A big Thank You goes to the summer of 2015 volunteer programmers : Richard Holt, Jacques Reid, John Murray, Marianne Jobson, Roland Tenholder, Mason and Mo Praine, Rick Lozoff, Jim Miller, Peter Fischl, Darlene McMillen, Tanya Buckley, Allison Dixon, and Penny Lawson-Cameron, I am looking forward to seeing what our creative programmers will come up with for the summer of 2016!

A big thank you also goes to all the campers that lead chapel this year, Paul Kuske, Julie Sunderland, Ron Kaden, Dave Short, Todd Irick, Anne Hennessey, Chris Brydges, Collen Pankhurst, and Linda Larson.

This year the LIT's in camp worked hard but had a lot of fun doing it. They worked hard to get ready for the next steps of camp life - STAFF. Some weeks had the opportunity to meet with members from the Algonquin reserve. They were taught about the culture and got to participate in drumming workshops.

Thank you to all campers who volunteered their time this past summer, it is truly appreciated.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you again in 2016!



Red Pine Leadership Camp (RPLC) ~ Janet Cottreau

Red Pine Leadership Camp (RPLC) is entering into its third year and we couldn't be happier with how it has developed. We have received glowing reviews from our campers and parents and it was so great to see so many returning faces this past summer. The team of staff these past few years has developed a solid leadership program that focuses on important life skills including teamwork, communication, conflict resolution, self-discovery, risk taking and many others and is differentiated for junior and senior campers. There is also a range of interest groups and, of course, lots of good camp fun. We are excited about a few things as we begin our third year; firstly we are introducing a new Orienteering program at RPLC this summer and secondly, RPLC has been approved as an OCA (Ontario Camps Association) member, independent from Red Pine. This membership provides us with great resources and support as well as a set of high standards with which to maintain so to continue offering a high quality leadership camp experience for our campers.

We have been lucky to find such talented counselors and can't wait to have some return this year and to welcome new ones to our team in 2016. Staff and camper applications will be available on our website in mid-January. Please help us spread the word about RPLC to new campers and potential staff. We will have printable posters available on our website when registration opens that you can share with your friends, schools and community groups and teams.

For more information about RPLC please find us on the Red Pine website at:

<http://redpinecamp.org/red-pine-leadership-camp/> or email us at leadership@redpinecamp.org.

Rent Red Pine Camp for your Special Group

Red Pine Camp is a truly stunning location. Set above Golden Lake with the tall Red Pine trees and vintage buildings it is like few other places in Ontario. Many of us think of RPC as the family camp that we know and love, operating for 8 weeks of the summer. But RPC is so much more! Located under 2 hours from Ottawa, Red Pine could be the perfect place for:

- a yoga or meditation group looking for a peaceful location for a few days out of the city
- a company that is looking for a unique location to host a staff meeting and retreat
- a large family looking to find an affordable location for a family reunion or important birthday celebration
- a special wedding where the guests can relax together for a few nights and celebrate in a wonderful way with the bride and groom and their families
- a group of grade 7 and 8 graduating students looking for an alternative to the trip to Montreal or Quebec city. Why not come to camp for a few days?!
- a large youth group gathering

The possibilities are endless and we would be happy to work with you to put together the event that meets your needs. Please contact us at redpine@redpinecamp.org.

Fall Fiesta – Fun Adult Camping

~ Paul Kuske



I would say what you see is what you get, but that only tells you part of the story of Fall Fiesta.

In the picture you see one of your favourite places, Red Pine Camp, but we started our fun after you went home. You see lots of happy faces, but not all of them (8 were missing). They were happily doing something else. You see Mike Poels and his helper, but you don't see the wonderful meals he served. (We ate them!) You see adults, but no children. We love children

and grandchildren, but we enjoy each other's company too - all day long, not just after the kids go to bed. You see Golden Lake, but you don't see those of us who went swimming, canoeing or kayaking.

We enjoyed many great presentations and were entertained; Karen Goetzinger and Frances Taylor shared their fiber-art with us; Maple Hill, a bluegrass band, had us tapping our feet and clapping our hands; we did handicrafts after breakfast, enjoyed walking "El Camino" vicariously one afternoon and played bocce after dinner. Campfire sing songs, scrabble, cribbage and bridge games abounded. We learned how to live with less and how to keep our brains smarter at any age.

We are already happily planning our 2016 programs and we hope that you can join us September 5-9, 2016. Visit our website fallfiesta@weebly.com and keep watch as we update the information as special activities are booked.



*You and your family are wished a
Happy and Healthy New Year from the
Staff and Operating Committee of
Red Pine Camp!*

Full-time Staff: Christine Brown (Business Manager); Rick Zieman (Property Manager); Tom Sauer (Asst. Property Manager)

Operating Committee: Paul Saker (Chair), Heather Earl, Patrick Hart, Barbara Lukas, Paul McKenzie, Rose McNiven, and Mike Sinclair.