

Mark Your Calendars for 2001!

BRC Summer Office Opens June 1 June 12-16 Training Clinics June 14-16 Senior Staff Orientation June 17-23 All Staff Orientation June 24 3-Week Session Begins July 7 Prospect Open House July 8 1st Visitation Day **July 15** 4-Week Session Begins Maine Wilderness Adventure Take Off

July 27 Board of Directors Meeting

July 28 2nd Visitation Day

Aug 7 Maine Wilderness Adventure Returns

Aug 11-12 75th Celebration Weekend

Aug 12-18 Family Camp

It's easy to help BRC!

Send a tax-deductible donation to BRC!

Promote BRC among friends, neighbors, family, and colleagues.

Refer a prospective camper to BRC by email:birchrock@aol.com or website: www.birchrock.org phone (207) 741-2930 fax: (207) 741-2959

Host a gathering of BRC alumni
& potential campers with Directors Deering
and Mattson in attendance.

Send us news to include in the next Birch Bark Alumni News column.

Ask us about our annual "Wish List" before you have your Spring Yard Sale!

Join us this summer for our 75th Celebration on Lake McWain!

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

P.O. Box 148 Waterford, ME 04088

BIRCH ROCK CAMP



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rychard Birch Seth Brewster Seward Brewster Tobias Brewster Harry Cleaves Jenna Cleaves **Tom Clemence Pam Cobb** Jill Gaziano **Peter Herzig** Michael Herzig **Chuck Hewett Jackie Hewett Fred Howard** Michele Howard Raja Kamal **Dorthea Kamal** Helene Kazanjian Jeanne McDonald **Richard Penley Wendy Penley David Sanderson Robert Stone Beverly Stone**



David Weeks

Wes Wolfertz

Camille Wolfertz

S U M M E R

THE BIRCH BARK

P.O. Box 148, Waterford, Maine 04088
Winter: (207) 741-2930 Summer: (207) 583-4478
birchrock@aol.com www.birchrock.org

THE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF BIRCH ROCK CAMP

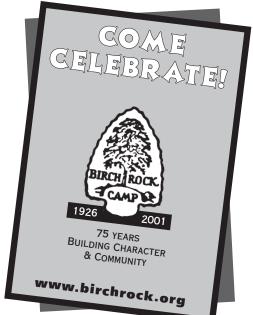
Birch Rock Celebrates 75 Seasons

By Wendy Penley, Chair

The 75th celebration is taking off! More than 100 Birch Rockers have signed on for the weekend of August 11th to play, reconnect and soak up the wonderful energy of the Rock. A list of attendees (so far) is enclosed. Check it out and add your name to that list! The more the merrier.

Several alums are working to compile a personal history of the Rock. Our neighbor and friend, David Sanderson, has taken charge of the layout and pictures for the final project. It will be given to all who attend, and will be available for purchase after the event.





Chef Randy is already thinking about the dinner (and cake), Dave Weeks is honing his "toast master" abilities, and a band has been secured for some Birch "rock 'n roll"!

We look forward to welcoming you to Birch Rock 2001 — an odyssey on Lake McWain.

Who's attending to date: Jonas Mikolayunus, Chris Carson, Peter & Michael Herzig, William Everts, Tom Clephane, Chris Neilson, Forbes Morrell, Alan & Jared Levine, Steve Cogswell, Bill, Marc & William Chase, Mike & Phyllis Deneault, David Weeks, Toby & Becca Brewster, Seth Brewster & Helene Kazanjian, Pat & Carol Brewster, Rob Christie, Ron Mattson, Vlad Dorjets, Fred Howard, Harry, Bobby & Robert Cleaves, Eric Sylvia, Robert Bowser, Hub Burton, Tom, Cris & Doug Miller, Xavier Thuriot, David Hawkes, Mike & Fred Giles, Mike Edgar, Josh Church and YOU!

Help the Other Fellow in finding Birch Rockers! If you know of any Birch Rockers who have not received an invitation, please let us know. We want to include all alumni,

us know. We want to include all alumni, family and friends in our spectacular 75th Celebration!

The legendary Grubby Douglass

Birch Rock was saddened to receive the news that **Henry "Grubby" Douglass '20 – S'40s** passed away at the age of 90. Grubby was a lifelong Birch Rocker who was a camper, counselor and leader of our camp community for almost three decades. His beloved daughter Deborah Norum, who cared for him at her home in Moscow, ID shared some of his unique tales of Birch Rock with us:

Dad first attended Birch Rock as a camper and later became a counselor. As a young camper, Dad recalled being away from home for the first time. He was terribly homesick and could hardly wait for his parents first visit. The first Sunday they vis-



ited him, he was so excited that he perched himself in a place were he could see them arrive. The minute he spotted their car, Dad ran into the woods to hide. One of the counselors stopped him to inquire why he was running away from his parents. Dad's response was that he didn't want to see them because he knew that they could only stay a short time and would leave without him.

As a counselor, Dad never forgot how lonesome he was the first time away from his parents. When the young campers arrived, he made a special effort to comfort them. One very young camper was so upset by being away from his parents that he would wet his bed every night. Dad would get up nightly to take him to the bathroom and then sit on his cot to comfort him until he fell asleep. These homesick campers captured my Dad's heart.

Dad's tender feelings were also extended to the young children who had never left the city. Some of these young boys were afraid to be in the woods, experience nature or sleep without lights readily available. He mentioned that it was wonderful to see these boys become so empowered with the experience at Birch Rock that they would return year after year.

Dad was the counselor who often drove the camp truck to pick up local produce, especially corn, for the meals. I believe that Albert Bryan was the cook at that time. He enjoyed the adventure and, of course, as a consummate gardener himself, relished the opportunity to pick the vegetables.

The last year that Dad worked at Birch Rock he earned enough money to buy my mother a diamond pin. My parents were dating at the time and perhaps contemplating marriage. The pin was a very simple bar pin with tiny diamonds and a larger one at the center. Dad said it cost around \$18.00. I still have the pin.

As you probably know, Dad devoted his life to the development of young boys. He often told me that the experiences that the campers had at Birch Rock assisted in developing self-reliance, self-esteem and character that would sustain them for a lifetime. Living in a pristine environment with healthy activities such as swimming, canoeing, archery and wilderness adventures embodied Dad's own character as well as his belief that every young man should have such an experience.

I believe that Dad's involvement with Birch Rock led to his teaching at Kimball Union Academy under Chief Brewster. Both Birch Rock and KUA "fit" Dad's value system of developing young men and his desire to live in the country.

Memorial services will be held in South Freeport, ME in July. For more information, please contact birchrock@aol.com.

BRC'S ELITE: STAFF LIST 2001

This summer we will have the biggest and best combination of staff that BRC has seen in a long time. There will be 35 staff members watching over 75 kids in camp at one time. This line-up has a combination of over 210 camping seasons on Lake McWain.

Mike Apicelli San Francisco, CA Sam Baird Livingston, TX Don Baird Livingston, TX Randy Bowden Cumberland, ME Peter Callanan Santa Fe, NM Jeff Clark Newry, ME Tom Clemence Falmouth, ME Brad Corbin Bayport, NY Rich Deering South Portland, ME Orin Dodge New Orleans, LA Robert Doran London, England Deb Georgitis Kennebunkport, ME Erik Joelsson Wayne, PA Jesse Jones Bath, ME Thomas Joyce Owings Mills, MD Lenza Latendresse Bangor, ME Kwan Lee Loughborough, England John Leighton Scarborough, ME Norwalk, CT Ryan Massey Mike Mattson South Portland, ME Mary Kay Moyer Cape Elizabeth, ME Don Munn Waterford, ME David Nesher Kennebunkport, ME Matt Newell Bethel, ME Clinton O'Leary Wellington, New Zealand Wendy Penley Bethel, ME Colin Penley Bethel, ME Jacs Pieterse Ifafi, South Africa Joshua Pincus Jackson, WY Pam Stock South Paris, ME Mark Sutherland Devon, PA Matt Sutherland Durham, NC G. Van Rensburg Glenbury, South Africa Janice Walker Waterford, ME

Cumberland, ME

Owen Wolfertz

BRC Wish List



Downsizing your home or cleaning up from a long winter?
Many Alumni and Friends ask what

BRC could use . . . here are some items that would be great donations for our community:

Tennis Rackets
Pick-up Truck
Woodstoves
Lumber
Tools for Shop Program
Board Games & Books for the Library
Chain-saw
Wide Screen Television for Movie Night
VHS Movies
Microwave Oven
Rakes/Shovels/Axes
Garden Tools
Wheelbarrow

Ping Pong Table
Back Packs
Camping Equipment
Fishing Poles & Gear

Come One, Come All...
There's still time to sign up for
FAMILY CAMP

After 75 years of celebrating character and community in residential camping for boys, the Birch Rock Community is pleased to extend its season for families from **August 12 - 18, 2001**.



Birch Rock's Family Camp provides an opportunity for families to experience a combination of recreation and fun in the Maine woods on Lake McWain. This special week is designed for families to retreat and refresh themselves from the 'work and school' world and rediscover their own enthusiasm for lifelong learning. Most of all, Birch Rock Family Camp is a time to relax and enjoy!

Call BRC at (207) 583-4478

The BRC Office has received some wonderful news from our loyal alumni. Here are some of the most recent stories: **Bill Carleton** '20s writes to us about his days at the Country Day School in Newton and summers on Lake McWain with his mentors, Chief Brewster and Bart Boyden. He still remembers Onie weighing each camper weekly... George Watson '80s shares his joy of a new bride and baby. George is living in the Big Apple and works as a newspaper reporter... **Peter Bowser '40 & 50s** sent us some fantastic pictures of himself with **Buck Hard** and **Pat Brewster** of yesteryear. Peter enjoyed a visit to the camp a few summers ago and is looking for more artifacts for the camp's archives... Rob Christie '80s is working in Hong Kong as an English Translator for a web-site development company. Rob plans to have a sabbatical this summer and come back to the states for a long reunion with family and Birch Rockers. Recently, Ron Mattson '80s visited Rob and had a taste of Chinese life. Ron is currently an analyst for Cuddledown of Maine... Congratulations to David Jenkins '80s & S'90s for receiving his Masters in Education from the University of Maine... Jamie Grantham '90s & S'00 is hiking the entire Appalachain Trail leaving from Mt. Kathadin to Georgia. Jamie is a junior at New England College... **Bill Mason '80s** and his wife Ashley will be bringing their family back to the Rock for the 75th. Bill is living in Raleigh, North Carolina. His parents, Chip and Beth Mason '80s have recently purchased a summer home on neighboring Lake Keoka... **Steve** Cogswell '70s and his wife Barbara hosted a fabulous gathering

Alumni News

for Birch Rockers new and old at their home in Hinsdale. II this past February. Director Rich Deering was delighted with the turnout and to meet many of the future Birch Rockers who will accompany **Christopher '00** as he returns for the full season... Former Director Bill Allen S'74 shared a great picture of his family and three sons with us. Bill is a pastor and living in Carrollton. GA... Birch Rock Parent and Librarian Eliose Wescott Petrik **S'80s** sends best wishes to the BRC Community from Ohio. Ellie married Pedo Petrik and is enjoying visiting her extended family from San Francisco to Maine... Birch Rock Board Member and Neighbor David Sanderson B'00 has been recording BRC history. David has some fascinating stories of Ye Olde Birch Rock recorded with Pat Brewster from this past Janauary. David is looking forward to sharing those tales and other unique BRC anecdotes with the entire community during the 75th celebration... **Scott Baxter '70s** is spanning the globe with American Express. Scott and his wife Beth are living in Derry, NH with their son Griffin '06. We've got another Birch Rocker in the future... Bill **'50s & Meredith Chase** are looking forward to the 75th! Living in Sagamore Beach, MA — The Chase Family owns and operates The Widow's Walk Bed & Breakfast. Joining them will be their sons: Marc & Bill '80s who will be coming back to BRC with their wives... **Bret Ingold '90s** is going to college in Portland, OR. Bret has been hiking the Olympic National Forest, Montana, Yellowstone and South Dakota. This summer he will be working on a small cruise boat in Alaska... And finally, the Brewster clan just keeps on getting bigger — and with boys! Seth Seward Brewster '08s was the fourth son born to **Directors Emeriti Toby** and Becca Brewster this winter. Seth joins his brothers Will '02, Eli '02 and Peter '05. We have got a full cabin — Congratulations from BRC!