

The Walt Street Journal

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A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

Dear Whitmanites,

When camp comes to a close at the end of the summer, and we know that every camper has been reunited with his or her parents, we breathe a huge sigh of relief. All of a sudden we have just three children to care for, and not a community of 650 staff members and campers. For the first time in nine weeks, we let our guard down.

It feels incredible to finally relax and decompress, because we know this moment is fleeting. Those first few days we are too overwhelmed with feelings that vacillate between exhaustion, exhilaration, and astonishment to do much of anything. But once we acclimate, we come out of each summer on an absolute high, ready to turn our attention to the following year.

This is why, when people ask us what we do when camp is over, our answer is always the same: we recover and then we start preparing for next year. And the truth is, we love it! We absolutely love what we get to do as the directors of CWW, and we realize we're lucky.

Why do we love our work so much? Because we get to create a community where campers and staff have more fun in seven weeks than they have during the entire rest of the year. We get to form a community where every individual is valued and respected simply for being

themselves. A community where each person can be the truest and best version of themselves because they know they will be encouraged, understood, and loved. A community where our campers know they can push themselves out of their comfort zones because they are confident they will be supported, and therefore experience the thrill of true growth. A community where we can engage in challenging conversations and learn from others with different viewpoints rather than cast aspersions upon them. A community where people thrive in face-to-face interactions, rather than a text, an email, a "like" or an online comment. A community where everyone understands what it is to be part of something bigger than themselves, and the value of giving oneself to others.

Our hope is that our campers take a part of this community with them at the end of each summer and unpack it when they get home. In this small way our little community in Piermont, NH can have a major impact on the world at large. And that's why we love what we get to do!



The Dorfman Family

Carolyn & Ted

It's Reunion Time!

Join us for our
ANNUAL CAMPER REUNION

Sunday, December 2nd
1:00–2:30 pm at Armonk Indoor

We are anxiously awaiting our 2018 Winter Reunion. Each year our staff drive and fly from all over the country just to see you, our campers, at our annual CWW get together. It's an afternoon full of hugs, high-fives, games and sharing stories about what you've been doing since camp ended. Mark your calendars and please make sure you RSVP. We are counting down the days and cannot wait to have many of our incredible staff and campers together again!



Did you know? The summit of Mt. Piermont is 2,717 feet above sea level. That is the same height as 453 Geoff Ashworths!

HONORING 70 SUMMERS

On the morning of July 28th, alumni attending the CWW 70th reunion who were at camp in our opening year of 1948, and from every decade that followed, awoke with a giddy excitement they remembered from their childhood and thought, "today is the day I get to go to camp!"

As over 600 alumni descended upon camp, memories flooded in as the sights, sounds, smells and feelings reminded us there are still places that shift with time yet seem to stand still. There are people who helped build the foundation of our character; who no matter the time or distance, will always feel like family. At each turn, another familiar face (maybe slightly different than memory suggests) instantly transported us to days on fields and nights nestled in a tiny bed surrounded by friends.

As the morning moved on, and those in attendance began walking around camp, it was as if they could see themselves in the faces of today's campers and staff. Relaxing on the front lawn, you could see people remembering when days were filled with the untethered joy of

sprinting down that same lawn as a wooden door slammed shut somewhere behind them. Taken back to days filled with friends by their side, holding hands as they leapt off the dock and into the lake, the only care in the world... how cold was it going to be? You could both feel and visibly see on the faces of our alumni that they were reliving these moments with sheer joy.

We were intentional about wanting this day to be about reconnecting with and honoring the past. In addition to reliving old memories, it was important to honor those people who have helped shape the legacy of CWW. Midway through the morning was a camp meeting where together we sang and honored Ann, Arnie and Chick Soloway. Alumni of all generations shared in singing the same songs together in the amphitheater. It was an incredibly



Jed with his two favorite counselors

special moment to celebrate Ann for the 70 summers she has been at CWW. Excitedly, we recognized her with a foundation in her name that will go towards keeping Lake Armington clean and healthy.

The afternoon was filled with square dancing (our alumni have still got the moves!), swimming, zip lining, testing out the new aerial adventure course and relaxing on the front lawn. It was heartwarming to see so many old friends reconnect as if no time had gone by. We especially loved hearing stories from so many alumni about their days at camp – some of which made us proud and others of which we had to simply shake our heads and say, "wow, camp has changed."

We were brimming with gratitude and love at the end of the reunion. However, when we finally sat down to reflect on the day as a whole, we couldn't help but be filled with excitement at what the next 70 years will bring, and the thousands of people who will get to experience camp just as our alumni have.



Singing at camp meeting



Nothing like a good square dance!



Happy to all be together at CWW again



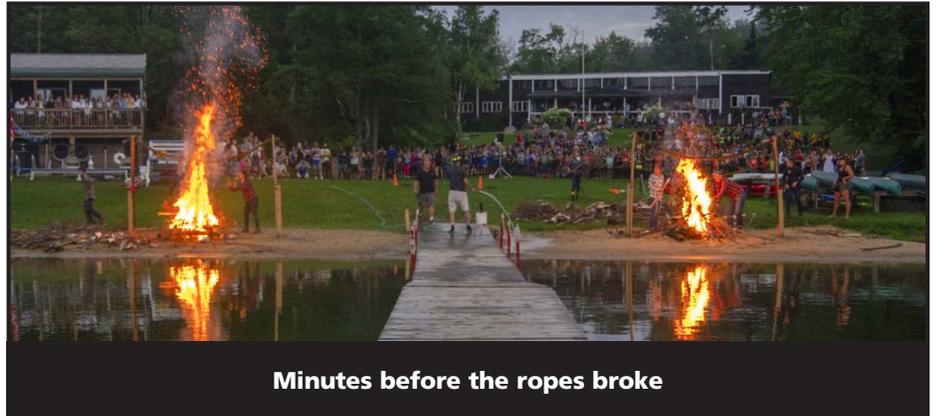
So much fun catching up with old friends

Walt Whitman WOW: A Look Back at the Closest Rope Burn EVER!

At CWW we are no stranger to awesome, unbelievable moments happening regularly. And yet, every summer there are a few memories that stand above the rest that, if we had not been there to witness, would be impossible to believe. Rope Burn 2018 was one of those. Even now, with 2 months having passed, we recall the culminating event of CWW's Olympics with absolute amazement. Let's look back at the closest Rope Burn CWW has ever witnessed.

After a hard fought day of Olympic competition between teams Retro and Trendy, the scores were neck and neck heading into the final event. This made one thing clear; it was all coming down to Rope Burn. Wood, leaves and whatnot had been gathered all day in preparation. Two ropes, each soaked in water for days stood 6 feet in the air, each held up by two posts. The objective was relatively simple, each team would build a fire and the first team to break their rope would be declared the winner of Rope Burn and Olympics 2018. It was all on the line.

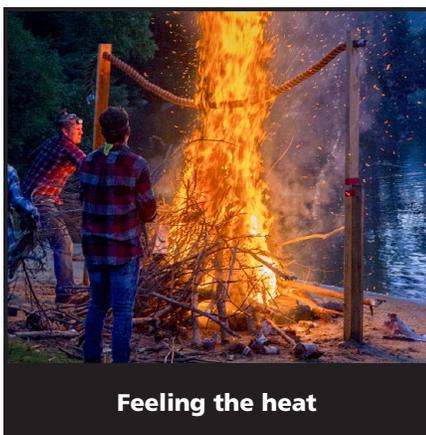
A select group of second year Senior Campers were ready, dressed in their customary flannels and pumped for a night they had been looking forward to since they bore witness to their first Olympics as young campers. Each team was introduced and with a countdown from 10 by the raucous crowd the event began. Both teams feverishly ran to



Minutes before the ropes broke

their piles to start to build their stacks. Armed with only a lighter as a fire producing source, both fires began to gain momentum and crept slowly towards their respective rope. As the fires grew, so did the excitement of the crowd to the point where everyone was eventually on their feet. In moments like these everyone has their own theories on how close each team is to breaking the rope, factoring in wind, fire strength and even perceived temperature. Every onlooker becomes a self-proclaimed fire expert, with an understandable bias towards their Olympic team. Just as the excitement seemed to reach its peak, both ropes broke and fell to the ground simultaneously. In an event where teams are typically separated by minutes and not seconds something truly amazing happened. The entire camp thought THEY had won Rope Burn and as a result, Olympics. It was an energy and pure joy that literally doubled what our community had ever experienced. Everyone had their opinions and were instinctually pointing to their side.

There were only three people whose determinations would matter in deciding who had won. Carolyn, Jed and Dan, in all of their years determining who had won Rope Burn, had never been faced with such a tough call. They had always been able to easily declare a winner. While all three thought they knew who had won, they also knew it was too close to call. They literally needed to go to the video tape. Luckily Nicole, our videographer, was right there with the evidence they needed. After careful consultation, a winner was determined. By less than a second Dan announced Team Trendy as the winner. With that, Team Trendy erupted while Team Retro looked on with disappointment, knowing just how close they had come to winning Olympics. However, just like every Olympics prior, teams then dissolved and cabins were back seated together as camp was once again unified after a hard fought day of competition. As all of camp sat on the front lawn and sang songs led by Rob, you could not help but be in awe, regardless of winning or losing, of what you had just seen.



Feeling the heat

Did you know? Levi Hutchins of Concord, NH invented the first alarm clock in 1787. Levi must not have had Reveille at his summer camp!



Staff Updates

After our staff dedicate countless hours to working with us, they take off on adventures, return home to college classes, are collegiate athletes and club presidents. Our staff are amazing and we love hearing from them throughout the winter. Here is a little of what they've been up to...

Brook Stephens, Stephen Rothman and **Jared Bunder** watched the Yankees beat the Rangers in the Bronx. This was Brook's first time in New York and his first Yankees game! **Jordan Scott** moved to Huelva, Spain to work as an English teacher at an elementary and high school. She is planning to live in Spain for the next year or two teaching, learning Spanish and taking grad school classes to become a licensed teacher. **Sarah Elson** bought a car and road tripped all over the US. She visited camp friends along the way, and had the opportunity to visit many national parks. One of the highlights was camping under the stars with **Laura Mills, Carla Farchaus** and **Lou Forristall** in Joshua Tree. In total, she drove over 7000 miles and 106 hours before selling the car to fly home to Australia. Speaking of the land down under, **Victoria Carrier** has officially moved to Melbourne, Australia for the year! She is working towards a career in music and theater. **Jamie Burchall** is also back in his home country and living near Melbourne as an expedition leader at The Outdoor Education Group. Traveling South America as a family for the year, **Amanda** and **David Havixbeck** (and their two kids) are currently in Peru and ready to go wherever the wind blows next. They randomly bumped into **Joe Woods** while in a small town in

northern Peru. Joe is also spending a few months traveling. He has been to the salt flats in Bolivia, biked the 'death road', hiked Macchu Picchu and visited the Amazon jungle. Adding to the numerous staff in South America, **Troy Harrington-Woodard** joined the Peace Corps in the Youth Development sector and for the next 2 years will be working in community organizing and youth empowerment. Admirable work Troy, we're sure it won't be easy but you're just the person for the job! Our CWV presence in South America is strong! In the northern hemisphere **Madi Wheeler** and **Maggie Gent** have joined staff alumni **Griffin Weiss, Emma Sutton,** and **Niall Finch** in Revelstoke, Canada. They are anxiously awaiting fresh powder as they gear up to work in the small ski village for the winter. **Harrison Kahme** returned to the University of Florida and dove into ROTC training with the Ranger Challenge Competition Team. He is also learning more infantry tactics via the Raiders Club. He especially enjoys going to every home Gator football game! **Izzie Alley** moved to Burlington and is working full time for Planned Parenthood. She is enjoying Fall in Vermont and advocating for reproductive rights. **Johnny Wang** is studying at the College of Charleston full time and is practicing extremely hard in anticipation of his first competitive



Bobby Manning, Allie Doyle, Molly Rosen, Shelby Mosello, Stef Spiegel, Matt Lyons enjoying the autumn leaves on the Front Lawn



Harrison Kahme receiving an award as All-Star Cadet

collegiate tennis season this spring. **Mairead Cleary, John Hood, Kat Scott, Madi Wheeler** and **Maggie Gent** spent a few weeks traveling all over Mexico together. **Alex Garcia** played host and they even visited with **Angel Fernandez** and **Fabi Hernandez!** **Vinda Teally** returned to New Mexico Military Institute and is busy working hard in class and on the tennis courts. She recently received the title of 'Private' at the Institute, which is an honor that comes with increased privileges. She misses everyone at camp and is excited to come again next year! **Molly Rosen, Shelby Mosello, Matt Lyons, Allie Doyle, Stef Spiegel** and former staff member **Bobby Manning** recently visited camp to see the leaves change and hang out on the front lawn. What a great weekend!



Living the dream in Mexico



Jordan Scott in Spain



Just not quite ready to say goodbye

ANOTHER YEAR OF FAMILY CAMP FUN!

Family Camp is a 5-day vacation hosted at CWW during the third week of August after our regular 7-week camper program comes to a close. However, it isn't just any standard vacation. It is unique in its ability to provide shared and individual experiences through the magic of camp, which help families create memories to last a lifetime. Enjoying a mix of activities, there are opportunities for families to spend quality time playing tennis, conquering the aerial adventure course, waterskiing, enjoying campfires and hiking together, just to name a few! Parents get the chance for some adult-only activities, including tennis lessons, taking out a sailboat, or participating in yoga classes. While parents are enjoying some much needed relaxation, their children do 'kids-only' activities led by the best-of-the best CWW staff members. The kids play games, do arts and crafts, cook, swim, and adventure throughout camp.

Led once again by Dan Rosen, who is the Associate Director of CWW and has been at camp for 46 years, the week was bigger and better than ever! After Family Camp came to a close, we were able to sit down with Dan and ask him a few questions about how the third year of the program has improved after having a summer without it.

“ Sign us up for the foreseeable future! ”

How many families attended Family Camp this year?

We had **21** families, which included **97** guests!

What kinds of things did the families tell you about their experience?

They **ABSOLUTELY LOVE** our warm, caring staff. Most of all, they love being in a family environment where they are free from phones, computers, distractions and get to spend awesome family time in a safe, natural environment. They also **LOVED** the food that our kitchen produced – the clam and lobster bake was a huge hit once again. Our families love being able to connect with one another in a fun, low tech environment. Whether climbing a mountain, hitting the tennis ball, or jumping in the lake with their kids, it is a unique experience that they cherish.

As one family told me: “My kids who never thought they would like camping, call CWW Family Camp ‘their camp’. It has become our favorite week of the year.”



November 29th is National Square Dance Day.
How will you celebrate?



Family Hike Day

What was new about the program this year? What was different?

We were able to use our new two tier aerial course this year. It is something that most families do not do at home, and they absolutely loved it, from 5 year olds to the Moms and Dads. We also had a really fun Harry Potter event that both the younger and older kids thought was “awesome”. Wands and robes were prevalent during the week, and Gryffindor colors were mixed with Whitman green and white.

What was your favorite memory of the week?

I think it had to be the Talent Show. Watching all the amazing kids and staff perform amazing acts in the Dorfman Center was such a great way to spend our last night together. And we can't forget about Olympics!!! All four teams had a blast competing in all of the wacky events and it made for an unforgettable afternoon.

Is there anything exciting you're looking to add for next summer?

We will be adding to our Arts and Crafts offerings next summer. Additionally, we are expanding our options for our Tween and Teen Family Campers.

Dan is a man who never settles for 'good enough', which is why he is such an integral part of the CWW team. However, this is also the reason we believe that Family Camp will continue to get better each year. Make sure to sign up early to share in this incredible experience with your family!



Olympic Team Picture

CAMPER UPDATES

Our campers are involved in many different organizations and activities this fall. Catch up on what everyone has been up to since camp!



12A celebrating Rose's Birthday!

Ben Lumi finished his end of summer road trip in Ohio where he visited with Middle Camp Unit Leader Jared Rocco! At the end of September, Bunk 12A had a reunion on Long Island for **Rose Lifland's** birthday. The girls had a great time and they're already counting down the days until summer 2019. **James Koplín** has been performing on his keyboard in subway stations around New York City. His sign says "No Cash Smiles Only" but audience members still try to give him money. At one recent performance a family visiting from Switzerland sang along with him in German as he performed "99 Red Balloons." Another woman cried when he played "Time After Time" (hopefully not because of his singing). **Paige Kirsch** is enjoying the start of 5th grade in Juneau, Alaska. Rare sunny fall weather in the rain forest has meant a lot of fun hiking for her family. Paige and her mom conquered the Mt. Juneau Ridge--a 13 mile loop up into the alpine--as well as a 7 hour, very steep trek up Mt. Jumbo, which overlooks her home on Douglas Island. **Nina Markovsy** placed 8th in her first fencing tournament this fall. Great job Nina! She was also lucky enough to get tickets to see Hamilton, her favorite musical! Taking adventure to the next level, **Charlie** and **Adeline Havixbeck** are spending the year traveling through South America with their parents. They are currently in Peru, having the time of their life! Another camper who is living abroad this year is **Wes Bodell**. He moved to Poland and is loving his time there with his family. **Jacob Berman** completed his first ever triathlon and got a new puppy this fall! **Sofia Giammarco** is learning how to play the violin. That takes a lot of commitment. Keep practicing Sofia! The start to **Sean O'Brien's** 7th grade year has been fantastic. He pulled all "A"s on his report card earning him an iPhone to Facetime with his 10a Bunkmates. **Kaitlin O'Brien** has loved her transition to middle school and will be trying out for the cheerleading squad. **Morgan O'Brien** was picked to be on the district Girls basketball A Team. They are all excited to go to Bunkie, LA over Thanksgiving to visit the Roy family. **Liam** and **Brooke Carter** have both been busy on the soccer field and spent Columbus Day weekend (and Liam's birthday!) in two different tournaments. Liam's team was undefeated and won their division at the FCUSA Coastal Cup on Cape Cod. Brooke's team did well too and won the Sportsmanship award. In August, **Max** and **Zoe Freud** traveled to Israel and Jordan. Max became a Bar Mitzvah there and celebrated in September in NYC. He was happy that some of his camp friends were able to attend. **Josh Herr, Parker Kravitz, Tyler Kravitz,**

Sam Kravitz, Max Leopold and **Ian Leopold** had a mini CWW reunion in Pleasantville

NY with counselor Ben "Wiggy" Wignall. They had fun playing hide and seek, video games and catching up. They also FaceTimed with Joe "Woodsy" Woods who was currently in South America as part of his travels around the world! **Scarlett Ives** is enjoying being on a new swim team and is excited about their new family member, a rescue dog named Sunny! Scarlett and her family also spent four days in beautiful Lake Placid this fall. **Matthew Finger** will perform in his school's musical rendition of 'Chicago'. Break a leg Matthew! **Zachary Newman** and **Felix Feinbloom** spent a weekend hanging out, eating burgers, drinking milkshakes, and reliving the best parts of camp. **Jonah** and **Sophie Nathanson** are back to swim practice and **Ezra** is playing soccer. They were lucky to have some special counselor visits and one last end of summer hurrah with **Max** and **Ian Leopold** on Cape Cod. Everyone is very much looking forward to the camp reunion in December and organizing some CWW ski trips for the 3rd year in a row! After enjoying her first summer at CWW, **Emily Fishkin** transitioned to third grade and is learning to play the violin. She also participates in dance and art after school. **Nate Fishkin** has made a smooth transition to middle school and is enjoying playing the drums, continuing with karate, and creating art! His latest collection of drawings includes his own version of musical monsters inspired by the game 'My Singing Monsters'. Nate enjoyed a reunion with Bunk #5 friend, **Gibbon. Keera Srivastava** is cookin' up a storm at her parent's new downtown Tampa café. Her signature dishes are killer chocolate chunk brownies and garbanzo bean key lime soup. She is doing great in school, swimming and playing the saxophone! **Ella Thompson** traveled to Spain where she visited the Picasso museum, the Alhambra Palace, and zip-lined across a river in Toldeo! **Iris Dennison** is excited to share that she will be called to the bimah as a Bat Mitzvah at Congregation Rodeph Sholom in New York City on December 8. **Anoushka Shah** started 4th Grade, went to the US Open and is participating in 'Grease the Musical' at school. **Aahan Shah** started Middle School and is also playing soccer for the Junior Varsity team.



Charlie & Adeline Havixbeck in Peru



Brooke & Liam Carter



Visiting with friends

MORRY'S FUN RUN 2018

Project Morry is a year-round youth development organization focused on empowering and providing resources for youth from underserved and underrepresented communities. As a long-time partner with Project Morry, we are proud that our camp families and entire community choose to so generously support such an impactful organization each year. This summer we initiated a new fundraising effort within the CWW community, a 5K Fun Run! We watched proudly as both campers and staff rallied together to run, walk, hop, skip and dance their way

through the 5 kilometer course laid out through camp. Sprinkled between the color run station, the pumping music, squirt gun ambushes, high-fives and laughter was an invaluable lesson. When we come together as a whole, we are able to do more for others than we could ever do alone. It is in moments like these that we so clearly see the lessons our campers are learning, while simultaneously raising money for other youth to have similar experiences. We are grateful to our incredible campers for giving of their time and energy each summer to improve the lives of others, and to our camp families for their gracious donations. Congratulations on a job well done again this summer, with more than \$20,000 donated (and counting)! We will continue accepting donations over the next few months, so there is still time to contribute!



Color Run Station



Pet-A-Pup Station

Donations can be made online at projectmorry.org/who-we-are/camps-that-give/camp-walt-whitman or by mailing a check written to Project Morry to our New York office.

Rhys and Raph's Soccer Training Tips for the Offseason



- 1 Practice, practice, practice.** If you want to keep improving as a soccer player it is not enough to practice once or twice a week. You have to play everyday.
- 2 First touch.** Whether you are a goalkeeper or a forward your first touch is one of the most important aspects of soccer. Ways to improve could be kicking a ball against a wall and controlling it. The harder you kick it the harder it is to control but the better you will get.
- 3 Accuracy.** You don't need to break the net to score. If you watch the best goal scorers in the world it is a rarity that they try and break the net. Practice shooting on goal where you are aiming for the corners (top or bottom).
- 4 Dribbling.** Place cones, rocks, bottles or anything you have that you can dribble around. Place them in different spots so that you can dribble in different directions and use different parts of your feet to move the ball. Gradually build up the pace so you're moving quickly around the obstacles without touching them. If you're up for the challenge, use a smaller ball. You can even try with a tennis ball!
- 5 Perfect your pass.** You can do this with a wall or another person. Pass the ball back and forth trying to receive it and pass it with two touches. As you get better, gradually increase the space between you and your partner/wall.
- 6 Watch soccer.** You can never learn more than watching professionals doing what they are good at.

Rhys Cairns just finished his third summer at CWW as a Soccer Specialist and hails from Washington, England. He is currently at Avila University where he is pursuing a master's degree while also serving as Assistant Coach for their Men's Soccer Team. Rhys played soccer at Longwood University before transferring to University of Missouri – Kansas City to finish out his undergraduate career. Both schools were Division 1 programs and he served as Captain his freshmen year at Longwood. Prior to joining CWW, he also gained experience coaching two 11 and under boys soccer teams for the Legend Club close to his hometown.



Raph Adeyemi just completed his first summer as a Soccer Specialist at CWW. Raph plays soccer at Knox University where his is underway with his Sophomore season. In the summer of 2016 Raph worked as a sports counselor at the prep school he attended in Oman. He also played on the school's Varsity soccer team and served as captain his Senior Year.

