



Carrying the Torch at Goosestock Olympiad

By: Jim Grimes

Attention campers and counselors, attention campers and counselors... We have just received word that the Olympic torch has just passed through Barker, NY and will be arriving in camp shortly. Please gather in front of the Rec Hall.

What was your favorite week at camp? For a lot of you it was Olympiad week. Do you remember the anticipation of who the mystery torch runner would be?



Well at the 2012 Goosestock, I had the honor of running the Olympiad torch into camp for the second time. The first time was 17 years prior and I never forgot the experience, so when Rachelle asked me, I immediately purchased my plane ticket from L.A. back to Buffalo.

I was very excited to make the journey to Camp Kenan for Goosestock 2012. No one other than Rachelle Hathaway knew that I would be there and it was very difficult to keep the secret, because I was so excited to

see all of my old friends and make some new ones.

I did not run the torch alone; I was joined by four other torch runners, Luke Natemeier, Shari Hathaway, Laurie Pane and Bill Neidlinger. Cue Music ("Chariots of Fire") Bill runs to me and lights my torch, then we run together to Laurie, next to Shari and then finally to Luke. We all run together, our torches held high, along the soccer field to the front of the Rec Hall.

As I nervously read the 2012 Goosestock Olympiad credo, I was excited and honored to have been selected to be one of the torch runners, carrying the Olympiad and the spirit of Camp Kenan with me. And with the lighting of the Goosestock torch by Luke Natemeier... The Goosestock 2012 Olympiad games began!

Always keep the spirit of Camp Kenan burning bright in your hearts and souls.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Goosestock Recap</i>	2
<i>Letter from the President</i>	3
<i>Campership Fund</i>	4
<i>Friends of Camp Kenan Year in Review</i>	5
<i>Announcements and Special Thanks</i>	5

Save the Date: Christmas Party!

By: Mark Natemeier, President

For the first time, Friends of Camp Kenan will be holding a Christmas gathering in the greater Lockport area on December 22, 2012. This date was chosen to accommodate out-of-town alumni that would otherwise not be able to attend. The party will take place late evening on the Saturday before Christmas. The party will be planned and hosted by Brian Kalls,

Matt Strusienski, and Mark Natemeier. With that all-star lineup of party makers it's sure to be a night you won't forget!

So for now all you have to do is mark it on your calendars. This event will be open to adults that are former staff members, and to any other adults that would like to come out and show their support. It will not just be limited

to former staff members of Camp Kenan, so plan on bringing your friends and family! This is an adults only event, however, so your friends and family must be 21 or over to attend.

Look for final details to be released Thanksgiving week on the Friends of Camp Kenan website and Facebook page. See you at the Bash!



Brian Kalls, Mickey Rogers, and Mark Natemeier at an early Camp Kenan Christmas Party. Come to our party this year and relive some memories!



All About GS2012

By: Elizabeth McGuire Millen

After a year of hard work and planning by Goosestock 2012 Chairperson Rachele Hathaway and fellow board members, Camp Kenan alumni gathered again with their family and friends for the 16th annual Goosestock, and it certainly was a weekend to remember! Alumni, were divided into four countries USA, Canada, Italy, and Ireland as they competed Olympiad style.

We officially started the weekend on Friday evening with an international parade and torch lighting ceremony. The torch was run in, passed from runner to runner, from past to future generations of CK staff Bill Neidlinger, Laurie Pane, Jim Grimes, Luke Natemier, and Sharidan Hathaway. Once the big torch was lit in front of the Rec Hall we united in the Mess Hall to break out the country décor and t-shirt designs, while some gathered behind the Mess Hall for a fire with TOGG. After a few hours the Mess Hall was transformed into the official Olympiad Headquarters. Some countries went with a traditional silkscreen & tie-dye, while the others went with a spray tie-dye to speed up the process. All four shirts turned out great. However we did hear many comments that they would have been better if we had worked on them from 2-4 AM instead of 10 PM. It just didn't seem right to be working on your Olympiad shirts before midnight!

Saturday, we started the day anticipating we would have a kick ball completion followed by a modified track meet and swim meet. But all of a sudden a crazy wind and rain storm swept through camp and all plans were at a stand still. I did think for a brief moment that we were going to have to cancel Goosestock but had some common sense shaken into me by Lisa Flaherty, "Liz, we are here, we are together and we are not going to cancel Goosestock". (Thanks for that Lisa!)

In spite of the storm that knocked over a few trees and caused quite a stir, we still carried on with "rainy day" events. We had the 1st ever Goosestock Dutch Auction, and then moved directly into rehearsals for our 1st ever Goosestock Lip Sync competition. It is truly amazing what the teams came up with on the fly including some pretty advanced choreography and costumes. The technology at CK is totally up to speed and with the use of iPods and speakers, the Mess Hall was jammin'!

Sweeping the Lip Sync competition with their rendition of "Baby" by Justin Beiber was Team Canada. Team USA came in a close 2nd with their replications of the USA Swim Team's Lip Sync video of Carly Rae Jepsen's "Call Me Maybe" that included Matt Strusienski playing the part of Michael Phelps in a speedo. Classic, and maybe slightly PG13, yet totally CK & YouTube worthy! All the teams did a fantastic, laugh out loud job!

Here comes the sun, da-da-da-daaaaa....That afternoon the sun came out and the games did continue with an Olympiad mini track meet and cross-country run! Everyone from age 4 to 40 ran the course and finished the race. Even our tiniest participants were walked, carried and pushed in strollers around the course. My very own little 4-year-old Josephine Millen ran the whole race alongside Dan Doctor and me in her little ladybug rain boots. She was the very last runner, but she did it! Again, a lot of fun had by all!

Before dinner some were even able to go for a swim, something we thought would not be possible earlier that day, but that is the fun of being in WNY! The annual Friends of Camp Kenan business meeting was held in the Mess Hall where we reviewed the 2011-2012 accomplishments (for details please see the article "Year in Review") as well as voted on two new board members Kelly Stahl and Matt Strusienski.

As for Saturday dinner, well, it wouldn't be a Rockin' Mess hall if it weren't for Daniel W. Doctor

gracing us with his talent and energy, and that he did! He was the 'Music Master' for sure! After we wrapped and the FUNdraising with the live auction and basket raffle, we headed to the OBC to line up for the closing ceremonies/closing campfire at the New Council Ring. There was a wonderful display of old and new songs, stories and chips on the fire. The winners of the first ever Goosestock Olympiad games were announced, with USA taking the Gold. Finally Mark Natemeier got his Gold!

We eased into Sunday with a traditional CK Chapel service, where once again Dan Doctor reminded us of why we were back in the Great Woods, at the Michael Tobin Memorial Chapel, celebrating love, life & friendship. Immediately following Chapel was an amazing brunch with all the goodies left over from the weekend as well as John the Cook's famous cinnamon buns, along with eggs, bacon, and more! Yum! Sunday songs, tears, laughs, announcements and of course "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" helped us wrap up our weekend together.

A BIG thank you to all the came and gave their time and donations at Goosestock September 7th, 8th and 9th. The weekend was a HUGE success! We cannot wait for next year to see you again at Camp Kenan. Stay tuned to the next issue of The Torch to learn about the details and plans already being made for Goosestock 2013! Until then, much love, be safe, and happy holidays, too! If Target can say it now, so can I!



A rousing mess hall during Goosestock Olympiad 2012!

Letter From the President

By: Mark Natemeier, Board President



"Wouldn't you like to get away"

"Making your way in the world today takes everything you've got.

Taking a break from all your worries sure would help a lot.

Wouldn't you like to get away?"

Ok, you can stop humming along now... I know you were. After Goosestock, it took me almost five days to recover from all of the fun and lack of sleep I got from two days at Camp Kenan. The five day recovery period was totally worth it, and I have always said that sleep is overrated. As I reflect on the 3rd Goosestock that I was a part of planning, I couldn't help but think about "Cheers" and the shows great theme song – it fit well for "Cheers", but it might be the perfect theme song for Goosestock.

For all of us former staff members that were there, those that made it in previous years, and those that tried hard to make it but just couldn't – it makes sense because we are all running the rat race in the "real world" and looking for a chance to take a break from all of our worries. That happens every year at Goosestock, and at GS12, I saw faces that were just happy to be back at CK and relieved to have left the "real world" at the CK gates.

"Where everybody knows your name, and they're always glad you came.

*You wanna be where you can see,
our troubles are all the same
You wanna be where everybody knows
Your name. "*

As you drive down Camp Kenan's long driveway, it is like all the baggage from the outside world just falls off, and you let go of the problems that seemed so important even just an hour before. You just live in the moment. You aren't checking your texts and e-mails every few minutes (this may have more to do with the spotty cell service at CK), and current events in the US and the world don't seem that important anymore. You realize, just like you did when you were at camp, that what is happening here is more important than just about anything else in your life. Everything else can wait until Monday.

*You wanna go where people know,
people are all the same,
You wanna go where everybody knows
your name.*

Despite very numerous differences between all who gather at Goosestock in the "real world", there really are no differences down at CK. "People are all the same" and "everybody knows your name". A few weeks after Goosestock, I met up with Jesse Setter, a man I hadn't seen in person in well over a decade. But, any casual observer would have never had guessed it had been that long be-

cause within minutes we were in engaged in conversations about our lives since camp, old camp memories, and conspiring together to double team up on Brian Kalls with help from the likes of Sean Fuller and Matt LaSpada. Time, work, families, and distance may have kept us apart, but when we get back together it is like we never left CK! It is a "Cheers" like culture at GS of "everyone knowing your name" that makes that weekend so special and unique for so many.

At every Goosestock:

"Memories and Stories are there to remembered and retold

Songs will be sung and Lies will be told, and retold, and told again

New Nicknames will be given such as the "BB Gobbler"

New Memories are there to be made

New names and faces are there to learn

Baggage can always be checked at the Gate"

By the time you round the bend at the end of the driveway, "you are always glad you came", and when you leave on Sunday, you realize that "taking a break from all your worries sure DID HELP A LOT!"

I hope to see many new faces at Goosestock 2013!



Team USA wins the GS2012 Olympics. From left: Maddy Natemeier, The Old Gray Goose, Jim Grimes, Mark Natemeier, Jess Natemeier, Lucas Natemeier. Front: Jack and Ellie Natemeier

Gilbert J Mosher Friends of Camp Kenan Campership Fund 2013

**By: Adam VanDeMark, Vice President,
Campership Chair**

Over the past few years, with your help, we have greatly improved our Campership Fund! In 2011, we were able to send 10 children to Camp Kenan, who otherwise would not have attended. In 2012, we again sent 10 children to Camp and 1 to Day Camp at Camp Kenan.

We were able to raise the funds to do this in several ways. First, with the help of the Mosher family, we combined the Gilbert J Mosher fund with the Friends of Camp Kenan fund, creating the "Gilbert J Mosher Friends of Camp Kenan Campership Fund". In 2011, families, groups and individuals purchased benches that are currently placed around Camp Kenan (Camp now has as many benches as they need and this option is no longer available) and in 2011 and 2012 we auctioned of several dozen baskets and items in order to raise funds. Of course, in the Spirit of Camp Kenan, we also paid money to have people thrown into the pool at Goosestock! During the Goosestock Olympiad of 2012, Dan Doctor announced that he would personally send one kid to Camp. This caused a wonderful domino effect of numerous people pledging to do the same, ending with 9 children being able to be sent to Camp on that initiative alone!

Continuing the 2013 Campership Drive, the S12CK initiative (that's Send 1 Kid 2 Camp Kenan)!

Within the next 5 years, we would like to be able send 20 children to Camp, each year. We know that we cannot do this alone and would like to ask

for your help in a couple of ways. For each donation of \$250, we are able to send a child to Camp. If you, or a group of people, or a business are able to make that tax-deductible donation, you will receive:

1. Your name(s) or business name listed at www.friendsofcampkenan.org and at Goosestock 2013
2. Limited edition S12CK merchandise that will be released at GS13 (each year there will be a new, specially designed S12CK logo and only those who participate will be eligible to receive these items).
3. The satisfaction of knowing that you sent a child to Camp Kenan, who would not have been able to go otherwise!

So please, if you are able, either donate the money, help us to find local businesses willing to donate or get a group of former staff members to share the cost! You can make your 100% tax-deductible donation online at www.friendsofcampkenan.org. The drive will continue until 6/1/2013. We really want to meet our goal and send as many children to Camp each year as possible!

Also, if you know of any children who may qualify for a Campership, please send their information to info@friendsofcampkenan.org and put "CAMPERSHIP 2013" in the subject line.

Friends of Camp Kenan Mission

To provide supplemental support for the continuation of Camp Kenan as a summer resident camp for young people.

To support the philosophy of Dr. William Rand Kenan in providing the initial foundation for Camp Kenan: "That all children may grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man."

To provide for the continuing fellowship of Camp Kenan staff.

Camp Kenan Events to Remember:

15TH ANNUAL POLAR BEAR RUN»

February 27, 2013



Do you have a "TOGG Tale" that you would like to see appear in future issues of "The Torch"? Please e-mail Elizabeth.Millen@friendsofcampkenan.org with yours today!

S12CK
SEND 1 TO CAMP KENAN

Friends of Camp Kenan Year in Review

Board of Directors

Mark Natemeier, **President**

Adam VanDeMark, **Vice President**

Elizabeth Millen, **Secretary**

Brigid Tobin-Dillman, **Treasurer**

Robert "Goose" Gray

Rachelle Hathaway

Kayleigh Fischer

Lisa Flaherty

Cindy Roth

Jennifer Shepard

2011-2012 Highlights

Goosestock 2011

- Continued a strong showing with over 175 in attendance throughout the weekend
- Donated proceeds of TOGG's Top 10 Stories/Songs, \$135 to the Gilbert J Mosher Friends of Camp Kenan Campership Fund
- Donated proceeds of "Throw em in the pool" Contest, \$936 to the Gilbert J Mosher Friends of Camp Kenan Campership Fund
- Raised funds exceeding all expectations!

Friends of Camp Kenan Song Book

- Friends of Camp Kenan's secret project was revealed at Goosestock 2011
- Timothy McGuire's original art work decorates the cover
- Friends of Camp Kenan published a bound, paperback song book
- Sold on our website and at the Camp Kenan store.

Michael Tobin Memorial Chapel

- Formerly dedicated on Saturday September 10, 2011 as the Michael Tobin Memorial Chapel.
- Dedication service was led by Rev Fr. William H. Heller
- Reception held in the Rec Hall
- Over 100 people attended the dedication and reception
- Food for the reception was donated by TOPS Markets and Lock City Pizza
- Friends of Camp Kenan Board members and their families helped maintain the grounds by weeding and planting flowers in the spring

- Camp Kenan used the Michael Tobin Memorial Chapel for chapel services each week during resident camp

Friends of Camp Kenan Board of Directors

- Made Robert "Goose" Gray a lifetime board member which opened a seat on the board
- Resignations accepted from two (2) board members, Daniel Doctor and Bill Spencer
- Elected three (3) new board members, Jenn Shepard, Adam VanDeMark and Rachelle Hathaway
- Adam VanDeMark elected as new Vice President

Not for Profit 501 (c)(3) Status

- Completed the process for Not for Profit 501 (c)(3) status with IRS
- Friends of Camp Kenan is now officially a not for profit company
- Process cost over \$2,000

Gilbert J Mosher Friends of Camp Kenan Campership Fund

- Friends of Camp Kenan and the Mosher Family announced the merger of the Friends of Camp Kenan Campership fund and the Gilbert J Mosher Scholarship fund
- New name is Gilbert J Mosher Friends of Camp Kenan Campership Fund
- Sent ten (10) children from Western New York to Camp Kenan resident camp for free
- Sent one (1) child from Western New York to Camp Kenan day camp for free
- Five (5) were return applicants from last year
- Six (6) were new to the Campership program
- Hope to have more applicants, through Camp Kenan alumni referral for next year

The Torch

- Continued publishing issues of, "The Torch" to communicate to our members more efficiently
- Jenn Shepard joined the team bringing experience and a new design as Publisher and Co-Editor
- Published four (4) issues in October, February, June and August

Holiday Party

- Hosted a Holiday Party at Adam VanDeMark's house in Lockport, NY
- Catered by Cafora's Pizza in Newfane, NY
- 2011 Holiday Ornament was made available

for purchase, proceeds going to the Gilbert J Mosher Friends of Camp Kenan Campership Fund

Camp Kenan Wish List

- Worked with Luke Kantor to purchase over \$1700 in items needed for Camp Kenan program including, hockey boards, silk screen supplies and improvements to the Turtle system.

A special thanks to our 2011-2012 Sponsors!



Announcements, announcements, annooouncements!

On Saturday September 8, 2012, a few new individuals were voted onto the Friends of Camp Kenan Board Directors. The Board of Directors is now as follows:

Mark Natemeier, President
Adam VanDeMark, Vice President
Kelly Stahl, Secretary
Matthew Stursinski, Treasurer
Lisa (Polovick) Flaherty, Web Administrator
Rachelle Hathaway Jennifer Shepard
Elizabeth Millen Brigid Tobin-Dillman

Co-Chairing the 2012 Holiday party planning are Mark Natemeier, and Adam VanDeMark, along with the help of Brian Kalls.

Co-Chairing Goosestock 2013 is the team of Elizabeth Millen and Rachelle Hathaway. They had so much fun working together planning GS2012 they thought, why not do it again!?

Also, in September 2012, Adam VanDeMark married Kelly (Towlson) VanDeMark, and Brigid Tobin-Dillman married Allan Dillman. Congratulations to the happy couples!



Barker • New York

Contact Us!

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Chapel at the conclusion of Goosestock Olympiad 2012.



Special Thanks:

To the members of the Friends of Camp Kenan Board of Directors and to Jim Grimes and Brian Kalls who contributed articles. To **Mark and Jim** for providing the photos used throughout this issue of "The Torch".

If you have an article idea that you might like to contribute in the next issue of "The Torch" please contact Elizabeth (McGuire) Millen by December 1, 2012 directly at elizabeth.millen@friendsofcampkenan.org. We'd love to hear what Camp Kenan has meant to you! All article ideas are welcome! The 5th Edition of "The Torch" is due to come out in early 2013.

Thank you!

J. Shepard, Publisher & Co-Editor/ E. Millen, Co-Editor/L. Flaherty, Co-Editor

Think green before you
print.



Please
consider the
environment before printing
this newsletter.