

Kabeyun

2010 Annual Report

The John and Anna Newton Porter Foundation

Alton Bay, New Hampshire, 03810

Spring, 2011

The View From the Office Porch

Winter is a time for connecting — talking about what Kabeyun is, who we are, what we do. It's not hard to get me going; sometimes the challenge is to avoid exhausting the listener with my enthusiasm!



Most conversations are with prospective camper families — boys who will one day follow in the footsteps of the young men who are approaching the end of their camper experience. It's fun, having a job that gives me the opportunity to “talk camp” with anyone interested in hearing about campfires and s'mores, sailing ratings, cabin skits, and stories of warm nights by the lake, when outside, snow is falling and summer feels far, far away.

Potential new members of the Kabeyun community aren't the only ones interested in hearing the camp message, though. There are thousands who have connected to camp in some way over the past 87 summers, and I am consistently impressed by the pleasure you take not just in sharing memories of your time as campers or counselors, but in hearing about what's happening at Kabeyun today.

A summer at Kabeyun stays with us forever. It's my own vivid memories which allow me to answer, without hesitation, the question that invariably arises — “Is anything about camp different now than it was when I was there?”

[The View From the Office Porch, continued on page 7](#)

Kabeyun's New Director

As 2010 drew to a close, we experienced a rare occurrence in Kabeyun's many summers of operation. For years, we have been the beneficiaries of a remarkably stable leadership, guided by the steady hands of John Porter, Bill Old, Nick Latham, and Chuck Mills. In November, Kabeyun welcomed Ken Robbins to that small assembly.

Ken came to Kabeyun in 1985 as an 11-year-old camper. He grew up in Harvard, MA, graduated from Colgate University with a BA in Sociology and Anthropology, and worked as an outdoor educator, backcountry instructor, and professional development and teambuilding facilitator. He served at different times as the Challenge Center director at Sacramento State College, and as the director of Adventure Programs at The Clark Foundation in Cooperstown, NY. He returned to camp in 2001 as a climbing and ropes course counselor before becoming camp's assistant director in 2002, working in that position through 2010.

Today, Ken is back in Harvard with his family, busy gearing up for Kabeyun's 88th summer, his first as director.



The Robbins Family — Roanne, Nora, and Ken.

**The Counseling
Internship Program**

page 2

**2011 Winter
Reunion!**

page 2

**Off-Season
Projects**

page 3

**Alumni News —
Log of the West Wind**

pages 4-5

**Gifts to the 2010
Annual Fund**

pages 6-7

Counseling Internship Program Flourishing

For decades, they were Counselors-In-Training, and in recent years, Counseling Interns. What's the difference?

In fact, not much, other than perhaps the name now more accurately recognizes the significance of the experience and the amount of energy and effort involved in successfully completing the program. The curriculum is loaded with on-the-job experience; interns live in lower- and middle-camp cabins with

many of the same responsibilities and duties of a counselor. They work at all times with the direct supervision and support of staff, which allows them the freedom to try out their expanding set of skills while still free of the ultimate responsibility of camper safety. The group meets together several times each week in workshops and trainings, honing their skills and preparing for a future role as full-fledged counselors.

The interns enjoy trips out of camp, as well as downtime to enjoy the company of one another and the rest of the camp community. Beyond that, an occasional trip out for a movie, dinner, or a run to the grocery store to stock up on goodies to devour after taps. Yes, it is a working internship and they devote themselves to learning and growing, but it still goes down as a summer of fun.

Mike Bell has served as the Counseling Internship Director for the past three seasons. His primary focus and responsibility during that time has been overseeing his interns, facilitating their learning, and coordinating with each boy's counselor mentor. He provides regular feedback to the interns, observing them in the cabin and at activities, as they serve as apprentice staff in as many different areas as their time allows.

Kabeyun's staff retention rate is a testament to the strength of the internship program — in 2010, one-third of our counseling staff were at one time a CIT or Intern, and four of the six interns from last year are set to return as counselors in 2011.



Mike Bell and the 2010 counseling interns at work.

Winter Reunion!

For the first time in years, Kabeyun alumni gathered in the winter snow on March 5th to celebrate the “off-season.” Although the day began in drizzle, by afternoon the sun broke through, treating all in attendance to a delightful day of skiing, snowshoeing, sledding, and more. Thanks to all who contributed food, drink, and good cheer to a resurrected tradition! And thanks to Bob Linscott for creating a video commemorating the event, which you can watch either on Facebook or on the Kabeyun website.



The intrepid winter reunion attendees gathered in Beechwood for a break in between snowy adventures – hope to see you in this picture next year!

At Sunset, Something New in the Air

Older alumni might recall a platform that used to hang overhead at Sunset — now, new generations of campers will have the opportunity to spend an afternoon or overnight off the ground, as a new treehouse is installed and ready for visitors.

In February, Kabeyun unexpectedly lost Kellen Sams, a great friend and beloved former camper and counselor. Kellen had a passion for the outdoors; as a counselor, he spent three years on the ropes course and rock climbing trips, and led the Bears program in his last year at camp. Collaborating with his family, we sought to create a fitting memorial to Kellen, a place where his spirit would live on at camp.

Built by Wingspeed Adventures of Franconia, New Hampshire, the treehouse rises approximately 25 feet in the air, and is large enough to comfortably accommodate an entire cabin of campers, even providing shelter from rain with an Adirondack-style lean-top covering the back portion of the platform. It is entirely enclosed and secured with a railing, and accessible by a bridge from the height of land to the south, near where the old treehouse once stood.

That's not all that's new at Sunset. The ropes course staff now has their own "shack" for equipment storage, and a deck for getting participants harnessed up before they start their climb into the trees. Further down the shoreline, at the far end of camp's property, we have a full-fledged campsite, an in-season project spearheaded by Terry Dash with a crew of



campers. It is outfitted with three tent platforms, a picnic table, fire pit, and benches.

These are sparkling new additions to Sunset, now an enhanced destination for cabin groups, where they can gather with a unique perspective of Lake Winnepesaukee and Mt. Major — the views are remarkable. Kellen's family plans to put together a small library of books to remain up in the treehouse, stories that he enjoyed as a boy during his time at camp. We hope some intrepid woodworking enthusiast will design a compartment to house those as well as a logbook where campers can record any thoughts that arise from their experience at "Kellen's Place."

Other Off-Season Projects Come to Life

Photo "Shack" Becomes the Photo "Studio"

Thanks to a generous gift from alum Robert Henzler, the highlight fall project was a dramatic re-construction of the photo shack. The new building features a spacious darkroom, enhanced safety facilities, bright windows on the "light-side," and secure storage for Kabeyun's ever-expanding archive of photos and film. Thoughtful design suggestions came from many photography counselors from past summers, and we're looking forward to photo moving in to its new home once the snow melts away.

Upper Tennis Court

The third and upper tennis court is now converted to the same surface that players have enjoyed on the lower courts, Nova Pro-Clay; quick to dry, easy to maintain! What returning campers will notice immediately, however, is the reversing of location for the badminton courts and that upper tennis court.

Grad School Showers

Upper-campers have for years endured a long trek to the University for showers. Not anymore — the Grad School is now equipped with showers on the lake-side of the building.

Archery Range Pavilion

No longer will rain showers chase archers from the range to safe haven indoors — a pavilion now covers the shooting area, allowing boys that essential extra time to work towards their coveted advanced rankings. The shelter also provides much-needed shelter for Kabeyun's fleet of vans in the wintertime.

Storage and Maintenance Shed

Most of Kabeyun's array of boats, vehicles, and tractors used to spend the winter outdoors on the Senior Ballfield, exposed to the elements. Now, though, an expansive new storage shed provides protection during the off-season.

The Log of the West Wind – News of Friends and Alumni, 2010

This is the 20th edition of the Log of the West Wind, reporting news of Kabeyun alumni and friends during 2010, submitted as always by Bill French. Send Bill your own updates by emailing him at billfrench14@hotmail.com.

CARL ANHALT lives in New York and teaches math at the Ethical Cultural Fieldstone School.

JOSH BERKOWITZ is project manager at California Environmental Dialogue in San Francisco, CA. Josh's dad died in October in Boston after a very long illness. Josh came back east a number of times to visit and to organize and participate in a wonderful memorial gathering for his father, David.

ROB BURNETT is attending Franklin and Marshall College. Rob spent time in Nepal on a study abroad program for college credit. While there, he took courses on Nepali language, Culture, and Development. He did independent research on the education system as a minority language education. Rob is an avid bicycle racer. He plans to spend the summer in Colorado working and racing.

SHAUN DONOVAN was appointed the 15th U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development by President Barack Obama. He and his family have moved from New York to the Washington, D.C. area. In New York, Shaun was Commissioner of the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development. His sons were both campers in 2010.

JOHN FUNKHOUSER visited camp with his daughter, Willow. John continues to teach at the Berklee School of Music in Boston. He has a very active performance schedule with various jazz groups. See more on John at johnfunkhouser.com.

TIM GARLID was graduated from Bard College. He now lives in Louisiana.

STEPHEN HESTER is the Group Chief Executive and Executive Director of the Royal Bank of Scotland.

BOB HENZLER has retired and is living quietly in Fort Lauderdale. Bob was particularly generous to Kabeyun this year. He provided the funds for a new photo laboratory. We are enormously grateful to Bob, who does this to honor [Joe Assmus](#), who inspired so many of us over the years with his patient manner in teaching photography and making it fun.

LUKE HOWELL moved to Kennebunkport, ME in the area of Cape Porpoise. He still teaches at the middle school in Kennebunk. Young son Jackson and wife Cindy are doing well. During the summer and fall, [Bill French](#) and Luke did some canoeing and boating explorations in the area.

TONY KING had another successful photographic exhibition and sale at the Pucker Gallery in Boston this fall. The exhibition and sale was shared with his charming and talented wife, Judy Stoddard King, who does gorgeous small collages.

JEFF KUEBLER is enrolled at Naropa University in Boulder, CO, where he is studying Traditional Eastern Arts.

ROB LLOYD is teaching at the Island School in Eleuthera in the Bahamas. Rob has been sailing down the east coast. Check the blog at fishershornpipesail.blogspot.com. Rob is sailing with his fiancée, Nadine Nilles, his brother [Joe](#), and two other teachers from the Island School. They left from Wickford, RI in their 23-ton, 48-foot sloop, heading back to Eleuthera.

STEVE LIVINGSTON writes from Sandy, UT (near Salt Lake City). He plans to visit camp for Family Camp in 2011. He has not been to camp in about 50 years. After graduating from Colorado College, Steve joined the Air Force. He ended up flying DF-4 Phantoms. He was fortunate not to have to fly in Vietnam. After the Air Force, he taught flying and worked for Rocky Mountain Airways out of Denver. Later, settling in Utah, Steve was a volunteer for the Salt Lake City 2002 Olympics. In Utah, Steve did many hi-tech jobs. Now that he is retired, he teaches computer classes to seniors. He has a wife, Kathy, two daughters, and one son. When at camp, Steve loved sailing and hiking.

JOHN MARTINEZ is a primary care sports doctor and an occasional triathlete living in San Diego, CA. He worked for a cycling group in Europe this summer. He is also an avid cyclist.

ALEX MATISSE has settled in Asheville, NC after graduating from Guilford College in Greensboro, NC. Out in the countryside of Asheville, Alex has built a most impressive kiln and is making beautiful pottery, known as East Fork Pottery. Go to eastforkpottery.com to see him and some of his fine work.

NICK MATISSE is attending Whitman College in Walla Walla, WA. He is studying politics and environmental science.

DUFFY O'CONNOR is on the faculty of Harrington College of Design in Chicago. He is a print making specialist. While touring New England, Duffy visited camp along with [Melanie Gander](#).

BILL and **SUSIE OLD** did an extended sail on their boat in the Grenadines and St. Lucia. Bill French joined them for part of this journey in February. Susie still runs her day camp in Middleburg, VA, and Bill helps with teaching swimming, of course.

DAVE PIERCE played in the West End in London and later on Broadway in the David Hirson play, “La Bete.” Dave’s co-stars were Joanna Lumley and Mark Rylance. Many loyal Kabeyun fans enjoyed the play and Dave’s company.

ELIJAH PORTER is a Teaching Fellow at the Yale School of Architecture.

GREG PURNELL is studying design and technical theatre at the University of Connecticut. He is also the staff electrician for the Connecticut Repertory Theatre in Storrs, CT.

TOBIAS SCHMITTNER visited Boston in December. Expiring miles on Lufthansa allowed him to select Boston as his destination. He visited with **Bill French**, **Bob Linscott**, and **Luke Howell**. Tobias still lives in Munich, where he works for an engineering design firm that requires he travel extensively.

SIMON TARANTO was graduated from Cornell University in June with a B.S. in Bioenvironmental Engineering. He is living and working (teaching) in Kathmandu, Nepal as a Fullbright Grantee at the Fullbright Commission in Nepal. Go to Simon’s blog, simonnepal.blogspot.com, for more information and wonderful photographs.

JUSTIN WALDMAN works for the Williamstown Theatre Festival, where he directed a successful production of “Samuel J & K” by Matt Smart. Justin spends his summer in the Berkshires and lives in Manhattan the rest of the year.

TIM YOUNG is working in Harrisburg, PA as an “adventure specialist” at the Yellow Breeches Educational Center. Tim was graduated from Plymouth State University in June with a B.S. degree in Adventure Education.

WEDDINGS

MIKE AND NANCY BAETZ were married in July outside of Denver, CO. Kabeyun guests included **Mark Robbins**, **Luke Mitcheson**, **Matt Keenan**, **Alex Arensberg**, **Maggie Amis**, **Joe Maslow**, and **Kristen Ullman**.

SCOTT CAVANAUGH was married to Ashley Grant in a ceremony at Pine Point in September. Kabeyun attendees were **Greg Brodsky** (best man), **Mike Steinberg**, **Mike Gottfried**, **Tommy Cavanaugh**, **Bryce Berggren** and **Jennifer Hart**, **Chuck** and **Laura Mills**, and **Ken** and **Roanne Robbins**.

MILES DOUGHERTY was married to Madeleine in September.

GARY MASLOW was married in May to his longtime friend, Kim, in Cinnamon Beach, FL. They live in Durham, NC and are expecting twins in May.

MAX SHULMAN was married to Prentiss in July in Los Angeles. They now live in New York City.

BIRTHS

GABE GORDON and Kate had their second child, Sophie Salter Gordon in February. Their son Alexander, is already 2.5 years old. They live in Portland, ME. Gabe is teaching and Kate works for the District Attorney’s office.

MARCELO OLARTE and Jamie gave birth to their first child, Isabella, in May. They live in New York and Marcelo works with the Healthcare Finance Group at Citi.

CHRISTOPHER OLD and his wife, Katie, had their third child, Griffin, in December. They live in Truckee, CA.

IN MEMORIAM

JOHN CLAYTON DRAPER died suddenly at the age of 64 in July in Raleigh, NC. John was President of First Flight Venture Center. A memorial service was held at Pine Point in September. His brother, **Jim Draper**, and his sister, Martha Ditmeyer organized a lovely memorial for him. Jim also organized a small memorial on Mt. Madison in August. When John was a camper in the 1950s, he loved hiking and playing tennis. He was a collector, historian, businessman, and father. He lived with polio and later hemochromatosis. With his Polio condition, he was not allowed to play tennis at school. At Kabeyun, he was allowed and encouraged to play tennis. He became an aggressive tennis player. Memorial gifts may be given to the Porter Foundation in his name for the new tennis court.

KELLEN SAMS died on February 11th, 2010, from a traumatic skiing accident following an avalanche while back country skiing in the Sneffels Range in Colorado. Friends and colleagues all attest to how safe Kellen was in any outdoor activity. Kellen worked for the Adaptive Sports Center in Crested Butte, and more recently for the Outdoor Recreational Adventure Program and Education at Fort Carson, CO. Kellen was serious and infectiously enthusiastic about his work in the outdoors. He had a fine sense of humor and a fun, goofy side to him. Kellen was a camper and a counselor for many years. A spokesman for Fort Carson said, “Kellen was an outstanding servant leader, and he exemplified the core of servant leadership to his clients who are the soldiers and families of Fort Carson.” Memorial gifts may be given to the Porter Foundation in his name for the exciting new tree house at the ropes course at Sunset (see page 3). His family has made a very generous contribution toward this project.

Gifts to the 2010 Kabeyun Annual Fund

We are grateful to the following parents and friends; former campers and staff for their generous contributions to the Kabeyun Annual Fund. This list includes donations made between January 1 and December 31, 2010. Gifts received after January 1, 2011 will be listed next spring.

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Kellen Sams
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John Riley, in memory of Kellen Sams
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of Kellen Sams
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Celia Ross & Jack Simpson
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Peter Rowan & June Hammond
Rowan
Marc & Wendy Rubin
Janet Sanders
Bob & Carol Sabora, in honor of
Charles & John Baker

Annual Fund, continued on page 7

2010 Annual Fund Impresses and Inspires

In 2010, in defiance of challenging economic times, the Annual Fund continued to remind us of how important the camp experience is to alumni and our extended community. Gifts of cash, stock, and corporate matching gifts poured in from a record 294 donors, totalling \$115,793.30 and exceeding all prior years since the 75th anniversary campaign of 1996.

Two notable projects were the direct beneficiaries of contributions — Robert Henzler made possible the rebuilding of the Photo Shack, and gifts in memory of Kellen Sams brought to life the new treehouse at Sunset.

In addition, our thanks go to those who made notable non-cash donations that served to enhance our program. Norman MacLeod of the Wolfeboro Inn again made the *Winnepesaukee Belle* available for the staff's annual end-of-summer celebration.

Tuition Assistance and More

Once more, Annual Fund contributions helped to support the tuition assistance program, where in 2010 we were able to provide 20 families with over \$60,000 in grants ranging from \$1,000 to the full tuition for one month at camp. It is through the generosity of our community that we are able to fulfill our commitment to the principle that the ability to pay should not be a limiting factor in a boy's access to the Kabeyun experience.

In 2010, as in years past, the annual fund helped to facilitate equipment upgrades and additions, competitive staff salaries, facility repairs and improvements, and safety enhancements.

The View From the Office Porch, continued from page 1

Well, I say, maybe it *looks* a little different. We've renovated some buildings, made a few improvements here and there. But does it *feel* different? Hardly! Beach supper is still every Saturday night. The bell still brings all action in the dining hall to a screeching halt. A boy can still choose to do anything he wants at Kabeyun, but he still can't choose to do nothing.

Part of this winter has included visits and conversations with small groups of alumni. On a cold January night at the home of Bob Linscott, Jay Remington talked about how "in most people's mind, Kabeyun is frozen at the last summer they were there. Like a home, there's a certain comfort in the sameness and continuity of it." When I meet a father who was a camper here, who is bringing his son back for his first summer, they have that glow of recognition, that happy realization that Kabeyun is the same, and that feels good.

Bit by bit, thanks to these conversations with alumni, I'm gaining perspective that I've found myself craving — what was it like at camp when John Porter was here? What was it like to work for Nick Latham? I'm enhancing my understanding not just of *how* we do things, but *why* we do things in a certain way. How did we end up where we are today?

Kabeyun's strength, and the effectiveness of its program, lies in a cozy marriage between established tradition and gradual, considerate innovation. There are reasons — good reasons — that there is a particular way we do things. Take the traffic pattern in the dining hall; surely it hasn't *always* been exactly like it is now, but it sure feels that way. Why is that? It's because we've evolved to where we are. The traffic pattern of today represents a series of minor, seemingly insignificant tweaks to what was a good system, once upon a time.

Kabeyun does seem like a place that's frozen in time, in spite of the fact that we cast a critical eye on our systems from time to time, and make adjustments as necessary. For the most part, it's imperceptible, or it's such a logical change, that a former camper who returns twenty years or fifty years after his last visit still feels that warm sense of familiarity we all enjoy here.

Ken

FAMILY CAMP 2011

Wed, Aug. 24th - Mon, Sep. 5th

Annual Fund, continued from page 6

Sue Latham & Ben Scherz
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Kellen Sams
Daniel Schlozman
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Trips are an integral part of the Kabeyun program, giving boys the opportunity to leave camp and scale peaks, descend rivers, climb rock faces, fish the ocean, canoe remote lakes, and much more. In 2010, the Bears program ventured to northern Maine; along their way, they completed the 100-Mile Wilderness section of the Appalachian Trail, summited Mt. Katahdin, and canoed the Allagash Wilderness Waterway.

Thanks to the photographers whose work is featured here and on the Kabeyun website. This year's contributors include Alex Hill, Christian Latham, Marshall Bronfin, Caroline van Hattem, Bailey Cone, Melissa Randall, Kevin Allan, Gavin Davis, and many more. You'll find many more stunning photos on the website, www.kabeyun.org, and on Kabeyun's Facebook page!