



MOWGLIS

SCHOOL OF THE OPEN

A summer of fun, a lifetime of friends, memories, confidence and standards.

SPRING REPORT 2012

HOLT-ELWELL MEMORIAL FOUNDATION 2012 TRUSTEES

Chris Phaneuf ('77),
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Vice President, father of Doug ('02)

Dave Tower ('52),
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father of Ian ('10)

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father of Foster, Panther 2011

Jim Graff ('78)
father of James, Den 2012

Roel Hoekstra ('76)
father of Chris ('07) and
Carter, Panther 2012

Richard Morgan ('68)

Eric Love ('91)

Steve Minich ('71)

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Meg Hurdman
mother of Chris ('05),
Jay ('06), and Robby ('09)

Diane Sears
mother of Manning, Akela 2011
and Nicholas, Cubs 2011

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Dear Alumni, Parents, and Friends of Mowglis:

The 2012 season is quickly approaching and Director Sam Punderson and Assistant Director Tommy Greenwell are busily preparing for what promises to be another memorable summer.

As discussed further in this edition of The Call, the upcoming summer marks an important milestone for Mowglis, as it was fifty years ago that the Holt Elwell Memorial Foundation ("HEMF") was formed. Since its opening in 1903 Mowglis was owned by private individuals whose dedication and love for the camp nurtured it through both the good and inevitable challenging times. In 1962, following an injury to then Director Mr. Adams, enrollment plummeted and the camp's financial situation became precarious. In response, a group of dedicated former campers and staff members raised the necessary funds to acquire the camp and led the formation of the Holt Elwell Memorial Foundation, a non-profit foundation which acquired the camp, thereby insuring Mowglis' future. While it would have been most profitable to sell the Mowglis property for development, it was Mr. Adam's wish to see Mowglis continue to its mission.

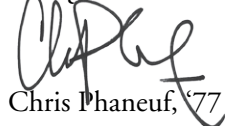
Mowglis' history is filled with dedicated individuals who have stepped forward, not when called upon to do so, but rather when they've seen the need. Mowglis has always instilled upon its boys the importance of brotherhood; of doing that which is best for the group and not the individual. This culture of giving has sustained Mowglis through the years and is brought to mind as we celebrate this important 50-year milestone. Also brought to mind is this excerpt from the Mowglis Prayer, which most eloquently captures this spirit:

*"Look with untiring eye upon all who lead the Pack;
make them quick to see its needs and ready to carry out its demands.
Make each member brave to follow, strong to lead and patient to wait...."*

Throughout the coming summer, beginning at the Get Back-Give Back work weekend in June, we will be recognizing the important events and figures in Mowglis history. The boys will learn how the sacrifice of many over the years continues to sustain Mowglis today and how they, in their turn, can make their own indelible imprint on the rich tapestry of Mowglis history.

On behalf of the staff and Board of Trustees of the Holt Elwell Memorial Foundation, thank you to all who have contributed to make Mowglis what it is today.

Mowglis, We Salute You!


Chris Phaneuf, '77



Mission Statement

Mowglis' mission is to guide boys on the journey to manhood by providing a summer overnight School of the Open under the guidance and care of experienced staff members.

Mowglis provides a rite of passage, offering boys the opportunity to become young men, learning leadership, responsibility, integrity, their role in the community, and respect for nature.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR...

Dear Mowglis,

Happy spring! I say that somewhat facetiously, since it never really seemed like winter up here in Northern New England. We had one of the mildest, and snowless winters ever experienced. The ice was "out" on Newfound Lake on March 24th, which I believe is an all-time early record, and days earlier than the latest record set in 2010, which in turn was weeks earlier than the prior record! I'm not sure where this is all headed, but when I was talking with an old timer from New Hampshire recently he quoted an old folklore weather tidbit. It goes like this, "If the snow melts with the sun, rather than with the rain, it's going to be a long, hot, dry summer." This adage certainly held true for 2010, so maybe we're in for a repeat in 2012.

Other than the weather we've been having a great off-season. Tommy and I have been busy on the road, with a total of 19 Alumni/Recruiting events completed, and an additional two scheduled prior to this going to press. Our success in holding so many events this winter has been due in large part to alumnae reaching out to reconnect, as well as through the energy of our Trustees and Recruiting Committee. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have hosted an event of any sort over the off-season. Your willingness to open your homes, or organize an event has increased our ability to reconnect with alumni and friends we would not have otherwise. If you have not taken the opportunity to come see us at one of these events, please do so. It's so much fun to reconnect and plug back in to the magic of Mowglis.



We want to make you aware of a few notable upcoming events:

*This summer is the 50th anniversary of the creation of the Holt Elwell Memorial Foundation! This is the non-profit that was established in 1962 that allows Mowglis to survive to this day. In the pages of this newsletter are a couple pieces that speak to this event. We'll be celebrating this milestone throughout the summer. The first event will take place during our annual Get Back and Give Back weekend, June 2nd and 3rd. Please come join us for this, we'd love to see you there! Last summer we had 65 folks join for the Saturday night dinner, this year we're shooting for 100!

*By the start of the camp season, we should have the second war canoe restored. This means that for the first time in decades, we'll see the boys out on the lake in these beautifully restored boats, the same in which many of you have paddled! Thanks to those of you who have made this possible with your donations.

Please take a minute to view our fund-raising appeal on page 7. Once again I ask that if you have not yet given to the 2012 annual fund, please do so now. In addition to some of our larger gifts, it takes many, many small donations to fill the current financial needs of Mowglis. Participation was up last year, but we still need to increase the number of donations. Our ability to attract larger donors and grants hinges on being able to show them how involved in giving our base is. Please give now if you have not done so already.

Thank you for all your support and we hope to see you at camp this summer!

Sincerely,

Sam Punderson

The (long overdue) Enhancement of good old Gray Brothers

By Buzz Ringe '50

Our beloved Director Emeritus, K. Robert Bengtson, has asked me, in his own subtle but ultra-persuasive manner, to relate to you the story that follows:



Once upon a time, way back in the 1940's, there was a frightened young camper and counselor named "Buzzie", who thanks to Col. Elwell, Darwin Kingsley, and others, eventually became a proud Mowglis Man, and who graduated as "Gray Brother" in 1950. He then became tennis counselor and crew coach, whose devotion to Mowglis led to his spending all of his vacation time in a house owned by Darwin on good old Newfound Lake.

Then, as a trustee of the Holt-Elwell Memorial Foundation, he was instrumental in trying to convince a young counselor named Bob Bengtson to become Director so that Bob might eventually rank with Col. Elwell, in terms of service, to our dear Mowglis.

As chairman of the Property Committee, he and Bob turned the tree and boulder-filled swamp, then called the Archery Range, into what is now known as the Lower Ball Field.

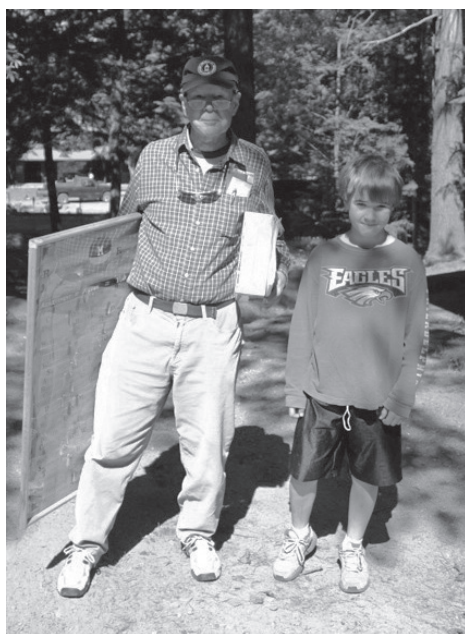
The problems there involved not only the draining and leveling of that swamp, but how to remove the giant boulders that dominated the landscape. Trustee Allyn Brown who had solved a similar problem on his own farm in Ct., had the solution: "Simply gouge a huge hole in the middle of the field and then bulldoze the boulders in and bury them!" Your Akela wisdom lives on, at Mowglis, Allyn!

My only son (besides two older Onaway girls, Jennifer and Alexandra), Benjamin, known still at Mowglis as "Benjy," then took on his own role in Mowglis lore, as featured in a story that Bill Hart loved to tell whenever he could:

After Benjy's first week in Cubs, Mr. Hart wrote to Benjy's mortified Dad a letter which shockingly ended thus:

"Benjy has given me three reasons why he must be allowed to go home immediately: First, he hates loud noises, and there is even a cannon here that goes off all the time, and on

his first day here, he was even forced to fire it. Second, his parents don't believe in guns (true), and besides the cannon, this place even has a rifle range! Third, and most important, he insists that he can't breathe properly, as he is allergic to pine trees!" Mr. Hart then went on to say, "But don't worry, Buzz, my son Phil and I will see to it that he is soon cured, so there is no need for you to make any immediate plans to come to his rescue." Imagine the horror... Needless to say, Mr. Hart would not have told and retold this tale, had there not been a happy ending, which was this: Benjy became an illustrious graduate, and later tennis counselor and Crew Leader for even more years than his Dad! One winter, he even helped to repaint the Jungle House! And just this spring he has been invited to join the Mowglis Board of Trustees.



Buzz & grandson, Jordan Eisenman

2012 w/sh list

Can anyone donate the following?

- Two man crew shell
- Tennis net for upper court
- Swimming fins and water toys
- Sponsor stain for a building
- Wood to build backstop on lower tennis court
- Sports equipment
- Soccer goals
- Horse shoes game
- 22 gallon portable fuel dolly with auto-stop nozzle. It will prevent lake pollution and save the camp from marina fuel prices! Estimated cost: \$350.00

Specifically for Industries:

- Axe handles
- Gray boat paint for 420 sailboats
- Craft supplies

Next in line from our family, my daughter Jennifer's two sons Nathaniel and Jordan Eisenman, joined the Mowglis family – A legacy which began in the 1930's with my older brother, Tom Ringe. (My dear wife Sally was once an Onaway girl.)

As for my feelings about Mowglis, I still believe firmly in the words I used a quarter-century ago, when I produced "The Mowglis Film". I said "Of all the so-called institutions I've ever been associated with, including schools, colleges, and the U.S. Navy, the one that has meant the most to me, and still does mean the most, is Mowglis."

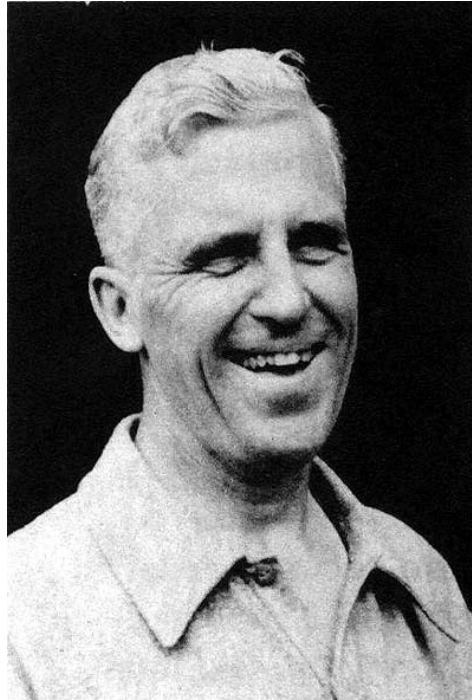
So, what does all this have to do with the enhancement of Gray Brothers? It's simply to give you some background as to why the following was, and is, so passionately important to me.

You remember the Gray Brothers stage curtain. We all do. And we loved it, and we took it for granted forever. But... for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Reflections of Col. Alcott Farrar Elwell

In celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Holt-Elwell Memorial Foundation, we are asking any Mowglis who were fortunate enough to be at Camp during Col. Elwell's 27 year tenure as Camp Director, and who would like to offer their reflections, to please do so. Please send your reflections to us at Camp: PO Box 9, Hebron, NH 03241, or by email to info@mowglis.org so that we may include them in the 2012 fall edition of The Mowglis Call.



We are currently accepting orders for Mowglis sweatshirts, adult sizes S-XXL in grey, red & navy heavy weight cotton for \$65 each.



Please contact Holly at admin@mowglis.org or 603-744-8095 for more information.



Mark your Calendars!

June 1-3, 2012

GET BACK & GIVE BACK WEEKEND

Alumni, friends, and staff working together to prepare the camp for the summer.

In recognition of the HEMF 50th anniversary, we will have some special recollections from long-time Mowglis and more in store for what promises to be a special evening on Saturday night, filled with song and stories.

Our French chef, Bruno Legrand, will be preparing the food for the weekend, so you can experience how great the food is at camp during the summer!

Please contact Holly at admin@mowglis.org if you are planning to attend or if you would like more information.

Adopt A Building

We still have opportunities available where alumni can adopt a building by either donating funds to a specific structure, or to come to camp and do hands-on work to that building. In addition to the new Kent's Cottage, Mang has had an upgrade to the bathroom, and plans are in the works for the Chef's Cottage.

If you are interested, please give Sam or Tommy a call at 603-744-8095.



ATTENTION ALUMNI: If you are interested in doing a campfire presentation this summer, please contact Tommy Greenwell at wtgreenwell@mowglis.org. Please note: Monday & Friday campfires fill up quickly!



ENHANCEMENT, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

too many years now, I (and many others) have been extremely concerned about the perilous condition of this iconic image, originally painted in 1940 by counselor W. Richard West, better known to us as “Chief Wah- Pah- Nah-Yah.” It was not only badly blackened by mold, but it was also the victim of 70 years of wear and literally tear, to the point that the paint (last re-touched in 1976) was chipping and falling off the canvas; it was actually disintegrating before our eyes! And since that image is truly the lasting indoor image of Mowglis that we all so fondly recall, it became my first priority to come to its rescue, so that it may endure for future generations of Mowglis to appreciate.

Our first order of business was to bring in an expert on art restoration. Bob showed the painting to just such a specialist, Linda Donovan, who informed us that to properly preserve the curtain, it would cost us about \$30,000.

After that shocking news had sunk in, we began to explore other alternatives. Having seen what can be portrayed on billboards, Bob next approached a professional photographer about how best to reproduce Wah- Pah- Nah- Yah’s work of art. Together, we finally concluded that the best solution for us would be to digitally photograph the curtain, and then to project that image onto a canvas to be stretched onto a frame that would fit into the space between the top of the stage opening and the roof of Gray Brothers. Then that image would be colored in by an expert professional artist who would copy in paint the original, as exactly as is humanly possible.

This incredibly intricate task was successfully accomplished by Dick Shetler and talented painter Marcy Yerxes. And then, after a one-time-only featured appearance in a Crew Day Evening Skit, the new painting was permanently installed above the stage.

Next, to create a new image for the stage curtain, Bob and I revisited our design for the Mowglis banner, which had been hung on the front of Gray Brothers above the porch roof for so long that the sun had faded the blue to gray and the red to pink! Just in time for Crew Day, we had two duplicate banners made by an American Flag company in Philadelphia, to hang on Gray Brothers and on Kaa, with the old version kept to run up the flagpole beneath our American flag.

The stage curtain design, we decided, should be in that same motif, which was also re-created for our 100th Anniversary banner. So, Bob presented this design to a stage-supply company, which would feature a red curtain on the left meeting a blue curtain on the right, with a huge block “M” in the center, along with a black Mowglis wolf on the left base of the “M” and a white “1903” on the right base.

Also, while in the market for stage curtains, we ordered black opaque curtains to cover the windows at the rear of the stage, which would also serve to create a new backstage entrance/exit space.

Finally, at the suggestion of Ed Mitchell, in order to frame this entire stage area with another iconic Mowglis image, we raised the old, retired crewboats and oars to the rafters, exactly 100 years after their creation in 1911!

Glen installed new improved lighting for all of the above, plus a newly framed Ribbons Chart on Gray Brothers porch, in the same motif as the banners and curtains. To celebrate this we will reintroduce the Mowglis pennants, which were so popular in the past.

Three brass plaques have been installed on the inside wall of Gray Brothers, to commemorate these changes. Please be sure to take the time to read these when you next visit camp.

After Sam Punderson became Director, at our first “Get-Back, Give-Back/work weekend” together, two years ago, we presented to him these (among others) long-dreamed-of, wish-list ideas. Sam’s immediate response:

“Sounds great! Go ahead! But, the camp’s money is tight and we’ll need to find funding for this outside of our budget.”

So, with Sam’s blessing, we went ahead, and we’ve been going steadily ahead ever since. As for the budget part, I have “borrowed” the necessary funds, as we proceeded, from my own retirement account, not knowing until completion what the total cost might be.

A fourth plaque is under consideration in order to commemorate all of those who are making this, among many other accomplishments, possible. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the overall cost of this project, please contact Bob Bengtson at: (603) 744-8095, Ext. 6, or, 38 Gale Ave., Laconia, N.H. 03246, or, [krebengtson@mowglis.org](mailto:krbengtson@mowglis.org).

On your next visit to Mowglis, which we trust will be soon, please do plan to see for yourself the long-overdue enhancement of good old Gray Brothers!

(Ed. Nt. = The spelling of Gray Brothers with an (a) dates back to Rudyard Kipling’s own spelling in the Jungle Book.)



The screen while work is underway

We’d love to have you host an event in your hometown!

This off-season alumni have hosted 19 events in Maine, New Hampshire, Washington D.C., Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, Texas, Vermont, Mexico and Italy. Please contact Sam Punderson at director@mowglis.org if you would like to host an event.

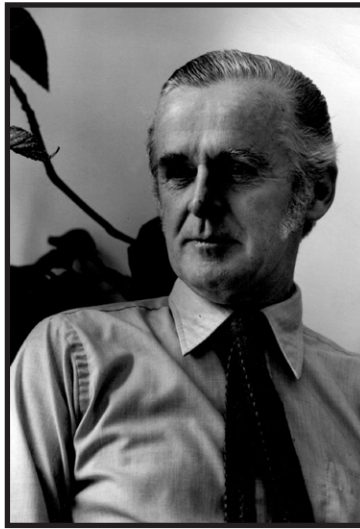
In Memoriam

Written by K. Robert Bengtson, Director Emeritus

WILLIAM WELLES LYMAN, JR. '31 (August 31, 1916 - September 14, 2008)

Born in New London, Ct., Bill was a graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy, the University of Michigan, and the Harvard Graduate School of Design where, after serving during WWII in the United States Coast Guard, he taught and assisted Walter Gropius in the Masters Class from 1947-1953. A fellow of the American Institute of Architects, he worked for several architectural firms in Boston, New York and the Detroit area for twenty years. He was president of the firm of Jickling, Lyman & Powell in Birmingham, Mich., and he served as president of the Michigan Society of Architects. During this time, the firm designed the Gerald Ford Presidential Library in Ann Arbor, as well as many other libraries in the state. Retiring in 1981, he moved to Portsmouth, N.H. where he became active in historic preservation and served as chairman of the Board of Governors of the Warner House, and where he became a very vocal advocate for improving public schools. He moved to York, Me. in 1998.

Bill's wife of 38 years, Joan (Dalrymple), said Bill truly loved camp and that he attributed his many successes to his Mowglis experience. First coming to camp as a member of Toomai in 1929, he returned for five consecutive seasons, his final summer as a member of the Junior Staff in charge of Ar-



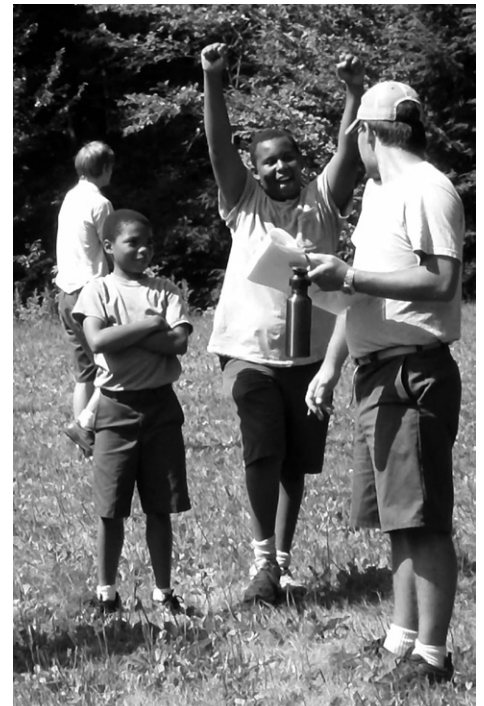
chery and the Camp Store. In preparing this remembrance it has been fun to look at his Mowglis file, for he was an excellent communicator and it is filled with the personal letters he sent. In particular, he enjoyed keeping us up-to-date on the doings of his grandsons, John and Brian Mack, who arrived at Mowglis for their first season in 1989.

Along with Joan, Bill leaves three stepdaughters, six children by a previous marriage to Margaret (Whittemore) Kelleher, and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In closing, please enjoy the following Howl written by Bill when he was a Pantherite in 1930.

The Archery Meet

At the end of the season Mowglis shot with the Bristol Boy Scouts in the annual archery meet. Mowglis won with 956 points, Bristol having 701. Last year we were beaten, but this year, after considerable practice, the Mowglis team was picked. Francis Hutchinson held the highest score of each of the teams, while Morrison Casparis was second. They each received a set of three prize arrows: one set made by Mr. Wetherill, and the other by Rev. Mr. Thompson, the leader of the Bristol Boy Scouts. The other boys also made good scores.



SPRING APPEAL

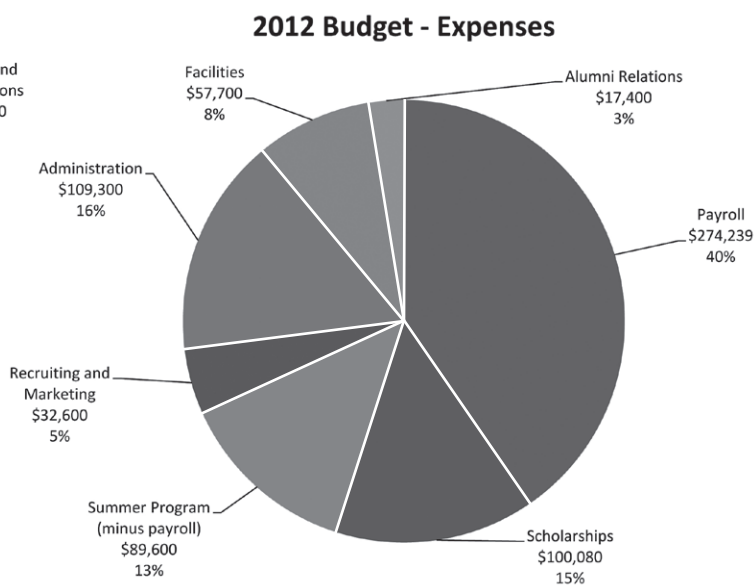
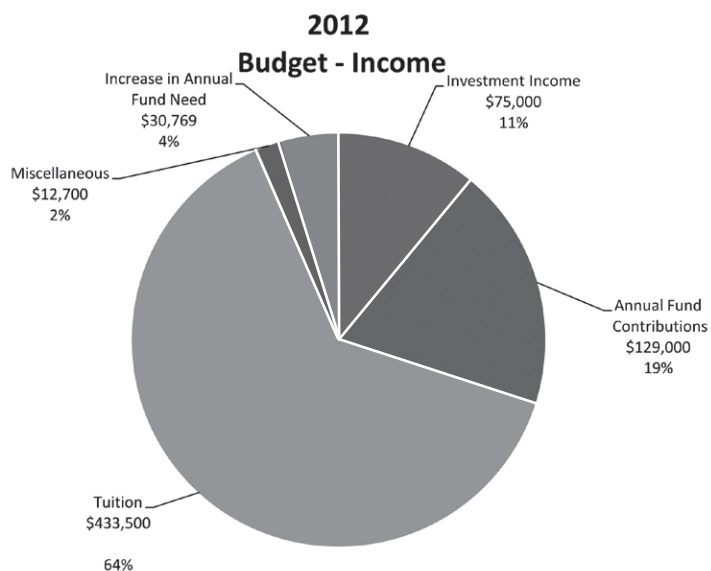


Below you will see a breakdown of Mowglis' 2012 budget with pie charts depicting the basic elements of our income and expenses. In order to fully fund our operations and maintain a balanced budget, we need to raise an additional 23% in our Annual Appeal over the prior year level. These additional monies will finance increases in Mowglis' operating costs ranging from insurance rates, to additional payroll for a full time handyman, which will allow us to address much needed deferred maintenance, to more requests than ever before for tuition assistance. All of this adds up, and we need your help to fund this shortfall.

We are building for our future and our budget reflects the added expenses needed to insure Mowglis' long term viability. This summer we expect our enrollment numbers to be up nearly 40% since 2009! Our goal is to be completely full by the summer of 2015. With a full camp will come a reduced dependence on annual giving, however, at this time we have a real need and are depending upon each of you to give to your fullest capacity to keep Mowglis healthy.

Please give this year if you have not given before. It's not the size of the gift that counts, but the fact that you are giving, that you are willing to show support for an institution that has meant something to you or somebody you love. Mowglis needs your support today more than ever. Small gifts can add up to make a large impact. If you and every other person on our donor list gave just \$50, we would raise nearly \$100,000!

If the thought of making a lump-sum gift seems daunting, you may want to consider spreading your donation out throughout the year in installments. The frequency and amount are completely up to you and totally flexible. Please go to our website, www.mowglis.org, and click on the "donate now" tab, which will take you to our online donor page.





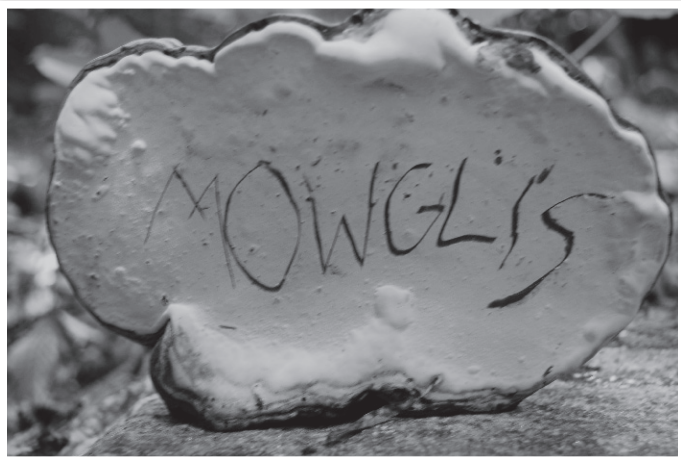
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SCHOOL OF THE OPEN

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————— *With Thanks* —————

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Charlie and Meg Hurdman
for hosting off-season recruiting events in their home for the past ten years.

We greatly appreciate your support!