



MOWGLIS

SCHOOL OF THE OPEN

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

WINTER 2015

A LETTER FROM DIRECTOR NICK ROBBINS

Greetings from Mowglis! With feet and feet of snow on the ground, and the lake completely frozen, it is hard to believe that in just a few short months we'll be welcoming our 2015 campers for our 112th summer!

Speaking of our 2015 campers... there are currently sixty-three campers signed up for next summer, as well as five Yearlings! The phone is ringing, and the inquiry emails are coming in every day. As you know, the majority of our campers come from alumni referrals, so please remember to tell your friends, neighbors, colleagues, cousins, and acquaintances about our unique School of the Open! Together we can ensure that the Mowglis Spirit reaches the next generation of Mowglis Men!

Yes, snowstorm after snowstorm, punctuated by a blizzard or two, have brought a REAL New Hampshire winter to Hebron! One amazing aspect of Mowglis is how every season is so distinct. With that in mind, we thought it would be fun to give you a peek behind the curtain and show you what the year-round Mowglis Team is up to when the snow is on the ground!

Tommy Greenwell and I have been on the road meeting with new Mowglis families and representing Mowglis at a number of camp fairs. When we are not on the road, we are back in New Hampshire. Interviewing new staff applicants and reconnecting with counselors from 2014 is a major focus, as we all know that a camp is only as good as its counselors! A mix of returning counselors, as well as a number of former Junior Staff who are now counselor-age, have said the proverbial "I DO" and have joined the 2015 Mowglis Team! We can't wait to work with them this summer!

With all of this snow, Tommy has definitely been busy shoveling off roofs, and he is also plugging away at getting all of the trips planned for next summer. He is procuring back-country permits, making hut reservations, and assessing equipment needs for the Trip Closet.

When not at Mowglis, I've been keeping up with the King Pine Ski Patrol one half-day a week and taking snowy hikes with my wife, Diana, and our children, Lizzie and Dru.



Tommy promoting Mowglis at camp fair.



Diana and Dru



Nick and Lizzie

Our Camp Registrar, Holly Taylor, has been working behind the scenes on all of the administrative aspects of camp.

Diana Robbins has been busily at work getting Mowglis ready for our American Camp Association accreditation visit this summer, not to mention booking “shoulder-season” groups for after camp.

Down in the Maintenance Shop, when he is not shoveling snow off roofs, or pushing back snow banks with the tractor, Glenn Westfall is hard at work making new Chapel, Campfire, and Gray Brothers benches.

When he’s not busy restoring pipe organs, Mr. Bengtson makes regular stops by the camp in preparation for the opening of the new Woodworking Shop.

Yes, a lot goes into making the seven weeks of Mowglis happen. Is forty-five weeks of preparations for seven weeks of camp worth it? Absolutely and without a doubt! Summer 2015, HERE WE COME!

Good hunting,



Nick Robbins

P.S. We hope to see you at one of our upcoming Alumni Events (New York, NY on 3/12 and Philadelphia, PA on 3/21)!



Holly Taylor, Camp Registrar



Tommy shoveling the roof



Diana preparing for Mowglis' ACA accreditation



Bob Bengtson and Mr. Glenn



Glenn Westfall plowing snow on his tractor



New Chapel, Campfire, and Gray Brothers benches



Parents, Alumni, and Trustees on Crew Day

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT...

As a winter storm, the third in as many weeks, hides what's left of the stone walls, shrubs, and garden furniture in a blanket of white, my thoughts turn to the much kinder days of summer and, more particularly, the Crew Day Alumni Weekend of this past August.

These memorable, fun-filled weekends are particularly meaningful, as many of the staff from my time as a camper in the 1970's return to Mowglis. Having the chance to reconnect with the iconic staff from my Mowglis years, like Paul Brown, Andy Popinchault, Wayne King, and Leigh Goering, strengthens my appreciation for the examples of leadership and high standards that they set. I realize that every era has its iconic figures, and today the fine Mowglis staff is making its own indelible mark on the boys, many of who will, in their turn, do the same for future generations of campers.

The passing on of our unique traditions from generation to generation is at the core of what makes Mowglis special, and preserving this timeless experience for future generations lies at the very heart of our mission as trustees of the Holt-Elwell Memorial Foundation.

I'm happy to report that plans for the summer of 2015 are well under way:

- Camper recruiting, the lifeblood of Mowglis, is progressing well, and dorms are quickly filling with new and returning boys from around the globe.
- The council is nearly set, with many returning staff, establishing continuity of leadership, traditions, and high standards.
- Several improvement projects around the property are well underway, and the new Woodworking Shop is now fully equipped and ready to welcome the boys in June.

While the future is bright indeed, there is still much to be done to insure that the Mowglis experience will be available to future generations. The Board of Trustees and Director Nick Robbins and his staff are working on many fronts to strengthen the summer program and to solidify our financial position, so that we can continue to offer the same transformative experience that Mowglis has offered since its inception.

The annual appeal has produced an encouraging initial response, with past donors generously increasing their gifts, and many new friends and family making contributions for the first time. These funds are absolutely critical in bridging the gap between tuition and the actual cost of a boy's summer at Mowglis. We are still short of our fundraising goal so, if you haven't already, please make a contribution.

Please make your plans now to visit Mowglis this summer. We look forward to seeing you!

Good Hunting!



Chris Phaneuf, '77



HOLT-ELWELL MEMORIAL FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

Chris Phaneuf ('77),
President

Jim Westberg ('69),
Vice President

Roel Hoekstra ('76),
Treasurer

Richard Morgan ('68),
Secretary

David Concannon ('79)

Forty Conklin ('74)

Jim Graff ('78)

Meg Hurdman
(P 2009, 2006, 2005)

Andrew Khatri ('93)

Eric Love ('91)

Greg Phaneuf ('82)

Ben Ringe ('85)

Diane Sears (P 2015)

Dave Tower ('52)

Charlie Walbridge ('62)

MOWGLIS SCHOOL OF THE OPEN

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www.Mowglis.org

Nick Robbins.....nickrobbins@mowglis.org

Holly Taylorholly@mowglis.org

Tommy Greenwell.....wtgreenwell@mowglis.org

Q: On the path from the Jungle House down to camp, if one looks carefully, one can see on the outside wall of the Lodge a round hole, several inches wide, with a small wooden ledge under it. For what purpose do you suppose that hole was cut into the center of the first floor of the Lodge?

LEAVE A LEGACY

Do you appreciate the value of the Mowglis experience in your life? Do you feel it is important for that experience to be available for boys in the future? One powerful way to support Mowglis is by joining the Bagheera Society, a group of people who have pledged to make a legacy gift to the Holt-Elwell Memorial Foundation. A legacy gift (also called a deferred gift) basically means that you have identified the Foundation as a beneficiary in your will, life insurance, or retirement account. It is fairly easy. If you are interested in more information, just check the Bagheera Society box on the enclosed envelope and send it in.

We are honoring the commitment of Bagheera Society members in three ways:

- They will be awarded a bookcase-worthy black panther figurine (pictured right)
- A "trail marker" with their names will be hung in Gray Brothers
- They and a guest will be invited to an annual Bagheera Society brunch on the Sunday after Crew Day (this year at the Common Man in Plymouth).



Sign up now and join those who have made a special commitment to the future of Mowglis.

Leave your mark!

Annual Appeal Update

We have had a good response to our annual appeal so far. We have received approximately \$58,000, with about 30 of the 133 donations coming from first-time donors! As you may know, tuition alone does not cover the cost of the Mowglis experience. Your donation is important for keeping the Mowglis tradition both alive and affordable. Many thanks to those of you who have already donated! Remember that your donation can be more effective if you take advantage of an employer's matching donation program.

If you have not yet donated, please use the enclosed envelope or go to www.mowglis.org to donate online.

Upcoming Alumni Events

Thursday, March 12

6:30-8:30 PM

**The Princeton Club
New York, NY**

Guest Speaker Kenyon Salo ('87)

Saturday, March 21

12:00-2:30 PM

**The Corinthian Yacht Club
Essington, PA**

Guest Speaker Roel Hoekstra ('76)

*For more information please visit
www.mowglis.org/upcoming-events/*



*We are very sad to let you
know of the passing of several
Mowglis men and women.*

Peter Beck ('54)

Richard Fellows ('75), Camper 1970-75

Dean M. Hatheway ('33), camper 1929-33, Junior Staff 1934,35, 37, and 38. He worked in the Trip Dept. 1939, 1947, and 1948, was the Assistant Watermaster in 1956, and the Watermaster in 1957. Dean and his wife, Janet, were the Cub Directors 1959-60. Dean was a Trustee from 1979-1992.

Esther Mauran, wife of Frank Mauran, camper from 1932-37 and mother of Frank Mauran, IV ('72).

David Orr ('49) camper 1948-49. He was a staff member from 1950-54, and a HEMF Trustee from 1979-92. David's son Jamie graduated from Mowglis in 1975.

William "Boatner" Reily, camper 1941-42 and a long-time Mowglis supporter.

William Standish, father of Baird Standish ('71)



The Best Camp Day of My Life

By Buzz Ringe ('50)

In the last issue of the Call, I was struck by a paragraph describing “the best camp day of my life” by a former camper named Ronnie Reisinger, who described one day at Mowglis in 1956 as the most memorable day of all of his times at the TEN different camps he had attended in his youthful but extensive camping experience as the Scottish Baron of Inneryne!

That paragraph read as follows: “The entire camp was organized into color wars and played a version of Capture the Flag, where the boys were divided into two groups and were body-painted separate colors. Each boy carried a crepe paper flag, and both teams were released into the woods. Each boy had to capture as many flags as possible. For each flag captured, the victorious boy would receive one-half of a frozen Milky Way. The Colonel’s favorite candy bar was a Milky Way, so it was the standard reward at the time. I remember a group of boys running wild in the woods, and what a great day that was!”

One reason that this almost sixty-year-old memory struck me was that I well remember relishing the planning of that special day, as I was Counselor of the Day on July 4th of that year, when the “Regular Mowglis Day” need not apply!

As I recall it, this was the plan: To celebrate the birth of our nation’s independence and our democracy, the theme of the day was to experience an invasion of extra-terrestrials, who needed us to choose our own fate—either with the Martians or with the Venusians, both of whom desired our allegiance to their side. That was the idea, anyhow.

No camper had any idea that this was coming. So, before Reveille, a counselor was dressed as a green-painted Martian with a weird green outfit topped with a weird green face-mask, and he was supposed to run crazily through Baloo and then through Panther, on his way to the other dorms to awaken everyone in a unique fashion and, finally, to deliver a message from Mars!

Unfortunately, the noisy ruckus our Martian caused in Baloo prematurely aroused the Pantherites, and some were ready and armed with wildly-swinging axes and machetes when that poor Martian arrived there. Fortunately for him, that counselor from Mars managed somehow to dash through Panther and escape unscathed, as he ran for his life up past Akela and into the woods beyond, never to deliver any written message anywhere, only a visual and noisy horror show!

Then came a bugle call—Not Reveille, but Assembly! Everyone ran in his pajamas and bare feet to Gray Brothers Field to report his own safe presence.

As all of the boys were reporting, I sneaked out of the back door of the Council Room in Lower Gray Brothers and shot a flaming arrow over the cannon wall, across the field into the grassy bank beneath the Campfire Circle. Fortunately, the Council Room was “off-limits” to campers, so I could safely retreat and emerge from the other side, as if nothing out of the ordinary had happened!

A counselor then retrieved the purple arrow with a cryptic message from Venus rolled around it. In Venusian

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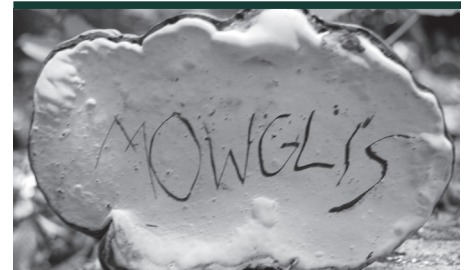
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You shop. Amazon gives.



Want to help Mowglis while you shop?

Through the Amazon Smile program, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to The Holt-Ewell Memorial Foundation.

To participate, go to www.smile.amazon.com.



2015 w/sh list

Racing Shell (\$1500)
donated by Ron Malette

Digital SLR Cameras for
Photography Industry (\$300 ea)
donated by Tomo Nishino

Clearing Saw (\$1200)
donated by Steve Punderson

Commercial Dehumidifier (\$450)

Lawn Mower (\$300)

Crew Bandannas for Crew
Weekend 2015 (\$150)

If you would like to contribute to the cost of any of these items, please send us an email at info@mowglis.org.

:: Mission Statement ::

The mission of Mowglis 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.

ALUMNI NOTES:

Alejandro Medina Mora (Den 2000) shared his recent experience with us:

"I had the chance to represent Mexico in the One Young World Summit held in Dublin, Ireland, in October 2014. It was an amazing experience, getting together with young peers from more than 190 countries, and also having the chance to meet with great professionals such as Kofi Annan, Muhammad Yunus, Jimmy Wales, and President Fox. I truly believe in the power that we young people have to make a difference in all aspects. I'm still thankful for the lessons I learned at Mowglis, which keep me pushing forward towards a better world."



Former Mexican President Fox and Alejandro Medina Mora

We'd like to send a big thank you to **Codie Crawford (Den 2010 and current Axemanship Instructor)** for his recent help shoveling the Gray Brothers roof with Mr. Greenwell and Mr. Glenn. THANK YOU, CODIE!

We heard from **Jim Beckford (Den '56)** a while back regarding what he has been doing recently:

"Bonnie and I spent six weeks in the RV this summer traveling to Key West, Sacramento, Seattle, and points in between. At home I spend time tutoring students, which keeps me busy in addition to the "honey-do" list of washing windows and occasional faucet replacement. I hope that last summer was successful at camp and some of the reforms that you mentioned were able to be enacted. Have a great off-season. Next summer is right around the corner."

Cameron Carothers (Den 2005), current Mowglis staff member and a senior at Elon University, wrote to tell us about a really interesting program that he participated in this fall:

"To satisfy the study abroad requirement of Elon University's International Studies degree, I am attending Semester at Sea for Fall 2014. Prior to this voyage, I had not traveled outside the North American continent, so from my very first steps off the plane in Southampton, England, I began a transformative experience. Through the Institute for Shipboard Education - currently hosted by the University of Virginia - our academic community spends 108 days on an academically-outfitted oceanic vessel, traveling around the Atlantic and engaging in our studies from St. Petersburg, Russia, to Civitavecchia, Italy, to Casablanca, Morocco, to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, usually spending three or four days in each port."



Having already visited seven ports in Europe, one in Africa, and two in South America, we are now headed to the Caribbean for our final two international destinations: Bridgetown, Barbados and Havana, Cuba."

Each of our courses includes a field lab in port to further practice international awareness and to develop our intercultural lenses, and the day's itinerary was designed to fuel classroom dissection for the remainder of the semester. My most recent field lab took place in Salvador, Brazil, to investigate the population's health values and ability to enact healthy behavioral changes. My Health Promotion class visited a local outdoor exercise facility at an artificial lake, Salvador's model food market for sanitary practices, and Brazil's first medical university/family treatment clinic. Looking forward to seeing you in June!"

After spending some time at Mowglis last summer, **Andreas "Hardy" Wischlburger (Den '87)** has signed on to be one of the cooks at camp for the upcoming season!

Caroline Westberg, 2014 Swimming Instructor, Counselor, and current college student, wrote to tell us of her adventures abroad this semester:

"I am studying abroad in Brussels, Belgium, an international hub filled with a multitude of contrasting cultures and people from all over the world. Brussels is the de facto capital of the European Union, so there are a variety of European institutions and numerous headquarters for private companies, NGOs, and non-profits. Brussels is a charming (and rainy) city with diverse architecture, lively neighborhoods, and a plethora of museums. It's widely known for its delicious chocolate, vast selection of local beer, and a popular dish called "Frites avec Moules" (or Fries with Mussels). While in Brussels, I will be taking classes in

International Affairs at Vesalius College, a small international college of 300-400 students. I also have an internship with the Education Commission of Belgium, Luxembourg, and the U.S. State Department office that coordinates the Fulbright program and an Education USA Advising Center. I am living with a wonderful Spanish host-family; they speak fluent French and Spanish, and cook divine meals. In the first month, I have traveled to Bruges (a fairy-tale like city in the northern Dutch-speaking part of Belgium called Flanders), Waterloo Battlefield, Namur (a small city in the southern French-speaking part of Belgium called Wallonia), and Maredsous Abbey (a Benedictine monastery in southern Belgium). I have also traveled to Amsterdam, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg City, Luxembourg! I intend to do more traveling while I am in Europe, with a longer trip planned later in the semester to visit Romania, Bulgaria, and Greece.

If you are interested in keeping up with my travels, my blog pages are lifeofcaro.tumblr.com (writing) and travelfofcaro.wordpress.com (photography).

Above is a picture that was taken in the southern region of Belgium, Wallonia, in a city called Namur. We were on top of the Citadel de Namur."



Tom Lloyd (Den '83) with Alicia, Pablo, Alexander & Sophia

Doug Stenberg's (Den '72) reflections on the impact of Mowglis on his life really struck a chord with us recently:

"I think we all know how important Mowglis was in the long run, and I believe that every boy in the world would benefit from our school of the open. Once I retire, I hope to get up there again. Long ago, when I was going through yet another challenging time there, I went to the Chapel and talked to God. Pleaded was more like it. I go for walks now on Blue Marsh trails, and when I reach the summit of a micro mountain, I say the Lord's Prayer. I'm not conventionally religious, but I like to think that Mowglis inspired me to love Nature and to find the spirit of it all there as well."

***Congratulations**
to Jaylene Bengtson, wife of
Director Emeritus Bob Bengtson,
who recently received her PhD.*



2015 campers Nick and Jack Sears and Director Nick Robbins had a great day skiing at King Pine on February 17th!

ANSWER: The hole cut into the side of the Lodge once held a short pipe which extended from it-- a pipe which led back inside to a glass-sided beehive on the first floor of the Lodge! So, this pipe was the entrance and the exit that the bees used to travel back and forth from their honey-making hive inside the Lodge to the outside world and the lush and luscious Mowglis gardens! And to view that very busy beehive was then one of the more popular reasons to visit the Mowglis Lodge!

(Answer to Question on page 4)



CAMP MOWGLIS
P.O. Box 9
HEBRON, NH 03241

RETURN ADDRESS
REQUESTED

BEST CAMP DAY

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English, the message ordered all campers to choose sides--either Martian or Venusian, and accordingly, to announce their allegiance by being painted either green (Martian) or purple (Venusian).

After an "as-normal-as-possible" breakfast, then Duties and Industries, and lunch for the Greens and Purples, it was announced that after Relax (right!), all boys would be given green or purple "flags" and would be released into the woods separately on either side of camp, with the caveat that they travel in groups of at least three and have no physical combat except to extract flags from the opposition, and when the bugle blew "Soak," all would report to the waterfront for an accounting and, of course, to wash off most of the green and purple.

It was the prototypical "Survivor" game: Some groups of boys tried to become invisible, to protect their own flags, while others aggressively sought to capture the flags of the opposing planet. There is no record of which side ultimately felt more victorious, or felt happier than the other, but I do recall that many boys (and also many fun-loving counselors) enjoyed a most unusual and otherworldly afternoon! Some, like Baron Ronnie and I, still fondly remember that "Irregular Mowglis Day" of nearly sixty years ago.

How about YOU? Do you recall a "Best Camp Day" that you believe may be worth telling us about? If so, please write and share it with us!

Save the Date

June 5 - 7, 2015
SPRING WORK
WEEKEND

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

Please contact us to RSVP or for more information at: info@mowglis.org

August 7-9
2015 CREW DAY &
ALUMNI WEEKEND

CREW DAY
Saturday, August 8
2:30 Parade • 3:00 Races