# CAMP MOWGLIS

# SCHOOL OF THE OPEN

SPRING 2017

# GREETINGS MOWGLIS CAMPERS, PARENTS, ALUMNI, AND FRIENDS!

It has been a beautiful winter at Mowglis, and as the best time of the year rapidly approaches. Join us, as we enthusiastically prepare to welcome our **114th Season**!

Sitting here in the Jungle House, I am thrilled to report that we currently have 116 campers enrolled for this summer of whom 81 are returning, and 35 are new to Mowglis. Our 120 campers include 70 full-summer campers, a number of three-week Cubs, and a great complement of first-time four-week members of the Pack. In addition, there are eight brave Yearlings who will learn valuable leadership skills and return to the Pack as Junior Staff after an action-packed three-week outdoor adventure trip.

The 2017 Mowglis Counsel is nearly complete, with an excellent mix of new and all-star returning Senior Staff, as well as some up-and-comers who were Junior Staff in 2016 and will be joining the Senior Staff ranks this summer. As we head into our busiest, most awesome time of the year, it is indeed reassuring to know that we are doing so with a genuinely excellent team in place, for as we all know, "The strength of the Wolf is the Pack and the strength of the Pack is the Wolf!"



There is SO much good to report from the Mowglis Campfire Circle... from the reroofing of Gray Brothers, to Bob Bengtson making more Campfire and Chapel Benches, to the rebuilding of the Lower Mines. I hope to welcome you back for this year's **Work Weekend** or **Crew Day** to see for yourself!

Wick Rollins

Nick Robbins, Director

# STAFF SPOTLIGHT!

Name: Amanda Lyons

From: Pennsylvania

**Age:** 28

Occupation: Middle School Special Education Teacher

Role at Mowglis: Cub Mother

**How did you find out about Mowglis?** Both my father (Jim Graff) and brother (James Graff) attended Mowglis. I've been coming to work weekends and other events since I was a kid

What are you most excited about for your first summer at Mowglis? I want to be a part of shaping these boys into the men I've been fortunate to see my brother and father become. I've always been sort of on the periphery of Mowglis, and this is my opportunity to get in the mix! Besides, I get to go to summer camp!

**Is there anything you're nervous about?** Don't tell anybody.... but I'm kind of scared of the dark!



# **NEW FAMILIES - WELCOME TO THE MOWGLIS PACK!**

#### Hello, everyone!

My name is Chiaki Nishino and I head up our Moms of Mowglis (M.O.M.) group. To all the new Mowglis families, welcome! And to all returning families, welcome back.

Hard to believe but the start of camp is just two months away. I know that my boys can hardly wait for opening day.

To all the new moms joining us this year, I remember what it was like our first summer when my (then) little guy went off to camp for the first time. I was at first a somewhat reluctant Mowglis mom. But having watched my older one have a blast for five summers and my younger one jump right in as a Cub last summer, I now share their enthusiasm for the unplugged, run-in-the-mountains, fun-filled summer. The sheer joy that Mowglis brings to my boys is definitely unmatched by any of their many other activities. (I'm sure other moms will tell you the same.) The M.O.M.s will reach out to you over the course of the next few weeks to answer any questions you might have, and just chat about the coming summer.

To all the returning families, I am sure you are looking forward to another great fun-filled summer for our boys. And I am looking forward to seeing you all again this summer.

Best,

#### **Chiaki Nishino**

Current Mowglis Mom (Shoh - Akela, Hiro - Cubs)







Early Morning view of the Dining Hal

(Courtesy of Bobby Greenwell)

# 5 TIPS HEADING INTO THE SUMMER:

- 1. Look at the packing lists now and start to buy stuff little at a time there's a lot of stuff boys need. Label everything with laundry safe stickers!
- 2. Book your weekend accommodations now. If you don't have a favorite B&B yet, there is a new Fairfield Inn in Plymouth (15 minutes from camp), and camp has arranged for a group rate for visiting and crew weekends (visit www.mowglis.org/events to book your room).
- 3. Make sure to pack that paper and self-addressed envelopes it's nice to get a hand written note from your sons! (But be prepared for the notes to be short. "Hi Mom, I'm having a lot of fun and will tell you about it when I get home." is par for the course.) And keep all the correspondence---the boys love it when you embarrass them with the letters many years later.
- 4. Make sure to sign up to the Facebook feeds of your sons' activities on a daily basis. There are three Facebook feeds --- one public, one for alumni, and one for famlies. You need to friend Nick Robbins to access the feed for families with all the daily photo updates.
- 5. Don't forget to fill in those camp forms online (go to www.mowglis.org > Current Families > Log In) The nurse really needs the health information!

# **WINTER PROJECTS UPDATE**

The fun never stops at Camp Mowglis! Mr. Greenwell, Mr. Bengtson, Mr. Merwin and Ms. Donna have been hard at work getting camp ready for summer 2017! The Mowglis "to-do" list seems never-ending, but our team is making great strides and camp is looking great!

### **GRAY BROTHERS HALL - ROOF**

By far our largest building, and certainly one of our most iconic, Gray Brothers Hall found itself in need of a new roof this fall. Thanks to a few very generous alumni, we were able to begin the project this past fall! Local contractors, Dean Rogers and Gary Marsh, who share nearly 25 years of working on projects at Mowglis, managed to complete over 80% of the roof before the snow fell. They laid over 7,000 shingles thus far, and will be back with the spring thaw to complete the last section of roof. Gray Brothers Hall will be ready once again to serve as the central hub of Camp Mowglis!



#### **DEN - WRITING PORCH**

All Mowglis alumni know the allure of the Den writing porch. With its commanding view of upper camp, the porch is rarely empty, and often bustling with card games and other shenanigans. The porch was in need of extensive renovation. Mr. Bengtson took on the project this fall, completely rebuilding the foundation around the porch, and replacing the entire deck. Come spring, Mr. B will be wrapping up the railings, and the new porch will be ready for many busy summers to come!

## MANG AND CUB APARTMENT

Thanks to a very generous grant, we have taken the opportunity to renovate the interior of both Mang and the Cub Apartment. Both locations are being renovated to more comfortably accommodate staff, and allow for additional occupants. The two locations are home to some of the last remaining plastered walls outside the Jungle House, which as you might guess, can be home to various four-legged visitors. Those will be ripped out, the entirety of the interior will be freshly painted, and plumbing and electrical will be updated.



#### LOWER MINES

If you had the chance to visit Mowglis this fall, you might have noticed an empty space where the Lower Mines used to be! The building was quite old, and was beginning to not entirely fulfill the needs of such a full camp. Mr. Hart and the senior staff, took on demolishing the old structure at the end of camp last summer. The original foundation was in excellent shape, so the decision was made to build a new Lower Mines, largely modeled after the original, in the same location. Alumnus Woody Merriman was gracious enough to help us design the new and improved building! With financial support from the Walbridge Family Foundation, construction will begin this spring. The new building will be ready for summer 2017 and feature low water use fixtures and a new women's restroom!

## WE ARE SEEKING A SPONSOR:

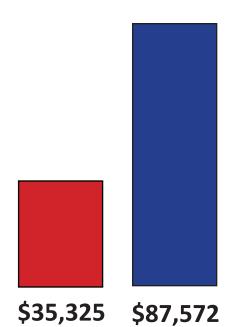
This Spring, Camp Mowglis made a huge step towards the future construction of a "Mowglis Museum", by securing a climate-controlled storage unit! This unit will act as a repository for Mowglis memorabilia, photos, art, as well as other items that will eventually reside in the "Mowglis Museum".

\$120 per Month or \$1,440 per Year



RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED

# RED VS. BLUE GIVING UPDATE





Giving is so important to Mowglis, and some healthy competition is a great way to cultivate support.

Help your crew lead the way in giving. Visit **www.mowglis.org/giving** to give today!

But the best way to show your true colors is to be there on Crew Day!

Join us **August 4th-6th** and help your crew cheer the loudest! Reconnect with the Mowglis and find yourself once again, "where the days are never long."