



SONGS of the PADDLE

FALL 2005

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VOLUME 3

2005 Season Highlights Kathy Dix >>>

It's exciting to see Ogichi gathering momentum and making a difference in the lives of young women. Our mission of empowering the strong spirits of young women through wilderness camping and a community of lifelong friends proved its validity this summer.

Camping has some really powerful gifts to give its participants; they are as unique and individual as the girls themselves. Each tripper seems to return from the journey with the insight they most need. Maybe it's that presence allows connection to essence and the experience of that connection becomes the perfect teacher. Whatever the explanation, the outcome is magical and trans-formative, not only by observa-



tion, but from the words of the girls themselves when sharing their stories at our final Council Fire. For me, this was the highlight of the 2005 season, making the many hours of preparation by dedicated individuals and the many gifts of financial support worth every minute and every penny!

Who can forget **Lindsey Hart's** leading Zumpa Zaa at the Council Fire, or **Libby Dix's** daily singing of Moriah to retrieve lost articles of clothing, **Tyler Howard's** guitar playing, **Elissa Roberge** sitting with pen and journal recording thoughts of the day, learning Indian dancing, **Anna Bangert** saying she could be the head counselor of "Spamp", **Melynda Roscoe** and **Kit Summers'** entertaining antics in the talent show, Seat 29E, volleyball games, tribe duties, dishwashing, **Tory Patterson & Suzi Jolly's** red and gold songs of the Princess Pat, Murphy's hours of swimming in circles snapping at water bugs, **Christy Hart's** bugle calls, **Allison Owen's** singing Amazing Grace, the Turtle River trip skits, **Anne Stanley's** mastery of Witches Broom ride, hot chocolate, an orchard of apples at every meal, the early morning joggers. Really, the whole season was unforgettable in every way; the way people pulled together to make the season happen, the way the CIT's pitched in to make camp ready for the arrival of the

(continued on p.10)

Day Six Lauren Whaley >>>

Everyone broke down today. It rained. The bugs were the worst they've been thus far, making one camper's face swell in camp. Another had a leech on her ankle before dinner. The rapids were high and fast, so we portaged. The girls carried three wannigans, three duluths, the first aid kit and the three canoes over six portages through standing water, mud and downed trees.

Finally camped and eating alpine spaghetti (pasta, spinach, honey, peas, chicken-flavored texturized vegetable protein and copious amounts of Parmesan) by a large rapids, the girls looked at each other from behind bleary, tired eyes.



We went around the circle, recalling our highs and lows of the day. We talked about the bugs, the weight of our packs, the sting of the branches. Then, we talked about the feeling of accomplishment, the joy of self sufficiency, the strength of the twelve women sitting on a rock on the Turtle River in the middle of Ontario. We thanked each other for singing jingle bells on the portages, for helping us get the wannigan back on, for our circle of love where everyone feels safe and for a warm dinner next to a surging, dwarfing falls. "I love this and I love us," one camper said.

We washed our dishes, packed up the kitchen, hugged each other in our circle of love and crawled in our tent homes, happily exhausted and ready for anything.

Day Six would later become a saying for anything hard: that rapid was such a Day Six or wow, that landing looks like a Day Six. And, the girls would scan the rapid, eye the landing, scout the Day Six portage and know, for certain, they could do it. ■

Journal Entries

The Women of Ogichi Daa Kwe ▶▶▶



"Ogichi has taught me to believe in myself and that I can do something if I put my mind to it." – 14 years

"Summer at Ogichi Daa Kwe was something I entirely didn't expect. It blew me away in the way of the great people, activities, and trips. Each individual person made it, made camp so enjoyable." – 14 years

"I felt on our trip that we were laughing 24-7." – 14 years



"My original goal for this trip was to make myself tougher physically and mentally so I will be able to look the challenges I'll come across later on in life eye to eye and defeat my fears. But instead, while on the canoe trip, I found peace. I don't know why but I feel like I'm never satisfied with myself no matter how well I do. That changed when I was portaging. I carried my packs by myself, and at first it was quite a struggle. But somehow, I managed to carry extra packs when necessary. I guess I finally realized that I tried my hardest and that's when I found my inner strength. I hope I can come back here, so we'd never have to say goodbye." – 16 years

"Going on that trip was really one of the best things I've done in my life. It's just something that you have to experience and can't really explain in words. You learn so much about yourself and the people you are on the trip with. I loved it and can't wait to go back!" – 14 years



"I had a blast. I feel like I bonded with all of the girls right off the bat and we all got along really well. The trip couldn't have gone any better either." – 17 years

"I never got homesick because I felt at home here." – 18 years

"I had an awesome time mostly because of the girls and staff – they're so awesome and I've made some of the best friends of my life." – 18 years

"I just thought that I had never had so much fun in my whole life than at Ogichi! I loved it so much and I'm definitely coming back next year! Thank you everyone!" – 13 years

"Those two and a half weeks I shared with the Ogichi community were definitely one of the best times I've ever had." – 18 years



"It was a nice **escape** from everyday life. It pushed me to my limits... in a good way!" – 14 years



"My experience at Ogichi was one of a kind. Almost inexplicable. I was thrown into an essentially unknown environment and succeeded with a sense of accomplishment that still resonates in me today. To be surrounded by such an amazing group of young women, who grew substantially, whether they knew it or not, over the 10 days of the trip was enough to get me motivated each day. I came out of my first Ogichi experience with the desire for more: another trip, another amazing group, another 10 beautiful days in the Canadian wilderness." – 20 years



"The day down the rapids was amazing. I loved our hard days too – I felt so accomplished. I loved our nightly conversations and cooking." – 17 years



"At the first council fire, we went around the group, and everyone said

what they felt Ogichi was. A few people said Ogichi is a place where you can learn about yourself. What I learned about myself was how mentally strong I can actually be. Over the past year, I had seemed to forget who I was and the kind of things I stood for. Being at Ogichi has reminded me to listen to myself and make the right decisions for myself." – 16 years



"Thank you so much for convincing me and encouraging me to go on this trip! If I had not gone and I missed this amazing trip, I would have been so sad and mad at myself for not going! I cannot tell you how much I loved this trip or how happy I am when I went on this trip!" – 13 years

"Ogichi showed me that I was able to be and do anything and that is something I will never forget." – 14 years



"I had a great time because I felt like no one was judging me." – 14 years

"I met lots of amazing girls and got to see so many people grow." – 18 years



Favorite Trail Recipe

Lauren Whaley ▶▶▶

Recipe background:

I first made these in the Oregon desert on my inaugural whitewater canoeing expedition. This past summer, while camped by a falls at a Rock Star site near, but not with our convoy Turtle River group, we spread out the tarp, organized the food and made calzones.

Although delicious, we could not finish all that we had, so we brought them over to our neighbors who ravenously feasted with us. Especially on long trips when you want something other than pasta or layover days when you have time to rise yeast and bake, calzones make the day, the week, the trip even. Enjoy!

Ingredients for a 12 person trip:

Dough

8 cups white flour
4 cups wheat
1 cup separate white
1 Tbs yeast
pinch of brown sugar

Spices/Other

Oregano
Pepper
Salt
Cornmeal
Chunked cheese
Parmesean cheese

Sauce

3 cans tomato paste
1 bag/cup spaghetti sauce
summer sausage slices
1 bag/1 cup mixed veggies

Directions:

1. Mix Flour in big pot, adding iodized water until doughy (use spoon then hands).
2. In coffee pot, mix warm water, brown sugar and yeast. Let sit for a few minutes until bubbles appear.
3. Add warm mixture to flour mixture.
4. Knead together, add spices to preference. Leave in big pot, covered in the sun for about an hour, punch down, leave again. (This can all be avoided by using baking powder.)
5. Divide into 12 equal balls.
6. In medium pot combine veggies, sauces and water. Do not heat (heating causes dough to tear)!!
7. On a paddle, the bottom of a canoe or a pan top, spread flour (from separate flour source).
8. Using a nalgene as a rolling pin, have each group member roll her own dough into an oval, spread sauce on one side, followed by chunked cheese, parm cheese, summer sausage and spices to taste.
9. Fold the non-covered side over the filled side, making a pocket. The seam can be cemented by pinching the dough using water or saliva. On another paddle, spread cornmeal, rub each side with this. It is now ready for cooking!

Baking:

Over a fire, use the rectangular pan to fry three calzones at once. You can fry them with oil, flipping them accordingly. You could also bake them using a dutch oven (though this is time consuming, so it's not recommended). I have also put calzones in frying pans with lids and made a small "twiggy" fire on the lid, creating an oven. All ways work.

Fry or bake to taste and voila, your very own pizza pocket! These are nutritious, fun and each person can tailor-make her very own!

Chairman's Update

Janet Vandenbark ▶▶▶

Greetings! It only seems like yesterday that we were in the final planning stages for our first full season of Ogichi. I am proud to say that thanks to Kathy's terrific leadership, many generous volunteers and our outstanding staff, we had a spectacular season and an outstanding start to our camp. The 2005 summer proved to be the leadership training and development season that we had envisioned. Kathy and her team laid the groundwork for Ogichi counselors and trip heads of the future.

Members from the board have formed a Strategic Planning Committee to work with the Camping and Education Foundation on a 2-5 year plan. Our focus will be primarily in the following areas:

We will continue to build our staff and culture. The Ogichi way of camping is a unique experience blending wilderness challenges, environmental stewardship and teamwork. Kathy will attract talented staff members from diverse camping backgrounds and build our own brand of the camp experience with our internal CIT and counselor programs.

We will spend more time building the foundation of our in camp program in 2006. Our canoe trips are well under way and it's time to add another layer of experiences for our campers. While this can be a bit

CIT Pre-Season Training

Hank Bangert ▶▶▶

No one had any idea what to expect in Camp Ogichi's first pre-season CIT week. The concept for the week was constructed around the idea that if we bring great people together in a fantastic part of the country with a long list of things that need to be learned and accomplished, good things would happen. Well, I can safely report that great things happened, but it was exhausting! Never in the history of camps has a group of girls done so much in so little time. Looking back on it, I am amazed. A group of fourteen Ogichi girls, a handful of old Kooch guys, a few staff, two cooks, and one director were able to complete wilderness first aid certification, cabin maintenance, cabin painting, council ring construction, general site preparation, water rescue, basic canoeing, CPR training, whitewater canoeing, map and compass training, leadership training, cruising school, and a whole lot of singing in ten days, and still managed to sit down for home cooked meals three times a day.

A typical day began with Christy Hart's Revelry on the trumpet at 7 a.m. signaling wake-up. A few of the girls Lindsey Hart, Sydney Stoehr, Libby Dix, Annie Stanley, Lisa Gerstenberger and Laurie Lucachick were already returning from a morning jog, which they would follow with a polar bear jump in the lake to rinse off. By the time everyone made it into the dining room Curtis Simmons would be dishing out the pancakes, bacon, fruit, and juice. Anna and Emily would sleepily stumble down a little while later.

After breakfast Kathy or I would announce the schedule for the day, which everyone recognized as an exercise in practicing flexibility because the schedule would invariably change two or three times adjusting to circumstances or weather. Following announcements the girls would split into their tribes (North, East, South, and West) for clean-up duties. One tribe would vacuum, sweep, and clean the lodge, one would be on KP (kitchen patrol) duty, one would gather the trash, and one would water the new landscaping and monitor the water levels supplying the potable water to the lodge. Then the girls would head back to their

more problematic without a permanent base camp, fundamental skills, as well as our Ogichi culture can be taught in our temporary locations.

Long term we want to secure a permanent camp location. We see Ogichi ultimately being a self-sustaining, financially independent operation. Since we are starting with a blank slate, we have an opportunity is to develop a camp that sustains its operations on tuition, using fund raising only for the occasional capital improvement and scholarships. We are committed to working the Camping and Education Foundation in paying off the debt of Rainy Lake Lodge, as well as other obligations before venturing into any additional real estate acquisitions.

Once again on behalf of the board and staff of Ogichi Daa Kwe, I want to extend a heart filled thank you for all of your support. Your contributions monetarily and emotionally have made a dramatic difference in our organization and in the lives of many young women. ■



upstairs lodge rooms for clean-up and Anna Bangert's military inspection. By 8:30 everyone would be assembled for projects under the leadership of the head "coolies" Jim Shook and Jay Stoehr. Although tremendous work preparing RLL for Ogichi had already been completed, there still remained work to be done before the campers arrived. The Kooch-i-ching work ethic was adopted by the Ogichi "coolie" crew without ceremony. They worked on constructing a stone fireplace in the main yard, built a precision-crafted ladder for the swimming dock, cleared the canoeing bay, and blazed a new trail into the woods up to the ridge where they established a council ring and fire pit for many future Ogichi council fires. And, of course, everyone picked up a brush and painted. These are just a few of the projects that were completed during the week. It was a great sight to look around the base camp and see everyone working hard to turn RLL into Ogichi's 2005 home.

In the afternoons (following a great lunch prepared by Curtis and Anna) we would turn to the training aspect of the CIT week, called "cruising school." Our goal was to provide an introduction to wilderness tripping skills so that each CIT would have a basis from which to build her experience on the trips. By the end of the week, not only had the girls learned the basics of canoeing, they had also rescued an overturned canoe, used a compass for basic navigation, and ferried a canoe across rapids. We compressed a lot of training into a short amount of time, but it paid off immediately when the campers arrived and the CIT's were able to take charge of teaching at the various stations of "cruising school." Leadership elements learned through initiative games, Kathy's introduction of the Enneagram, a morning at Voyageur's Park, and discussions of financial responsibility rounded out the CIT's training. After cruising school most evenings started with a few games of "Nuke 'Em" on the new sand volleyball court before dinner. Our evening programs were varied, but ended early enough to allow ample sleep for the long day ahead.

In the end, I must say that the greatest part about the CIT week was the laughter that followed the girls everywhere and the visible confidence gained through their hard work and willingness to delve into learning the life of a voyageur. ■



Women's Trip Reflections...

Kathy Dix ▶▶▶

It was an idea that came from talking with moms when recruiting their daughters. Over and over I'd hear, "I wish I was young enough to sign up." Knowing what a great experience I'd had on the inaugural trip the summer before, knowing that I'm in run of the mill shape and had gotten along just fine paddling the 120 miles and portaging my canoe, and knowing there's nothing more fun than reliving enjoyable pieces of childhood, I thought, "Why not?" Isn't that what start ups are all about...making the why nots happen?

Some women talked of going, some said they wouldn't be able to handle it, some were encouraged by their Kooch spouses to try, some signed up, and best of all some actually arrived in International Falls. It was experimental, but the plan had components that were sure to entice and please.

The first three days at Wind Song Island, an isolated Northwood's retreat refurbished to a visual masterpiece by Elizabeth Hyatt, gave time and space for friendships to form and for us to relax into the beauty of our surroundings. Each of us came as teachers of "our topic of choice." What serendipitous fun for even the director not to know what we'd be doing! Additionally we had guest teachers. The DNR, although uninvited, taught us we needed fishing licenses, and Woody reliably guided us to a fairly great time fishing one nippy afternoon. Woody said we hadn't signed up to go "catching," but Amy's solo haul provided us a great dinner cooked shore side (when added to the fish Woody brought just in case) with lemon soaked onion & bacon sandwich appetizer. When in I-Falls...do as the I-Fallians. Lee Grim covered more in his few hours of environmental discussion than most college professors cover in a semester. And we learned that airlines can whimsically cancel flights several days in a row not deeming a group of 40 to 50 aged women without a Trip Head to be any kind of emergency. As if born into a current, we went with the flow: nothing bothered us, everything instead became the subject of uncontrollable laughter.

A lot of things weren't going as planned but what was emerging gave this trip an unrepeatable flair. Cruising School's water rescue portion gave way to shopping for warm clothes at Ronning's and celebrating the arrival of our Trip Head and Assistant. Wind Song prepared a scrumptious dinner for our last island night, and we shared our anxieties about the adventure we were about to take. I alone was aware of the predictions for three days of thundershowers. When Tim came by to say farewell, it became clear to me he too had heard the report. I knew Kooch, like football coaches, never cancelled for weather. This was going to be a test or at least a continuation of "Murphy's Law" unfolding. My hopes were that strong spirited women didn't melt in the rain like the Wicked Witch of the West! Lauren meanwhile had her doubts about the passability of a "creek" entry to the Turtle River trip she, Steve Heinle and Steve Sullivan scouted via Internet and decided we would test out. We discussed the more routine reservations about injured shoulders, sleeping in a tent, and carrying the loaded wannigans.

Upon departing, Sully rented a van because the mechanics hadn't quite completed the brake repair on ours, and we retrieved Jerry's borrowed car keys that slipped from my shirt pocket into eight feet of dark water with a rake. Going with the flow was working out just fine. This group of women was proving to have mastery in flexibility, maturity and spunk. And so it was that we laughed and paddled our way to lifelong friendships in those next no bugs, no boy scouts, intensely colorful fall days down the Turtle River.

We sighted eagles, otters and a heron, and took note of their lessons. The Native American Medicine cards say Eagle "reminds you to

take heart and gather courage, for the universe is presenting you with an opportunity to soar above the mundane levels of your life." Otter teaches "to drop the seriousness on all levels and play at life so that the fear rolls off your back." Heron asks "that you examine yourself with a cold eye to see what you wish to improve and how you want to change, to delve deeper, to know yourself and to trust your path."

And in a final night's writer's circle I wrote words that sum up my experience on this first awesome Women's Trip:

"I want to leave the autumn trees, the headwinds signaling winter is coming, the eagles proudly eyeing their territory, the rushing rapids and crackling fire, the sounds of your voices, the sunsets and morning coffee, the wannigan full of surprise meals. Like a flower that I enjoy and leave untouched, I want for those that come behind to find the transformative power of all we shared."

"What I want to take home is all of you. I want to take home the jokes, the stories, the friendships, the feeling of being in a circle of grateful, growing, glowing women."

Tim and Joan hosted a wonderful farewell dinner on their island. Beading and photo journals created out on the Rainier deck earlier in the day would assure memories would be able to be brought back for years to come. A Holiday Inn slumber party and 6:00am stop at the Coffee Landing were our last shared moments...for this trip anyway! ■

Final Thoughts...

Lauren Whaley ▶▶▶

This September I had the pleasure of traveling down the Turtle River with six strong spirited women. All but one was my elder. I had never led a trip where anyone was older than me. Some of the women had never paddled, some had never taught, some didn't know they could do it. In different ways, we were all doing something for the first time. During the trip, we taught classes: basket weaving, fire building, yoga, photography, patterns of personality types and writing. Below are some of my entries over the course of my learning experience in the wilderness. I have many wilderness experiences, but this one, with Nancy, Amy, Diane, Tracy, Libby and Kathy- women of different ages, experiences and personalities- was one of a kind. And one I won't easily forget.

I want to leave the joy on the faces of women completing a 3-dash marked rapid for the first time, the familiar blisters on the webbing between my forefinger and thumb, the intimacy that comes naturally between women in sleeping bags watching the northern lights, the rhythm of sleeping-waking-paddling-portaging that we adopt as our lives out here.

I leave these things willingly- not because I don't want them with me in Jackson, but because they live here, these feelings, these moments that make up our daily journey. And they'll be here waiting for me when I return...time and again.

I want to take the knowledge that women, of all ages, are my allies. That I should tap into their knowledge, not only listening to their experiences with their own relationships, decisions and worries, but also share myself: my relationships, my history.

And now, one month later, I want to thank the six women who accompanied me into the wilderness and out of their comfort zones into a new circle of support created only by the ancient tradition of canoe travel and the new Ogichi tradition of strong spiriting women. ■

Celebrating the Stoehr Family

George Simmons ▶▶▶

It was a chilly evening on Friday, October 11, 2002 when I pulled into the Century Inn in Cincinnati for dinner and meeting of the Long Range Planning Committee of the Camping and Education Foundation. Friend, Jay Stoehr, Trustee of the Foundation and Chairman of the Committee had summoned us there specifically to reconsider the founding of a wilderness girl's camp modeled after the renowned program of Camp Kooch-i-ching. Having deliberated on this issue in a number of prior meetings, I was reluctant to rehash all the reasons "why we should" and expected to leave with the same old reasons of "why the timing isn't right". "It would diminish the quality of Kooch"; "the girls can't handle it"; "we don't have the money" and "no one has the time to devote the effort". But, because of Jay's vision, conviction and determination, we left the Congress Inn convinced it was time, the market was there and the money would come.

Get it done! That's Jay, father of four, six years as Kooch camper, CIT and counselor, current President of Robbins, Inc., member of YPO, founder and past president of Young Entrepreneurs Organization, board member of EGIS Floor Life and now an innovative voice on the board of Ogichi Daa Kwe. How does Jay stay so involved in the flooring business and still have time for Ogichi? "It's a labor of love" and Jay gives credit to the support and devotion of his wife Amy, a "giving and talented mother" who loves paddle tennis, needle point, photography, the out of doors and their involvement with Ogichi.

The rest is history; thanks to the tireless and generous contributions of people like Jay and his entire family. Ogichi launched its inaugural canoe trip on the Turtle River in July 2004. We owe the success of that "pilot" trip to the strong spirit and tenacity of ten enthusiastic teen-aged girls. Among those stepping up to the challenge of that first adventure, and outstanding because of her innate, "can do" leadership, was Sydney Stoehr, now a freshman at Miami of Ohio. Sydney returned for our second season as a leader in our CIT program.

Also joining Ogichi in 2005 was Maddie Stoehr, a freshman honor student at Cincinnati Country Day, avid soccer player and try-out for the crew team. Maddie arrived at Ogichi with the same enthusiasm and willingness to take on a challenge as Syd, and experienced the same camaraderie and sense of achievement. We look forward to seeing both Syd & Maddie in 2006. But hold on....Jay has also asked that we reserve a bunk for Gretchen Stoehr. Gretchen, a 7th grader at Springer School, is a member of the track team and possesses a special artistic talent according to father Jay. I think we see a Stoehr legacy taking hold here!

Jay tells us that it might have been son Jamie who spent 5 years at Kooch that provided the inspiration for his sisters to take up the paddle and axe. Or perhaps it was really Jay's wife Amy who got the itch after picking up Jamie at camp at the end of each summer with Sydney, Maddie and Gretchen in tow! Amy was one of the first to sign on for the first annual Women's Trip.

My guess is that the inspiration and vision for the Stoehr family's involvement in wilderness camping emanates from a higher source.... Jay's father, Jim Stoehr. I asked Jay for three words that describe his father and Jay replied: Integrity, Compassion and Visionary. It was Jim's entrepreneurial vision that gave rise to Robbins Floor, Inc and he has been the chairman of the Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association and the past chair of the National Oak Flooring Manufacturers Association. Jim is an avid sailor, paddle tennis player and skier and enjoys golf with his wife Margo.

Jim, we especially want to thank you and the Stoehr family for the generous financial contributions and the strong spirited involvement of each family member as they have brought new life into the Camping and Education Foundation through Ogichi Daa Kwe. ■

Rolling Out the 2006 Season

Kathy Dix ▶▶▶

Ogichi looks forward to welcoming a blend of 49 campers, CIT's, and Junior Staff ages 12-21 years old to it's 2006 season, growing from 4 trips to 6 trips. Our staff will consist of 6 Trip Heads, 6 Trip Head Assistants, Director, Cook and Indispensable Volunteers. In total, we are looking to increase our camp population to 65+ participants this coming summer filling our Rainy Lake Lodge (RLL) base camp at Heinle Landing to a comfortable capacity. We've lengthened our season by request of last summer's campers and still melded our



session to have the least interference with activities of Kooch-i-ching.

Expedition Coordinator Lauren Whaley, will lead the charge on our tripping program starting with a "Guides Trip" co-led with Bowdoin College Outdoor Club cohort, Hank Bangert our Kooch/Ogichi pioneering staffman. Hank has been instrumental in guiding and developing leader-

ship for Ogichi that is steeped in Kooch-i-ching's camping traditions. Hank finishes Law School at CU this spring and is taking time from his bar exam studies to train Ogichi's staff to promote a synchronized style from the many camping backgrounds our leaders represent having come from Kamaji, Northland, Birchwood, NOLS, Widjiwagan, and Summit Achievement.

Again, our CIT's, those girls ages 16 - 21 that are interested in pursuing certifications in Wilderness First Aid, CPR and water rescue within a program of Leadership Development, will come up to RLL early - June 17th. This year a part of their training will be a 5 day CIT trip to hone their whitewater canoeing and camping skills on trail. Lauren Whaley will run the CIT Unit offering new skills to both returning CIT's and those new to the program.

Our Camper Session for girls ages 12-21 begins June 27th and runs through July 20th. A three week session with two travel days on either side will provide time for expanded in-camp activities using the facilities on Deer Island while the Kooch boys are out on trips. Trips head out on July 5th



and return on July 15th or 17th depending on the river. New routes will be added to bring challenges to those returning for further adventures and trips will accommodate varying skill levels with challenges appropriate to the age of the trippers.

Ogichi Daa Kwe fills a unique place in the camping world, offering older girls an opportunity to participate in wilderness tripping and yet return year after year to a familiar community where friendship can mellow and age through many stages of life. Vertical friendships between age groups happen naturally and provide opportunities for guidance and mentoring. The girls will tell you that the path they follow to the Council Fire represents family bond, one of soul connection leaving external differences behind. Join us! ■



230 Northland Blvd.
Suite 206
Cincinnati, OH 45246
513-772-7479

2006 APPLICATION

You may fax application to:
(513) 772-5673

PLEASE ENROLL (FULL NAME): _____ FOR THE 2006 SEASON.
NICKNAME _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____ 05-06 SCHOOL YEAR GRADE _____
HEIGHT _____ WEIGHT _____ EYE COLOR _____ HAIR COLOR _____ CAMPER'S E-MAIL _____
School attending 2005-06: _____ Camp attended 2005: _____

Does the applicant regularly see a doctor, other than for physicals? YES NO
If yes, please explain the reason, treatment and/or medication on a separate sheet of paper. Does the applicant have any other special needs? YES NO
Does the applicant know how to swim? YES NO

PARENT'S/GUARDIAN'S MAILING NAME _____
Applicant resides with: BOTH PARENTS MOTHER FATHER OTHER _____

PRIMARY CONTACT: _____
ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ HOME PHONE () _____

MOTHER'S NAME _____ FATHER'S NAME _____

OCCUPATION _____ OCCUPATION _____

BUS. PHONE () _____ BUS. PHONE () _____

CELL PHONE () _____ CELL PHONE () _____

E-MAIL _____ E-MAIL _____

Non-Custodial Parent Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Home Phone () _____

Certification and Leadership Training (CIT) Session: June 17 - June 26
For ages 16-21. Includes participation in Camper Session **June 27- July 20**
- CIT Tuition: \$3000

3-week Camper Session: June 27 - July 20
For ages 12-21
- Camper Tuition: \$2400

Tuition Payment Schedule:
January 1, 2006 \$600.00
March 15, 2006 \$600.00
May 15, 2006 balance

Tuition payments may be applied to your MasterCard, Visa or American Express when they are billed.

MasterCard, Visa and American Express Payment Only
If you choose to pay by credit card, a \$25 processing fee will be added for each transaction.

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____
Name (print as it appears on card): _____ 3-digit Security Code: _____ This is the last 3 digits of a number found on the back of the card (MasterCard & Visa) in the signature area. By signing below, I authorize Camp Ogichi Daa Kwe, LLC to charge my credit card account in the amount of \$_____. I agree to pay the amount noted according to the card issuer agreement. Signature: _____
Date: _____

Please include \$500 deposit check or credit card information with this application. Early enrollments may be cancelled prior to March 15, 2006 with full refund, except for the \$500 deposit. Between March 15 and May 15, one-half of the tuition due will be retained. After May 15, 2006 all tuition paid will be retained. No reduction on tuition is made for late arrival, early departure, in the event of dismissal or withdrawal due to homesickness, misconduct, or any other cause, other than illness or injury requiring attention of a physician at home.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

PARENT'S/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE

You may mail application to:
 Camp Ogichi Daa Kwe
 230 Northland Blvd. Suite 206
 Cincinnati, OH 45246
 513-772-7479

You may fax application to:
 (513) 772-5673

FALL WOMEN'S TRIP 2006



PLEASE SIGN ME UP FOR THE STRONG SPIRITED WOMEN'S TRIP (full name): _____

NICKNAME _____ E-MAIL _____ BIRTHDATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ HOME PHONE () _____

OCCUPATION _____ BUS. PHONE () _____

CELL PHONE () _____ BUS E-MAIL _____

Do have any physical limitations/restrictions that would limit or prevent full participation in paddling or portaging?

YES NO If yes, please explain the reason, treatment and/or medication on a separate sheet of paper.

Do you have any dietary restrictions? YES NO If yes, what are they? _____

Do you know how to swim? YES NO

PRIOR EXPERIENCE

CAMPING

CANOEING

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| None whatsoever, but I'm eager to learn. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, but I've only done it a few times. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, but it's been awhile | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No butts about it, I'm an expert and ready to go. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Items you will need (in case you want to do some shopping or borrowing ahead of time):

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Boots | Shorts (non-cotton) | Pants that zip to shorts (quick dry) | Sunglasses & Croakie |
| Sleeping Bag | Sneakers or Sandals | Wool Socks | Nalgene Water Bottle |
| Rain Coat and Pants | Wool or Fleece Hat & Gloves | Synthetic Socks (non-cotton) | Headlamp/Flashlight |
| T-shirt (non-cotton) | Long Sleeve shirt (non cotton) | Fleece shirt or jacket | Sleeping Pad |
| Brimmed cap (baseball style) | Long underwear shirt and pants | Dry Sack | Camera |

Trip Dates: September 7, 2006 to September 14, 2006

Trip cost: \$1100

If you have questions or concerns, please call Kathy Dix at: (913) 642-3378

Payment Schedule:

January 1, 2006	\$250.00
March 15, 2006	\$250.00
May 15, 2006	balance

Payments may be applied to your MasterCard, Visa or American Express when they are billed.

MasterCard, Visa and American Express Payment Only

If you choose to pay by credit card, a \$25 processing fee will be added for each transaction.

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name (print as it appears on card): _____ 3-digit Security Code: _____ This is the last 3 digits of a number found on the back of the card (MasterCard & Visa) in the signature area. By signing below, I authorize Camp Ogichi Daa Kwe, LLC to charge my credit card account in the amount of \$ _____. I agree to pay the amount noted according to the card issuer agreement.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please include \$250 deposit check or credit card information with this application. Early enrollments may be cancelled prior to March 15, 2006 with full refund, except for the \$250 deposit. Between March 15 and May 15, one-half of the amount due will be retained. After May 15, 2006 all monies paid will be retained. No reduction is made for late arrival, or early departure.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

2005 Season Highlights

continued ▶▶▶

campers, the local craftsman becoming part of our community, the weather being perfect, the staff being exceptional, and terrific days of friendship and discovery.

Our community for the 2005 season consisted of 14 CIT's, 20 campers, 8 Trip Leaders, our CIT Unit Head **Hank Bangert**, and a small army of adult volunteers. **Anna Bangert** assisted with meal preparation, our camp store, crafts and won the hearts of the CIT group as she too became initiated into the ways of camping. Board member **Marion Walsh** kept watch over the base camp, Murph dog, and was the emergency contact for our Trip Heads. **Bob Walsh** was everywhere help was needed creating an indispensable position for himself. C&EF Chairman **Jim Shook** de-boarded his flight to IFalls and drove several CIT's up to camp from a late flight into Minneapolis, attached himself to the lawn mower and paint brush with endless energy, and led a group of CIT's on the project of finding and creating a Council Ring. Board member **Jay Stoehr** arrived with technical expertise to make every communication devise operational, painted and pitched in with contagious joy. Long time C&EF supporter **Jim Woods** worked with gloves, shovel and brawn to prepare for the re-landscaping of the lodge. Board member **Karen Strauss** participated on a Turtle River trip and shared her passion for the environment with the campers. Many



of our summer's photos are the artistic work of Karen who never tired of recording the moment. Founding Board member **George Simmons** labored on every aspect of the RLL preparations from painting the front of the lodge to cleaning out the grease trap in the dishwasher, from ordering carpeting to pulling up staples, knocking off detail after detail on the long list of to do's. George gave his heart and soul to creating another successful season. C&EF President **Tim Heinle** was the captain of hauling, helping and recruiting Kooch staff who helped **Ben Roberts** in spreading huge loads of gravel, **Jess Hernandez**, **Chris Sledzik** & **Steve Heinle** in spray painting, **JR Vercamp** and **Bobby Henderson** in cleaning up the waterfront (these guys actually volunteered to stay back from their Kooch staff trip to help us), **Jimmy Bowers** degreasing the kitchen hood with a toothbrush for 5 straight days, removing asphalt for the volleyball court and moving out the old moving and in the new industrial kitchen equipment. There is no way we would have been able to welcome this first group of campers to Rainy Lake Lodge without the unbargaining acts of service of the **Kooch staff (you would not believe how many guys showed up to help!)**. The interesting thing is that the girls took note of their tremendous work ethic and caught the spirit of giving back, saying in their evaluations that the projects they worked on during their CIT week were among their favorite memories of the season. Marsh, Inc. President **Ken Neiheisel**, flew from Cincinnati to join us for the arrival of the campers and the first several days of in-camp activities capturing in pictures the Iron Women Tribe Competition, Cruising School, initiative games, Witches' Broom ride and rug painting to add to the trip photographs he brought us last season. **Carolyn Dix** flew up from Chicago to give a talk to the CIT's during their leadership training on "Becoming Financially Responsible and Independent". **Lee and Donna Carol Grim** invited us to the Voyageur's Park to learn about the unique aspects of the Rainy Lake environment and how it came to be. **John Jolly** came over from Kooch to share his knowledge of Native American ways.

Ron Coleman prepared our trip permits and readied the equipment. **Steve Sullivan** and **Tim Heinle** drove us across the border to the drop points in Canada and were there again to pick us up.

Senior Staff prepped Kooch Jr. Staff and campers alike on coexisting with female neighbors in a way that created a harmonious, trouble free summer in the extended C&EF family. Being surrounded by this band of angels was yet another highlight of the 2005 season. Watching friendships develop between those that were supporting the creation of Ogichi and those that came to participate in Ogichi's program would make anyone of you want to join in next summer.



Curtis Simmons was amazing stepping up to cook for a community of 52 (mostly teenage girls) some allergic, some vegetarian, and some calorie counting, in a kitchen that was being remodeled up until the moment the girls arrived. He cooked through the snags and quirks of a retrofitted kitchen without a complaint or missed meal call. When meals were cleaned up, he led Cruising school activities, Little Council,

or the canoe regatta. On the trail he led the older girls down the English River, teaching patiently the ways of Kooch style canoeing & camping. **Hank Bangert** led a dynamic CIT session preparing leadership for the camper session that integrated camping skills with people skills. **Melynda Roscoe** proved not only to be an excellent nurse but a stand-up comedian entertainer who had an act for every opening in the schedule. Tender was the touch of **Natanya Werner** and **Erin Kimball** with those campers that arrived chock full of fears for the adventures they were preparing to take. **Kenny Metcalfe** was not only a leader on the trail but a positive influence on what makes a camp stand united. **Lauren Whaley** positively bowled over the Ogichi elders with her tales of trips taken. She led by example in her passion for wilderness tripping and brought back some mighty proud first time trippers. In the Friendship Dance of the final night, she gave away all that she came with.....watch, books, shirts, shoes,...to honor the friendships formed during the 2 1/2 weeks of being together.

Jenny Logan spearheaded the tribe volleyball tournament and the photo journaling project and our four CIT's **Jamie Miller**, **Anne Stanley**, **Laurie Lucachick** and **Lisa Gerstenberger** who became Jr. Staff upon the arrival of the campers proved the strength of Hank's training. They were four quality young women who are well prepared for staff roles next season.

Staff leadership was another highlight of the 2005 season.



The campers and CIT's brought so many joys in tackling their firsts, their camaraderie with one another, their willingness to learn, fail and succeed, get up in front of groups, participate in everything and become the heart and soul of Camp Ogichi Daa Kwe. Their greeting each other with whooping, wide smiles and big hugs upon reuniting after the trips was a homecoming that showed exactly how fast a group of strangers can become a community that will last a lifetime. The community that came together for 2005 was a highlight. It was truly a great season, a lot learned, a lot gained, and I can't wait to do it all over again! ■

Fundraising

Steve Shook ▶▶▶

If financial support is any barometer for whether an organization is on the right track, Ogichi is on the right track. This year, over forty donors have opened their hearts and pocketbooks to support our mission of guiding young women.

In financial terms, this means \$240,000 has been given or pledged for delivery in 2005. Our goal is to reach \$250,000 by year's end. In terms of impact, this generosity has funded:

- Critical structural renovations to base camp facilities (formerly Rainy Lake Lodge), kitchen and cabins
- Staff salaries for our director, trip heads, counselors and cook
- Seven camper scholarships (35% of campers)
- Canoes, paddles, life vests, wannigans (wooden box-packs), tents, and Duluth packs
- Office equipment

These funds gave seed to the Ogichi volunteers and staff who worked so hard to prepare our campsite and make our inaugural season a success.

Interestingly, our donor base is diverse, representing at least seven states with more than twenty-five percent coming from foundations and the vast majority given from outside the Camp Kooch-i-ching family. As a former camper (who dearly wishes to return to tripping someday), I am always re-energized about our mission when a gift is made. Donors quickly connect with the benefit of building character and self awareness.

For 2006 and beyond, we are creating a strategic plan, a road map that defines our primary initiatives and the funding needed to implement them. At the top of our priority list will be a goal of developing a general fund endowment. This would ensure our operating viability year to year. We look forward to completing and sharing this plan but, in the meantime, we will continue to communicate our basic "start up" funding needs with our growing constituency.

On behalf of the board and staff, we are so grateful. To our donors, we appreciate you and thank you. Your support gives us confidence in continuing to chase our dream of serving more campers each year. ■

"Ogichi permanent site search continues but at a more conservative pace."

Jeff Patterson ▶▶▶

The Ogichi Real Estate and Site Search Committee continues to comb Northern Minnesota in search of a suitable remote, permanent base camp location for Ogichi's operating home. However, the challenges the Committee faced one year ago remain. Appropriate facility prospects, be they an undeveloped large parcel of lake shoreline, or an existing camp, resort, or fishing lodge, have become more scarce and much more expensive. A recreational land rush continues unabated across the Northern Midwest. The financial challenge of a separate but fully operational base camp for Ogichi continues to be daunting. It will ultimately require at least \$2.5 to \$3.0 million in 2005 dollars to develop a first class operating base for Ogichi comparable or equivalent to that enjoyed by Kooch-i-ching. The Trustees and Managers of The Camping and Education Foundation have conservatively and wisely determined that they will not conquer this financial obstacle by saddling the Foundation with any more debt than that already on the Foundation's books.



Lauren Whaley

Expedition Coordinator ▶▶▶

I have watched in awe as white wolves chased caribou calves into raging rapids and up steep eskers. I have paddled, dream-like, all night long on calm purple waters reflecting the sunset. I have cooked on makeshift aluminum foil pans and boiled water in jelly tins after losing pots in a rapid. I have dragged loaded canoes 20 miles over a frozen lake and caught fish surfacing like dolphins, eating them raw for lunch. I have watched the moon rise for the first time in 40 days and feasted on caribou from an Inuit family.



I have also watched 12-year-old girls carry 90 pound canoes through muskeg, legs wobbling, friends singing behind. I have learned to share myself with the young women with whom I spend my summers, telling them about my family, my ideas. I have shown these women their potential and they have shown me their strength.

My name is Lauren M. Whaley. I grew up in Baltimore, Maryland, attended Bowdoin College in Maine where I taught whitewater canoeing. I started leading canoe and backpacking trips in 2001 for Camp Widjiwagan in Ely, Minnesota. Since then, I have traveled to the Boundary Waters, Quetico and Wabikimi Provincial Parks, Ontario's Albany River and the Back River in Nunavut, Canada. I have also led backpacking trips in Wyoming's Big Horn and Absaroka mountains as well as Montana's Spanish Peaks.

Since college, I have moved west, writing for local newspapers and regional magazines. I'm fortunate enough to live in Jackson Hole and wake up every morning to the Tetons: my playground for skiing, snowboarding, mountaineering and rock climbing.

But, despite my backyard wonderland, there's nothing that makes me feel more alive than leading wilderness trips for young women. I am honored to be a part of Ogichi's strong spirited community and hope I can grow the program into a long-lasting, inspiring wilderness experience for women now and in generations to come.

The strategy going forward, at least for the next couple years, will be to continue to use the former Rainy Lake Lodge location (now the new Heinle Landing or mainland base) as the operating summer home for the women of Ogichi Daa Kwe.

The Camping and Education Foundation has not lost sight of nor abandoned the goal of eventually finding and developing a permanent base camp for Ogichi Daa Kwe. However, the Foundation must acknowledge present economic realities and take advantage of the opportunities that an underutilized asset like the former Rainy Lake Lodge location present for both Ogichi Daa Kwe and Camp Kooch-i-ching. ■

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Save The Date for Midwest Gatherings

Dec. 8, 2005 6:00 – 8:00
CHICAGO
Winnetka Community House

Jan. 19, 2006 6:00 – 8:00
INDIANAPOLIS

Jan. 26, 2006 6:00 – 8:00
KANSAS CITY
Mission Hills CC

Jan. 28, 2006
ST. LOUIS CAMP FAIR

CINCINNATI, ST. LOUIS & MINNEAPOLIS
visits to be determined

2006 Ogichi Summer Calendar

June 1	“Coolie” Season Begins
June 7	“Guides Trip”
June 17	CIT Session Begins
June 27	Camper Session Begins
July 5	Trips Launch
July 15-17	Trips Return
July 19	Friendship Dance/Final Council Fire
July 20	CIT & Campers Travel home
July 23	Staff Travel home

SONGS OF THE PADDLE

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as service to its
Young Women - Alumni - Staff - Friends

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