



BIRCHMONT PEELINGS



Volume LX Issue 2

Exciting things to come...

- 7/27 Picture Day
2nd Session Campers
- 7/30 World Cup
- 7/31 Bagel Sunday
- 8/2 - 8/3 - 8/4
SSR's Boston Trip
- 8/5 Camp Show
- 8/6-7-8-9-10-11
C*O*L*O*R WAR!
Booth Carnival
Water Carnival
Field Competitions
Song Fest
- 8/12 Banquet
- 8/13 Candle Light

A few words from Greg & Laura...



**Dear Parents,
Friends and Alumni,**

Welcome to Birchmont's 60th Parents Visiting Day! Birchmont turns sixty this summer and she looks **MARVVVELOUS!** All kidding aside it is with great pride and

enthusiasm we welcome you to Birchmont! We can think of no better way to celebrate six decades of fun, friendships and personal growth than sharing it with you our friends and alumni!

I hope you take the opportunity to have your kids show you around the campus and introduce you to some of their coun-

selors. We have a great team of counselors and coaches who live and work with your children 24/7; literally!

Although the forecast is for a hot sunny day, we hope you will follow our schedule, join in the fun and play with your kids throughout the afternoon! If you have more than one camper with us as many of you do, please split time between the groups or perhaps, favor the schedule of the younger sibling. Be sure to drink lots of fluids and reapply the sunscreen!

We look forward to visiting with you and we sincerely hope that you'll enjoy your beautiful Birchmont day!

We'll see you around camp,

Greg & Laura

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2012 Dates

Full Session

- Opening Day, Sunday June 24
- Visiting Day, Saturday July 21
- Closing Day, Sunday August 12

First Session

- Opening Day, Sunday June 24
- Closing Day, Friday July 20
- Visiting Day Optional, Saturday July 21

Second Session

- Opening Day, Sunday July 22
- NO Visiting Day
- Closing Day, Sunday August 12



2011

BLUE



WHITE

By: Greg H.

On Saturday July 16th, all PCB campers and counselors were split into two teams for our second annual all sports day - called "Blue and White Day"!

Five competitive events were held for each group on the day, to include Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball, Horseback Riding, Softball, Dodge ball, Kickball, Sting ball and RAGG. Maximum participation, good sportsmanship and having FUN were the main goals for all.

In each age group, once the campers finished their competitions in each sport, their staff then faced off for an abbreviated competition which yielded a "bonus point" to the winning team in that activity. Much to the delight of their campers, staff played hard all day and were cheered on with great excitement by their camper teammates!

With temperatures in the high 80s, everyone got a nice rest and swim period early in the afternoon, and play resumed at 4:00 for the last two periods of the day. Lake Wentworth really seemed to refresh everyone as it usually does on a hot day, and with renewed vigor both Blue and White Teams finished off as strong as they had started the morning.

For the first time and to the delight of both teams, our own **Kyle R.** throughout the opening and closing ceremonies – and also played some great music in between activity periods all day to help keep energy levels on high. Great job **Kyle!**

At the closing ceremony, there was one final event to be settled, a coed staff Tug O' War with 10 White Team counselors versus 10 Blue Team staff. Competing amidst roars of encouragement from their respective campers, the **Steve O.** captained White Team easily pulled down the **Melissa B.** led Blue Team in what served as a foreshadowing of the days final result as well.

When the points were finally totaled and the winners announced, it was the WHITE Team that was victorious, by a solid margin – thus avenging last year's defeat to the Blues. All the campers and staff did an amazing job, tried their personal best and enjoyed some good, friendly competition among friends.

During the closing ceremony, **Greg P.** announced all campers and staff would receive a very cool, navy blue and white 60th Anniversary Baseball Cap to mark the Pierce Family's 60th summer at Birchmont. Following a camp wide rendition of "Happy Birthday" – **Chef Helen** and her staff presented a gorgeous and equally delicious 60th Birthday cake to Pierce Camp Birchmont – a cake that was quickly dismantled and enjoyed by both campers and staff!

Special thanks to **Chef Helen** and her crew, **Martha** and **Ricki** at Special Events, Field Director **Brian M.** and all of the many supervisors and staff that helped organize another wonderful day at camp! See you in 2012 for the rematch!

THERE ARE NO STRANGERS WITHIN

ONLY FRIENDS WAITING TO BE MET



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It is a great honor to be nominated by one's peers to the Birchmont Hall of Fame. Candidates for Hall of Fame in their groups exemplify qualities of humor, kindness and fun. These campers are the most likely to put smiles on the faces of their friends and exude a winning personality which is recognized by their entire group.

Hall of Fame 2011

Pioneer Boys ~ Runner Up: **George S.** / Winner: **Zach G.**

Pioneer Girl ~ Runner Up: **Jessica T.** / Winner: **Phoebe D.**

Inter Boys ~ Runner Up: **George K.** / Winner: **Jacob G.**

Inter Girls ~ Runner Up: **Chloe S.** / **Kelsey S.**

LSR Boys ~ Runner Up: **Grant P.** / Winner: **Jon H.**

LSR Girls ~ Runner Up: **Bailey G.** / Winner: **Jamie W.**

USR Boys ~ Runner Up: **Daniel K.** / Winner: **Jacob .**

USR Girls ~ Runner Up: **Hannah D.** / Winner: **Jacqueline .**

SSR Boys ~ Runner Up: **Jonah F.** / Winner: **Sam F.**

SSR Girls ~ Runner Up: **Belen G.** / Winner: **Stefanie H.**

Super Senior SWEEP!

And the 2011 Hall of Fame winners are...

**Stefanie H. SSRG
&
Sam F. SSRB**

CONGRATULATIONS!



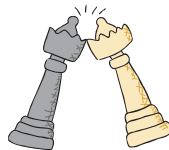
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THERE'S A NEW CHESS CHAMP AT CAMP

This year's Chess King at camp is a new boy from New York City, **PIOB Bennie P.**, who played match after match of great chess Sunday afternoon under the majestic pines. Many solid matches were played, on the picnic tables surrounded by a giant chess set, and giant Jenga. Several chess games required great powers of concentration and sportsmanship as the "touch/move" rule was implemented for the single elimination games. Checker Champion, **PIOB Deen A.** had a terrific game against **INTB Casey S.**, but ultimately "**Casey, mighty Casey**" was victorious, and was left to face **Bennie** in the final match. The Sunday afternoon's Canteen of Skittles, Kit Kat Bars, and Sour Patch Kids sustained all the players during the 3 hour tournament. **PIOB George M.** kept advancing, but was ambivalent when he found his group was heading down to swim so his hopes of wake-boarding were dashed as he was determined not to forfeit a match to go down to the beach. There will be plenty of other afternoons to play in the lake, but there is only one annual Chess Tournament at Pierce Camp Birchmont, and if you are in it, you are in it to win it!

There were some impressive moments of strategic thinking exhibited by two girls in the tournament. **INTG Caitlin C.** was just as poised, and unruffled as she could be, going up against boy after boy, all older than she. **PIOG Ryan D.** is also to be commended for good play, coolly executing solid moves against some older formidable opponents. **INTB Joseph T.**, **PIOB Sammy F.**, **PIOB Luke E.**, **PIOB Johnny C.**, **INTB David L.**, **PIOB**



George M., **PIOB Zach G.**, and **INTB Tommy L.** fought hard all passing the first round of play. **PIOB Max G.** unfortunately met up with **Bennie** in the first round but played his heart out. Kudos to **Max**, because that match ended in a stalemate with **Bennie** winning the re-match. Finally **Bennie** met up with **Casey** in the finals, and ultimately **Bennie** prevailed. Prizes were given out at Quiet Hour for the champions of both chess and checker tourney with honorable mentions for the semi-finalists. So, until next summer, shut off the TV, practice some chess, and hone your skills, so one day you might reign as the Chess King of Camp Birchmont

Well played... to ALL the Participants

- Matt A. INTB**
- Deen A. PIOB**
- Sam B. PIOB**
- Tyler C. INTB**
- Johnny C. PIOB**
- Caitlin C. INTG**
- Luke D. INTB**
- Ryan D. PIOG**
- Luke E. PIOB**
- Sam F. PIOB**
- Max G. PIOB**
- Zach G. PIOB**
- Ethan K. PIOB**
- George K. INTB**
- Tom L. INTB**
- Davie L. INTB**
- David L. INTB**
- Helen M. INTG**
- George M. PIOB**
- Melanie N. INTG**
- Bennie P. PIOB**
- Sam R. PIOB**
- Casey S. INTB**
- George S. PIOB**
- Joseph T. INTB**
- Koray W. PIOB**

ONLY FRIENDS WAITING TO BE MET



ARTS, Crafts & Chihuly

By: Lu



"This is our bastion of creativity."—**Laura P.**, discerning arts connoisseur.

No doubt, Laura is right. For, dare I say where else in camp (outside of ceramics and wood-working) do campers explore their imaginations with such verve and enthusiasm. Consider the following examples:

Alex K. is presently constructing a miniature replica of the waterfront using clay, foam, wood and metal. He's added a surreal touch by having a ferocious crocodile chew a corner of the dock. **Jonathan H.** has drawn an intricate blueprint for his sculpture and is also using mixed media of pipe-cleaners, wood and felt. **Bennie P.** created an outstanding dragon of clay augmented by wings made by **George M.** (who, by the way, I suspect may have a future as an artist) and **Emily W.** continues to astonish us all with her delightful watercolors. My favorite one is of the hummingbird which is hanging outside of Arts and Crafts in front of the feeder and the real whimsical hummingbirds.

PIO boys **Ryan, Aidan, Aydan, George, Bennie** and **Zack** created cool crocodiles with branches found in the woods and painted fluorescent colors on them. These crocs will be decorated with a cornucopia of insects and spiders and, of course, enormous choppers.

Continuing with our pillow tradition, many campers are working with our new fabulous fabrics. **Trevor P.** and **Theo A.** made hip lobster pillows and I really like the Bear fabric that Super Senior **Max L.** chose (hey, **Max**, thanks for running down to the Lodge twice for staples!) and **Danny R.** is pillow-insatiable and has already added several more to his prodigious collection. **Becca N.** is a rising star in A&C and devotes great concentration to each project.

Frankie A. made an amazing pond tableau with the new Magic Clay we're using, and **Tommy L.** molded a charming piece. Upper Senior Girl **LJ V.** exhibits talent in virtually all arenas.

Oh, there's more. Campers worked on duct-tape wallets and duct-tape sunglasses and girls in the variety show NameTags even made duct-tape tee-shirts! Cool, eh?

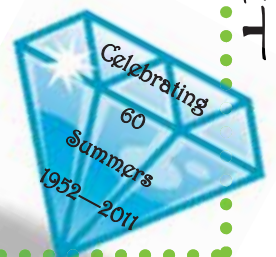
Perhaps the most exciting project in Notches has been the introduction of decorated hot-air balloons in the style of Dale Chihuly, perhaps the finest artist working in glass since Louis Tiffany who presently has as exhibit in Boston's Museum of Fine Arts. Campers create the illusion of glass pieces using cut-up water bottles and then carefully using a heat gun to create wild, dancing shapes and compelling flowers. Even the illustrious and indomitable **Ginny P.** is making a sculpture using discarded Sprite bottles which gives the piece a brilliant hue.

For second session, we'll be making scented soap and candles, collage stationary, tee-pees, totem-poles and more. **Laura** is absolutely right.

Special thanks to **Emily** for her patience, great work with campers and amazing lettering and also to **Danie** for her gentle and creative spirit.

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Bright Summer Lights & Shining Stars



On Wednesday, July 20 the Lodge was filled to capacity to view the talent of the 2011 Birchmont campers. The stage was adorned with graffiti style names of campers and staff. The concept was conceived by our Arts and Crafts director Lu and the stage set up and art work was by Notches Assistants **Emily** and **Dani** and the campers themselves. Many were thrilled to see their names up on the stage. The background was aluminum foil but with the lights shining upon the names and the tags it had a mirror-like affect. After a hot and sticky day, the show was a great way to spend an evening with friends and staff. The big representation this year was all the boys who sang, danced and played piano. We cannot forget the adorable dances from the girls in their colorful outfits as they moved to the music of Lady Gaga, Glee and LAMFO. Solos were in abundance with songs from Broadway musicals as well as more recent hits by both male and female campers. There were 25 acts in all and roughly about 75 campers participated in the show. Our hosts for the evening were Super Seniors **Chloe F.**, **Dominique K.**, and **Sam W.**. The show opened with an original rap from PIO boy and first time camper **Luke E.** that rocked the house.

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The Birchmont Rap by Luke E.
*I came to Birchmont with hopes and dreams
 I really wanted to water-ski
 Hit a golf ball off a tee
 Even do some riflery
 I made a lot of new friends
 So I'll be sad when the summer ends
 I'm having the best summer of my life
 I'll even remember it when I get a wife!*



ONLY FRIENDS WAITING TO BE MET

Lady Gaga was the featured artist this year with many of the dancers choosing to use her music. The first dance group up was the PIO girls from Mount Delight: **Elizabeth F.**, **Julia H.**, **Becca N.**, **Ariana R.**, **Rachel S.**, **Jessica T.**. The girls were delightful, dancing to The Edge of Glory which was choreographed by Junior counselor's Sara and Molly. Next up was our returning English camper **Asher S.** who brought the house down when he sang "Where is Love" from the musical Oliver in a sweet, angelic voice. PIO girl **Randi S.** regaled us again this year with her gymnastic moves to Judas from Lady Gaga. New camper PIO boy **Eli G.** received a thunderous applause at the completion of his performance of the Jason Mars hit "I'm Yours" accompanied by Name Tags - Birchmont Variety Show 2011 counselor Harris B. on guitar. PIO & INTG's **Cassey K.**, **Courtney A.**, **Paige L.**, **Sonia E.**, **Taryn M.** made us laugh when they tricked Ed G., the head of soccer into getting wet with their Caterpillar skit taught to them by our nursing assistant Deborah. Inter Girls **Emily B.**, **Sarah R.** and PIO girls, **Chloe S.**, **Mackenzie M.** delighted us with their dances moves to "The Show Goes On". The girls choreographed the dance themselves. When **Paige L.** tenderly sang "Try to Remember" from the Fantastiks, she dedicated it to Ginny P. and Jimmy and Ginny S.. PIO **Julia H.** played piano again this year. Her piece reminded us of water and was aptly called "Dew Drops". **Becca N.**, **Kasey K.** sang a sweet lullaby "Goodnight My Someone" from The Music Man as a duet. The piano in the Lodge never sounded as good as when it was played by the very talented young man **Ethan C.** whose fingers ran deftly over the keys playing Felix Mendelssohn's "Rondo Capriccioso". The mood changed again with the Hip Hop number "Written In The Stars" as performed by **George S.** and **Johnny C.** from the PIO's. The lively "Hoedown in London Town" was performed as a piano solo by Inter Boy **Eric E.**. The audience gave an enthusiastic response to the girls from Knoll Cabin as they performed a dance to "Turn Around". **Riki C.**, **Phoebe D.**, **Ryan D.**, **Shayne D.**, **Bridget F.**, **Abby G.**, **Brianna P.** were terrific when they performed their moves that the JC's Emily and Sydney had worked so hard to teach. Selena Gomez song "A Year Without Rain" was performed by Inter Girl **Raquel G.** and was followed by The Beatles "All You Need is Love" on piano by PIO **Aidan E.**. PIO boys **Ryan F.**, **Aidan S.**, **Matthew C.** had everyone in the lodge waving their hands in the air to the popular Niki Minaj hit "Moment for Life". "The Lazy Song", another song this year was from the talented singer songwriter Bruno Mars and was performed to the delight of the camp by Inter boy Alex K. in PJ's with counselor Harris B. on guitar. By the second verse many campers had joined in the singing. Glee is a popular TV show with many campers and their hit song "Loser Like Me" about bullying was showcased as a dance number by Inter Girls **Anya C.**, **Raina D.**, **Alex P.**, **Alexa T.**, **Courtney A.**. The girls collaborated in choreographing the number. Alexa unfortunately was sick for the performance but Courtney quickly jumped in to learn her dance moves and she performed them flawlessly. Name Tags - Birchmont Variety Show 2011 Switching gears PIO **Jake G.** sang the song the "Rainbow Connection" and dedicated it to Laura P.. The response to Jake's performance was very enthusiastic and what followed was Beach Salsa played by **Rachel S.** on piano. "Broadway Baby" was a delightful tap dance by the talented PIO **Mackenzie M.**. Next came Upper Senior **Kiera F.** singing Adel's "Rolling in the Deep", Harris B. accompanied on guitar. By the end Kiera had the whole camp singing with her and the Upper Senior Girls gave her a standing ovation. "Hey Baby" was danced by PIO and INT's **Babou U.**, **Asher S.**, **George S.**, **Ethan K.**, **Luke E.**. By the end of the dance the whole lodge were mirroring the moves bringing smiles to many faces. The surprise of the evening was the skit by Super Senior Boys **Sam F.**, **Chris W.**, **Jonah F.**, **Jackson T.** and their counselors Sam and Nate. The group broke into insane dance moves to the delight of the entire camp. The evening ended with what has become a tradition: the Super Senior Girls performing their own meaningful song about summer and their memories of Pierce Camp Birchmont. This year the girls of 2011 sang "We'll All Be" by The Main. A fun night was had by all and the Birchmont campers were an appreciative audience. Many of these young performers will again be featured in the upcoming Wizard of Oz musical to be seen second session.

Name Tags was directed by **Louise** from Performing Arts Directors Assistant: **Genevieve** Name Tags - Birchmont Variety Show 2011





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WHITE WATER RAFTING



By: LSRG's Sarah T. and Emma L.

This past week the Lower Senior Boys and Girls went on an exciting 3 day off grounds white water rafting trip. Late Wednesday afternoon after a four hour bus ride they arrived at the Adventure Bound camp grounds. After some time to relax and eat dinner everyone headed to their cabins to prepare for our big day. The next morning we woke up at 6:30 AM for a safety lesson and to receive our equipment. Our equipment included helmets, life jackets, water booties, paddles and wet suits. After we got all dressed up we boarded the bus for a 45 minute drive to the river. Once we arrived at the river we were assigned instructors and rafts. Our instructors then gave us a lesson in paddling. We learned the different paddling techniques and how to sit in the boat. After that we walked the raft down the stairs and put them in the water. We then pushed off the beach and started paddling down the river. The further we got down the river we hit some rapids, one of the rapids we hit was named "Big Mama". For many people this was their favorite rapid. We headed further down the river to "swimmers rapid" water where we could jump out of the boat and float down the rapids. By then we were paddling for two hours and were more than ready for the BBQ lunch, that was definitely the most delicious lunch ever had. Once we were all done eating we got back in the rafts and were given the option to stay on the boat or go paddle in the duckies (inflatable kayaks) that you could paddle with a friend throughout the rest of the river. We had a huge water fight where everybody took buckets and started splashing each other. After the water fight we traveled down the river for a couple of minutes then we had to head back to the camp grounds. Once we got back we returned all of the equipment. We saw all the pictures and watched a video of our rafting trip. After that we had dinner and everybody went into the pool. That night we had a campfire where we were all able to bond as a group while having tons of fun. The next day we went to the Maine Mall which was a great ending to a great trip. We all left with remarkable memories that will last forever.



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Girls Robindel Swim I.C.C. ~ BIRCHMONT takes it ALL!

By SSRG's Chloe F. and Natalie H.

On the 11th of July a bus full of 35 girls from the pioneers through the Super Seniors traveled to Camp Robindel for a swim I.C.C. There the girls practiced as soon as they arrived and then began their races. Each girl competed in at least one event and were cheered on by their teammates. Some of the events the girls competed in were the 25m freestyle, breaststroke, back stroke, butterfly as well as 50m races, relay races and individual medleys. Overall Birchmont had a very successful day and came home with 12 first place winners. The girls were also awarded 2nd and 3rd place ribbons in multiple events. Overall results for the day, out of five teams Birchmont Girls team took home a 1st place victory. As a reward for all their hard work on such a hot day they were treated to Bly's home made ice cream. Yum! What a day of sweet success.

A special thank you to our amazing coaches **Jacob E. & Rebecca S.!**



DISCOVERING THE LOST RIVER

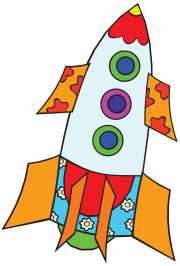
By: INTG Rachel S.

The inter girls were surprised when they were told that they had the opportunity to kayak along the Lost River with **Greg P.** We got our life jackets, paddles and kayaks and kayaked over to the shore to the left of Birchmonts waterfront area of the lake. We all picked up the kayaks and pulled it over a strip of sand to enter the lost river. **Greg** taught us that this action is called "portage" we also learned that the Lost River isn't even a river. It's a marsh tributary with tons of cool sights and wild animals. During our ride, the lily pads were about to burst open, we saw a Great Blue Heron, some turtles and fish. It was so peaceful and quiet in the Lost River. Kayaking with **Greg P.** on the Lost River was an experience the 2011 Inter Girls will never forget!



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CLUBS 2011

One of the most popular activities offered at Camp Birchmont each summer is the evening "CLUBS Program". This elective style activity provides nearly 20 different choices for participants, which include either the younger half of camp (8 through 12 year olds) or the upper part of camp (13 through 15 year olds) each night. Clubs run every night Tuesday through Friday, from 7 to 8 pm, with Upper Clubs Tuesday and Thursdays while Lower Clubs fall on Wednesday and Fridays.

Since CLUBS are coed, brothers and sisters, other relatives or even just good friends can participate together in what are appropriate coed activities, whereas during the normal camp program our periods are gender specific. Kids choose a new (or same) activity each time they have CLUBS scheduled, so it is a great chance to try something completely different (like Beading) or to get extra time doing an activity they love, such as Waterskiing.

Some classic, popular CLUBS this year are Indian Village (**Scott S.**), Dodge ball (**Pete B.**), Fishing (**Greg P., John S. and Tom L.**), Rocketry (**Sam G.**), Gardening (**Laura P.**), Waterskiing (**Bobby A., Polly G.** and the lifeguards), Equestrian (**Martine H. and Liz W.**), Cooking (**Dina A. and Jenny K.**) and Lacrosse (**Jenna R. and Jesse C.**) – just to name a few.

New CLUBS this year include Chess (**Alex S.**), Sewing (**Lydia G., Martha R. and Melissa B.**), Yoga (**Katy M.C. and Katie H.**), Ping Pong (**Matt P.-H.**) and Beading (**Ashley H.**)...

Thanks to all the Club Leaders who help make this such a wonderful part of our camp program each and every summer – and to our campers for being so enthusiastic about coming to CLUBS!



Camp Out & Breakfast Cookout *By Greg P.*

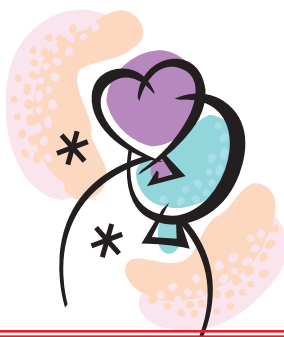
Every year I look forward to my breakfast cookout with our Pioneer campers. This summer was no exception. A good hour before reveille we have to start the coals so that by 8AM sharp the grills are ready for our hungry campers after their on grounds sleep out under the stars. This year I was ably assisted by **Jose E.** and **Tom L.**

As I welcome the girls I begin to hear stories of how they "roughed it" in their tents during the sleep out; "I slept on top of a rock" "Oh yeah, I slept on top of three rocks!"; "I woke up sooo early"; "the birds woke me up".

I quickly turn the conversation to breakfast. Not their usual breakfast fare of quiche slices, sliced fruits, pancakes, yogurt or cereal but rather; eggs in a basket otherwise known as Bird in the Nest.

Of course we have other mundane choices like cereal, but I do my best to show them the challenges of cooking on a not so level grill and sell my BBQ style eggs. First I tell them the challenges of cooking an egg on the grill so as I handout slices of bread I ask them to fold the bread in half and bite the middle out so I have a nice round hole in the center of the bread. This is always done amidst giggles and questions as to the necessity of such a process. Next up we place the center less pieces onto the coal black griddle. That's when the fun begins, we start cracking eggs into the specially prepared slices and the girls begin to see why it was important to prepare the bread just so. As the yoke tries in vain to escape and obey the laws of gravity. Once the eggs begin to sizzle there are decisions to be made! "Who wants cheese or Canadian bacon? Who wants plain or just cheese?"

Soon, **Tom, Jose** and I are flipping our eggs as fast as we can! While **Laura** and the staff are pouring milk, chocolate milk & orange juice as fast as they can. Although many of the girls were skeptical at first; most all of them came back for seconds. As their bellies fill and the orders stop coming in, I start cooking my own breakfast with the works. I always enjoy our cookouts and for me there is always the extra bonus; all day long I smell like "Eggs in a Basket"!



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Robin Hood Girls Tennis ICC

By: Chelsea D.

Although the morning of Thursday July 21st was a warm one, our Birchmont girls in both the 13's and 15's played exceptionally well against our rivals Robin Hood. With a total of ten matches played nine of the wins were given to Birchmont.

SSRG Chloe F. didn't let the heat get to her, beating third singles opponent 10-0. Following her lead, **INTG Parker S.-S.** beat her 13's third singles opponent 10-0 as well, creating a very impressive shut out. The rest of the girls who played in the 13 age group performed remarkably, regardless of the intense heat. Second singles player **INTG Sofie L.** won her match with a final score of 10-1 while **PIOG Emma M.** and **INTG Ashley L.** beat their 1st doubles opponents 10-3. **INTG's Samantha G.** and **Sanna N.**, taking second doubles position creamed their competitors 10-1. In an insanely close match of 8-10 **USRG Olivia G.** lost to her Robin Hood opponent in the first singles position although we still applaud her for her great effort.

Our 15's team represented Birchmont spirit and skill by sweeping their competition. As the first singles player **SSRG Annie R.** beat her opponent 10-6, 2nd singles player **SSRG Astrid P.** ended the match with an impressive score of 10-2. **USRG Cas S.** and her partner **USRG Amanda S.** won their first doubles match 10-1. Finally although **SSRG Rebecca R.** broke her strings moments before her match began, continuing to play with a substitute racket both she and her partner **USRG Hannah D.** beat their second doubles opponents 10-4. Despite scorching sun and fierce competition our Birchmont girls finished off strong. Congratulate your fellow campers on a fantastic win—nice work ladies!



Birchmont Tennis

Forest Acres Girls Tennis Invitational

On Tuesday July 19th a hardy group of Birchmont Girls awoke early—very early! - in the morning and set off for Fryeburg Maine for a day of tennis competition. Amongst the tall pines of Forest Acres **INTG Sammie G.** worked all the way to the finals of the back draw... way to go **Sammie!** First round winners included **INTG Claudia G.** and **USRG Lana Z.** in singles. **INTG Morgan C.** and **INTG Randi S.** and **USRG Miki T.** and **USRG Perri K.** teamed up for first round wins in doubles. Rounding out the team with everyone putting forth a great effort was **USRG Hannah D., LSRG Hanna Z., USRG Michelle N., LSRG Bailey G.** and **INTG Caitlin C.**



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Robindel Invitational

By: Billy K.

The sun shone high on Tuesday, July 19th when the Birchmont girls boarded the bus to the annual Robindel Invitational tennis ICC. Birchmont was just one of eight teams (four of which were from Robindel). The Birchmont Girls worked extremely hard and took second place overall!

The 15's team was led by **SSRG Annie R.** at first singles and **SSRG Astrid P.** at second singles. **Annie** won easily in her first round match but lost in a tough second round match against the girl who ended up in the finals. Similarly **Astrid** lost in the third round, after two very successful matches to the other girl in the finals. In doubles we had an exciting Birchmont vs. Birchmont final at first doubles. **SSRG's Chloe F.** and **Rebecca R.** were upset in an exciting match against the second doubles team of **USR's Cas S.** and **Amanda S.** Both teams played beautifully and Birchmont benefited from both the winner and runner up points. In the 13's Birchmont played its hardest, but had a little trouble pulling it out. First singles **USRG Olivia G.** (who actually turned 14 two days later) lost in a tie breaker in the first round but dominated her back draw match. Second Singles **INTG Sofie L.**, at only ten years old won her first two matches easily, only to lose in a close third round. In doubles, first doubles **INTG's Holly W.** and **Emily W.** lost in a close second round match. Second doubles **INTG's Ashley L.** and **Melanie N.** won their first round in a tie breaker! Unfortunately they lost in a tough second round match. The Birchmont 11's team was led by **INTG Parker S.-S.**, who played incredibly well all the way into the finals! **PIOG Emma M.**, making her Birchmont tennis debut, lost in the first round in a close tiebreaker before dominating the consolation in the second singles spot. **INTG's Julia F.** and **Lauren P.** lost in an extremely close first round tiebreaker and then crushed the consolation match. Finally second doubles **INTG's Sofia Y.** and **Kelsey S.** played hard and won their first round match only to be defeated in a close second round. Overall, Birchmont did extremely well, despite the heat of the day and the strong competition! The stop at Bly's Ice Cream was much appreciated by all the girls. Don't forget to check out the dining room where there is a new trophy on display!

THERE ARE NO STRANGERS WITHIN

ONLY FRIENDS WAITING TO BE MET

Birchmont Tennis – 2011

HPI is a supplemental "High Performance" instruction program exclusively taught by Birchmonts' own Head Tennis Professional, **Curt T.** This program targets those children that have the drive, ability and work ethic to become a more competitive tennis player. Due to Coach Curt's extensive professional teaching and playing background, Birchmont is able to offer programs like "HPI" that you won't find at other summer camps. "HPI" was implemented seven summers ago with 24 students enrolled. This program has become so popular that there is now a waiting list. Early registration is highly recommended. The 2011 Inters are eligible summer 2012! HPI is open to 7th—9th graders attending camp for 8 weeks. Take your game to the next level!





LAKES REGION SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

On Tuesday, July 12th Birchmonts' 15 and under boys softball team traveled to Proctor Academy to compete in the Lakes Region annual softball tournament. **SSRB Jordan A.** won the opening coin flip for home field advantage, after practicing for several days, it looked like Birchmont might win the tournament for the fourth year in a row.

With excellent pitching from **SSRB Jordan S.** and great work behind the plate by **SSRB Grant N.** Birchmont won the first three games. Helped by hitting from **SSRB's Taylor B., Max I., Jackson T., Anthony D.,** and **USRB Matt L.** along with great fielding by **SSRB's Sam F., Alejandro F.D., Jonah F., Zachary G., Jamie G., Matt K., Andrew L., Brian S., Sam W.** and **USRB's Liam H., Jacob L. and Jeremy K.** Birchmont finished a very respectful third place out of eight teams. The day ended with the Hoe Down, live music and a delicious fried chicken picnic dinner.



12 AND UNDER BOYS BASKETBALL

On Tuesday July 19th the 12 and Under ICC at Winauke was a pretty good turn out. We finished 3rd out of eight teams and finished the tournament with a 3 –2 record. The boys played with high energy and hustle each game keeping even the ones we lost very close and competitive. **INTB Luke D.** lead the team in each game with points, along with contributions from everyone else on the team. **INTB Sam S.** broke out of his shell by driving to the basket, and creating plays for the rest of the players. **INTB Adam L.** really came in and cleared the boards grabbing just about every defensive rebound for our side. **INTB Casey S.** came off the bench and played great defense making it hard for the other teams to score. All around every player did their part to help contribute to the teams success both on and off the court. They represented Birchmont by being polite, using integrity and competing with excellent sportsmanship.



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HORSE SHOW AT ROBINDEL

On July 15th, **Martine** headed to Camp Robindel with eight girls for their Annual Horse Show. The weather was perfect and they have plenty of shade which made for a very enjoyable day.

In the first class which was "beginner rider", **PIOG Shayne D.** took fourth and **INTG Hilda B.** took third place.

INTG's Andi S. and **Raina D.** competed on the "novice rider" class and both received blue ribbons! That is First Place.

In the "intermediate rider" class, **INTG Rachel S.** won Third Place and **INTG Holly W.** won second.

INTG Claudia G. and **INTG Jacqueline L.** each took a Fifth Place Ribbons. Great job girls, you rode your best.

Robindel treated us to a cookout lunch and then we headed home with one quick stop for ice cream at Bly's Farm. It was a great way to end a fun filled day.

Thank you to all the girls for making me proud and riding so well!

We are looking forward to doing it again next year.



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SSR Surprise Kayaking Trip

By: SSRB's Jordan A. & Jordan S.

For the second year in a row, the Super Senior boys and girls were taken on a kayaking expedition down the Pemigewasset River. After a long bus ride followed by a van trip to an entrance on the river, we were excited and ready to go. Due to the lack of rain prior to the trip, the depth of the river was below average, creating a more challenging environment for the kayakers. However, the campers overcame it even though the constant skidding on the rocks was annoying but also fun.

After a short break for lunch on a rocky edge of the river, we came across a railroad bridge with very deep water underneath it; deep enough to jump safely off the 20 foot peak. Once on the bridge our anxiety level rose. After walking across the tracks, a terrifying walk on a small slippery beam that ended in a long fall. A fall most of the campers' and counselors took. The 6 mile trip would soon come to an end as the exit of the river was approaching. Though some straggled behind, all the Supers made it and had a great time. Experiences like these are ones not to be taken for granted as our time as campers is limited. Being able to try new things and face ones fears at camp with your best friends is a great memory for all.



Sailing

By: USB's Daniel W. and Davy W.

Imagine sailing through the calm sunny beautiful lake. Doesn't it seem amazing this dream can become reality if you pass your sailing test. It actually is not as hard as it seems. There are just a few things you have to know ; how to rig and de-rig the boat, how to sail and what to do if you capsize. With special thanks to the beautiful swim instructor Polly and also there being 4 new Zuma boats at the waterfront, letting 8 boats to be used on any reasonably windy day. Although sailing is a ton of fun, there are three important rules every sailor should know; Never head directly into the wind, always wear your life jacket and most importantly HAVE FUN!



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Supers Against Bullying

By: SSRG's Alex O. and Natalie H.

On Sunday July 10th, the Super Senior Girls educated the Pioneer Girls and Boys, Intermediate Girls and Lower Senior Boys on bullying. The Super Girls performed a play that had a huge impact on its audience. It was based on the book Have You Filled a Bucket Today? By Carol McCloud. The book teaches about bullying by introducing the idea that everyone has an invisible bucket that is either filled up or emptied by another person. If someone does or says something kind to someone both the person giving and receiving the kind action fill up their buckets. When something negative is said or done, the action empties both buckets of the people involved. The Super Senior Girls quoted lines from the book and acted out instances of bullying that are fairly common. These vignettes included things seen in social situations such as exclusion, hurtful nicknames and someone not wanting to be your swim buddy. The younger campers actively participated and became aware of ways to empty and fill each others buckets based on the play. The Super Senior Girls were happy with the result of their play and were glad to do what they could do to enlighten children about bullying at an early age.

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By: SSRG's Astrid P. and Katie .

On Wednesday the 13th of July the Upper and Super groups departed from Birchmont on a long ride to Quebec Canada. After we settled into our hotel rooms, we went into town with our tour guides and watched a short film called the Quebec Experience, which taught us about the history of the city . After dinner we enjoyed some souvenir shopping and then went to the IMAX theater to watch Born to Be Wild, the incredible story of how 2 different women in different places help baby orphaned animals. On the second day, we climbed up 487 steps and walked over a waterfall. There was some beautiful architecture, especially the beautiful Hotel Frontenac After exploring some shops, we went to the aquarium. That night we enjoyed a great dance party on a boat. On our final day, we picked up some last minute souvenirs and took a ferry-ride before returning to the buses for the ride back home to Birchmont.



By: USRG's Kiera F. and Cas S.

Our trip to Canada is an experience that will never be forgotten. The 6 hour bus ride was packed with interesting movies and conversations with friends. Although the long bus ride left us feeling tired we rose above the fray and had a great day. We not only saw the Quebec history movie, but we also saw an IMAX film about wildlife. Despite still being tired from the ride up we had a tasty dinner at an Italian Bistro. The next day we woke up early and had a delicious breakfast that included fresh crepes all of the menus were in French. After breakfast our day was filled with exercise and shopping we even climbed just over 480 steps! Then to finish off a great day we had a dance party on a boat! The boat was ringing with music and everyone was having fun! Then came the last day in Canada, we awoke early, ate and then explored the city of Old Quebec!

This trip will never be forgotten by the Uppers of 2011.



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"Tea for Two" & "Tea for Eighteen Super Senior Girls!"



Ginny P. cabin is next door to the Super Senior Girl's cabins and "Good tea makes for good neighbors". **Ginny P., Virginia S., Liz, Polly, Ricki, Pam A.** were the hostesses. **Ginny** and **Virginia** have been hosting the Tea party for over 15 years!

Cucumber sandwiches, scones with jam and petit fours were enjoyed by all. Even the Queen of England would have been proud! The history of camp and friendly chatter echoed in **Ginny's** cabin! Every single china tea cup was different, what a collection of beautiful things to drink out of. The girls were enthralled with stories of past teas and the origin of the event. Rumor has it that Finchley's Finishing School was the start of this festive occasion.

Ginny and **Virginia's** tea cups have been packed away for another year.

Memories will linger until next year!



Luck is in the air...

By: **PIOG Hilda B.**

This session the **PIO Girls** found at least 4 four leaf clovers. They were found by **Julia H.** and **Rachel S.**. They found them by the PIO Girl counselor ring.

Try to find one but if you look too hard you may not find one.

It's no wonder there are so many rainbows appearing over Birchmont.

Good Luck!



