Greetings from the YMCA Camp of Maine

From the Director: The 2010 camping season will officially end October 23, 2010. Camp opened on May 15th with a wedding. Our last event will be a wedding held on October 23rd. Sandwiched in between was one of the busiest summers camp has ever had. We had 27 different groups, organizations or individual wedding groups use our facility this year. The camp program itself served more than 700 different campers including campers from France, Spain, Canada, Mexico, England, China, Israel, The Netherlands, along with a host of States and towns and of course children from Maine. Some sessions filled to capacity and we had to turn campers away, so don’t wait reserve your child’s spot by applying on line November 15, 2010. It is exciting to see how the YMCA Camp of Maine can be used by so many different groups for so many different functions. We are doing our best to be a community resource for so many individuals and groups.

New this year we welcomed the “Jobs for Maine Graduates Program” along with “Onward Bound program” from the University of Maine, Orono. Mommouth and Freeport Schools have returned for their six year at camp learning leadership skills and team building skills. The Cobossee Watershed held two weeks of Environmental Day Camp. The YMCA Camp was also the catalyst for training staff to work in other camps offering certifications in Basic Wilderness First Aid, CPR/First Aid and Life Guard Training.

There is also more excitement to talk about as the State YMCA Board of Directors as mentioned in our last news letter has entered into Phase 2 of the capital campaign for renovating all of our camp facilities. The campaign is called the “Director’s Campaign.” The campaign is under the direction of a Capital Steering Committee made up of Board Members, Alumni and Volunteers. Every dollar raised so far has gone to benefit the YMCA Camp. The campaign goal is $ 1 Million Dollars. The campaign has already raised $ 310,000. The Y-Camp received a generous donation of $ 50,000 from the estate of Edward Lanciani for which we are very grateful. I would like to invite each of you to participate in this Phase 2 Campaign. Construction begins this fall on the new bathroom/shower room located in the boys middle village and will be on line in 2011. This modern bathroom facility will also include handicapped facilities to meet all ADA standards. There are many more improvements planned and the Army National Guard will be present in the spring to help with construction and remodeling of our facilities. There will be mechanical and electrical upgrades to many of the camp buildings. The camp road needs to be completely rebuilt to stop the erosion into the lake. You can view our total capital campaign brochure by going to www.maineycamp.org and click on the "Director's Campaign" link located in the left navigation. I would encourage you to donate to this very important and needed campaign, especially when your child can benefit from the upgrades if they are made while he or she is at camp. Please help us keep the momentum going as we move into our next phase of improvements. Won’t you please consider a gift to this very important campaign? Any and all size donations are important as we continue with this very important capital improvement program. The YMCA Camp of Maine has touched so many lives and has truly made an impact on the campers who have attended. This campaign deserves your support as the Y Camp of Maine continues to provide an experience that will truly last a lifetime.

See you this camping season,
Barry Costa
Executive Director
Camp Scholarships

The YMCA Camp Annual drive for Camp Scholarships is always in need of your support. The announcement of a capital campaign has significantly affected our annual drive for scholarship funding. Consequently, the Y Camp was unable to provide as much scholarship support in 2019. The Y Camp has always provided scholarship support for families of campers in need and will continue to do so. Scholarship support may be reduced in order to serve all the families in need.

We did have some good news in the scholarship department. For our third consecutive year we have successfully secured some scholarships for military family members to attend one week of camp at no charge. This grant was supplied by the Armed Forces YMCA. We will apply for additional funding for 2011. Contact the YMCA Camp for details.

The Y camp is always appreciative and willing to accept donations for our scholarship program. Campers who need support should contact the YMCA Camp office for a scholarship application. You can contact the office by e-mail or call direct at (207) 395-4200.

Calling All Alumni

Our Alumni family continues to grow. New alumni registrations have been coming in weekly. Have you registered as alumni on our alumni page yet? What are you waiting for? What a great opportunity to re-connect with a fellow camper or staff. By registering as alumni you also stay connected with camp. Camp alumni are very important to the health and well being of the total camp operation. Each summer the Y Camp has an alumni reunion day. This celebration has gained momentum for the past three years. What a great opportunity to return to camp and get reacquainted with campers and staff from years past. We hear time after time how much Y Camp was such an important part of many campers and staff lives. Why not get re-connected?

For the most current news and information please visit: www.maineycamp.org
Website Update

Registration for 2011 opens November 15, 2010.
We have had many inquiries as to when campers can enroll.
This past year enrollment was up and many of our sessions were full. We would encourage you to register early. It is really easy to register on line. Just go to our web site at www.maineycamp.org and click on the “Register Online” item in the top navigation.
Follow the directions and you will have your place reserved the very day you register.

Give a child a Christmas present that lasts a life time, a camp experience at the YMCA Camp of Maine!

Once again, interested staff will be able to apply for a position on line. Sign onto our website and go to the employment icon. The YMCA Camp Job Application will appear. Fill it out and send it electronically to the Y Camp Office.

Check out the photos for 2010. Just click on the photo gallery link. They are all on the web site by session. Show your favorite pictures to your friends. You can also download the photos to be suitably framed!

Individuals who have questions or need additional information can e-mail the camp at: info@maineycamp.org

2010 Boy & Girl Camper of the Year!

There were some exciting debates held this year before one boy and one girl were chosen as camper of the year. Each session one boy and one girl are chosen as camper of the session. At the end of the year staff select one boy and one girl from the ones chosen from each session to be camper of the year. Each camper of the year is recognized with a miniature canoe paddle that is engraved with their name on it. Another paddle with their name and year is mounted on the dining hall wall.

2010 Nominees – Camper of the Session:
Session 1: Emily Douin (F) & Ian Tobey (M)
Session 2: Isabel Clarke (F) & Zachary Russell (M)
Session 3: Kaitlynne Morse (F) & Pablo Calvillo (M)
Session 4A: Kate Audet (F) & Jalen Thompson (M)
Session 4B: Clara Jimenez (F) & Cooper Collins (M)

2010 Campers of the Year:
Kaitlynne Morse (F) & Zachary Russell (M)

Congratulations to all the nominees and also to the Campers of the Year! We look forward to their return in 2011.

2010 Early Bird Contest Winners!

We would also like to congratulate Hannah Brock and Jessica Michaud for being the early bird winners of a new iPod nano music card from the YMCA Camp of Maine. Hannah and Jessica’s names were drawn from all campers who registered and paid in full before March 15, 2010. Hope you enjoy your new iPod card Hannah & Jessica. Watch the web site for a similar contest in 2011.
YMCA Camp Wish List

The Y Camp is always in need of items that are still in good condition without missing parts. The Y camp is a 501c3 organization so individuals can receive a tax deduction on items donated. Check out those basements, attics, garages and storage sheds. You may have something you are no longer using anymore and may want to donate it to the camp.

We received some great donations for camp this summer. We received a computer, projector, and screen along with a riding lawn mower and furniture for the camp staff house.

Here is a list of items the camp could readily use:

- Sunfish or similar type of sail boats ($ 2,800.00 new)
- Canoes or Kayaks
- Life jackets
- Board games
- Tables & Chairs for the Auditorium
- Pottery Wheels could use 1 or 2 ($ 600.00 new)
- Sports Equipment – softball gloves, bats, tennis rackets, street hockey sticks etc.
- Good used furniture – Chairs, Tables, Chester Draws, etc.

Hope to see you this summer, “Where It's Always 72 Degrees & Sunny!”