

# KIEVE WAVUS NEWS

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KIEVE WAVUS EDUCATION / A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

FALL 2020

## DO THE HARD THINGS: A PERSPECTIVE ON 2020 FROM DAMARISCOTTA LAKE

This summer has been unlike any other since Dick Kennedy hired me as a Camp Kieve counselor in the spring of 1983. With no summer camps, we had to re-imagine ourselves and find new ways to fulfill our mission of empowering others this year.

This started locally in March when we volunteered our Kieve campus to be the hub of the *Lincoln County Food Initiative*. We continue to prepare, package, and transport 1,500 meals per week to our neighbors in need, and we will continue to do so at least until April 2021. We hope that the LCFI continues beyond April through the generosity of the KWE network that will enable us to continue our support.

We've also redesigned The Leadership School this school year, hiring 19 driven educators who gave up their August to quarantine, get Covid tested, and then dove into a 125-hour, 10-day intensive training. Those educators began serving 17 Maine schools after Labor Day and will teach their students for 30 weeks as opposed to the 10-week placements

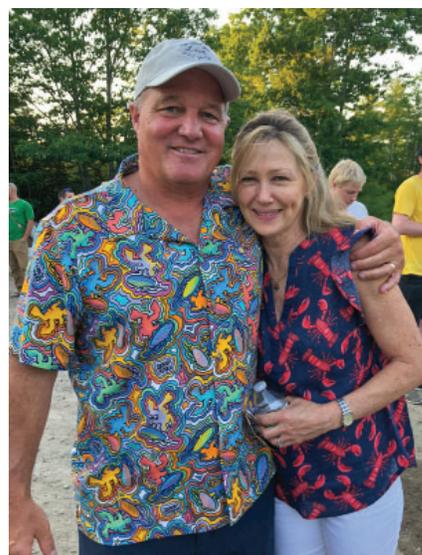
in years past. Our social-emotional learning experts are invaluable resources for their schools and are fostering connections between kids that have been absent since the Coronavirus.

Hopefully you got to read our community-wide letter in June, and the action steps announced in July highlighting how KWE will approach diversity, equity, and inclusivity going forward. Our DEI Task Force will hold us accountable to our plan, and our commitment to self-improvement and history of mobilizing to support any community in need will ensure we do this work well and are better for it.



*Legendary first night game of Simon Says!*

We published *Kindness and Respect* in August, a project I began years ago in an attempt to bring our approach to educating the whole person to the written page. This collaborative effort was fittingly dedicated to Dick Kennedy, who believed that, “*all children are at promise and that we do the greatest good when we teach the teacher.*”



*Annie & Charlie*

The book has already sold over 1,000 copies and has inspired EASEL, our new consulting service that leans on our experiential approach to social-emotional learning in order to support schools and organizations. It has been amazing to see the enthusiasm for spreading a little KWE magic to communities who would not have experienced it otherwise.

Shortly after the Covid-19 crisis began, I penned a letter to each of the campers from my first Kieve cabins back in the early '80s. It was like entering a time machine as I flipped through the old Annuals, and I was quickly reminded that many of my 'kids' now have campers of their own, many of whom cannot wait to return to Kieve

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*Can you find Charlie Richardson and Dick & Nancy Kennedy in this 1983 photo?*

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# Letter from the Executive Director

Ever since the second week of March, 2020 has been surreal. None of us have experienced anything like this in all of our days. At Kieve and Wavus, we thrive on coming together, building relationships, celebrating the peaceful beauty all around us, giving one another hugs when the chips are down, and sharing the many gifts of this life. We build character, confidence, and resilience by pushing people out of their comfort zones and helping them work together to solve problems. But this year, the world changed and our campuses did not open. Every one of us needed to draw on our strengths – and sense of humor – to navigate this Covid life and to persevere.

Instead of commiserating about our plight, we started thinking about other ways to fulfill our mission. We also took the opportunity to take care of our campuses and our beloved lake. In this newsletter you'll see some of the many ways that Kieve Wavus continues to lead by example:

- Using our kitchens and employees to prepare and deliver food to our neighbors in need
- Purchasing and protecting more Damariscotta Lake land
- Planning a solar array that will supply nearly all of our electricity
- Imbedding 19 amazing educators in Maine schools
- Writing a book about social-emotional learning and training teachers to use it

One silver lining from closing our campuses is the opportunity to grow grass and other plants in places where

thousands of little feet have trampled the ground for nearly a century, stabilize our fragile land, and further protect Damariscotta Lake. Many critters also appreciate the peace and quiet: foxes regularly stroll through campus and we even saw a moose pass by the Kieve sign! Another silver lining was the opportunity to paddle the Allagash with Beej and a bunch of my old Kieve and Colby mates, complete with a sunset concert each night. Who knew that a flute could call in the loons?!

We look to 2021 with great optimism. Applications for our summer camps are way ahead of historical trends (we WILL be open!), our emerging leaders are learning and growing, and our donors are being extraordinarily generous as we make it through the tough times together. We can hardly wait for you and all the kids to return to this place that we all love to the core. Hang in there...

Sincerely,



Henry R. Kennedy,  
Executive Director



Henry & BJ Kennedy on the Allagash

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and Wavus in 2021. I found myself reflecting on the magic of this place and marveling at the loyalty that people feel for Kieve and Wavus. It spans generations, for those of us fortunate enough to spend time here. *But why?*

To me, it's because our programs are hard. Whether you're an 8-year-old leaving home for the first time or a 16-year-old facing 22 days and over 200 miles on the Appalachian Trail, every Kieve and Wavus camper and counselor has to find the courage to face something challenging in their summer with us. It begs another question - why use your summer months of freedom to do something so difficult?

It turns out that we don't value doing what is easy. We value adversity and being challenged. We know how incredible it feels to be empowered and persevere through the thing that isn't fun. We know it reveals our character and we recognize that we are better for those hard experiences.

I think that this pandemic has revealed the character of this place, and that KWE's mission of empowering others isn't limited to our summer camps. We can reinvent ourselves in the face of unprecedented challenges and feel accomplished doing so.

I hope if you have lost touch with us over the years, that you reconnect, and that if you missed us during this extraordinary time, that you find a way to get back here as soon as you can. Next year will bring its own challenges, and if 2020 is any indication, we will be better for them.

Charlie Richardson

# DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION AT KWE



In June, Kieve Wavus Education shared a letter in support of social justice and black lives. In the letter, we sought ways to learn from one another to help build a more equitable and inclusive society.

In July, we hosted a Zoom call for our community to share their experiences and ideas for how we can improve our work around social justice and diversity, equity, and inclusion. That forum and countless personal conversations with members from across KWE led us to share action steps in August that we believe are important, attainable, and in line with the spirit of our mission:

*To empower people to contribute positively to society by promoting the values of kindness, respect for others, and environmental stewardship through year-round experiential programs, camps for youth and adults, and guidance from inspirational role models.*

Our first action step introduced our DEI Task Force. This group of KWE stakeholders appointed Simon Ponce and Kristin Valdmanis as their leaders, and agreed to serve for at least the next three years:

## Trustees

Bill Knowlton  
Libby Schroeder  
Kristin Valdmanis

## Employees

Neil D’Acierno - TLS  
Kate Kaplan - Wavus  
Sam Kaplan - Kieve

## Kieve & Wavus Parents

Claude Rwaganje  
James Blue

## Alums

Dylan Alles – Wavus  
Brad Geismar - Kieve  
Carolyn ‘Griff’ Griffiths - TLS  
Aubrie Howard - TLS

## External

Simon Ponce

## Equity, Inclusivity & Diversity Consultant

Andrew Bevan

## Diversity, Equity & Inclusivity Facilitator

New Canaan Country School

The task force has already met virtually on several occasions, evolving our action steps and providing guidance to KWE leadership. This Task Force will present at our Fall and Spring Trustee weekends, and they are committed to being a safe space for feedback and information, as well as supporting future DEI work at KWE.

To date the task force has accomplished much of the following and is looking forward to reporting our progress in future versions of this newsletter:

1. Research, identify and maintain program-specific data points measuring diversity at Kieve, Wavus, The Leadership School, and KWE Retreats
2. Create and maintain a permanent space for people of color and other minority groups in the KWE community to organically share their experiences
3. Address the appropriation of indigenous peoples and cultures at Wavus
4. Set future goals that are achievable and mission-aligned, and hold KWE leadership accountable to these
5. Collaborate with KWE leadership regarding DEI communication; particularly through our newsletters, social media, marketing, and crisis/incident management

The following actions have also been implemented:

1. KWE Educators completed their annual DEI advocacy and safe spaces training; the next is scheduled for our Summer Camp Staff during their June orientation
2. We continue serving diverse schools and organizations through KWE Retreats and TLS, specifically through our Educator in Residence program this fall and winter
3. Our program leaders are intentionally networking to attract campers and staff of color to our summer camps, and Educators of color to teach at TLS

The following are updates to our long term objectives:

## 2021-2022

1. Assess all data collected in 2020-2021 to establish new action steps in consultation with the KWE DEI Task Force
2. Explore utilizing the KWE network to expand TLS programs to more racially diverse schools; in Maine, and in other states
3. Research and include land acknowledgement and brief indigenous histories in summer camp Trip Notes, ensuring campers can learn about the First Nations communities wherever we explore; include the same in the KWE Nature Curriculum that will educate our campers and students about the land our campuses live on

## Long Term

1. Continue to self-assess and set new goals in consultation with the KWE DEI Task Force
2. Create outreach opportunities for people of color in Maine, particularly children, focusing on educating through our experiential approach to social-emotional learning
3. Develop our service and stewardship programs, intentionally serving diverse communities and educating about the indigenous histories of the land we interact with

We fully believe that our work is within our mission, that it is tangible and achievable, and that it will evolve appropriately in the future.

This summer without camp and fall without a TLS residential program has been, for us, a time for reflection. We feel proud of our history and we recognize that work around diversity, equity, and inclusivity is always imperfect and never complete. We are eager to continue serving our communities and improving as we go. Change requires a community effort; it requires our collective time, treasure, trust, and steadfast commitment.

We hope we can count on you for support.

*With love,*

*Henry Kennedy, Charlie Richardson, Kate Kaplan, Sam Kennedy, Sam Kaplan, and the Kieve Wavus Education Board of Trustees*

If you have been to Wavus, or have been in the presence of a Wavus woman, you've probably heard all about the Rays of the Totem - the 13 values we hold dear and a tradition since the 1920s. For the past few years, the counselor staff has added an unofficial ray: the willow tree. Our willow reminds us that there is strength in flexibility. The willow weathers the winds of the changing seasons because its strong roots allow its branches to bend with the winds rather than bear down against them.

The winds of change are blowing strong in 2020! In the span of a few months, I said a virtual goodbye to my middle schoolers after seven years of teaching at McDonogh, moved to Maine, welcomed baby Natalie into the world with Sam, and took on the role of Wavus Director.

My Wavus roots go back to 2010 when I pulled up to Jewell Lodge for my first summer as a counselor. I fell in love with Wavus from the start. My OD day was always "Survivor." I usually spent morning and afternoon teaching pottery in Andrews and twice had to be rescued from the roof of the Jewell by Scott Henry. Alien invasion day needs an authentic alien landing, right? Scott never asked questions, he just showed up with the ladder. I spent two glorious summers as a counselor and three in the trip shed. For the past five years, I have been in camp buzzing around with my scheduling binders, calling out dusty window sills during Cabin Inspections, and greeting every Wavus camper as their car pulls up on Parents Day. Now, after 12 years with KWE, I step into the role of Wavus Director. I owe the strength of my roots to two Wavus women: Sara Taylor and Kirstie Truluck.

Sara Taylor ran a tight shed - trip shed, that is. In any given hour, you could find Sara Taylor hoisting canoes onto a trailer, teaching girls how to load their packs,

running through maps with counselors, or comforting a homesick 8-year old. There was no nook or cranny in the north Maine woods you could get yourself into without Sara Taylor being able to fish you out. She was inexhaustible. When you worked with Sara, you met the food delivery truck at 5 AM and you stayed in the trip shed until the last counselors left. When she got a call from the woods, you grabbed a gazetteer, hopped in the van, and said, "where to?" We wanted to give our very best when we were around her because we saw her doing the same for all of us. Sara Taylor solidified the standard for our tripping program and I owe my work ethic to her.



*Kate, Sam, and Natalie Kaplan*

Kirstie Truluck and I met in 2010. It was my first summer as a counselor and her first summer as a Wavus mom. That summer, she entrusted me with her daughter, Merrill, who happened to be in my Junior Wavus cabin. In 2015, Kirstie came back to us as Director. Kirstie is tough as nails and also wonderfully spontaneous - the perfect recipe for a camp director. A pie to the face, a fully-clothed cannonball, free-range time, and the infamous Jello food fight of 2019; Kirstie is a staunch believer in Wavus

magic and she sprinkled it around for all of us to enjoy for years to come. She is my willow, standing firmly grounded in her roots but finding joy in all of the opportunities that come by. I am so grateful for everything she has done to prepare me for this role at Wavus.

Wavus is no stranger to the winds of change, but our roots are nearly 100 years old and we're stronger than ever thanks to the amazing people who have gone before us. Wavus has always had the good fortune of being both young and old. We benefit from traditions going back to the 1920s, but our merger with Kieve in 2006 also opened the door for new traditions. The addition of Long Voyage and Maine Trails, a new Wavus song, Sunday Sparks Campfires, and a penchant for choreographed dancing on tables - it's been a wild ride, and our ability to welcome change as growth has made us ready for whatever the rest of 2020 brings us and beyond!

Although COVID-19 took summer 2020 away from us, it wasn't hard to find Wavus folks thriving and finding ways to make the most out of a new situation. Campers organized small reunions and Zoom chats to stay in touch. Our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee began the work of examining some of our Wavus traditions to make sure they align with our values as an organization. To keep the counselor staff connected, we borrowed from our past and revived "Pine Whispers" as a staff newsletter to share stories, photos, and art. Our counselors are signing their 2021 contracts in droves and are eager to get back to "their kids."

It's always the best summer ever at Wavus, but after a year away, I think next summer will rival all the rest. We'll be thinking about our willow tree as we prepare and we can't wait to see you back on Wavus Point!

# THE LEADERSHIP SCHOOL AND EASEL

By Charlie Richardson

Since 1926, whether our summer camps or a Kennedy Learning Center retreat, every Kieve Wavus Education program has included an experiential element. Just being on our incredible campuses allows for more meaningful reflection and opportunities for social-emotional growth.

Our programs, and our summer camps in particular, organically promote the personal growth of the people they serve. If you look at our thousands of alumni, or at the tens of thousands of Maine kids who have experienced The Leadership School, or at the adults who come here for retreats, you will find people who are more effective in their day to day lives because of their time spent at KWE.

The Leadership School looks different this year because we cannot bring students to our campus for overnight programs. COVID has forced us to change, and we are fortunate that benefactors have made it possible for the Educator in Residence program to happen, virtual school or not, and for it to go further and deeper into school communities than ever before. Our 19 Educators, social-emotional learning experts in their own rights, are currently placed in 17 Maine schools, providing mentorship and a teaching resource that is invaluable for those schools.

We don't know when the pandemic will allow us to have local students back on our campuses, but we do know that our way of teaching the whole person is valued by anyone that has experienced this place. This, coupled with the publication of *Kindness and Respect* and

the effects of COVID on-campus use, has inspired us to start EASEL.

EASEL is an acronym from the subtitle of our book - *Kindness and Respect; an experiential approach to social-emotional learning* - and, conveniently enough, an easel is a tool that holds an artist's work from blank image to finished product. The metaphor is fitting to the work we do and is reflective of the effects that our philosophy of teaching has on the people we work with.



*Our 2020 Educators in Residence after two weeks of quarantine and two weeks of training in the KWE bubble!*

We have naturally started our EASEL work with our EIR schools, running professional development seminars, both on Zoom and with masks on in person, and we have quickly found that our approach is valued and supports more effective classroom teaching.

With well over 1,000 copies of *Kindness and Respect* sold, and with our decades of experience working with schools, we know that we can help educators learn to prioritize a student's social and emotional well-being over the content they must teach.

This doesn't mean lowering standards, if anything, it means learning how to set high standards while simultaneously building relationships with your students

to build the trust and confidence necessary for them to try, fail, and try again.

That process is what gets kids to truly achieve, and EASEL is our way of teaching that approach beyond the confines of our campus programs. We know that we can help strengthen the quality of teaching in any community by listening to what that community values and helping teachers to find creative solutions for teaching core curricular

content. We know that we can help administrators meet the social-emotional needs of their teachers, and as a result, be stronger leaders for their schools. And we fully believe that any organization can benefit from working with us to better understand how to leverage the strengths of each individual to create a more productive team.

At the core, EASEL enhances each individual's self-awareness, self-

management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making. It is gratifying that the schools we have already served have shared glowing feedback, and whether a community-wide audit, a seminar in person or on Zoom, an institute at Kieve, or sessions of individual or small group coaching, we are excited to continue finding creative ways to share what makes the KWE approach to education so unique.

We hope you reach out to me, at [cjr@kwe.org](mailto:cjr@kwe.org), or to Sam Kaplan, at [srk@kwe.org](mailto:srk@kwe.org), to learn more about EASEL and bringing this service to a school or organization in your community!

# ROLLING ACRES

Kieve Wavus Education's (KWE) efforts to preserve the health of Damariscotta Lake took a major step forward this fall with the acquisition of Rolling Acres Farm in Jefferson from Maine Farmland Trust. Rolling Acres abuts our Southover property between the Kieve and Wavus campuses on the western shore of the lake, within sight of the Kieve waterfront. Easements now protect nearly 200 acres of fields and woods with 2 ½ miles of lakefront, keeping the land undeveloped, forever wild, and dark at night. In addition to miles of envisioned walking trails, the land includes an amazing campsite far away from anyone else under some old white pines at the edge of the lake next to a sandy beach.



*Rolling Acres from above looking Southwest. Can you spot Kieve's Swin Island in the background?*

Maine Farmland Trust (MFT) purchased the farm about 10 years ago as part of its ongoing effort to protect Maine farmland and help rural communities thrive. According to Adam Bishop, Director of Farmland Protection at MFT, "Rolling Acres' expansive farm fields, together with the property's lake frontage, meant that the land was vulnerable to subdivision and development." MFT purchased the land to ensure that it would instead remain intact and available for agriculture into the future. They established the Joseph A. Fiore Arts Center in the spectacular farmhouse and barn on the property, a program that celebrates agriculture through art. Kieve and Wavus campers and staff have enjoyed learning from the artists over the years. MFT is leasing the Arts Center back from KWE to continue its programming. "We are excited to hold a conservation easement on the property, to partner with KWE to steward the land, and look forward to seeing how agriculture continues on this special and historic farm," said Bishop.

The Maine State soils scientist, Dave Roque, recently visited with us at Rolling Acres and Southover to help us learn more about the soils and the land's farming history as we make plans for the future. While the primary purpose of acquiring the property is to protect the lake and land, we are also considering ways to enhance the bird, butterfly, and other wildlife habitats that are disappearing from the Earth at an alarming rate. We're rejuvenating our nature activity for summer campers and building out a fun and robust environmental studies curriculum that will be

woven into year-round programs. We're also working closely with Midcoast Conservancy on education and lake stewardship programs. Adding to our existing partnership with Audubon on Hog Island in Muscongus Bay, Rolling Acres will be an excellent inland, freshwater laboratory for exploration, learning, and adventure.

The future at Rolling Acres is exciting, as are the possibilities the land opens for KWE. The lake is certainly breathing a sigh of relief as well. We are grateful to our donors that our lake home will remain just like it is now so that future generations can enjoy this slice of heaven forever! If you would like to learn more or make a donation, please contact Henry Kennedy at [hkrk@kwe.org](mailto:hkrk@kwe.org).



*Dave Roque, Maine State soils scientist, and Stanley inspect the new land*



*View from Kieve toward Wavus with our conservation land in between*

# STORIES FROM THE PORCH By Maria Zeitlin

*Editor's note: After our country was attacked on 9/11/2001, we invited several FDNY, Pentagon, and Cantor Fitzgerald families to Kieve after camp ended in August of 2002 to thank them for their service and to help them heal in this safe, beautiful place. Since then, they have become integral members of the Kieve Wavus family. Next summer is the 20th anniversary of 9/11. We very much look forward to being together on the lake once again in August of 2021. This article was written by one of the firefighter's wives.*



*Ren Robinson and Antonio Kelley, future Maine Trails 2015 camper at our first family camp in 2002*

A leap of faith. Twenty years ago, on a beautiful September morning, a horrific attack on the World Trade Towers, the Pentagon, and our way of life would change everything in an instant. Loved ones gone. Still others ill. No one left unscathed. Uncertainty, anger, fear, and loss combined with a desperate need for healing as we dug through the wreckage of the buildings and our lives in the aftermath of 9/11. Slowly, weeks turned into months. How could a year have already passed? How could we still be so traumatized? Would there ever be a way out of such pain? A very special invitation would soon teach all of us that there was only one way out...it was through. Henry Kennedy and Charlie Richardson showed up at my husband's FDNY

firehouse just a few months after the attacks to meet the guys and explore the idea of a family camp at Kieve. They didn't know us and we didn't know them but something clicked for all of us and we decided to trust them.



*Henry and Dick Kennedy welcoming the 9/11 camp families in 2002*

Just after the campers left Damariscotta Lake in August of 2002, Kieve sent a big, comfy bus to the Manhattan Ladder 3 firehouse at the corner of 3rd and 13th. We came from all over: Ladder 3 and FDNY, Cantor Fitzgerald, and the Pentagon. We were the survivors who clutched to the idea that perhaps a trip to "the country" would offer respite at a time when none could be found. United in our grief, we were broken and fragile, yet hopeful. Many of us had never been to Maine before. Mindful tenderness poured over us from the moment we arrived with carefully planned activities to nourish our weary bodies and souls. Morning team-building games served as ice breakers to shatter our preconceptions of camp life. What was most striking was how many individuals were giving of something so precious – their time. From guided hikes up Mt. Battie and activities on the lake (water skiing, fishing, and kayaking) to lovingly prepared meals, we were placed in the capable hands of camp counselors, enthusiasts, and community volunteers. As the magic

of Camp Kieve and its beautiful lake unfolded, we unknowingly began the process of "going through."

We all shared our experiences with one another, and there was an understanding that we had all been through this collective tragedy together. I remember walking the stone path in the labyrinth off one of the wood chip paths and sitting down with two women who would become my lifelong friends. Camp afforded us the opportunity to talk and comfort one another and sometimes to be still in tearful silence. Whatever we needed... somehow, we found it there. It is not an understatement to say that Camp Kieve saved us that first anniversary. Memories of daring rope courses, lobster bakes at Pemaquid, magic acts in Innisfree, and dancing to music on our last evening still fluid in our heads, we had strength as a group to face the benchmark date that was to approach shortly. I remember many of us crying as we departed on the bus that first summer. Waving goodbye through the windows to our new Kieve family, a sense of dread for the coming weeks returned. The one beacon of light emanated from the mouth of Dick Kennedy, "we will see you next year and surely embrace again."



*Maria Zeitlin and Dick Kennedy*

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So it has been for almost two decades. Like moths to a flame, we return year after year to the smiling faces at Pasquaney Hall, the squeals of children playing, and the tears of remembrance shared at morning chapel. Our beloved matriarch, Nancy, playing hymns that echo across the stillness of the early morning mist on the lake while the loons knowingly look on. Each year the healing is more lingering, more palpable. Children-once babies - have grown into strong, beautiful, and capable adults. We also mourn private losses; family losses; family members, including our beloved patriarch, Dick, whose memories will be indelibly etched in our view as we gaze upon the lake.



*Charlie and Annie Richardson in 2002 with Governor Angus King, now Senator King!*

Words fail to express the deep emotions when we reunite on our cabin porches and share stories of our year apart as if we had just left each other's sides only yesterday. The magic of camp is within our hearts and the friendships we have forged will continue forever. That is the legacy of 9/11 Family Camp - where tears of sorrow can be found lifted up on angel's wings in the labyrinth of our lives.

Thank you, Henry and BJ for the opportunity to continue to heal and reunite on this 20th anniversary. Dick is smiling on all you have done to preserve the legacy of 9/11 Family Camp.

## A SUMMER LIKE A LONG PORTAGE

By Sam Kennedy

In a normal year, I'd share some wisdom from a Kieve camper or counselor in this fall newsletter: something I'd learned from them, an essay for school about a challenging trip, or some chapel talk delivered during a summer Sunday. But this year hasn't been normal. For the first time in its history, Kieve was forced to close. So instead of reveling in the summer's success, I'll share with you some of my observations about Kieve during this lost year.

I promise not to dwell on the negative, but I have to acknowledge the heartbreak. Mine was agonizingly gradual because of the virus's uncertainty. I was watching basketball on TV in March when the NBA canceled games because a player had tested positive for the Coronavirus. I was struck then by the realization that this pandemic was everywhere, and I felt some relief that the outbreak occurred so early in the spring and would thus be long-gone by the start of camp in June. The weeks that followed were tough for everyone everywhere, including us in the KWE community - particularly when we pulled the plug on both sessions in May. I had so many conversations with camper families and staff, and though it was difficult to find silver linings, it helped to share in our misery. I felt for the campers who'd been waiting all year to return to Damariscotta Lake - especially those who should have finished Maine Trails this summer. I worried for those who would have started their Kieve careers this year: Would they return in 2021? And I was bummed for our staff who would miss one of their precious and fleeting summers left at Kieve before the so-called real world came calling.

But as Kievers do, we lifted each other up by staying in touch, leaning on friends for help, laughing when we needed to, and making big plans for the future. Those plans are already turning into action. June brought important, sobering, and hopeful conversations as our nation reckoned with its long history of racial inequality and social injustice. Those discussions at KWE led to the formalization of a new Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion task force. The DEI task force is helping KWE to grow into a more inviting and inclusive organization. I'm so excited for Kieve and KWE to evolve through this work.

June also brought the summer's biggest highlight: Natalie Kaplan, born on June 22 - my dad Henry's birthday and the first day of camp next summer! Natalie's parents, Sam and Kate Kaplan, live and work at KWE full-time now. Our 9-month-old Stella is thrilled to have a playmate and forever-cabin mate at Wavus. As tumultuous as this year has been for so many, it's been a boon for



*HRK and Stella on their daily walk!*

newborns. Stella joined us in January and still knows nothing but undivided attention, as we've been stuck at home for the entirety of her life. My dad takes Stella for a walk around campus each afternoon. They've seen Alan Baldwin in the pottery shack making dozens (if not hundreds!) of Kieve and Wavus bowls for staff and alumni. They've watched the maintenance staff repairing the campuses and growing grass where campers have found (and maintained!) only trodden dirt for almost 100 years. They've helped Charlie Richardson, Lee Giberson, Ellen Kenefick, and so many others cook and deliver meals to our neighbors facing food insecurity in Lincoln County. They've tracked moose, foxes, eagles, and a slew of wildlife that have come back to live at camp while it's been so quiet. They've found every single lost Frisbee golf disc around the peninsula and stocked the bin at Pasquaney for next summer's frof rounds. They've thanked Diane Impallomeni, who – on top of the meals she serves daily at the KLC – has also made Stella the most incredible baby food all summer long.

So, I missed choir cakes, Aqua Attack, and even G-swim this summer. But it wasn't all bad. I got to see many smiling camper faces during our Zoom campfires. We enjoyed a socially distanced campus workday for Mainers in July. And I met many alumni whose road trips brought them by Damariscotta Lake. Mostly, I'm lifted by the energy already building for camp next summer. I expect it will look a little different as we adjust to – what is hopefully – the aftermath of the pandemic, but we remain confident we can open with protocols to keep each other safe. I suppose we could all use something to look forward to while the present is still hard. What better light at the end of the tunnel than another summer at Camp Kieve? I just can't wait to see everyone at the end of West Neck Road next June.



*Stella resting up for future Wavus adventures*



*Future Wavus dads, Sam Kennedy and Sam Kaplan, on a walk with Stella and Natalie*



*Sam, Sarah and Stella Kennedy summiting Sugarloaf*



*Halloween in Innisfree with old lady Stella as her great-grandma Laa Laa and Natalie as a lobster in a pot!*

# PADDLE AND THISTLE SOCIETY



THE FRIENDS LISTED HERE HAVE ALL MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO LEAVE A LASTING GIFT TO KIEVE WAVUS EDUCATION. DEFERRED GIFTS, WHETHER SIMPLE BEQUESTS, PAID-UP INSURANCE POLICIES, IRAS, OR TRUSTS ENSURE THAT KIEVE WAVUS EDUCATION'S MISSION WILL CONTINUE TO BE FULFILLED BEYOND OUR LIFETIMES. (THE KIEVE AND WAVUS SEALS DENOTE DECEASED)

Dave  & Louise Abbot  
Franny & Franny Abbott  
Anonymous (3)  
Evan Atherton  
Tom & Ella Auchincloss  
Marjorie Berry  
Bob & Sally Bishop  
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Eric & Pam Jensen  
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Dick  & Nancy Kennedy

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Jeremy & Diana LaCasse  
Mary Lansing  
Bain Lee   
Ernie Marriner   
Doug & Hanne Maxwell  
Matt & Sarah McKenna  
Carl & Gail Meier  
Collie Moller   
Walter & Kate Morris  
Gardner & Diana Mundy  
Caroline Newcomb  
Lisa Parker  
Ollie & Barb Parker  
John & Meg Peacock  
Dev & Debbie Phelps  
Bo & Lynne Preston  
Ency Richardson   
Charlie & Annie Richardson  
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Mark & Eleanor Robinson  
Cliff & Susan Russell  
Frank Saunders   
Sheila & Deacon Shorr  
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Muffy Stuart  
Doug & Linda Tawse  
Rob & Anju Tawse  
Dixon & Gail Thayer  
Steve Thomas & Evy Blum  
Charlie  & Daphne Townsend  
Tom Townsend   
Rob Trippe  
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Andy Lindsay  
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Ency Richardson  
Joseph Robbins  
Betsy Saltonstall  
Bill Thompson  
Julie Thompson  
Bernard White  
Cliff Winter

# UPDATES FROM AROUND KWE

## Leadership Grant Powers the Educator in Residence Program

Thanks to a generous \$1,000,000 grant from the Shelby Cullom Davis Charitable Fund and Trustee Andrew Davis, KWE will continue to develop and expand our Educator in Residence (EIR) program.

The EIR program places KWE educators in Maine Schools to provide daily, ongoing support to students beyond their week-long experience at The Leadership School. “Kids need strong role models and educators like ours who can adapt to their needs regardless of the content area or the learning environment,” says Charlie Richardson, who started the EIR program in 2012.

In the face of this global pandemic, our KWE educators are seen as essential resources for expanding social-emotional learning support. When COVID-19 threatened our traditional residential Leadership School program, Charlie and Sam Kaplan adapted the program to expand the EIR placements from 10

weeks to 30 weeks. We are thrilled that for the 2020-2021 school year, we have 19 KWE educators serving 17 schools, encompassing 7 Midcoast Maine and Portland area school districts. Kate Race, principal of Medomak Middle School, one of the highest need school districts in Maine, shared her excitement, saying “When we found out that we would be getting a KWE EIR for 30 weeks we were literally jumping for joy! I can’t tell you how important it will be for our kids to have this role model who is also a social-emotional learning expert, especially in the wake of this pandemic.”

In addition to vastly improving our ability to effect change in the students we work with, the grant will allow the program to run for at least another five years. Henry shares all of our gratitude and excitement at KWE - “Thanks to the Shelby Cullom Davis Charitable Fund, we’re now able to significantly expand our

partnerships with Maine schools at no cost to them to support kids when they need it most and give them the courage and tools to set and achieve lofty goals, all while training the next generation of teachers.” The future is bright for our KWE educators and our Maine school partners!



*EIRs Lindy Perry and Sam Pierce*

## Hannah Lovejoy joins the KWE Team!

Though she has been involved with KWE since 2012, we are thrilled to welcome Hannah Lovejoy to the KWE team as the Wavus Assistant Director and as The Leadership School Director and KWE Wilderness Tripping Director!

Hannah’s arrival locks in Wavus’s leadership for the future and provides essential day-to-day guidance for

future TLS programming. In the short term, she will help develop EASEL programming while playing an important role in supporting and mentoring our Educators-in-Residence. She will also coordinate the KWE Wilderness Tripping program for 2021 and beyond!

Hannah has worn many hats during her time with KWE. From 2012-2016, she was an educator at The Leadership School and she spent her summers working at Wavus as a counselor, Assistant Tripping Director, and finally as the Wavus Tripping Director in 2018. Outside of KWE, Hannah served as an Enrollment Specialist and Teacher Assistant at the Green Hedges School in Virginia, and as the Assistant Director of Auxiliary Programs at the French American School in Washington state.

Hannah met her husband, Dave, while they worked here together at The Leadership School. Dave is a communications specialist at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute. Hannah and Dave were married this past August at Wavus and they currently live just outside of Portland. Welcome back home, Hannah!



*Dave Berndtson and Hannah married this August!*



*Hannah in Acadia National Park*

# Alumni Allagash trip

Back in March when the world came to a screeching halt, one of my old Colby and Kieve buddies called me up to see about possibly paddling the Allagash together. Without all those campers on the river it was sure to be nice and quiet out there! We contacted a few other friends, all of whom agreed that it was a great idea, and in no time we assembled a crew of 10 enthusiastic 60-somethings. If you have a group of folks who would like to plan a trip sometime, let us know! While we can only lead trips after camp is over, we can help you figure out where to go and can suggest a guide if we can't do it. Feel free to contact me at [hrc@kwe.org](mailto:hrc@kwe.org) if you're looking for adventure!



*Trip leaders Will Bliss and Ben Dixon*



*Steaks for supper!*



*Peter Lindsay and Sandy Buck giving a sunset concert*



*Brownie and Terri Brown on a gorgeous Umsaskis Lake morning*



*Front row: Ben Dixon, Will Bliss, Marshall Murphy, BJ Kennedy, Terri Brown, Bill O'Donnell Back row: Dixon Thayer, Peter Lindsay, Henry Kennedy, Sandy Buck, Brownie Brown, Bob Bower*



*Terri Brown and BJ Kennedy on the last night of the Allagash trip*

## Solar Joint Venture

Kieve Wavus Education (KWE) and Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust (CRCT) are excited to share the news that we are collaborating on a solar energy project that will produce about enough power for both our organizations, all year long. The photo-voltaic electricity generating system will put out approximately 300,000 kWh in year 1. Initially, we will enter into a power purchase agreement (PPA) with ReVision Energy - there are no up-front construction costs for either KWE or CRCT. Eventually we can buy out the array and essentially endow our clean electricity usage for many decades to come. The project will be built on CRCT land near Round Top Ice Cream.



*Future solar field site behind Round Top, up the hill from the Damariscotta River*

## Veterans Camp

For the 9th consecutive year, Joe Hansen and several other volunteer retired military veterans flawlessly and selflessly organized and executed the Tee it Up Fore a Veteran golf tournament to raise funds for our Veterans Camps. Thanks to Joe and many others, hundreds of combat veterans and their families get to take deep breaths with us on the shores of Damariscotta Lake. Treated to great food, fun adventures, comfortable accommodations, and loving staff members, these true American heroes get a well-deserved thank you for their service and a chance to form deep, lasting connections with others traumatized by war. Joe and his crew have raised approximately \$120,000 so far!

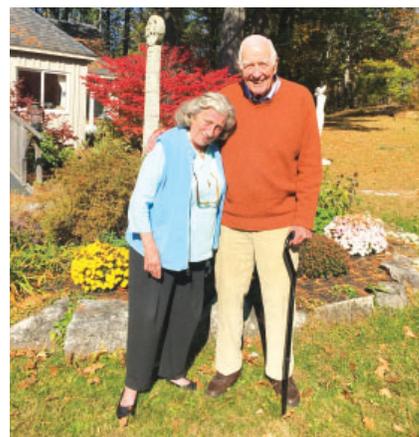


*Joe Hansen and friends at the Tee it Up Fore a Veteran golf tournament in September*

## Kieve Wavus Storytellers Podcast

Henry Kennedy, Kate Kaplan and Kirstie Truluck have been interviewing Kieve and Wavus alumni to hear stories from the generations of campers who have grown up on Damariscotta Lake. It is remarkable how consistent the messages are: people have felt adventure, excitement, growth, and loyalty by stretching their comfort zones and making lifelong friends at Kieve and Wavus. Yet each story is its own. Find KWEST episodes at [kwe.org/about/media](http://kwe.org/about/media) or wherever you listen to podcasts. And be ready to share your stories when we come calling!

*Right: Liam O'Brian, Kieve camper from the 1930s, told some amazing early days stories in the KWEST podcast. Here he is with Nancy "Laa Laa" Kennedy*



# ALUMNI UPDATES



**Maine Trails II** 2016 alumnae atop Mt. Katahdin this summer! **Jordana Roet** (Wavus 2009-16; Wavus Council 2018-21), **Cricket Dotson** (Wavus 2008-2016; Wavus Council 2018-20), **Nettie Cunningham** (Wavus 2013-16; Wavus Council 2019-20), **Katie Caffrey** (Wavus 2010-16; Wavus Council 2019-20), **Lily Epstein** (Wavus 2010-16; Wavus Council 2018-19), and **Katharine Dougherty** (Wavus 2008-16; Wavus Council 2018-20)



**Brooke Semler** (Wavus 2013-21), **Maeve Mullen** (Wavus 2013-21), **Alex McVean** (Wavus 2012-20), **Bronte Levin** (Wavus 2014-21): Camp must go on... even during the pandemic. A last-minute gathering for Brooke Semler, Maeve Mullen, Alex McVean featuring a little arts and crafts to commemorate the summer! #Wav2020.



**Carter Gray** (Kieve 2007-12, KW West 2013; Kieve Council 2015-17), **Ryan Ford** (Kieve Council 2014-15; TLS/EIR 2019) and **Lexi Kemp** (Kieve 2008-09 & 2001-13; Kieve Council 2015-17; **TLS Staff** 2019-20) on Mount Wolverine in Utah



**Hannah Lovejoy** (The Leadership School 2012-2015, Wavus Council 2013-2016, 2018) and **Dave Berndtson** (The Leadership School 2014-2016, Kieve Council 2015-2016, Wavus Council 2018) were married at Wavus on August 1!



**Edward Wells Riepe** (Ward for short) was born on May 7. Mom and dad, **Allison** and **Jamie** (Kieve 1989-90, Kieve Council 1996) are thrilled and Ward's three older sisters are pumped to have a little brother around!



**Julia (Welter)** (Wavus Council 2011-2014) married **Greg DeWitt** at the Portland Head Lighthouse on September 26th. Sam Kaplan officiated the wedding!



**Keelan Woodard** (Kieve 2012-15; Kieve Council 2017-21) and **Justin Callahan** (Kieve 2009-12 & 2014-16; **Kieve Council** 2018-19) led a cabin Zoom reunion with Bank II from 2019. The boys wore hats... just because...



**Kieran Blunnie** (Kieve 2012-19; Kieve Council 2021), **Harry Saridakis** (Kieve 2011-14; 2016-2018; Kieve Council 2021) and **Hugh Zanelli** (Kieve 2011-2016) are all at Colgate together. Here they are, taking a minute from their studies to hold the Kieve colors.



**Duffy** (Kieve 1994-97; Kieve Council 2001-03) and **Colleen Phelps** welcomed their son **Connor** back in January. **Connor** is pumped to join his brother **William** at Kieve just 8 short summers from now!



**Decatur Boland** (Kieve 2015-20) summited the Grand Tetons with his Dad this summer. He ran into **Phil Kaplan** (Kieve 2012-17; Kieve Council 2018-20) on the way up!



**Sid** (Kieve 1993-95; Kieve Council 1998) and **Ashley Perkins** welcomed **Beatrice** on April 2nd. **Beatrice** will be a third generation camper and can't wait to follow in her sisters' footsteps at Wavus!

**LEFT: Isabelle Kitchel** (Wavus 2013-16; Kieve Staff 2019) and **Taylor Cashman** (Kieve 2008-15; Kieve Council 2018-19) worked at the HF Bar Ranch in Wyoming this summer. And they ran into campers **John Heaney** (Kieve 2019) and **Wells Johnson** (Kieve 2019)!



**Grace Begin** (Wavus 2014-17, Wavus Council 2019-2021) and **Gigi Imperatore** (Wavus 2010-17; Wavus Council 2019-2021) flying the Wavus colors on top of Mt. Katahdin



**Annie Burton** (Wavus 2013-19), **Campbell Musslewhite** (Wavus 2013-19) and **Betsy Burton** (Wavus 2016-21) got together and told Wavus tales in Isle of Palm, South Carolina!



**Myles "Mylo" McKenna** was born on June 5th. Dad **Matthew McKenna** (Kieve 1993-97; Kieve Council 2001-03) and mom **Sarah Block** are doing great, and so is Mylo!

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## HELP FILL OUR NEW NATURE CENTERS!

Next summer, Kieve and Wavus campers will participate in new activities aimed at developing their environmental awareness and stewardship. Campers will dig into hands-on activities in camp and on their wilderness trips. We will have a Nature Center on each campus and we need YOUR help to fill them! Please take a look at the list below and let us know if you would be willing to donate any of the listed items. Special thanks to Terri Brown for spearheading this project!



### WISH LIST

- Nature Center Wish List
- Microscope and slides
  - Magnifying glasses
  - Binoculars
  - Flower press
  - Butterfly Farm
  - Rock collection - sedimentary, igneous, metamorphic
  - Anemometer
  - Barometer
  - Terrarium
  - Globe