

The Camp Waupaca 1997 Reunion Time Capsule

(as recollected by Paul Warshauer, edited for factual accuracy by Mike Lurie)

...FEBRUARY: call Camp Young Judaea... "Hi, remember us? We want to do it again this year" ... "No problem!" says Abby Levine, director... find more alumni... set the date: Friday August 22 to Sunday August 24... 3 days, 2 nights...

...APRIL: finalize arrangements, all except the final numbers... send out mailer: when and how much, announcements, and sadly, deaths of **Manny Desnet** and **Georgia Euer**... respond by May 15... find more alumni...

...JUNE: calculating attendance... "May we speak to Abby Levine please?" ... "Sorry, she doesn't work here anymore... WHAT???" ... "Don't worry, she is still planning your reunion" ...

...JUNE 15: "We can't staff your event" says Abby... Contact Hadassah and plead for cooperation... "We'll run it ourselves, hire the staff, and guarantee YOU a profit of \$1,500" ...

...JUNE 19: "Sorry, you cannot have your reunion" ... send out postcards with the bad news...

...JULY: why don't we contact a few "close" friends and have a reunion that weekend anyway? Airline reservations are already made, so let's do it!... Send out letter to those most likely to come... plans and reservations are made at hotels and motels, and an old-fashioned Early Bird trip to the Wisconsin Dells is planned: Tommy Bartlett Water Show, The Original Wisconsin Dells, Family Land Water Park, etc...

...AUGUST: start calling people: "Are you coming?" ... **Paul** and **Mike** for sure, **Ric Poole** maybe, **Warren Metzдорff** and **Bob Mowen** probably...

...AUGUST 20: Frog and family to Chicago, accompanied by **Rick Passman** and spouse... "What do you mean you can't come to Waupaca, Rick?" ...

...AUGUST 21: **Warren** and **Bob** to Waupaca...

...AUGUST 22: **Mike Lurie** and family to Waupaca, dinner at Wheelhouse... "Hey, **Bob Mowen**, come eat with us!", as the **Lurie's** officially start the reunion with **Warren** and **Bob**...

...AUGUST 23: wait for **Paul** at **Andrea Wanty's** house... who's that man, **Andrea**? ... "Paul will be a little late, and **Ric Poole** was here earlier in the week", as **Andrea** gets messages... red caddy with Michigan plates rolls in... lunch at Clearwater Harbor, swimming at Village Inn motel... nap and get

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ready for a fancy schmancy meal at Simpson's Indian Room restaurant in Waupaca, still the best haddock after all these years...Isn't that **Jim Avery**, I mean **Paul Ringel**?...Yes, **Paul Ringel** and 12 year old Lillian are camping out this weekend in the area and join us for a truly special reunion dinner!...A toast to good friends and long lasting friendships...lots of pictures...

...AUGUST 24: where's **Bob Mowen**? He had to leave to get back to Centralia, but not before he shares with us news of **Erv Kasian's** whereabouts...breakfast at Waupaca Woods restaurant and **Warren** pays for all assembled...the "10,000 campers taught to swim and water-ski" rebuttal filmed...one more trip to **Andrea's** to say goodbye...start the caravan to the Wisconsin Dells!...pit stop in Wautoma, **Warren** continues on...check in at the Black Hawk Hotel, which is right next door to the Trail's End motel, the same name as the Camp Waupaca yearbook (a coincidence?)...swim and nap until dinner...Italian fare with a crabby waitress..."I'll handle this" says uncle **Paul**..."Isn't that Shoshanna Lonstein, Jerry Seinfeld's ex-girlfriend?"...she denies it...on to Tommy Bartlett!...great seats, we never sat this close on an Early Bird trip..."Sir, your seats were oversold, so you and your group may sit in the front and here's a partial refund"...this is going to be a GREAT show...fast boats, great skiers, and Aqua the Clown and friend Aquanat...hang glider, water-ski stunts, and the human pyramid...the Northwest (formerly Flying) Knocks...a juggling act with a family of 12!..."I want to see birth certificates" says **Paul**...A tumbling routine...and Wes Harrison, Mr. Sound Effects, doing the same routine he did 20 years ago!..."Will you please be quiet?"...woman behind us does not appreciate **Mike Lurie** and **Paul Warshauer** reciting the lines while Mr. Harrison is performing..."But we know this *shtick* and it's fun!"...dancing waters, laser light show, and we are done..."Your act hasn't changed much"..."The tape is still \$5" says Wes...back to the hotel...babysitter?...night out at the Showboat for karaoke and fun...sleep fast because tomorrow is almost here...quick breakfast and a ride on The Original Wisconsin Ducks with the same routine and a few more corny jokes thrown in to make it fun...kids drive the ducks!..."FAST" says the crew as we splash into Lake Delton...back to the docks and to town for old time photos, fudge, and lunch... go-karts? No, let's say so long and head home..."Great to see you **Paul**, take care"..."You too my friend, or until the Trail's End"...

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