

Just Great! Yes that was the Early Bird trip this year. Many boys had been looking forward to this trip all year. Some were fearfull that rain would stop or interfere with the trip as happened last year.

Storm clouds gathered as the advance party loaded the bus and started out. After setting up only five of the big tents rain hit. Could the Early Bird even get started?

The warm sun the next morning was a sign that everything would be okay. The big bus rolled in from Waupaca and the Early Bird was underway.

After lunch and tent set up a refreshing swim in Mirror Lake was needed. We would rest up and then dress up for the Tommy Bartlett Water Show. There is no more exciting show in the Dells.

This year there were so many new things. New ski tricks, new acts and Tommy Bartlett on the stage himself. "Gee, this is great," said Blake Horwitz. "Where is the washroom." And as we left the show we were given a 10% discount at the Tommy Bartlett Pancake House.

How about those crazy duck drivers? You never had it so good! The thrilling ride began almost as soon as we left the duck barn. Down hills, around rocks, over bumps, through canyons and splash...into the water. Past Pulpit Rock, past the swallow nests, Sunset Point, Sacrafice Rock and then into Delton River. As we entered Lake Delton with a splash, we were joined by the other ducks loaded with campers in a mad race for the water show area. After all that we still had more hills and thrills before we docked.

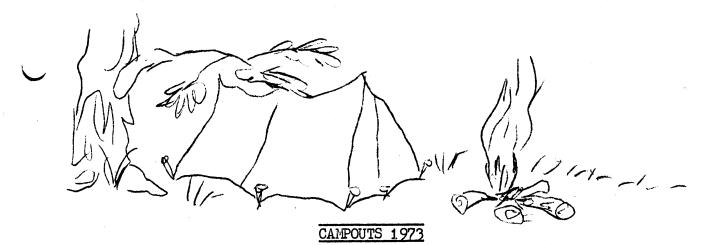
Family Land for an afternoon and evening. Can you believe all those rides, the haunted house and go-carts too? Well, that is what we did. Almost running from one ride to another, out for supper, then back to ride again. "I'm dizzy from watching," said Mike Dunkleman while he wore his new hat and leaned on two new canes.

Not only the rides, but also all the arcade favorites and a new air hockey game. Ice cream, cotton candy and hot dogs added to the strange feeling in the pit of our stomach. In the midst of all this excitment Cliff Hawkins paused on the grass to get in tune with nature.

EARLY BIRD CONT.

After a lazy morning of cooking our own breakfast, packing gear and taking down tents, we ended our stay with the super slides, bumper cars and go-carts. What more can be said? Fun, excitment, thrills and great weather. Early bird '73 was just great!





Warm, sunny days and cool river water made our campouts great this summer. The extra rainfall this spring left the water high and the current swift in the Crystal River. It couldn't have been a more perfect combination to make '73 the year of the river.

It all started with cance trips from the Red Mill at Little Hope to our campsite at Waupaca. On some trips we saw deer coming down to the water to drink, on others we saw Kingfishers fishing or maybe caught a glimpse of a rare Blue Heron, but on every trip we saw to it that there were plenty of deer flies and mosquitos for everyone!

The trick of navigating the Crystal River is to keep from running into yourself on the many sharp bends and turns. Few people tipped their craft, whether cances or playaks, more often than the trip directors.

The scene that most reminded us of our struggle was Jim Dover in the lead cance. His paddle dipping in the water with precise strokes, a pipe clenched in his teeth billowing smoke against high sand cliffs, brought forth visions of "Deliverence."

Whatever meal that awaited the journey's end, hamburgers, Jim's stew or hot dogs, it was good and welcome.

Care to spend a night at Much's farm? After Cabin 1 built a fine pit toilet from two trees and a pole, there was no trouble getting the rest to follow.

Snipe...you'd better believe it, Jim saw them first, then Wayne spotted a few. Charles Cole heard one and David Mogil nearly stepped on one. "Lets forget bacon and eggs," Jim said. "Lets have a snipe hunt."

While we sat at the camp fire waiting for dark and the excitment of the hunt, Jim scouted the area. He reported lots of snipe, a wolf den and a dangerous red squirrel. We selected the brush beaters and the hunt was on.

Snipe ran between our legs and all around us...but no one caught a single one. It was a dismal breakfast without fresh snipe, but the bacon and eggs were delicious.

Cabin 2 wanted to get wet and there is no finer place than Nelson Park to float on tubes or just plain life perservers. Can't swim? No problem for the experienced wader; the water is only waist deep. Float in the current on a life perserver until you want to stop...then just put your feet down. Rocks give you trouble wading? Well, as Dan Goroff put it, "In 10,000 years there won't be any rocks and we'll have to wade in sand."

Did Thump, Drag loom as a threat to campers? Is Silas Cropsy still around? Ask Cabin 3, they found the Haunted Barn and the bone of an old, dead cow. With Smitty leading the pack and Jim Coen as the rear guard, that brave cabin viewed the remains of the Haunted Barn. But after seeing that ghostly sight it was Cabin 3 in the lead and Smitty bring up the rear all the way back to the tents.

CAMPOUTS CONT.

What next? Playak the rough rapids of the Crystal...take on everything the river can give! Come out of the water wet, dripping and happy after 10 miles of a great time.

You're not wet enough yet? Well then lets go to the Waterfall. Get into the air pocket. Too much for you? Well grab a tube and bounce over the rocks at Parfreyville.

Now that your all wet, lets go fishing. Worms--eech, minnows--yuk, how about lures! Look at the big fish looking at my bait! Ornoff got one...no it's only 2 inches. Goldstien has a Northern! Eighteen inches and two pounds. Benje's number 5 fish is a keeper, there it goes through the net!

Well we didn't feed the camp with fish this summer, but we did feed the fish with camp worms and bread.

If we didn't catch fish at least we saw some. The State Fish Hatchery at Wild Rose had trout by the million. We saw trout of all sizes and even a four foot sturgeon.

Now fall is beginning to overtake summer and the heavens are bright with stars. Let's pause a moment and look at them. A hill at Hartman Creek State park is perfect.

The campfires at Hartman Creek will flicker out and the '73 camping season will be over. But the river still flows, the snipe still cherp in the bush and haunted barns and houses will be with us still. We'll see all you camping, hiking, fishing and canoeing men next year.

Wayne Towne Jim Dover Trip Directors

DRAMA SPECIAL EVENTS

This year's special dramatic productions included several plays, several nights of improvisational theatre, and a night of reader's theatre. We opened our theatrical season of the Tyrone Guppie Players with "<u>OUT OF THE STORM</u>", an old fashioned meler-drama burlesque that was presented as the special Fourth of July play. The cast was:

> Ralph Saunders.....Clementina Marc Schwartz.....Arabella David Harvey....Count de Nickels Rich Trester....Floradora Glenn Becker....The G-Man Jon Mintz....Lorenza Frizzlebean Directed by Paul Warshauer Lighting & Asst. Directors: Glenn Becker Ralph Saunders

Then on Hobo night, the Cabins were responsible for presenting a short skit or acts. Each cabin except the CIT's (Who were in Town that night), presented some fine, fine skits ranging from an average waking up in Cabin 6, to Caterpillars in Cabin One, to the musical production extravaganza in Cabin 8, and plenty of skits about the wonderful food at Camp (Balony in Cabin Two).

For Olympics, the God of the Greeks, ZEUS, appeared to give the history of the Olympic games and to open our Olympics at Camp Waupaca.

For an evening program we heard exclusively from the Staff in a special <u>STAFF</u> <u>TALENT</u> <u>NIGHT</u>, where such impressive talent as Jeff Korman as a chicken told several elephant jokes, where old Dan "Al Hirt" Nielsen tooted his trumpet for the cabins attending the talent night, Jim Dover did some fine Indian dances, while Paul Van Handel, Ray Krysh, and Denny Sullivan played the harmonicas. Warren Metzdorf played his guitar and Mike Euer led a rousing song of "L'Alouetta". Others were on hand to help out and the entire evening right down to the "jokes" at the end of the presentation.

We decided to put on a big Camp Musical, but because of many conflicting activities, trips, and baseball games we were forced to postpone the play until a later year. However, the cast did a good job preparing for it and I think they deserve mentioning.

CONTINUED

DRAMATIC PROGRAMS CONT

The cast that would have performed "1776", is as follows:

John Adams.....Jeff Bernfield Benj. Franklin....Arnie Samotny John Dickenson.....Mike Lurie Thomas Jefferson....Al Wax John Hancock......Howie Gartzman Stephen Hopkins Victor Shyman Richard H. Lee....Ben Fox Charles Thompson..., Ralph Saunders, Dave Lewis Andrew McNair.....Gene Leven Edward Rutledge....Eliot Zaiken James Wilson.....Geoff Altman Roger Sherman....Brad Ashman Lewis Morris.....Mike Dunkleman Robert Livingston...Brian Vinet John Witherspoon....Phil Bell Caesar Rodney.....Blake Horowitz Thos. NcKean.....Jonathan Mintz Samuel Chase.....Steven Weil Lyman Hall.....Bich Trester Painter.....David Mogil George Read.....Glenn Becker Joseph Hewes.....Todd Friedenberg Directed by Paul Warshauer Musical Director--Dick Van Dyke

We also prepared a Reader's Theatre performance of Charles Schultz' <u>PEANUTS</u> near the end of camp. This show had only a few short hours to rehearse and did superbly! The cast was as follows:

Charlie Brown.....Mike Lurie Linus......Mark Kudan Lucy.....Balph Saunders Snoopy.....Ben Fox Peppermint Patty...Steve Taslitz Schroeder.....Alan Wax Directed by Paul Warshauer

All in all, the Drama program took a healthy turn for the better this year and we hope that all who were involved had and enjoyable <u>and</u> creative summer! Thanks....

> Paul Warshauer Drama Director

GO-CARTS

This summer at the go-cart track all the young Mario Andrettis, Jackie Stewarts and Emerson Fitzpaldis pitted their driving skills against the Camp Waupaca oval. We had many enjoyable afternoons together amid the squeals of tires and fumes of scoarched rubber and gasoline.

I'd like to thank all of my assistants that worked with me during the course of the summer; Bob Sklare, Lee and David Mogil and Charles Cole. They spent a lot of time keeping the go-carts running and keeping the track in good shape.

Among the most accomplished drivers on the Waupaca oval in the summer of '73 were: Charles "Jackie Stewart" Cole, Lee and David Mogil, Ben Fox and Jay Wolff. Have a nice winter and we'll see you at the track next year.



MINI-BIKES

With a swirl of sand and a cloud of smoke, the mini-bikes zipped along the lonesome trail in the boondocks of Camp Waupaca. Two red beauties were added this year to the two bikes that ran the gamut in '72. A five horsepower 'Grand Prix' was aptly dubbed 'The Mover.' And it really did move as Jeff Kerman found out when he wiped out on the baseball field with his backside down and his legs in the air.

The little, red 'Scat Cat' proved its sturdiness by running every day and surviving the rough handling dished out by tenderfoot drivers.

The ever popular Rupp chugged along all summer with its new gas tank and collection of scratches and bumps. Next summer, Camp Waupaca expects to have another mini-bike similar to the Rupp.

Erv Kasian

Mini-Bike Supervisor