



# Winter Camp News

Traditionally Unconventional  
XXV – Post Camp Edition



## ***WC XXV Aftermath***

Another successful Winter Camp has come to a close. Attendance for the weekette was 39, with 33 of those up for the entire time. There were a fair number of new activities, including Hatchet Throwing, Shield Construction, a King's Table Tournament, Squaw Point Erection, and Razing the Village. Razing the Village was the best received of all activities and is currently leading the list as the most memorable activity of camp.

As memories go, the ruined village will be overshadowed only by 162 Dish Banquet. The banquet eclipsed our previous high water mark of 100 by more than 60 dishes and was much better organized and handled than the original. Twenty-two years of experience will do that for you. The dinner attracted six guests including Steve Pejuan, Gary Allen, Howard Hammes, Dr. Brent Musolf, Reed Shannon, and Dave Radecki. Howard and Gary were also guests at our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dinner.

Six youth earned the participation award this year including the first camper ever to spread the achievement over two years, Zach Polifroni. Zach was later joined in the two-year plan by former Lodge Chief Sam Stocker. Also earning the award this year were first-time campers Craig Summers, Jon Semetko, Ethan Rein, and Chris Wilson. John was particularly eager to earn the award having turned 20 on Christmas Day.

## ***The Art of Pizza Making***

by Chris Wilson

At the end of the first day at Winter Camp we experienced the art of pizza making. The first test of this experience was to sign our names to a list. Now this task may sound easy to most people but for former lodge chief Sam Stocker this proved to be a difficult task. It seems that Sam could not figure out whether this was his first time at Winter Camp or if he had been here before.

If there was an award for the most creative pizza making our chapter would get it. One particular pizza was Ethan Rein's pizza puff roll. In the oven it expanded into a huge puff. Another pizza was Jon Semetko's over-stuffed crust pizza. In the crust he had cheese and pepperoni and in the little almost non-existent center he had other various toppings.

Many people's pizzas turned out like a perfect pizza. But it doesn't matter if your pizza was unique or picture perfect. The point was to have fun.

## ***WC 162 Dish Banquet***

By Chris Wilson

The 162 Dish Banquet that occurred on the 29<sup>th</sup> of December was one of the biggest events of my life. It was the first time I ever ate 55 different types of food in one sitting. Eating 40 types of different food was my actual goal but I ate 55 types instead. Then the score cards we had, we had to fill out to prove we ate that amount of dishes.

### **WC 162 Dish Banquet (cont)**

The high point of the evening is when Craig Summers ate one piece of every type of food on the four tables we had to set up to hold all the food. He said he didn't feel too well after, but I bet you can guess why. This was one crazy goal, but it was his goal for the Winter Camp Participation Award.

The 162 dish banquet will be remembered by many for years to come. I know it will live in my memory for a long time.

### **Battle Chess**

by Jon Semetko

The date December 27, the time 2:00. Rumor spread like wildfire through the rank and file that an event would soon occur that would be paramount for the destiny of Winter Camp XXV. Battle Chess would be taking place as the first major event of camp. It was whispered that several youth had swept out an enormous chessboard in the snow. But there was no time for pre-battle gossiping. The troops were swiftly assembled. A call was made for all the persons who had ten or more years to assemble on the Northern boundary. On the South assembled the unblooded Youths. The War Chieftain Steve Donohue of the flaming red beard consolidated power and took the throne with the assistance of Sir Dave Milon of the really big sword. He named as his Queen the gentle lady Dr. Beast. In the South there was fear. These were gentle Youths not hardened warriors. Angry shouts were heard as the factions could not unify. Finally they were brought together by the actions of Lord Steve Clark. They selected as their king an infamous warrior of renown, called by some Jonathan "the Black Prince". King

Jonathan placed as his Queen the fair maiden Bradley.

The battles were most terrible. Early on the Jonathan was challenged twice by fearsome warriors. But after two pitched battles he walked away victorious. But his loyal servants were not so successful. Many fell before the legions of Donohue. Many a heroic struggle was played out in the form of a trivia question or inside the circle of death. Particularly notable was the ring battle of Paul and Ethan of the desperate grab and the hulking Christopher who valiantly went down to King Donohue. But all paled in value to the last stand of Craig who was lost forever in the ring, but such courage has not been seen since the days that Don Quixote himself rode out. Jonathan put down the would be usurper in the form of 6'5" warrior David Oakley. A most damaging warrior was Sean "the wise", he defeated challenger after challenger with his wit. Then seeing that his warriors were all but gone King Jonathan charged King Donohue for a desperate last stand. But he was intercepted just steps from his goal by Paul. Jonathan although exhausted by three terrible battles fought Paul in the ring to the best of his ability but was lost. The last words from his lips were said to be "freedom". The only two warriors who survived amongst the Youngsters were Sean "the wise" and Andy "the Chief".

### **Quotable Quotes:**

True leadership is all about "tell and take". First you take charge, then you tell people what to do next.

Jeff Rand  
Winter Camp XXV

## ***A Tale of Two (or more) Heroes***

Winter Campers, like most everyone else in the modern world, need heroes. Luckily, with the two versions we have of the story below, you get to have twice as many heroes from a single event as you would normally. Andy's story appeared in the Youth Yodel, which saw limited distribution at camp. The other story appeared, unattributed, in the Goon Gazette. Paul Kupser, the goat of both these stories, had a slightly different version of the story than either of these, but it was not submitted for publication. The WCFS News makes no representation that any of the stories below is true or false and offers no editorial comment other than this: Doug Wilson, noted Winter Camp Engineer, said "If he'd had the chains on, he probably would have done a lot of damage to his vehicle". If Doug said it, we believe it.

### ***Goon Fast Response Team Saves Trailer***

At 4:20 on Sunday, December 30 the Goon FRP (Fast Response Team) was called up to airlift the trailer belonging to Paul Kupser which had broken loose from it's moorings and slid off the treacherous Jack Lord Damn into Lockwood Lake. Fortunately for Mr. Kupser, Goon Response Team #1, consisting of John Howey, Lou Pezet, and Mark Hunt were patrolling the area and were able to guide the rescue operation, saving Paul's trailer from a watery demise. Through their efforts, by the time Response Team #2 arrived with rescue gear, the offending trailer had been pulled from the lake and the safety chains secured to his vehicle. The Goons will be offering free trailer use safety classes prior to Winter Camp XXVI. Contact your nearest Goon for details. Remember that safety devices must be used responsibly by all participants at Winter Camp when available. Please note that you are responsible for bringing your own Fire Gear.

### ***Viking Trailer Rescued***

**By Andy Whaley**

On Sunday the 30th of December, the last full day of Winter Camp, Paul Kupser lost his trailer carrying all the Viking materials for the day's activities into Lockwood Lake. We received the call by Mr. Kupser asking for help, we thought he was joking. Steve Donohue in a joking matter told Mr. Kupser over the radio, "April Fools' to you too." A couple minutes later a group of youth showed up to a deserted trailer on the side of the road in Lockwood Lake. The youth started rigging the trailer to be pulled out when the group of Goons showed up in a Yellow Aztec. The goons were of some help as Mr. Kupser pulled up in his black Ranger. After a couple of minutes the trailer was out and back on Mr. Kupser's truck.

He explained that the trailer came off the hitch and rolled into Lockwood Lake. Well, even I, a measly little youth, know to hook up the safety chains. If it is there for safety it is there for a reason.

### ***Quotable Quotes:***

Women come and go, but Winter Camp is forever.

Mark Bollman→  
Winter Camp XXV

## **Gaming News**

On Thursday evening, we played King's Table, an ancient Viking game which is slightly similar to chess. Unlike most modern games, the two sides have different pieces and different goals. One side is the attacker and they get 16 pieces with which to block in their opponent's king. The defenders, by contrast get only 8 pieces and a king. Their goal is to get the king to one of the four corners of the board so he can escape to safety.

The game was played on specially constructed boards and every player was able to take home the board he played on. The tournament was single elimination and no one was surprised when Steve Donohue (who had researched the game) narrowly edged out Dave Oakley for the win.

Also new to camp this year was a special Winter Camp edition of the game Fluxx. Fluxx is a card game that starts with a simple rule (draw one card, play one card) and no way to win. During the course of play, cards can change the number of cards drawn, played, kept, and revealed. They also provide goals which allow a player to win, usually by collecting objects known as keepers. The Winter Camp edition featured both campers and camp objects as keepers with a series of unique goals combining both new and old keepers to give players a chance to win.

Perennial camp favorite Car Wars: The Card Game was on hand, as was a newcomer, Battle Cattle. Battle Cattle is so similar to Car Wars the two games can be played simultaneously; the only difference is that in one you have a heavily armed car and in the other you get a heavily armed cow.

## **Games (cont)**

Also making their first appearance at camp were Zombies, a tile-laying game where players attempt to either kill 25 zombies or escape to the helipad and Batik, a puzzle game that involves sliding variously shaped wooden pieces into a clear plastic frame. Any time a piece sticks out of the frame it is removed and the game starts anew without that piece. A match ends when one player is unable to play a piece.

Computer games continued to be popular with Grand Theft Auto II emerging as a Playstation favorite and a Capture the Objective variant dominating play on Goon Net.

## **Shield Construction**

Shields were made on Thursday night and then used in a variety of activities throughout the week. The blanks were provided by Paul Kupser. Paul also brought along paints, ropes and other tools to help make the shields stylish and functional. Many of the shields looked very nice when completed, but none could match the awesome Viking Ship scene depicted by Dave "Mr. Viking" Oakley.



### ***Winter Camp Weather***

Date	High	Low	Clear %	Precipitation %	Rain	Snow	Wind Direction	Wind Speed
27-Dec-01	25	18	10	75		3.00	NW	6
28-Dec-01	24	14	30	30		1.00	NW	10
29-Dec-01	28	15	70	5		0.10	W	8
30-Dec-01	23	12	10	50		1.00	W	12
31-Dec-01	26	15	60	15		0.01	NW	15

### ***Winter Camp XXV Trivia***

1. Who served as primary advisor for the 162-dish banquet?
2. Who has volunteered to serve as youth leader for Winter Camp XXVI?
3. How many Winter Camp XXV meals were replaced by a smorgasbord of banquet leftovers?
4. Who was the first youth to complete the Winter Camp Participation Award at Winter Camp XXVI?
5. How many different Winter Camp novelty items may be purchased at the new online store?
6. Who was the first pawn to promote to a queen in Battle Chess?
7. What flavor soft drink did Paul Kupser prepare in souvenir bottles for all banquet participants?

### ***Service Projects***

Owing to the large number of people in camp we were able to complete projects at the camp director's house, OA Museum, Beaver Creek Firebowl and the Pedro Trail.

### ***Continental Breakfast Fills the Void***

This year has seen the addition of the long needed Continental Breakfast. Rather than force Arrowmen to arise early and slave over a hot stove to prepare a complex and often under-appreciated breakfast, this year's leadership team acted on a suggestion made by Douglas R. Wilson and instituted an optional breakfast. The new breakfast consists primarily of foods like cold cereal, ready-made muffins, and bagels. It also offers more complex options like eggs and pancakes, for Arrowmen with a little more morning initiative. Overall, the breakfast has proved to be quite successful, and numerous Arrowmen have availed themselves of this low impact alternative, while others have opted to enjoy some additional rest.

### ***Extra Credit***

Winter Camp often benefits from some hard work by Arrowmen that might otherwise go unnoticed and this year was no exception. We'll try to list a few of their achievements here.

**Goon Gazette** – this in-camp paper offered a decidedly High Point of view of camp.

**Youth Yodel** – another in-camp effort, this one was written entirely by the youth.

### ***Extra Credit (cont)***

**.Encyclopedia WinterCampica** – the online guide to all things Winter Camp was added to the library this year and included a new section called the Yottapedia which incorporated some items previously found in the now out of print Winter Camp Almanac.

**Postmark Project** – this collection of more than 50 postcards includes cities which might have been named after Winter Campers and a few extras, like Beaver Creek, MN.

**Winter Camp Manual** – the manual saw a major overhaul this year including rewriting sections and adding new sections with details on equipment, activities and meals.

**162 Dish Banquet** – there were several people who made huge contributions (either cash, time or both) to make the banquet a success. Jeff Rand spent numerous hours finding the right recipes and was ably assisted by Sam Stocker; both of them provided a number of items for the dinner. Doug Wilson and Jon Semetko worked hard to coordinate the recipes and baking for 50 different dishes and made sure all was in readiness for the dinner. Paul Kupser contributed a great deal of time and money including many of the beverages served at the dinner, some of which were home-brewed. His souvenir bottles will also long be remembered. (Yes, many people worked hard the day of and up to the dinner, these guys just seemed to have gone the extra mile).

### ***Winter Camp Future Olympics***

In the fourth edition of the Winter Camp Future Olympics, held on Day Four, it was revealed that the last five years have not been good ones, physical fitness-wise, for some Winter Camp veterans.

### ***Olympics continued***

Seven Arrowmen challenged their 1996 selves in five events, and when the numbers were crunched and adjusted for the lack of a 60-yard dash this year, four of the seven saw their scores (computed against the Winter Camp record book) fall.

Preparations are already under way for the fifth WCFO, to be held at the end of 2006 during Winter Camp XXX. Everyone who participated this year now has a score to beat:

Name	TOTAL	Name	TOTAL
Jacob Young	13	Roger Horn	341
Derek Tamsen	52	Mark Hunt	314
Adam Pezet	268	John Howey	413
Zach Polifroni	351	Steve Clark	221
Sean Gray	151	Lou Pezet	293
Ryan Brake	123	Rob Hartwig	244
Rob Klabis	152	Sam Stocker	263
Brad Alderman	61	Andy Whaley	326
Keith King	83	Ethan Rein	334
Mike Hodnicki	98	Ron Donohue	102
John Semetko	702	Paul Kupser	175
Chris Wilson	103	Mark Bollman	147
Jeff Rand	194		

No individual awards are made at the WCFO, since the point of the event is to challenge your own performance from year to year. However, a collection of noteworthy performances this year was turned in by Jon Semetko, who broke WCFO records in four events: long jump, vertical leap, 30-second push-ups, and 30-second sit-ups. Jon's overall total of 702 points outstrips Roger Horn's 605-point performance at Winter Camp XIV even with one event missing.