Into the Woods

Cherishing Traditional Song and Dance at Pinewoods Camp



By Constance Lindner hotography by Jack Foley



2010 South Shore LIVING 35







Other young disnoers are taking a break, discussing the feasibility of physics involved in potentially dolg discring out voyal through the eviden floor. Around them is the small of wood and general, we have been also considered them, and the woodleng, bythem is support of present and analyserous classification of the camp is four problems. Though only in small from the Sagamone flood off out in A. Deceased Court in a world speak—with 25 woodled acrost scheduler conventioning and Round for the Sagamone floor off the Court for the Sagamone floor off the Sagamone floor of the Sagamone floor off the Sagamone floor of the Sagamone floo



Rick Conant in the mid-1940s, and the couple ran

at the beautiful site teaching English, Balkan,

Family Week or the no-frills Campers' Week,

now the National Country Dance and Song Society.







"It's pretty powerful for a child to perform in front of 150 people and it fosters their creativity and confidence because this is done as part of a carriage community," says Donna Bechat, who helps organize Family Week. Her mother-in-law, Helena Cernellius, is an English Country Dance instructor and Bednar's son, Ryan Cornelius, has added English Country music to his repersoire of loud rook that he plays on guitar at home.

where volunteerism fuels the lessons and maintenance. What makes this time so special, besides the ranified experience of revelling in traditional music and dance in the midst of nature, is that "the grandparents and parents are not sending the children away but bringing them along to enjoy something they love a lot—it's a sharing

Everyone is kept busy with classes that are set up for different ages and skills, but there are communal swims twice a day, and morning and evening meetings. During the morning eatherine, individuals can contribute a sone or story.





The relatively new option to bring children along has enriched camp sessions with second and third generations sharing the experience together, offering yet another reason for oldest members who have returned as much as 50 years without fet-up to keep returning.

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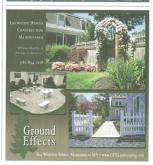
"He took piano lessons at home, but this changed Reese's entire understanding and appreciation of what it could be." said Hansen

"We eat, talk, sing, dance, and are woven together," said Henry Chapin, Manhastan-based musician, who spen summers growing up "across the pone from Pinewoods, near many second cousins, including Steve Howe, with sounds of music wafting across the



HERITAGE DESIGN

AWARD-WINNING RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL DESIGN DESIGN/BUILD - FURNITURE - FABRICS - ACCESSORIES ARTWORK - CUSTOM WINDOW TREATMENTS & BEDDING Treedey - Strandy I Com - 4pn, or by appointment





water and the occasional meeting with camp chancers rowing on the lake." At age 6, Chapin visited the camp one evening and dateed with Nay Gadd, an finglish woman brought to the States by Cecil Sharpe to teach wealthy Americans English Occamy dates, At 14, he worked his first job under the Conants in the camp lotchen while immersing hisself in the camp's many offerings.

"It was and is a place where you can dance and have a magic week, says Chapin. "The only difference is that now there are children's programs whereas staff's kids and workers used to have to find their own amusements."

Chapiris coutin, Steve Howe, has been attending the earth for 20 years, first in the company of his parents and now with his three children participating. Though much of his time is sport behind a delki in the camp office, making sure all runs smoothly, her finds another yop of satisfaction in varieting the decidedly simple pleasures unfold, where children trabon tabling roof from statis and glow when they have figured out a particularly compliated dance steps.

In the evenings, everyone joins in song and dance before those nine and younger are led off by a Fled Piper, who excort the children to their benkin song. An entire remains in the area, making sure no child is crying or missing a parent. The early beddime matters to that the children on start the not day refreshed and perhaps even between cough to join in on one of the evening dance.

"It's fun to watch the new children talking within days about what they will do here next summer, and wonderful to watch them realize how much of the dance they have mastered," says Howe. "As they join in step with everyone else, it seems that what pleases them most is realizing why are part of this community." SSL.

