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Please print this page, complete the form and mail in the enclosed envelope to:

Judy Savage, Executive Director Pineoods Camp, Inc. 80 Cornish Field Road Plymouth, MA 02360 Telephone: (508) 224-4858

Again this year we are enclosing the Annual Appeal with the Pinewoods Post as part of our effort to continually cut costs for the benefit of you, our campers.

We Couldn't Do It Without You!

here are many ways to support this magical place in the woods. We are grateful for campers who have been more than generous with donations, ideas, equipment, curtains, furniture and helpful suggestions. One particularly rewarding way that many folks give back to camp is to participate in one of our Work Weekends to open and close camp in the spring and fall. Once again our heartfelt thanks go to the following individuals for their generous donation of time and effort this year in opening and closing cabins, moving docks, washing curtains, painting signs, clearing trees, splitting wood, and scrubbing the kitchen and equipment. We truly could not do it without you! •

Andrea Aeschlimann Warren Anderson Katrina Bercaw Melinda Crouch Ricker Jennifer Davis Laura DeCesare Jennifer Dodwell Fung Jan Elliott Cathy Fahey Kate Fais Carl Fristrom Jerome Fung Dragan Gill Jim Greaney Wendy Grey Thom Howe Jeffrey Isen

Elliot Layton Paul Levitt Diane Lockhart Bruce Mabbott Hannah McArdle Laura Meilman Neil Miller Barbara Morrison Linda Nelson Tom O'Connor Ross Parker Susie Petrov Cecily Pilzer Les Plimpton Christine Reynolds Davie Ricker Karina Ricker

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The Pinewoods Post

* AUTUMN 2015 *

Erwin Raisz's Historic Camp Map

Jan Elliott

When we designed our new camper information packet and slightly updated (though as yet unchanged) camp map, I took a new interest in historic depictions of Pinewoods, and became particularly intrigued with the old map that currently lives in the Camphouse. Who made it, and why?

The "why" is unclear, though evidence shows it was later adapted into the first map ever distributed to campers. The "who" yielded fascinating results, however.



Erwin Raisz (far L) with "Boston Group" at The Point Camphouse (now Conant property), 1953

The mapmaker was Erwin Raisz (1893-1968), a pioneering Hungarian-American cartographer who specialized in detailed pen-and-ink landform maps. His family still runs Raisz Landform Maps in Brookline, MA. After learning about mapmaking from his father, he trained as an architect and civil engineer, immigrating to New York after World War I and offering one of America's first cartography courses while studying at Columbia.

In 1931 Raisz moved to Boston and became curator of Harvard's map collection. At some point he discovered country dancing and became quite enthusiastic. He went to English and American country dances and attended the CDS-Boston Center's June Pinewoods weekend in the '40s and '50s, as well as some work weekends. His map of camp was created in 1945, perhaps by request from the Conant family after Helen Storrow's death the previous year.

Raisz enjoyed adding whimsical drawings to his maps, and several can be seen here: a dancing couple at the top, a pipe & tabor hanging from the legend, a sailboat in the water and a figure diving from Long Pond dock. His grandson, Jonathan



Raisz's 1945 map of Pinewoods

Raisz, found several other drawings of dancing couples including one clearly showing Pinewoods, and a photo of Raisz standing by a canoe, probably at Long Pond. The camp archives yielded just one ID'd image of him: entitled "Boston group," it was taken

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Program Providers

Boston Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

c/o Folk Arts Center 10 Franklin St., Stoneham, MA 02180-1862 www.rscdsboston.org

Country Dance Society, Boston Centre

P.O. Box 170987, Boston, MA 02116 781.591.2372 • www.cds-boston.org

Country Dance and Song Society

116 Pleasant Street, Suite 345
Easthampton, MA 01027-2759
Steve Howe • Director of Programs • camp@cdss.org
413.203.5467 • www.cdss.org

Folk Arts Center of New England

10 Franklin St., Stoneham, MA 02180-1862 Marcie Van Cleave • Executive Director • fac@facone.org 781.438.4387 • www.facone.org

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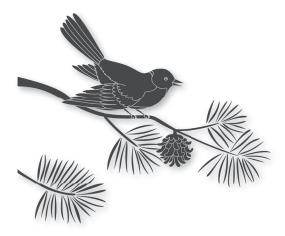
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Check Our Website

For news updates, additional information, photos, past issues of the Post, log on to our website: www.pinewoods.org

Note:

This autumn edition of the Pinewoods Post is being sent out via regular mail.



Notes from the Director

Judy Savage, Executive Director

This season, starting with Swing Into Summer, energy levels were high and the enthusiasm contagious. We welcomed a record number of new campers, and hope that many will return again next year. Old traditions were maintained, while new and at times surprising ones were created. (Watermelon wrestling, anyone?) Despite treasuring Pinewoods traditions, everyone adapted to our updated camper information packet, and enjoyed the new space in Pinecones – particularly the screened porch extension. We welcomed a new Program Provider in August, the Folk Music Society of New York, while reminiscing fondly and more than a little sadly about the loss of CDSS's English and American Week.

Mostly it was camp as we have always known and loved it: music drifting through the trees, laughter from the Camphouse porch, bagpipes at some sessions, maypoles at others. A sense of community was created and nurtured at each session. New skills were learned and familiar ones were honed. Friendships were formed, reestablished and solidified. We enjoyed impromptu weddings, as well as some innovative (and very funny) new pub night games. One new family traveled all the way from Alaska after hearing about CDSS's Family Week. A record number of former crew returned as actual campers. PCI and our Program Providers funded 25 NGI scholarships. CDSS and CDS Boston Centre celebrated their Centennials with joy and enthusiasm, and Pinewoods Camp is starting to plan a 2019 Centennial - just 4 years away. Our camp community remains strong and vital, for which we are very grateful.

Recently I sat down to talk with Head of Grounds Tony Baker about his "fix-it" list for this winter. The list consists of all the things that were identified over this summer from camper evaluation forms, grounds crew feedback, and our own observations. Tony's list had a record 129 items on it, including fixing windows, doors, latches and screens; repairing tables; painting bulkheads; staining decks; upgrading some toilet flush mechanisms; shoring up a few outhouses; replacing some bathroom floors; and replacing the two entryway landings to the front of C#. We did a very good job observing. Now it's Tony's job to cross off those items, one by one, before next season.

Sophie is enjoying the cooler weather, I'm planning budgets for 2016, wrapping up details from the season just ending, and preparing for our Annual Meeting in November. We are excited about some possible new Program Providers making use of Pinecones in the off-season. All is quiet again, except for the turkeys and signs of a visiting coyote. Camp will enjoy its annual off-season respite, with happy memories of another wonderful summer.

Board Transitions

In November we will say a grateful farewell to three outgoing PCI directors: Roger Goldin, Liz Levin and Art Munisteri. They have contributed wisdom, thoughtfulness, skill, hard work and dedication in supporting this place we all treasure. We will also bring three new faces onto the board: Dragan Gill, Annette Sassi and David Shewmaker. Welcoming them in anticipation, we wish them all successful terms and hope they are ready to roll up their sleeves and get busy!

Erwin Raisz's Historic Camp Map

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in 1953 at The Point, now the Conants' property but at that time part of camp. According to Shag Graetz, he continued to attend camp in his elder years, even when a colostomy bag necessitated special housing.

Raisz was internationally known and respected. He died in Thailand, while en route to a cartography conference in India. "Combining a scientist's fascination with geomorphology with an artist's drawing ability, he created maps that continue to intrigue us with their accuracy, aesthetic appeal, and elegance." (Joseph Garver, Boston Map Society, 1998)

The Pinewoods map is an extraordinary slice of history: on careful examination, you can see that some buildings have different names, and some are in different places. Others have disappeared altogether, and of course some were not yet built. Perhaps future articles will explore these aspects of history. Meanwhile, have fun examining the map and imagining what camp was like 70 years ago! ◆



Raisz, probably at or near camp (courtesy Jonathan Raisz)



Christmas card detail, 1952 (courtesy Jonathan Raisz)

Ten Years Later - Still Saying Thank You!

When I started dancing a dozen years ago, Pinewoods was an elusive idea: A place that generated infinite stories, memories, songs, photos, lists of amazing dance partners and connections to leaders throughout the world of folk dance, music and song. It was where "the best of the best" learned to be even better. Friends had gone for one or two weeks, describing days packed with intense classes and nights involving little sleep. How could I, a new dancer, attend?

There was also the problem of being 12, with parents from outside the folk world. I started begging every potential chaperone I could think of, but none could take me. This went on for six years until I turned 18 and could take myself; in 2003 I finally made it to Campers Week, thanks to generous help from a family I'd met through dance. With summer work savings and scholarships lined up, I spent a wonderful week absorbing everything, ending the week grubby, sunburnt and exhausted, and most importantly, making wonderful new friends.

On the final night I suddenly burst into tears at the thought of leaving and never making it back. It was Steve Roderick of the Pinewoods Morris Men who responded, "If you don't get enough funding next time, ask us, we'll all chip in five dollars!" It seemed like a joke, but also stuck with me.

Knowing it would be hard to predict life after college, I felt the need to come back to Pinewoods soon. I applied for Camper's Week and received some scholarship money, but not enough. So I took a risk, emailing the week's participant list to ask for donations, and blaming Steve for such a brash request.

To my surprise, support started pouring in. Checks, cash and letters arrived in the mail, all expressing a deep desire to share camp with others, even if they hadn't met me in 2003. This amazing generosity continued at the New England Folk Festival, as strangers recognized my name and offered donations. I had

worried that it might seem too rude to ask for support from a community I had only just met, but the stories people shared told a different story: they loved Pinewoods deeply, and wanted everyone else who loved it to come back, too.

Moving back to New England after college, I decided to go to a Spring Work Weekend, and have been back every year since. The idea was to balance days of volunteering with days as a camper, and to learn every job done during the two opening weekends. (Maybe in time I'll learn all the closing jobs, too.)

Attending Work Weekends is a way of saying thank you to everyone who helped me make it to Pinewoods. The crew works incredibly hard all summer to make sure campers have a good time, and these weekends provide a unique chance for us to help them while experiencing a more intimate side of Pinewoods. Spring Work Weekend jobs range from big and communal (moving the dock from winter storage to Long Pond) to decidedly unglamorous (cleaning dance pavilion gutters); to adorably domestic (hanging curtains in the cabins). There is a real satisfaction in doing work that you know will make camp better for others. Like many tasks that make experiences special, these jobs are not often noticed by attendees, but they are felt.

Work Weekends have made me feel an even deeper connection to camp. As I dashed from class to pond, from evening dance to pub night, I saw the work we'd accomplished peeking through, and it was equally gratifying to see my fellow campers enjoying this beautiful place. Just as they had helped me stop worrying about whether and how I'd make it back, I helped them not to worry about paths being clear, costumes available for a ball, or the Camphouse ready for whatever might happen at 2 AM.

So, next time you're at Pinewoods, don't think about it too much and I'll know you're getting my thank you. And for the most intimate camp experience, come to a Work Weekend and get your hands dirty. You won't regret it.