



# Winnebago Alumni Newsletter

—Fall 2008

The Winnebago Alumni Association

12316 Spur Lane, Rockville, VA 23146

## Michael Cardozo:

### NYC's Top Lawyer Remembers CW, Trips

Like many Winnebagans who have spent summers both as camper and counselor, when looking back today Mike Cardozo remembers the latter most fondly, in particular the summer of 1960, when he returned to Camp as a counselor in Bunk 2 and a member of the tennis staff. He paddled the Cobbossee Stream and climbed Mt. Katahdin that summer, and credits those trips and the many during his five camper years, especially the Allagash, with instilling in him a life-long love of the outdoors.

Nothing of those summers prepared him for the work he does today as a lawyer overseeing a caseload of 90,000 lawsuits and legal matters being handled by 650 attorneys. Michael Cardozo serves as Corporation Counsel for the City of New York. Chosen by Mayor Bloomberg at the start of his administration, he has been serving in that post longer than anyone in over a century.

"I have the greatest job in the world," he says, and takes great pride in having helped advance Mayor Bloomberg's agenda, particularly in several high profile issues, including control of the educational system and health and environmental issues such as the posting of nutritional data in restaurants and the ban on smoking in public places.

Another big area that Mike has been pleased to be a part of is the development of the two new stadiums now under construction in the city. Perhaps the athletic interest was developed playing on the baseball



Michael Cardozo

fields of Fayette. It was certainly nurtured during the years before his current assignment when, as a partner at Proskauer Rose LLP, he co-chaired the Sports Law Group, which represented most of the major sports leagues in the United States, pioneered the field of sports law, and handled major class action suits.

Michael Cardozo grew up on Manhattan's West Side, at 71st Street and Columbus Avenue. When he was 12, his family moved to Westport, Conn., where he attended public school. After receiving his undergraduate degree at Brown University, he went to Columbia Law School, where he was a member of the *Law Review*, a student adviser, and a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar.

Mike admits that he found the weight of his family's history at Columbia a bit daunting when he arrived at the Law School. There was a class in which, "the professor would call on someone to talk about

one of Benjamin Cardozo's cases," recalls Mike, "and he would say, 'Don't worry, we have Cardozo waiting in the wings to explain it.' I can still remember quaking in my seat."

"People thought I would be a lawyer from the time I was in high school. I guess I acted like a lawyer, however a lawyer acts when he's in high school," Mike says. Michael H. Cardozo, his grandfather, graduated from Columbia Law School in 1904. His father, Harmon H. Cardozo, attended Columbia as an undergraduate. And his grandfather's first cousin was Benjamin Cardozo, the renowned New York jurist and U.S. Supreme Court justice.

It was Mike's expertise in commercial litigation and his broad knowledge of New York politics that brought him to the attention of the newly elected Mayor Bloomberg in 2001. It was also his record of leadership in legal organizations and on special task forces. From 1996-98, he was president of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York and, in 1999, he was elected chairman of the Committee and Fund for Modern Courts, a citizen-based organization dedicated to improving the quality and administration of justice in New York.

He has served, by appointment of Governor Mario Cuomo and former New York State Court of Appeals Chief Judge Sol Wachtler, on task forces and committees charged with overseeing judicial administration. What Mayor Bloomberg didn't know - or didn't care to ask - was Mike's party affiliation. In fact, at

*(Continued on page 5)*

### In this issue:

*NYC's Top Counsel* -1  
- *Mike's Mike*

*From the Director* -2  
- *A Letter from Andy*

*Winnebago Whispers* -2  
- *News of Alumni*

*From the President* -3  
- *Uncle Jim's Letter*

*Post-Camp 2009* -4  
- *Be at the Big 90th!*

*Manhattan Reunion* -5  
- *Seventh Annual*

*Echo Lake Summers* -6  
- *A Gift to Share*

### Winnebago on the Web!

- See photos of Camp
- Read the WAG
- Read the Echo online
- Find news of friends
- Post your latest news
- Watch the Camp video
- Take a virtual tour
- See Winnebago in winter

All of this and more at—

[www.Campwinnebago.com](http://www.Campwinnebago.com)

See also

[www.Winnebagoalums.com](http://www.Winnebagoalums.com)

## From Andy's Desk: A Letter from the Director

As we reminisce about the summer of 2008, which inspired us to embrace challenges, we also look forward to the summer of 2009, when Winnebago will celebrate its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary on the shores of Echo Lake.

Over these 90 years, Winnebago has had but four owners and five Head Counselors. The continuity Winnebago has enjoyed is a remarkable aspect of camp. However, as with many aspects of life, transitions are inevitable. Camp is no exception and we do our best to be prepared for change.

After 32 summers at Winnebago, the last seven as Head Counselor, next summer will be Uncle Jim Astrove's last at camp, as he explains in his own letter in these pages. We congratulate him on the promotion. The school is fortunate to have the undivided attention of an individual truly committed to educating the next generation.

While we will miss Jim, we have learned over the years that no one is irreplaceable. Each change at camp, Director, Head Counselor or a beloved staff member, has always been wrenching and seemingly insuperable, but it has always been an opportunity to acknowledge and appreciate relationships while creating new and different ones.

Our hope is to have Jim's successor at camp this summer in order to learn the job and work with a master. We are approaching this as a job search and would like to enlist your assistance. You best know the importance of this position at Winnebago, and the kind of candidate who would best fill the role. If you know of anyone who might be interested in the position, please let me know or have that person contact me.

All best wishes for a very satisfying year ahead.

Sincerely, Andy Lilienthal

### Directors of Winnebago:

Frederick L. Guggenheimer (1919-1956)  
Howard L. Lilienthal (1956-1974)  
Philip H. Lilienthal (1974-2004)  
Andy Lilienthal (2004- )

### Head Counselors:

Robert Stout ( ? - 1939?)  
Leo Lehrman (1940-1964)  
Bennett Meyers (1964-1980)  
Paul Schwarz (1981-2002)  
Jim Astrove (2003-2009)

### Winnebago Whispers— —News from Alumni

**Howie "Gute" Gutenstein** ('73-'80; staff '83-'84), now living in Indiana, tells us that his two daughters Hanna and Ella, 9 and 6, go to sleep to the strains of "Goodnight, Winnebago" and "Silver Sails." Howie is reaching out to his fellow Senior Lodgers to get a group to attend the 90<sup>th</sup> at Post-Camp. (see in this issue)

**Eric Gyasi** (staff '97) and his wife Amma were proud to announce the birth of their first child, Kwadwo, in October. They live in Yonkers, NY. Eric is the manager of a nursing facility.

(Continued on page 3)

### Winnebago Alumni Association Board of Directors

President—Jim Astrove  
Vice President—Peter Newman  
Secretary—Paul Schwarz  
Treasurer—Jim Janover

Erik Hartog, Dick Lewis, Sandy Herzfeld, Ben Lilienthal, Tom Janover, Ethan Ris, Todd Levy, Peter Sheehy

Alumni Newsletter  
Photography, Tom Hoegeman  
Editor, Paul Schwarz  
[pks31@Columbia.edu]

## From the Association President—A “W.I.” to All

Hello everyone— The 2008 Summer of Challenge was full of smile, pep and vim, and it was also such a great pleasure for me to be back again on the shores of Echo Lake. It was as Winnebagan a summer as I am ever going to have. The campers and staff were loving, giving, happy, adventurous, and really “got” camp. They kept me engaged and kept me young.

I do have something to tell you involving camp and me, and in this 21<sup>st</sup> Century, while not the best way, it's a way of “speaking” with all of you at once. This coming summer is going to be my last at Winnebago. Last winter I received an unsolicited job offer from St. Catherine's to become the Director of Technology and I accepted that offer.

In the short term it really means doing two jobs for the price of one; I insisted on continuing my direct work with the Middle School students and teachers, while also managing the school's technology division. I have also made it clear that my

9½-month contract will be honored through next year. In the long term it means beginning to work at St. Catherine's full-year, beginning with the 2009-2010 school year. And that means I will not work at camp after the 2009 season.

As I've been digesting all of this, I've yet to stop myself from going through the whole thought process—I feel good about the opportunity to be an administrative leader at the school. I am torn about ending my years at camp. That's for certain. It's where I've grown up, raised a family and become a part of the Winnebago family, and I feel very connected to all that we do each summer.

Both Andy and I felt it was important not to mention this over the summer, and I still feel that we were right. Now, with another summer in “days ‘til camp” counting range, I wanted to let all of you know.

I do intend on continuing to work for the Alumni Association, and I hope I can serve as President for many years. With that in mind, once again I would ask you to consider giving generously to the Winnebago Alumni Association so that we can share our experience with a broader world. Thank you.

Sincerely, Jim Astrove, President

## Winnebago Whispers—

*(Continued from page 2)*

**Sam Lubell** ('85-'90) has published a new book, *Paris 2000+*, a look at new architecture in the French capital. Sam is editor of *The Architect's Newspaper*, and has published articles in *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times* and *Architectural Record*. Sam is also a professional photographer. Go to [samlubell.net](http://samlubell.net) to see his work.

We were saddened to learn from Elaine Rees that her husband, **John Rees** ('50's) died of lung cancer in June. She noted, “He had such wonderful memories of the time he spent at Winnebago when he was young and enjoyed reading your Alumni Newsletter.”

**Lee Rosenthal** ('48-'53; staff '57-'58) is proud of his family's three generations at Winnebago. His son Jim was a camper and counselor in the '70's and '80's, and daughter Susan was photography counselor one summer. Lee is thrilled that his grandson Zachary Schwartz started his own Winnebago adventures this summer, exactly 60 years after his grandfather.

**Adam Rifkin** ('87-'90) and Jennifer

Deutsch were married this November. Adam is a senior vice president with Barclays.

**Stephen Schwarz** ('83-'90; staff '94) has left New York's landmark music venue, The Knitting Factory, after a run of many years, and has crossed the river to Brooklyn where he will be managing a new venture, Brooklyn Bowl. The operation, housed in a restored warehouse, will include a performance space, a Blue Ribbon© restaurant, and 16 modern bowling lanes. With the lanes open and the rest still under construction, Brooklyn Bowl recently hosted an open house for CMJ festival participants. Opening will be early 2009.

**David Shribman** ('64-'68; staff '72) is the executive editor of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* and a frequent correspondent with this editor. His essay is one of a dozen in a new Life Magazine book on the life of Barack Obama. This Pulitzer Prize-winning author is as passionate about his alma mater as he is about Winnebago, and recently participated in a panel discussion on the national election with outgoing Dartmouth president Jim Wright. Incidentally, Dave's Echo “saying” in 1964, in bunk 4, was, “Junior Journalist.”

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Thank You!

*Since the Spring 2008 Newsletter, the Winnebago Alumni Association has received contributions from the following alumni, parents, and friends:*

Nathan Arnell & Heidi Hellring  
 Tony & Jane Asch  
 Selim Bendadis  
 Adele & Rick Carter  
 The Kim Cheiken Living Trust  
 Goerge & Cynthia Cole  
 Bruce Ehrmann  
 Mary & Richard Felix  
 Fidelity Charity Fund  
 Paul "Dude" Friedman  
 Paul Gabriel  
 Patty & Alex Gellman  
 Maureen & Andrew Gilbert  
 Tim Gray  
 Leslie Hanson  
 Evan & Leslie Heller  
 Debbie Hellinger  
 Mark & Hillary Kaplan  
 Lina Katz  
 Barry & Melissa Kazan  
 Michael & Bettina Klein  
 Bruce & Kate Lee  
 Todd Levy  
 Dick & Marjie Lewis  
 Shelley, Lesley, Allison & Hilary Meyers  
 Ann & Peter Minnium  
 Carol & Richard Papper  
 David & Laurie Pauker  
 Jeanne & Max Rosen  
 Rochelle & Mark Rosenberg  
 Jordan Saper & Jill Rittmaster  
 James Sarna  
 David Schanzer  
 Susan & Todd Schwartz  
 Pat & Rob Silverman  
 Bob Simon  
 John Simon  
 Tony Spencer  
 Betsey & Elliot Sterenfeld  
 Louis Stern  
 Katie & Erich Sternberg  
 Ben Strait & Deb Fins  
 Tamar Todd & Tyler Alper  
 Joshua & Alejandra de Losada Welch  
 Mark & Diane Wladis  
 Stephen & Freida Wolff

## The 90<sup>th</sup> Alumni Weekend and Post Camp 2009

In recognition of Winnebago's 90<sup>th</sup> summer, we invite Winnebago alumni and their families to attend an alumni weekend from August 21-23, 2009 at camp. It will be a chance to help us celebrate Winnebago's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and also to say thank you to Uncle Jim Astrove, who will be retiring after 32 summers. The many highlights will include a Saturday evening lobster bake and campfire, a memory booth where we will be conducting oral histories, memorable evening activities, and of course, softball games, swimming in and canoeing on Echo Lake, and maybe even a Patrol Game! The cost for the weekend is \$270/person (that is just \$90/day)!

If a weekend is not enough time and you want more, we will be continuing the celebration for another week of Post Camp from August 24-30.

If you are interested, please contact at Andy at [unkandycw@aol.com](mailto:unkandycw@aol.com), by phone at (207) 767 1019, or by sending in the below form. We look forward to seeing everyone at camp in August.

### The 90<sup>th</sup> Alumni Weekend and Post Camp 2009—Rates

	8/21-23	8/24-8/30	8/21-8/30	
<u>Rates</u>	<u>Alumni Weekend</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Session</u>	<u>Both</u>	<u>Daily</u>
Adult	\$270.00	\$630.00	\$810.00	\$117.00
Child (2-15 years)	\$180.00	\$540.00	\$630.00	\$72.00
Under 2 years	Free	Free	Free	Free
2008 Camper	\$180.00	\$450.00	\$540.00	\$63.00

Please complete the form below if you would like to join us. Deposits are refundable until August 1.

\_\_\_ Alumni Weekend Sign us up for August 21-23, at a cost of \$270 for an adult and \$180 for a child. Enclosed is \$100.00 per person deposit, refundable in full until August 1.

\_\_\_ Post Camp: We'll be there for Family Camp from August 24 - August 30  
(Partial stays are negotiable)

\_\_\_ Both: We'll be there from August 21 - August 30.

Name(s) of Adult(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Name(s) of children \_\_\_\_\_

Names and relationship of all attending (birth dates of those under 18). Enclosed is a \$100.00 per person deposit, refundable in full until August 1.

**Send to: Camp Winnebago, 131 Ocean Street, South Portland, ME 04106**

**The Gift of Camp:**

Over the years, so many boys have enjoyed Camp through the Association's Scholarship Fund. Winnebago underwrites the greatest share. Your contribution makes it possible, just as it does for your college.

Can you help to give a boy a Winnebago summer? Please use this coupon to become a part of this important effort.



**Yes, I'll Help the Winnebago Scholarship Fund!**

I want to make it possible for minority scholarship campers to enjoy The Gift of Camp by attending Camp Winnebago. I enclose the following tax-deductible contribution, payable to The Winnebago Alumni Association:

\$500  \$250  \$100  \$50  \$25 \$\_\_\_\_\_ (any amount)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

My years as a camper: \_\_\_\_\_ counselor: \_\_\_\_\_

News for the next Alumni Association Newsletter: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (or attach a page)

**Mail to: Jim Astrove, 12316 Spur Lane, Rockville, VA 23146**

**Winnebago Whispers—**

*(Continued from page 3)*

**Brad Solmsen** (staff '80's-'90's) lives in Boston with his wife and two children. He is a rabbi, but not in the traditional role at a synagogue. He is the director of Genesis at Brandeis University and on the faculty of the Hornstein Program in Jewish Communal Service at Brandeis University. During the summer he noted that he was, "directing a program for high school students and doing a bunch of consulting in the world of informal Jewish education."

**Mike Solmsen** (staff '80's-'90's) has been a producer at CBS News for 13 years. He's covered several wars, including the war in Afghanistan, the Israel-Lebanon conflict and has been to Iraq several times. As for other recent major news events, he was in Indonesia to cover the tsunami, in Rome to cover the death of John Paul II and he also covered Hurricane Katrina.

**Michael Cardozo,  
Corporation Counsel**

*(Continued from page 1)*

a news conference when Mr. Bloomberg announced his appointment, the press asked about party affiliation. Mr. Bloomberg, then a Republican, looked genuinely surprised and said with a chuckle, "I never asked you." A Democrat, Mike views serving "across the aisle" as a mere footnote.

Mike shed no light on the current discussions about a third term for the mayor. Winnebago has had term limits only for campers, never for staff or administration. It seems to have served us well.

**7th Annual  
NYC Winnebago  
Alumni Gathering**

**Saturday, March 21, 2009  
2:30-5:00 PM**

**Appetizers on us; Cash Bar  
Sutton Place, 2nd Floor Bar  
1015 2nd Avenue (54th and 2nd)**

**Please join us... Pass it along...  
RSVP: unk1919@gmail.com**

U.S. Postage Paid  
Non-Profit Org.

Winnebago Alumni Association  
12316 Spur Lane  
Rockville, VA 23146

---

## Summer Days on Echo Lake—A Time to Remember, and Share



Try to remember your own summer days at Winnebago, and pleasant swims in Echo Lake. Those were the days that contributed to making you who you are. The Alumni Association provides these summer experiences for deserving boys. Please see inside.