



Winnebago Alumni Newsletter

—Spring 2007

The Winnebago Alumni Association

12316 Spur Lane, Rockville, VA 23146

When Scholarship Campers Become Staff

- by Jim Astrove, Head Counselor

As Head Counselor I have the pleasure of working closely with the counselor staff as we try, in seven weeks, to give the campers at Winnebago smiles, fun and adventure. One of the most rewarding times each summer is when one of our scholarship campers comes back to be a counselor. This is truly giving back and it gives me the opportunity to

reflect on how important the scholarship program is at Winnebago.

Every summer we have alumni who come back as staff. They offer camp an invaluable service. Each brings to camp the experiences from his camper years, along with a strong desire to be at camp and give back to Winnebago. For the scholarship campers who have come back to join the staff, the experience has been wonderful. For me, in my many roles—head counselor, alumnus, former counselor, and President of the Board, to have these guys come back is very telling.

Here are these young men, having made so much of their opportunity, choosing to give back. They are setting such a good example. Already having spent a year in college, they offer campers a much different perspective on what camp is all about. Beyond the lake, the fields, the trips, the campfire, camp is an opportunity: an opportunity to grow, to expand, to find new horizons and build a future.

These boys who come back as young men would never have been counselors had they not been given the chance to be a camper at Winnebago. They would never have been counselors had they not understood what it is that Winnebago means. What it means to them, and what it means to all the campers. It means challenge, growth, and opportunity. Something our scholarship campers have held onto as they work on staff, attend college, get degrees, and continue to give back to us all.

Uncle Charlie Roth Dies; Giant of CW's Early Years

Charles Roth, a major figure in Winnebago's early decades, died in 2006 at the age of 96. Everyone who attended Winnebago from the twenties through the 50's would remember Uncle Charlie as one of the handful of people, along with Frederick Guggenheimer ("Chief") and Leo Lehrman, who shaped Camp in its early years.

On the staff for more than 25 years, Uncle Charlie served as swimming counselor, riflery instructor, athletic director and program director. As campers became seniors, they looked forward to a closer relationship with him; as head of Senior Row, the last two bunks, 27 and 28, later 29 and 30, were his usual domain.

He was a stern taskmaster in his varied roles at camp. Boys learned to follow the rules on the rifle range, and to observe the "lights out" time on Senior Row. But the kind nature of this true gentleman shone through to those who knew him. And his sense of humor was legendary. It was Uncle Charlie Roth who created and perfected the form for the "Review of the Year" still enjoyed at every Final Campfire.

The youngest of five sons, Charles Roth was born in 1910, in the kitchen of his family's apartment on Manhattan's upper West Side. As a youth he took a great interest in athletics, particularly track, and was a champion in the 440. He was also

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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

See also

www.Winnebagoalums.com

Uncle Charlie Roth Dies; Giant of Camp's Early Years

accomplished in aquatic sports, and in his young adult years was a life-guard, and earned spending money performing daredevil stunts like diving from several stories up into a city pool.

Though he played some golf into his 80s, Charlie found the path to his life's work not in the world of athletics, but in that of academics. He was selected to attend prestigious Townsend Harris Hall High School, which had been established to groom the most promising of the City's public school students.

After his father's death when Charlie was 16, the family moved north to Mount Kisco, and he finished his high school career commuting to the city, going on to receive a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education – a two-year degree, from NYU in 1929.

Also at about age 16, Charlie began his affiliation with Winnebago. Camp became a surrogate family of sorts. In over 25 years as a counselor and administrator, Uncle Charlie breathed life into the principles he valued: loyalty, conservation of resources, responsibility, generosity, self-reliance, supporting and mentoring others.

Back in New York during the school year, Charlie worked toward a four-year degree at City College at night, while supporting himself with a variety of day jobs during the Depression years, finally receiving his B.A. from CCNY. He went on to earn an M.A. and a Ph.D. in psychology. Drafted into the military after completing his doctorate, he was assigned to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. The cadets in his mathematics classes there included the famed footballers, Glenn Davis and Felix "Doc" Blanchard, and he often played squash in his off hours with a then unknown assistant coach of the Army football team, one

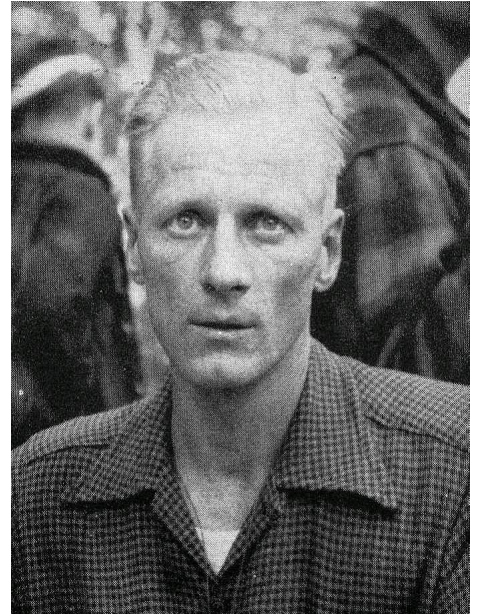
Vince Lombardi.

After the war, he was married and began a family. He was then working at the CCNY Guidance Department, and still spending summers at Winnebago. The Korean War took him back to West Point, and away from Camp for a summer. Discharged again in 1952, back again at CCNY, he was introduced to the relatively new field of management consulting. He left academia for good in 1955 to join a small Manhattan-based group.

Charlie later started a successful independent practice that he maintained past his 80th year, with clients throughout the United States and Europe. His uncompromising honesty and integrity, his diligence, his consistent willingness to go the extra mile, his gift for helping others achieve compromise through fair negotiation, his acute perception of individual ability and temperament, and his refusal to avoid difficult or controversial issues or situations, were some of the qualities he brought to his work that earned him the respect and loyalty of both clients and colleagues. All of these were qualities that campers who knew him as Uncle Charlie would remember as well.

The Roths moved to Cape Cod full-time in 1980, after vacationing there since the 1950s, and, as he wound down his practice and eventually retired, they enjoyed a more active social life than they ever had in the City, playing bridge several times a week and regularly entertaining friends.

After the death of his wife in 1997, he carried on until, almost exactly a year later, a cardiac episode led to triple bypass surgery. His recovery from this was protracted and never really complete, as he suffered from depleted energy and spent less time out in the world during his last years. His mind remained quite active, however, and he found comfort and satisfaction in the world of words and ideas, polishing off dozens of historical



Uncle Charlie Roth in the 1948 "Echo"

biographies and novels, as well as *The New Yorker* and the *Sunday New York Times*.

Uncle Charlie Roth was one of the giants of Winnebago in its formative years. He is fondly remembered and held in mind by a generation of campers and counselors who were fortunate to have known him.

- For this article the W.A.N. is indebted to Uncle Charlie's family, who provided us with a complete biography. —Ed.

Winnebago Alumni Association Board of Directors

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Alumni Newsletter
Photography, Tom Hoegeman
Editor, Paul Schwarz
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From the Association President—*Pass It Along!*

We had an extremely successful board meeting in late March in New York, followed by a wonderful alumni gathering. It was the fifth annual alumni event following the annual meeting. Each year we see a great collection of old friends, campers and counselors, who take some time to regale, reminisce, and *pass it along*.

At our board meeting we talked a lot about the future of the Alumni Association, specifically which direction, or directions, we should take in the next few years. We have put out there to all of you our goal of raising \$1.9 million in order to insure that the scholarship program will always be in place and fully supported by our association. Perhaps we just need to continue to collect enough money each year to keep the program going year to year, relying on our ability to fund-raise at higher levels each year to meet our financial obligations to camp. We have put together a group of alums to consider how best to fundraise for future years.

We do want continue to put our a newsletter twice year, have a phone bank each June, and I will continue to contact you by email, all in the effort to increase donations. These are our traditional venues for asking for your help and support. We are open to all and any suggestions and input. Please feel free to contact me at unk1919@gmail.com. We are looking to expand our association both in people and contributions. We *pass it along* because we care. And we need you to care, more now than ever.

Thank you very much. I'm on my way to Echo Lake for the summer. Remember the alum rule: if you're within 95 miles, you're compelled to visit!

— Uncle Jim Astrove

The Cost of a Scholarship

What Is a Fair Share for the Alumni Association?

Since the beginning of 2003, we have had 431 contributions totaling \$81,681 in donations to the Winnebago Alumni Association Scholarship Fund. Here is a breakdown of those years: 2006 - \$20,954; 2005 - \$18,100; 2004 - \$13,213; and 2003 - \$19,414.

As you can see, after a down year in 2004, we have increased our donations each year. So far, 2007 looks to be on pace to be stronger than 2006. There is a big however coming, as you can guess.

It starts with our contributions to Camp Winnebago to support our scholarship campers. For eight annual scholarships we have paid Camp \$6,605 in 2004, \$12,000 in 2005, and \$16,000 in 2006. Andy Lilienthal has been very generous with his in-kind contributions to the Alumni Association. Indeed, by accepting a small fraction in lieu of a full-tuition camper, the Camp has, in effect, been underwriting the scholarship program. We have agreed with Andy that in 2007 we will increase our share to \$3,000 (still a minor fraction) for each camper, a total of \$24,000.

Now here's the rub: we do not take in that much money in a given year. We must establish an annual goal of that share of the scholarship program. Further, the Board expects the \$3,000 per scholarship camper to increase to \$5,000 over the next few years.

So here's the however— we take in a good amount of money each year— HOWEVER, it really is not enough. We sincerely appreciate all of the gifts, HOWEVER, of the 2,500 or so Alumni we contact more than twice each year, in the last four years we have had just 431 gifts.

We can double our efforts in one of two ways. We can double our contributions or double our contributors. You make the call. If you have contributed, we hope you will continue to do so and that you can help us by doubling your gift and/or bringing another Winnebagan into the fold as a donor.

Either way, it's what we need to do to remain viable and valuable. It's what we need to do to be able to support our scholarship program.

Thank You!

Since the Fall 2006 Newsletter, the Winnebago Alumni Association has received contributions from the following alumni, parents, and friends:

Nathan Arnell & Heidi Hellring
 Andy Boral & Leah Rugen
 Elizabeth Chumney
 Cramer Rosenthal McGlynn, LLC
 Pat Donovan
 Mary & Richard Felix
 David Friedman
 H. Paul Gabriel
 Joseph & Anna Gartner Foundation
 Nancy, Carl & Ricky Gropper
 Ned & Kate Gutman
 Dan Hirschhorn
 HSBC Matching Gift Program
 Marc Kaiser
 Mark & Hillary Kaplan
 Mary Kaufman
 Andrew Kaufman
 Leni Klaimitz & Mitchell Berg
 Steve Lewent
 Phil Lilienthal
 Ray Londa
 Steve & Denise Males
 Sally Lewis Meisner
 David Newman
 Larry & Sheila Pakula
 Robert, Margaret & Kip Pastor
 Adrienne Ris
 David Schanzer & Elizabeth Losos
 Bob Simon
 Ken Stein
 Richard & Amy Thalhimer
 Josh Vlasto
 S. Douglas Weil
 Dean Wiles
 Larry Zuckerman and Alice Gottesman

Family Camp 2007

PARENT/SON CAMP and FAMILY CAMP 2007

Our 1ST Session will be from ***Friday, August 17 to Sunday, August 19. It provides a wonderful family experience, especially for those of you who wish you had more time to be together in a special setting. The 2nd Session (August 19-September 2) is a similar, but more complete, experience for the family. It is a wonderful 2 weeks in which you can have as much activity as you like and as much relaxation as your family will allow you to have. At Family Camp you will enjoy your own cabin and participate in a wide variety of activities, or just enjoy the quiet by the lake or in the woods.

Talent Show

Canoeing

Softball

Final Campfire

Happy Hour

Pemaquid

Tennis

Swimming

	8/17-19	8/19-9/02	8/17-9/02	
<u>Rates</u>	<u>1st Session</u>	<u>2nd Session</u>	<u>Both Sessions</u>	<u>Daily</u>
Adult	\$300.00	\$600.00	\$800.00	\$115.00
Young Adult (16-29)	\$250.00	\$475.00	\$625.00	\$95.00
Child (2-15 years)	\$175.00	\$375.00	\$450.00	\$75.00
Under 2 years	Free	Free	Free	Free
2007 Camper	\$150.00	\$300.00	\$350.00	\$55.00

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

___ **Parent/Son Camp:** Sign us up for August 17-19, at a cost of \$300 for a parent and \$175 for our son. Enclosed is \$100.00 per person deposit, refundable in full until August 1.

___ **Family Camp:** We'll be there for Family Camp from August 19 - September 2 (Partial stays are negotiable)

___ **Both:** We'll be there from August 17 - September 2.

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.

Adult(s) _____ Son (children) _____

Send to: Camp Winnebago, 19 Echo Lake Road, Fayette, ME 04349 after June 1

The Gift of Camp:

Uncle Jim, in his message on page 3, makes a compelling case for the Association's Scholarship Fund. Winnebago itself underwrites the greater share of these scholarships, but alums play a key role

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 _____

E-mail Address _____

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—News and Notes from Alumni

James Goldfarb (80's, Staff 80's) has joined McKee Nelson LLP., a firm founded in 1999 with the financial backing of Ernst and Young. The firm has about 200 attorneys, half in New York. James will be part of MN's business litigation group, with a focus on capital markets and securities litigation.

At age 66, **David Lahm** ('50-'53) is busier than ever as a musician, "Coaching, arranging and directing those who perform in cabarets or threaten to. I'm grateful for the opportunity to spend hours every week doing the one thing for which I have a real talent. I have become a pretty knowledgeable student of the Broadway, Tin Pan Alley and Hollywood songs sometimes called the standards, but my work does put me in contact with a good deal of non-standard material too. My stylistic reference point is modern jazz, and it is fun to re-harmonize the older songs so that they sound as if they might have been written by a jazz composer of the 60s or 70s. That is how I have taught myself harmony."

Charles Norris (60's) reports that he has been in the ministry since 1999, after 27 years working in the Post Office.

"I'm still singing, and now playing piano and organ." Divorced and remarried, he has two sons aged 21 and 17.

Gerard Senehi (Staff, 80's) used to dazzle campers at evening assemblies by making a card rise magically from a deck, or throwing a knife at an array of face-down cards and hitting "your card." To no one's surprise he has made a career as a performer of such illusions and more. As "The Experimentalist" Gerard performs all over the world, and has been seen on various television programs, performing feats of the paranormal, mentalism, telekinesis, thought-reading and telepathy in a style distinctly his own. Of course, those who were at Winnebago in the 80's will also recall the annual performance of "Lord Jeffrey Amherst" by a trio composed of Gerard, Uncle Bennett Meyers, and Uncle Phil Lilienthal. Unfortunately, Gerard reports that the song is no longer a staple of his stage routine. Perhaps if he were to do a return engagement in Fayette, that might change? [experimentalist.com]

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Winnebago Alumni Association
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Winnebagans from Several Eras Gather in Manhattan, Renew Friendships, Swap Stories, at Annual Alumni Reunion



The fifth annual New York reunion in March drew alumni from far and near, even from “across the pond,” to a gathering on Second Avenue. A little to drink, a little to eat, and a whole lot of conversation were the order of the day. While younger alums predominated, the 50’s and 60’s were represented. Pictured here, left to right, are Andy Lilienthal, Andy Sayers (U.K.), Andrew Kambour, Marc Koblitz, Eric Feder, Dylan Ris, Ethan Ris, Paul Schwarz, J.R. Raskin, and Nathaniel Rich.