

THE CHIRRUP

December 22/January 23* 100 Years of the Pioneer Spirit * edited by Darcey Wijsenbeek

Director's Notebook

December - I'm all set for winter with my flannel shirts and lined jeans.

But most of the other animals at camp have to do a lot more to get ready. Some change color to blend into the snowy landscape: for instance weasels, ermine, and snowshoe hare. Many change to a winter diet, switching from leaves to bark and woody twigs and buds.

Others change the structure of their fur from solid to hollow. Some grow denser coats: beaver, weasels, ermine, mink, otters, red and gray foxes, and coyotes.

Walking on snow is cold, so some of the more frequently seen animals grow more foot hair for protection. Foxes, coyotes, red and gray squirrels, chipmunks, lynx and bobcats all do that.

Some just avoid winter entirely. Bears den-up and hibernate: females give birth in the winter dens. Skunks and raccoons drop their body temperatures and try to sleep the winter away, coming out just in the warm spells.

There's really a lot of winter action, both above and below the snow. A whole lot of small rodents - voles, shrews, and mice stay awake in under-snow tunnels in the "subnivien layer"

Source: *Naturally Curious*—
by Mary Holland

—Mike

Connections

by Darcey Wijsenbeek

When I picture Sangamon as a community, I immediately picture who we are during the summer months. We are a small, tight knit group where everyone knows each other's names and every face in the dining hall is familiar. But the reality is that the Sangamon community is actually HUGE! After 100 years of summer fun, literally thousands have



enjoyed our little slice of the green mountains. This is never more obvious to me than when I am out and about in the world with one of my Sangamon sweatshirts. I have been stopped by alumni for a chat almost everywhere I go - even outside of VT. Most recently I was walking the dogs when a local stopped to introduce herself. Her uncle was at camp in the 1930s and she shared the story of how he traveled to the Worlds Fair in NYC from camp by bike!

Sangamon merchandise is now available on our website! Check out all that is on offer by visiting www.campsangamon.com/shop. T-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, mugs, and even a 100 year commemorative coin. Items will be shipped out 6-9 days after purchase.



100 Years in the Attic

By Mike Byrom

As I searched the attic for Sangamon history for last year's Centennial Event, I found a lot of amazing stuff. But the most amazing things were the ones *that found me*. I'd be cleaning out some corner, and amazing things jumped, fell, and slid into my hands, yelling loudly "**Read ME**". I discovered the daily diaries of the 1940's Kowboys (CIT's), records of camper and staff baseball batting averages for entire eight week summers, a farmer's notebook showing the total number of eggs collected from 110 laying hens that summer, and the scores of more than fifty baseball games. They were serious games in those days, not the "Sangaball" we know today.



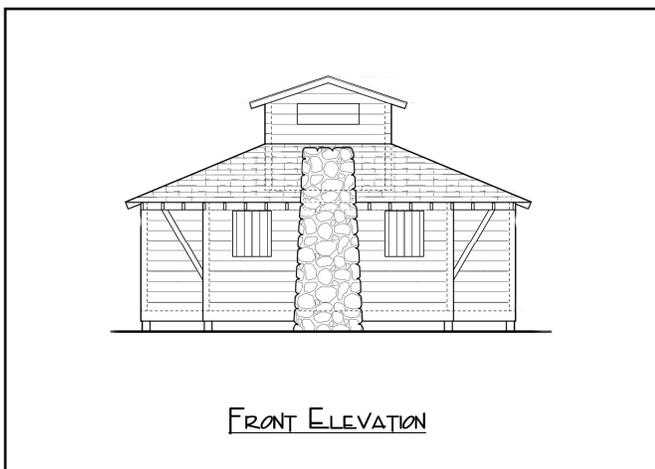
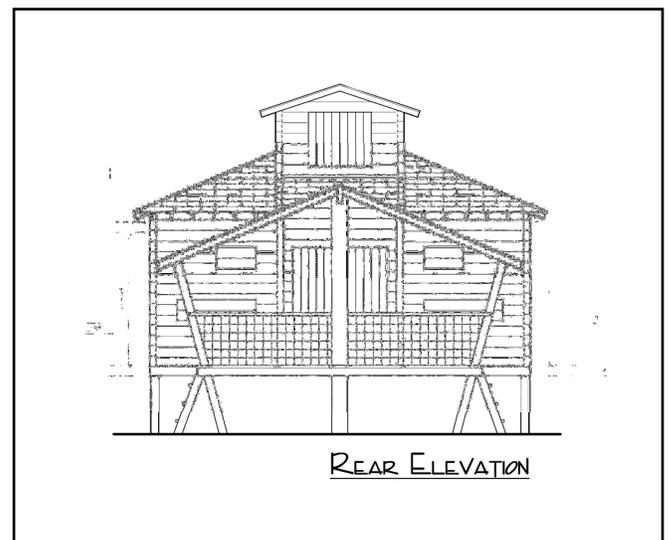
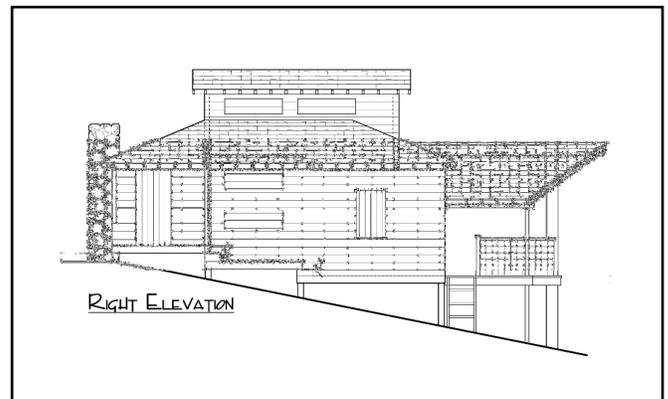
This phenomenon happened again when I was cleaning out Gary Hodder's old cabin for his return after ten years this summer. Suddenly a framed photo fell out of the loft and nearly hit me in the head. I picked it up and found a photo of Gary's Cambodia football/soccer team from the year he spent there running a league for local youth.

Here's the most amazing occurrence though. On the last night of the Centennial Weekend, Nick Lerangis who is both a former camper and staff, was looking around in the attic. Suddenly a book fell off an upper shelf and hit him in the head. **THE 1922 Point Book, from camp's first year!** Until this book found us, the oldest point book we had was from 1930!

Next issue: tests and their points from the 1922 book!

A New Cabin 6!

We're thrilled to share the preliminary drawings for the new Cabin 6. Envisioned by alumni Jason Flynn, the cabin will have a deck on the back where you'll be able to see the pond. We look forward to sharing the new and improved space with all of you. You can help support the build and have your name added to the "signature column" in the center of the cabin by donating \$100 or more. Visit www.campsangamon.com/about-camp-sangamon/#breed. Make sure to indicate that you are donating to the Cabin 6 project when you make your donation!



Sangamon on TV!

Just in case you missed the news - we're famous! Well, our barn is anyway. The episode of Restoration Road documenting the process of building our new main barn is now streaming on Discovery Plus or the Magnolia Network. If you don't have a subscription that has either of these channels, you can start a free, 7-day trial. The episode is called "Vermont Summer Camp Barn" and is episode 3 of season 3.

Look out for some familiar faces! You can find the episode at www.magnolia.com.



The Vermont Campership Fund

Not only is this the season of thanks, it is also the season of giving. When it comes time for your family to make your end of year donations, please consider the Vermont Campership Fund. We devote a large portion of our annual budget to bring kids to camp who otherwise couldn't afford to join us. The Vermont Campership Fund collects money from parents, friends, and alumni to support us in those efforts. Last summer we helped more than 40 boys come to camp! Please share the benefits of camp with others by designating a gift to Camp Sangamon this season.

You can find more information at their website:
www.vtcampership.org.

Who is coming to camp?

John Florio, 2&3A, Brooklyn NY
Adam Canney, 3B, Boston MA
Elliot Peaper, 3B, New Haven CT
Henry Charby, 1, Montreal
Quentin Donovan, 1, Montreal
Finn Kelley, 3A, Jamaica Plain MA
Jude Silverstein, 3B, Lexington MA
Sam Gordon, 1, Maplewood NJ
Brenner Philipp, 2, Delmar NY
Hunter Schwartz, 2&3A, Avon ME
Wyatt Davine, 1, Pittsford VT
Henry Taylor, 2, San Francisco CA
Sawyer Graham, 2, Proctor VT
Rowan Rheume, 1, Salisbury VT
Rowan Russo-Hartung, 2, Roslindale MA
Alex Keith, 2, Shrewsbury MA
Benji Chan, 2, New York NY
Milo Brush, 3B, West Tisbury MA
Kalil Nasrani, 3A, New York NY
Tayel Nasrani, 3A, New York NY
Jasper Knoop, 2, Brooklyn NY
Charlie Dixon, 2, Brooklyn NY
Willem Burker, 2, Stratford CT
Ian Kaczmarek, 1&2, Brookline MA
Rowan Muzzy, 1, Greenfield MA
Ewan Kelson, 1, Rutland VT
Evan Northrup, 2, Weybridge VT
Nate Crofton, 1, Brooklyn NY
Andy Sheppard, 2, Hastings on Hudson NY
Beppe Gardner, 1&2, Callicoon NY
Asa Witte-Parad, 3B, Denver CO
William Bruggeman, 1-3B, Bethesda MD
Henry Decroix, 2, Brooklyn NY
Justin Woods-Owen, 1, Jamaica NY

Why isn't my name on the list?

I am holding a bunch of spaces for those of you who have gotten in touch, but nothing is official until I receive an application. If you have asked me to hold a spot for your son, the time is now to get your application and deposit to me.

Reach out if you have questions or concerns!



Sangamon!

382 Camp Lane Pittsford, VT 05763

Camp filled quickly last summer and we expect it will again this year.

Even if you haven't completely nailed down your summer plans, get in touch and let us know that you are planning to return so you don't miss your chance to be part of Summer 2023!

And don't forget - you can earn an early enrollment discount if you send in your application by December 31st with a \$500 deposit. (*Tuition payment schedule is different with this plan, see website for info*)

Call (802) 665-7505 or email darcey@campsangamon.com with questions!

2023 CIT candidates: Your applications are due on *January 1st*.

2023 Apprentice candidates: Your applications are also due on *January 1st*.
Don't forget to check your passport to make sure it hasn't expired and if you don't have one, start the process now!

If you need an application or an extension, please reach out.
You can email darcey@campsangamon.com or call (802) 665-7505.