



the powder keg

copper cannon newsletter



ANNUAL AUCTION FAST APPROACHING

Mark Saturday, March 2nd, on your calendar for the event of the year! Copper Cannon's 47th annual auction is just around the corner. This is Copper Cannon's largest fundraiser and we have made it bigger and better than ever. This year our goal is to raise almost \$68,000 through the event, allowing 100 youth a wonderful summer opportunity.

Similar to auctions in the past, there will be something for everybody. Simultaneously, three different auctions will be taking place: a live auction, a silent auction, and a penny auction. These events promise to fill the evening with fun and laughter.

A dedicated group of volunteers has been busily collecting wonderful items for the auction including ski passes, gift

certificates for lodging and dining, recreational opportunities throughout the region, collectables and more. The list of auction items is available for preview on Copper Cannon's website at www.coppercannon.org and will be updated throughout the month. Even if you have a scheduling conflict, you can still bid by proxy! Just give Copper Cannon a call or send them an e-mail.

Doors will open at 4:00 p.m. at the Littleton Elks Lodge on Route 302 allowing participants to browse all the great items, start the bidding on silent items, enjoy complimentary wine-tasting and mingle. A delicious buffet dinner will be served at 5:15 p.m. and the live auction will begin shortly after dinner ends. There will be a cash bar throughout the evening. This

year, the White Mountain Community College culinary arts class will be creating delicious desserts for the event. Tickets are a \$25 and can be purchased at www.coppercannon.org. Last year's event sold out three weeks before!

Bring your wallet, credit cards and your smile for a wonderful evening of fun and help continue Ham Ford's vision of providing under-served youth with a quality, tuition-free camp experience.

If you have an item you would like to donate items, volunteer for the event, bid by proxy or you need additional information, contact Copper Cannon at 603-823-8107.

It's *never* too early to start thinking about summer camp again!

Even though there is snow on the ground with more on its way, Copper Cannon Camp is already gearing up for what is sure to be the best summer of camp yet.

Because we couldn't wait any longer, we've already made the 2019 applications available online for campers and staff. This

year will be our first with an "on-line" application. It may take a few more minutes this year, and with families who have multiple children, it will save time in the long run. In addition, the program will make it much easier for Copper Cannon. We already have camper and staff applications coming in, so the time is now if you know a child who needs camp!

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COPPER CANNON CAMP
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It's never too early...

Applications are available online at:
www.coppercannon.org.

As usual, there are plenty of options for your camper this summer:

- Traditional Camp – The classic Copper Cannon experience for campers ages 9-12.
- Ranger Week – Traditional camp for ages 13-15 but with some twists for an older group.
- Ranger High Adventure – Hiking/backpacking in the White Mountains for teens 13-15.
- Mountain Biking Adventure – Head out to the White Mountains on two wheels for 13-15 year olds.
- Last Chance Camp for 15 and 16 year olds – A program for older teens who just still want to be campers. It will include a day of hiking, a day of biking and a day on Moore Reservoir.
- Counselor In Training – For 16 year olds looking to bridge the gap from camper to counselor. This is a three week program.

Those looking to apply as a full-time summer staff member should go to the "Staff" section on the main menu, then click on the "How to Apply" drop-down menu item. It is the hardest, but most rewarding job you will ever have.



MEET KATIE GADAPEE

Hello to all those at Copper Cannon Camp! My name is Katie "Pugs" Gadapee and I am the new Administrative Assistant at Copper Cannon. I have my roots in Ohio! This is evident by the Scarlet and Gray usually seen in the spaces I reside! Yes, huge fan of The Ohio State University Buckeyes, and football in general. Luckily, I have time to get over my "no more football slump" before camp starts!

I have worked in the camping world for the past 25 years. Be it full time or simply for the summer, I found my niche when I began working at my first camp. My experience runs the gambit from high end, expensive camps to Girl Scout and YMCA camps. Funny part is, as a kid in Reynoldburg, Ohio, I never went to summer camp. I truly believe that no matter what type of camp it is, spending time at camp is an experience all children need to incorporate into their summer.

Since working with young people is my goal, I finally was able to incorporate my education in the goal. I began at The Ohio State University and couldn't decide what I wanted to do when I grew up. May sound familiar to some of you? Well, I took a break, only 18 years, and then got it together to know where I wanted to direct my education. My Bachelor's is in Human Services/Counseling and received my BS at what was Lyndon

State College – now, Northern Vermont University. I continued my education after getting married and obtained my MS in Sport Psychology. I currently am working to finish my dissertation for my PhD in Educational Psychology. My topic has been approved and is the cultural adaptation of summer camp staff. I hope to really contribute research to the camping field!

My 5 year old son, Maximillion Gonzaga Gadapee, is the best Labrador Retriever you will ever meet! He is a great camp dog. He loves to play with campers and staff, run, chase balls, find balls, slobber, and just enjoy the outdoors! He doesn't care if it's freezing cold or hot and humid; outside is where he wants to be! Take him near water – he is in it and ready to play! Play fetch one time with him and you will be friends for life. Just beware, the balls come back to you very slobbery!!!

I am looking forward to filling some big shoes and doing my best to continue the wonderful mission of Copper Cannon Camp! Feel free to contact me at kgadapee@coppercannon.org to say hi or ask questions!



**IT IS NOT WHAT A CAMPER LEARNS
AT COPPER CANNON, BUT WHAT THEY DO
WITH THAT KNOWLEDGE!**

PETE'S PERSPECTIVE

When it is time to start writing the next installment of the Powder Keg, it is always fun to take a look at the past. I wrote this in February of 2007 and it holds true today. Children who need camp do not care about the political climate or the economy. They want to experience the wonders of summer camp, the connections built with others and the fun.

As my second year anniversary at Copper Cannon rolls past I find it ironic. Moving from Tulsa, Oklahoma I expected snow, snow, snow. But by mid-January, Tulsa had received more snow than Copper Cannon.

With two years under my belt, I can no longer use the excuse that I am new. Of course, when working with kids, you are always learning and seeing things you never expected. That is why I am looking forward to the summer of 2007! I would have never guessed someone could lick their own elbow or rotate their hand 360 degrees when the palm is flat on a table until last year.

My learning does not compare to the impact Copper Cannon has on kids. I

did a presentation to campers from the Concord area at the Concord Elks in November. We had a dozen parents and their children from that area attend on a Friday evening. Within five minutes the kids were beaming with excitement trying to outdo each other with their stories and laughter as they reminisced.

The best part was watching parents who were not at camp and could not understand the stories such as why everybody had to hop on one foot to get in to the dining hall or how a smore counts as three food groups (chocolate, sugar and more chocolate). But their faces showed appreciation: appreciation for others taking good care of their child and giving each child such a wonderful experience.

My job is the easy part. I get to be the "funmiester" entertaining children and being the biggest kid of the bunch. All too often we forget about the donors and volunteers who help make camp happen. These individuals may not see the fruits of their labor, but they are present and growing. Thank you for your continued support of Copper Cannon Camp.



COPPER CANNON WISH LIST

In every issue of the Powder Keg, we include a "wish list" of items (new or used) that would be welcome donations. As our needs continue to grow, we have included an updated list. Remember, all donations are tax deductible.

- **Arts and crafts supplies**
(leather scraps, glue, gimp. etc.)
- **Small Row Boat and Oars**
- **Personal Floatation Devices**
(life jackets)
- **Building materials**
- **Gravel**
- **Sleeping Bags**
- **Volunteer at camp**
- **Volunteer on a committee**
- **Cash** (of course)
- **Securities** (it can't hurt to ask)

SPONSOR-A-KID (SAK) APPEAL

What would a newsletter from a small non-profit be without a shameless plug for money? This is ours. Copper Cannon Camp has four seasonal fundraising events (Raffle, Auction, Sponsor a Kid and Membership). Each helps us transition from one season to the next. The summer of 2019 is fast approaching (it will be here before we know it!) so now is the time for our Sponsor a Kid (SAK) appeal. A child arrives on a Sunday and by the following Saturday, they will have memories to last a lifetime. Your SAK donation is an important part in making that kind of difference in the lives of our campers. Thank you!



ESTATE PLANNING

Long time and dedicated board member, Ben Moyer is focused on the future. He envisions the Ham Ford Fund growing from its current level to over a million dollars supporting the camp's ongoing needs. Having a vibrant program, and wide array of challenging activities, our financial needs continue to increase.

This is a long-time project. Though we realize many of you don't know what your future financial needs may be, it is often easier to leave a gift, big or little, in your will. If you have any questions, please contact Copper Cannon Camp (603-823-8107) or your attorney.

Your gift to the Ham Ford Fund will help us continue to support our Copper Cannon youth and the camp for many years to come. If you have already made provisions for Copper Cannon in your planning, please let us know so we can thank you.



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