



THE CONISTON CHRONICLE

THE NEWSLETTER FOR CAMP CONISTON CAMPERS, STAFF AND ALUMNI • SPRING 2008

When Gen Izutsu approached fellow Coniston staff members Zach Zimmerman ("ZZ"), Mark Noll and Andrew Carpino, and suggested they spend 3½ months traveling through Asia, ZZ's reaction was, "Four Americans backpacking alone across Asia? People will think we're nuts!"

But the strength of the friendships they made at Coniston carried them through an amazing journey, one that Mark describes as "the most incredible mind-blowing experience of my life."

"It's the Friendships!!"

How Friendship Carried Four Coniston Counselors Across Asia

Gen's Great Idea

Gen came up with the idea the year before at Coniston's Family Camp and talked to Andrew, then to Mark and ZZ the following summer. Gen was born in Japan, and, though he moved to Boston when he was five, he speaks Japanese and has family in Kyoto, Japan.

Mark says he's known Gen "since day one at Camp," but he had doubts about the trip. "The other guys kept pushing me and I thought about it for months, then right before Camp last year I decided, 'Okay ... let's do it!'"

A Change of Plans

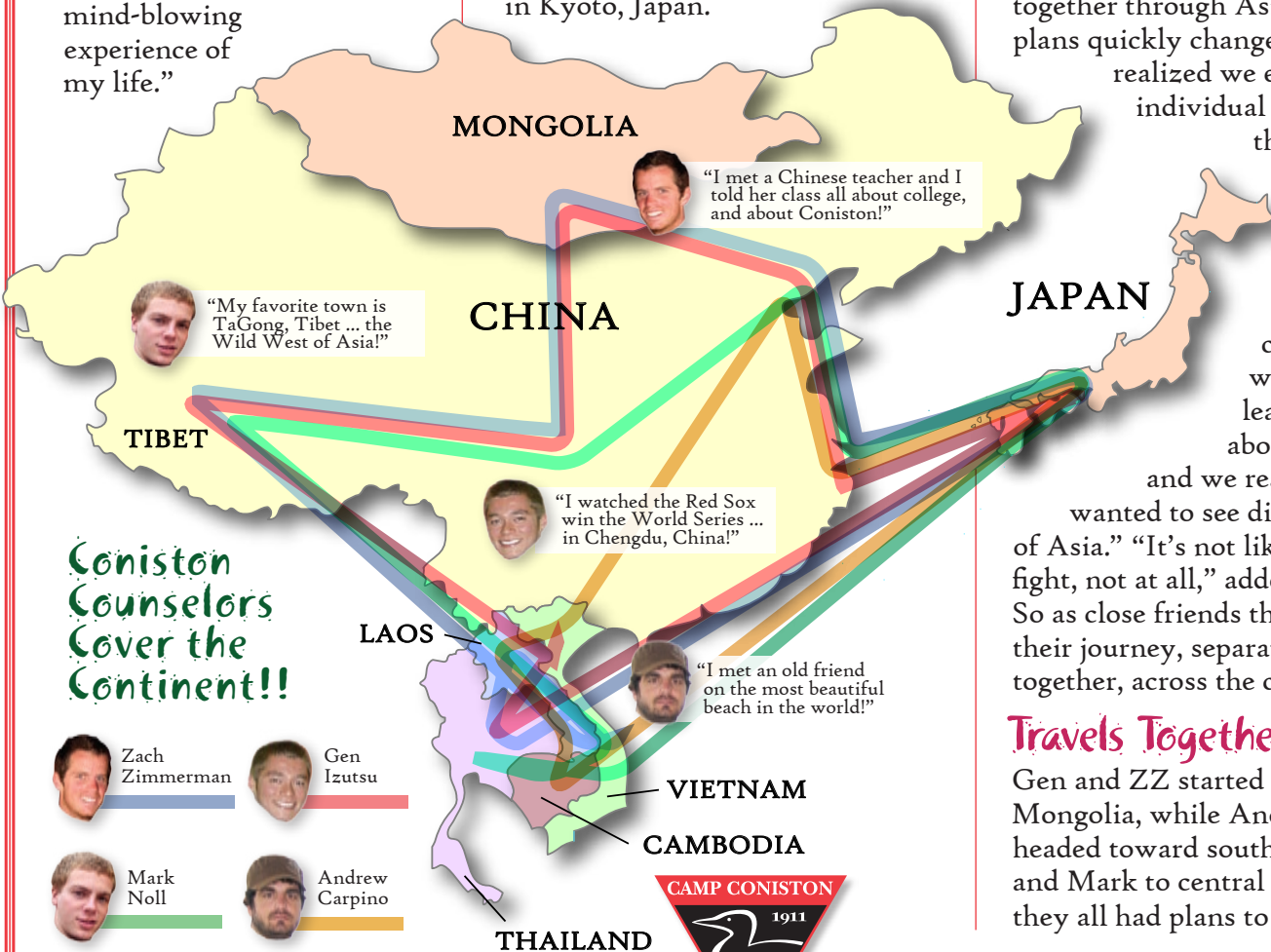
The plan was for all four to visit with Gen's family, then journey together through Asia ... but plans quickly changed. "We realized we each had individual goals for this trip,"

Andrew said. "We all just graduated college, I wanted to learn more about myself, and we realized we

wanted to see different parts of Asia." "It's not like we had a fight, not at all," added Mark. So as close friends they began their journey, separately and together, across the continent.

Travels Together

Gen and ZZ started off to Mongolia, while Andrew headed toward southeast Asia and Mark to central China, but they all had plans to meet up



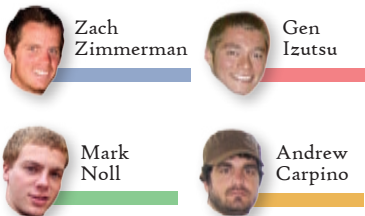
"My favorite town is TaGong, Tibet ... the Wild West of Asia!"

"I met a Chinese teacher and I told her class all about college, and about Coniston!"

"I watched the Red Sox win the World Series ... in Chengdu, China!"

"I met an old friend on the most beautiful beach in the world!"

Coniston Counselors Cover the Continent!!



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THE CONISTON CHRONICLE

A Publication of
YMCA CAMP CONISTON
for Campers, Alumni
and Staff

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What happens to the donations sent to Camp?

Sounds like a simple question, doesn't it ... almost too simple to ask! Because we all know where our donations go.

Donations go to our building and maintenance efforts; they support our exceptional staff and programming; and they go toward funding Camperships, giving the Coniston Experience to kids that need it most.

You should be proud of your donation to Camp Coniston. The simple fact is, we want everyone who donates to Camp to feel great ... to feel their money represents a powerful investment in a life-changing experience for our campers. But your donation does a lot more than give kids a great experience.

We know that the friendships are why kids come back to Camp (summer staff too!) But the most valuable outcome of the Coniston Experience is something our Campers may never be aware of.

Director's 2c

Building the Future of Camp

When a kid comes home from Camp and a parent calls us to say, "I can't figure out what's different, but my kid has really changed," ... they know something has happened.

What's changed is those kids have learned to *navigate relationships* ... to deal with the world and the people around them in a more healthy and productive way.

And that's what your donations really support ... they *build the structure* that helps us build better citizens, and better people. It's not an obvious thing ... not as apparent as buildings and programs and happy, smiling kids! But we know it's one of the most important things we do, because we hear it from you every day.

That's the real value in your generous donations ... and we thank you so much for them.

THE TOP

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THINGS YOUR DONATIONS HAVE HELPED CAMP TO DO

It's our turn to thank you!

You know how important your donations are to us ... now it's time to let you know the *real value* of your contributions to Camp. Here's all the things you helped us do in 2007 ...

#1 You helped 184 campers come to Coniston last year!

It's the Friendships!!



CONT'D FROM PG 1

at various points in the trip. In fact, there were some amazing accidental meetings. "I was walking down the street in a tiny village in Laos," said Gen, "and who do I see? Zach Zimmerman! I couldn't believe it, completely by chance!"

Andrew also had some remarkable encounters. "I was strolling down Serendipity Beach, this incredible seashore in Cambodia, and I ran into a close friend I met at camp years before." Andrew also found he had relatives in the Thai resort town of Phu Quet, and spent two wonderful weeks relaxing with family.

Beauty Beyond Belief

The travelers had the chance to experience scenery beyond their imaginings. Mark was lucky to spend six nights in Vietnam on Catba Island, "the most naturally beautiful place I've ever been to," and he also toured Ankor Wat in Cambodia, "a huge park filled with ancient temples and castles 600 years old!"

Gen said his most beautiful memory was in Laos where he journeyed through KongLo Cave, "the longest cave navigable by river in the world ... 300 feet high and seven kilometers long! No commercialization, no tourist traps ... just me, my guide and nature."

A Warm Welcome

Although it was beautiful, the trip had its challenges. "This wasn't like a week on the beach in Cancun," said ZZ. "There were twelve-hour trips on mopeds and in ancient vehicles, on the roughest roads you can



Three traveling friends in the wilds of Asia



An Asian family shares their home



Mark, ZZ, Gen & Pino in Osaka, Japan



"Pino over the river Kwai"



Together with the incredible beauty of Asia

imagine, and some nights we never knew where we'd be sleeping."

But the welcoming friendship of the Asian people helped them through. "We'd walk up to people who spoke no English and make 'the international sign for sleep'," said ZZ "... and they'd invite us in, feed us, put us up for the night ... sometimes they wouldn't even take anything in return."

Camp Friendships Renewed

The travelers also met up with some familiar Coniston faces. They spent time with **Diana Blazar**, Gen and ZZ's CIT director in 2000, who taught at an international school in Thailand, and they visited with alumna **Kat Cooley** who was working setting up micro-financing in China. They also had dinner with **Becca Cotugno**, who worked at Coniston and was studying abroad in Kyoto, Japan.

Finally, 3½ short months later, the travelers returned to Kyoto for a last visit with Gen's uncle before returning to the U.S.

Lifelong Memories

At the closing Staff Campfire this past summer, ZZ said ... "I can't believe I'm going to Asia for 3½ months with these guys!"

"We shared a common experience," said Mark, "and that always brings you closer. We'll remember that trip with our Camp friends for the rest of our lives together." —

Chairman's Triangle

Contributions of \$5,000-\$30,000

- Bryant, Maria and Greg
- Carl Witherall Fund
- Clark, David and Anna
- Conover, Bea and Woolsey
- Gesen, Rolf and Stuart
- Irene and Hugh Gallen Fund
- Jack and Dorothy Byrne Foundation
- Josh Young Fund
- Lane and Elizabeth Dwinell Foundation
- Maily, Todd and Jennifer
- Holmes, Melvin and Clare
- Morgan, Virginia, Howard, Reed, Andrew and Catie

- Morris, Robert
- NH Charitable Foundation
- Timbrell, Stefan
- Wiggin, Laird and Sandy
- William P. Wharton Trust

Platinum Triangle

Contributions of \$1,000-\$4,999

- Apisson, John and Jennifer
- Beale Consulting Inc.
- Bedford Capital
- Bert, Elizabeth and Paul
- Boston Foundation
- Claiborne, Robert and Gwyneth
- Clark, Rebecca
- Currier, Phillip and Jane
- Dellinger, Robert and Deborah

- Deutsch, Steven and Andrea Seebaum
- Eldredge, Chris and Sophie Sparrow

- Eldredge, H. Newcomb and Sally
- Evans, Dan
- Gillett, Kathy and Bill
- Greenbaum, Steven and Sue
- Johnson, Catherine
- Lake Sunapee Savings Bank
- Leach, Richard and Nell
- MacNeil, Mary and Glen
- Myer, Bert and Ann
- Olcott Family Fund
- Redmond, Elinor and Dan
- Rubin, Jeffrey and Susan
- Salvay, Michael and Laura
- Simon, Tom and Carolyn
- Smidt, Maura and Clark
- Springer, Clinton and Francesca
- Tilley, John and Tricia
- Work, Michael and Christine
- Zimmerman, Patty and John



#3 Host an Artist In Residence
You helped to fund Coniston's first Artist in Residence Program!

Gold Triangle

Contributions of \$500-\$999

- Abbott, Wally and Jan
- Blank, Lane
- Brooks, Tricia
- Burak, Jeffrey and Jennifer
- Calcutt, Ann and John
- Callahan, Barbara
- Deasy, J. Michael
- Dion, Ray
- Ernst, Charles and Annie
- Fitz, Vogt and Associates
- Gesen, Charles and Nancy
- Grip, Kelly and Brian
- Horton, Sherman and Lynn
- J.P. Morgan
- Johnson, Nancy and William
- Loughlin, Ellie and Phil



#2 Fund the Future!
You helped to build a stable financial base, to keep Coniston going into the future.

Coniston's First "Artist in Residence" Program ... a Big Hit!

Two years ago, local artist and neighbor Chip Evans painted a portrait of the Coniston Boathouse. This year, inspired by the mural around the Lodge stage, JD suggested painting the Coniston shoreline. We all thought it was a great idea, but then we said to Chip, "Hey, how about if you paint that mural right here at Camp ... along with the kids!" The result? A 24' long, 220-degree view of the Coniston waterfront through the four seasons. The mural now has its permanent home in the Coniston dining hall ... next time you're here, stop in and take a look!



Chip Evans and Coniston summer campers at work on the mural

CAMP FINANCIALS 2007

2007 Income

Summer Programs.....	\$ 1,477,586
After-School.....	132,350
Other Programs	120,665
Charitable Giving.....	(see next table)
Total	\$ 1,730,601

2007 Charitable Giving

Annual Campaign	\$ 40,537
Campership Foundation Gifts	70,161
Gifts to Land Campaign (2007)	269,234
Total.....	\$ 379,932

2007 Assistance to Campers and Afterschool Families

Camp Coniston Financial Assistance	\$ 145,224
Average Camp Financial Assistance.....	67,700
Median Camp Financial Assistance.....	17,000

Statistics provided through the American Camp Assn. 2006 Business Operations Survey, Martinsville, IN



Marvin, Sarah and Jonathan
 Mascoma Savings Bank
 Morris, Ann and Marc
 National Grid
 Reid, Jared and Karen Freedman

Harwood, Michael and Debra
 Heaney, Fiona and John
 Hickey, Bruce and Nancy
 Howland, Jenny and Charlie

Hugg, Myra and Joseph

Hunter, Stephen and Betsy

Joseph, Todd and Linda

Kersey, John

Kossmann, Kimberly and Michael Craft

Marvin, Sarah and Jonathan

McCrillis, Mr. and Mrs. John C.

McLean, Nelson

McLeod, Van and Joan Goshgarian

Miyara, Lisa and Richard

Morse, Emily

O'Dwyer, Ben

Piaker, Randi and Steve

Pushee, Karen

Quackenbos, George P.

Saint Andrew's Church

Sanders, Scott

Schaper, Carol and Dorsey

Scudder, Steven and Donna Palley

Seamans, F. Augustus and MJ

Shapiro, Diane and Dan

Shutts, Jay and Sue

Tessier, Diane and Tom

Tilchin, Mike and Linda Greer

Wasserman, Peter and Jennifer

Weiman, Julie and Peter Blumenthal

Williams, Ross

Zegans, Claudia and Michael

Bronze Triangle

Contributions of \$1-\$249

A and A Tree Service

Adell, Gordy

Adler, Dale and Nancy

Albee, Jillian

Albert, Mary

Anderson, Laura and Scott

Arnold, Katie

Arnold, Susan

Astles, Meredith

Atkins, Neil and Marylu

Avallone, Jan and Robert

Barden, Dave and Fay

Barsch, Michael and Andrea

Bascom, Tyler

Baugh, Pierce and Peggy

Beale, Caroline and Bob

Beck, Margaret and Edward Walsh

Beckerle, Breda

Benson, Steven and Cynthia

Berenson, Joel

Birkland, JoAnn

Blazar, Diana

Blazar, Elizabeth

Bonell, Nancy and John

Bragdon, Randall and Tracy

Brown, Carol A.

Brown, Lin

Brown, Ted and Barbara

Bunce, Jeffrey and Kristina

Calcutt, Martha

Canotas, Vasiliki and Mark Mccue

Carter, Dawn

Chase, Winsor and Barbara

Clarke, Elizabeth

Clarke's Hardware

Cleveland, Cotton

Clough, John and Sue

Coda, Alice and Arnold

Colby Sawyer College
 Collins, Tobey and Marc
 Comstock, Scott and Sandra

Concannon, Andrew

Concannon, James and Maria

Conner, Duffy and Jen

Cooper-Smith, Maurice and Susan

Copenhaver, John and Marion

Couturier, Barbara and Paul

Cox, Barry and Nancy Kane

Creagh, Charlie



#4

Purchase Equipment for the Woodshop

You helped to set up Coniston's woodshop with the finest equipment!

Schoonmaker, Jill and Bill
 Sugar River Savings Bank
 Worthington, Elizabeth and John
 Zimmerman, Zach

Silver Triangle

Contributions of \$250-\$499

Aaron, John
 Altmann, Kerbey
 Bailey, Eileen and Paul
 Barnico, Kate and Thomas
 Beckerle, Breda
 Cairns, Tracey and Matt
 Carroll Concrete
 Dean, Vera and Alan
 Evans, Lois and Evan
 Gelber, Michelle
 Gillespie, Camille and David
 Glynn, Barry and Patty



#5

Fund the Camp Coniston Website

Our portal where campers, staff and alumni connect ... thanks to you!

Goss, Clayton and Andrea Williams
 Gundy, William
 Haas, Jim and Missy
 Hart, Alden and Carolyn Cantlay



#6

Donate the Fireplace in the Dining Hall

A blazing fire and a beautiful masonry design ... for our future!

Crimmins, Diane and John
 Danzoll, Charles and Judith
 Davidson, A. Joseph and Ann
 Deasy, Jennifer
 Delafield, Mason and Elizabeth
 Delise, Lynne
 Dellicker, Laura
 DeLong, Susan and Robert
 Dickey, Holly
 Dodge, Christina and Carter
 Domenichella, Paul
 Doncov, M. Eugenia and Mark
 Dorr, Olive Hadley
 Drake, Deborah and Joseph
 Duval, Renee and Douglas
 Eddy, Paul and Elizabeth Normen
 Elgert, Caitlin
 Ensign, Stephen



#7 Renovate the Old Dining Hall
A classic building saved and enhanced ... a Center of the Arts for Coniston kids!

Hart, Harriet and A. Shelburne
Heald, Virginia "Ginger"

Kert, Cathy and Charlie
Kessler, Bob and Susan
Kidder, David
Kingston, Rebecca and Andrew
Kirkland, Kathy
Kolb, Nancy
Lally, Mike
Lampson, Thad
Lantz, James and Louise
Lanzner, Sean
Larson, Jeffrey and Leslie Walker
LaValley Building Supply
Lehrich, Jesse
Lentz, Peter J.
Lopez, Toni
Lubrano, Allegra and Steve
Macedonio, Linda

Peterson, Robert and Norah
Phillips, Becca
Piazza, Amelia
Pike, Alan and Marcy
Pilette, Rondi and Steven Levin
Pillsbury, Andrew
Poole, David and Rosanna Cavallaro
Regan, Nina and Bill
Reid D.D.S., James B.
Rein, Richard and Deborah
Reisch, Betty and Norman Bornstein
Reiss, Nicole
Richter, Rick and Elaine
Rigby, Mary Ellen and William
Riley, Janet and Francis

Faulkner, Charles and Charlotte
Fenn, Jacqueline A
Fenton, Aisling
Fink, Pam and Roger
Finlay, Scott and Martha
Flippin, Alison and Michael
Flynn, Christine and Carl Ship
Freedman, Judy and Jeff
Freeman, Philip and Jill Goldstein
Friedman, Steven and Jane Hanenberg
Friedman, Susan and Robert
Furdyna, Frank and Adele
Gardiner, Christopher and Carita
Gardner, Katherine D.
Garrahan, Lisa and John
Gesens, Hollis
Glennon, Jennifer
Global Impact
Gmeiner, Faye and John
Goddard, Eleanor and Walter
Grad, Bryan and Debra
Grad, Burton
Graf, Patty
Graf, Rachel
Green, Richard
Greer, M.D., David
Griem, Jens and Hede
Griffin, Larry
Grout, John and Nancy
Groves, Martha and Chris
Gustafson, Charles and Katherine
Haddock, Margo and Harold
Handley, Jane and Stephen
Harlow, Mathew

Henoch, Katie and Dede Albers
Hilton, Debbie and Chuck
Hoffman, Amy and Paul
Holmes, Lucy
Hooton, Michael and Margaret
Horn, Bill and Betsy
Hughes, Kelly
Hutchinson, Gretchen and Rick
Hutchinson, Patricia and Ford
Ibanez, Nicole
Imboden, Cathy



#8 War Canoes!
Twenty-four people gliding together across Lake Coniston ... it's too much fun!

Imrich, Steve and Cynthia Smith
Jacobson, Bruce and Anna Romer
Jennings, Sarah
Jones, Charles
Jones, Emily
Kalfus, Howie
Kalfus, Phyllis and Don
Kamisar, Stacy and Jonathan
Kane, Jonathan and Karen
Kane, Martha and Mike
Kannel, William and Marla
Kaufman, Marc
Kavanagh, Carole and Robert
Kavanagh, Katie
Keilig, Roger
Kelsey, Peter and Ginger Ryan
Kershner, Molly and Lewis

Macinnes, John and Gail
Mansour, Lauree and Haitham
Mario, Karen and Joseph
Marsh, Victoria and Patrick
Martin, Robin L
Marzelli, Mary
Mertz, Carolyn and Peter
Milardo, Heidi and Joseph
Miley, Joseph and June
Mittleman, Linda Yarr
Mooney, Linda and David
Moses, Ruth and Joel
Moyer, Joan
Muller, Robbie
Myer, Alison
Nielsen, Christopher and Andrea
Otis-Cote, Catherine
Patricelli, Robert and Margaret
Paul, Jessica
Pearce, Charles and Virginia

Rosenstein, Garrett Harris and Amy
Rowe, Betty and Peter
Salvas, Margaret and David
Salvas, Meghan
Sanders, E. Waldo and Karla
Sawitz, Beth
Sawitz, Eric and Gail Stone
Sawyer, Shannon
Scherer, Brian
Seabolt, Donna and Robert
Seybold, Elizabeth
Sharp, Stephen and Anne
Sherwin Dodge Printers
Ship, Brad
Ship, Carl and Christine Flynn
Sinclair, Roberta
Skinner, Jonathan
Slafsky, Julie and Marc
Slafsky, Mike
Smith, Claudette



#9 Build a New Chapel
Our new chapel overlooking Cranberry Bog, built on land we preserved with your donations.



Smith, David and Heidi Fishman
 Smith, Tammy
 Solomon, Lynn and Douglas
 Spater, Gordon
 Spater, Victoria
 Springle Farm
 Stafford, Nancy and Chris
 Steward, Barbara
 Strebel, Susan
 Strickler, David and Christina
 Sutherland, George and Jean
 Symonds, Judith and John
 Thomas, Roberta
 Tierney, Linda and Steven
 Torres, Diane and Weber
 Trolle, T.N. and Lorette
 Twomey, Susan
 Underhill, Carl and Ellen
 Vandycheva, Olga and Boris Makarov
 Vreeland, Robert and Susan
 Wagner, Bill and Jan
 Walsh, Edward J.
 Wardell, Harry and Carol
 Wehde, Paula and Craig
 Westbrook, Merle and Peter Dollard
 Whelan, Kevin and Irene
 White, Julie and Bob
 Widmer, Barbara and Jack
 Wilson, Cheryl and Rodney
 Winn, Gail and Joseph
 Wood, Mary and Bruce
 Woods, James and Deborah Hall
 Young, Debra and Michael
 Young, Donna and Robert

THE TOP
10

THINGS YOUR
 DONATIONS
 HAVE HELPED
 CAMP TO DO

#10 We Bought the Land!

... and we couldn't have done it without you! One hundred and thirty pristine New Hampshire acres saved for Camp, and for the future of our environment.

This parcel represents the fulfillment of George Dorr's dream when, as Chairman of the Coniston Board, he helped us move here in 1963. We have now protected the entire Lake Coniston waterfront, and we've given Camp the opportunity for exceptional outdoor experiences with our kids. Please, let us say it once more ...

It's our turn to thank you!



Coniston at College

We're proud that our summer staff attends some of the finest colleges in the country ... and around the world!

American University
 Amherst College
 Bates College
 Bennington College
 Brooklyn Law
 Bucknell University
 Carleton College
 Clark University
 Colby College
 Colby-Sawyer College
 Colorado College
 Denison University
 Hobart & William Smith
 Ithaca College
 Keene State College
 Lyndon State College
 Northeastern University
 Providence College
 Sacred Heart University
 Salve Regina

South Carolina University
 St. Michael's College
 Tufts University
 Union College
 University of Connecticut
 University of Minnesota
 University of Chicago
 University of Illinois
 University of Massachusetts Lowell
 University of Massachusetts Amherst
 University of Maryland
 University of Miami Law
 University of New Hampshire
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Richmond
 University of Rhode Island
 University of Vermont
 Westfield State College
 Vermont Law School

International:
 IESEG School of Management (France)
 Kent University (England)
 Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts (England)
 Loughborough University (England)
 Nottingham Trent University (England)
 Thames Valley University (England)
 University of Leeds (England)
 University Huddersfield (England)
 University of St. Andrews (Scotland)
 University of Szeged (Hungary)

Coniston throughout the U.S.A.!

We're in the news again! YMCA Camp Coniston was featured this past summer in *Kearsarge Magazine*, with a full-page writeup entitled "Building Better Adults" ... and *Camp Business Magazine* used a photo of the Coniston Camp Store for their cover story!

Several articles citing Camp Coniston were also picked up by the *Washington Post*, *Boston Globe*, *Manchester Union Leader*, *Concord Monitor*, *Detroit Free Press* and the *Atlanta Constitution*, plus many more.

If you see or hear Coniston mentioned in the news, be sure to let us know ... we always like to know where we've been. ↪



"Camp gives (our kids) the tools and skills they need for everything in life — negotiating skills, teamwork, camaraderie. There's no fighting in the house now; they discuss things more."

Los Angeles Times

"... using insecticides to eliminate mosquitoes from the 150-acre Lake Coniston is just unrealistic, director John Tilley said. Better to keep the cabin screens in good repair ... and urge campers to bring plenty of bug repellent!"

The Boston Globe

The Washington Post

"The YMCA operates 265 residential camps nationwide, many of which have been full for a while, such as ... Camp Coniston in New Hampshire."

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

"YMCA Camp Coniston creates a 'country store' feeling with a birch tree to hang hats and bottles."



YMCA Camp Coniston
 PO Box 185
 Grantham, NH 03753



RESORTED
 STANDARD
 U S POSTAGE
 PAID
 WARNER, NH
 PERMIT NO. 4