

THE AMERICANIST

"All the News that fit to make up
and publish"

LESS GOVERNMENT, MORE RESPONSIBILITY, AND – WITH GOD'S HELP, A BETTER WORLD

The Polar Disappointment

by
Mr. Hoderny



The bravest camper appears to be Catherine Mazzarella, who it seems is the only one who didn't need to go on the run to work up the courage for the Polar Bear Swim. The runner-swimmers were Valmir, Elton, and Ademir Adamo with David Tomaso invited to the double family reunion. Other than that, the camp totally wimped out. Finally, the present representatives for the counselors were Mr. Nowak, Mr. Shurtleff, and Mr. Hoderny (who verbally expressed his displeasure with the low turnout).

"Running"

Running, running, running
is very very funning (ha. ha.)
White blisters form on the feet
Mr. Shurtleff says running is
such a treat!
For miles and miles we keep
running on
going and going 'till our minds
are gone
And yet Mr. S keeps pushing
us forward
making up rhymes like a
travelling bard
This running is not for the
faint of heart
I mean that fully, not only in
part
So go on the jog if you dare.
Mr. Shurtleff would really like
you to be there.

—Elyse Smith

For more
poetry, see
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A Brief Note to Our Readers

by Matthias Galvin,
Editor-in-Chief



It's a pleasure to make the acquaintance of all of you! In addition to making your acquaintance through chat and fun, I would hope that you make yourself known to others through your contributions to the Newspaper, and I hope that all of you participate. (Also, I have a list).

For those (read: all) who will be participating in the newspaper, a few guidelines:

- Deadlines for submission that day are 2 O'Clock of the day of publication. Unless physical impairment and/or catastrophic occurrence has taken place, exceptions will generally not be made.
- Unlike our rival publication, *The New York Times*, we value originality: We love *all* (well, *within reason*) original creations of artwork, poetry, short narratives, Op-Ed commentary, or criticism of any kind. If you have something, then give it to me and then we can find a way to get it published
- If you are working on anything that could resemble an assignment (e.g. reporting on that night's campfire), please *tell me* or tell someone who will. It would be a shame if two equally hard-working campers both turned in a report on the same event, and I'm forced to choose.

Finally, I want to say some words about the Cabin Inspections: In previous years, there were several different grading systems implemented, all of which didn't make any real sense and, truth be told, it might have cheated more than one cabin. So, whatever shall we do? A new grading system: There will be three counselors who inspect any one cabin, and they will each rate the cabin on a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being the highest), and the ratings will be summed and included with some brief comments.

If all goes well, we all have a great week, and I look forward to it.

Last Night's Campfire

by Joshua
Vileniskis



Well, our campfire was pretty much average: we sang My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean, Amazing Grace, My Grandfather's Clock, The Battle Hymn of the Republic, The Marine's Hymn, Bear Song, Caisson Song, My Darling Clementine, and A Bicycle Built for Two. I like the Flowers Song, but I think the camp decided that it was the worst song we sang. By the way, I finally discovered its origin: Its from A.C.S. [Atrocious Camp Songs], Inc. Later, we played Porridge in a Pot and the Daniel Boone physical comedy. Mr. Childs told a funny grandfather clock joke, and several of the girls sang Baby Face to Adamir. We then finished up with taps. In other news Mr. Math Man [*Editor's Note: I prefer to be called by my proper name*] solved a Rubik's cube in one minute thirty seconds, roughly. And apparently Mr. Childs is trying out for American Idol. So I guess, good luck to him! That's all folks!

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News and Announcements

Schedule for Tuesday, July 7th, 2009

6:30 Polar Bear Swim or Run – optional
7:00 Wake up!
7:50 Flag raising, Announcements & Devotions
c/o Mr. Hoderny
8:00 Breakfast
9:00 } **James Perloff: *The Shadows of Power* –**
CFR Conspiracy
9:50 **Break**
10:00 } *The Shadows of Power* concluded; ~10:30
United Nations Exposed – Mr. Galvin
10:50 **Break**
11:00 Logic and Law – Mr. Kamps (late start
depending upon Mr. Galvin)
11:50 **Break**
12:00 Noon – Lunch

Note from Mr. Shurtleff & Mr. Tregenza:
There will be extra credit given on the Final
Examination for the recitation of at least *twenty-five*
of the singers of the U.S. Constitution.

Quick Quotes

"I don't threaten. I don't nag. I don't count to
'3'. I just... get you."
—Mr. Hoderny on his leadership style

"You let *who* run the paper this year!?"
—Diana Griffin, former Editor

"I'm not that quick!"
—Mrs. Harper

"Good judgment comes from experience, and a
lot of that comes from bad judgment."
—Will Rogers

"Not often enough is the question asked 'Is our
children learning?'"
—Fmr. President George W. Bush

Schedule, cont'd (P.M.)

1:00 Recreation **OR** optional **Field Trip:**
The Franklin Pierce Home
5:30 Dinner
6:30 Economics 101 – Mr. Peik – based on
\$ & Sense; Advanced: Feudal Law, English
Common Law, American Law – Mr. Kamps
7:20 Flag lowering – Mr. Hoderny
7:45 Earth and the Cult of Global Warming – Mr.
Childs
8:35 **Break**
9:00 Campfire – Mr. Childs
10:00 **Break**
10:30 In Cabins
11:00 Lights out!

Congratulations to our Advanced Class:

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Kenneth Eckland | Melanie Fiorino |
| Rick Jones | Catherine Mazzarella |
| Katie Peik | Kristen Peik |
| Libby Roberts | Heather Smart |
| Elyse Smith | Brad Smart |
| Jaren Smart | Joshua Vileniskis |

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The Critics' Notebook

Bethel Cabins

Cabin 1: *USA Today* towel bad form—represents the establishment (only slightly better than *New York Times* or *Boston Globe*!); redeemed by Pledge of Allegiance blanket. Vertical Blind Violation diminished overall Feng Shui of room—"vertical" means vertical, got it!?

Total Score: 20 (out of 30)

Cabin 3: "Mr. Hodery is the besH"? Google yielded 0 results for the word "besH." To add injury to insult, yet another vertical blind violation (heretofore referred to as "VBV"). A dead bald eagle, while patriotic, is not adequate substitute for vegetation (let the rule be restated as "no flora or fauna").

Total Score: 18

Cabin 4: VBV overlooked by defective blinds. However, several non-sequiturs: Stuffed dog with orange hives? Gymnastic horse? *City of Glass*? Towels were not appreciated haphazardly hung to dry, especially in humid closed-bathroom-door environment: when *not* in use, keeping the bathroom doors open is desirable for proper ventilation. Note: flystrips were appreciated and delicious; inspectors remarked that the attached files were indeed crispier than anticipated.

Total Score: 19

Cabin 5: Too Many Violations To Mention (heretofore referred to as "TMVTM"): Cluttered and unsightly sink and dresser most notable offenders. Towels improperly draped on bedposts, not towelracks. While synthetic bat is preferred to former bird, a bat is simply not patriotic (if useful for mosquito removal while living).

Total Score: 15

Cabin 6: Pass. Tomorrow's score will be used twice towards running count, as proxy for today.

Dothan Cabins

Cabin 1: ~~What a dump!~~ Beds are for sleeping, not storage. Further odors prevented prolonged inspection of cabin.

Total Score: 16

Cabin 2: No decorations; very neat if highly dingy and suggestive of dungeon motif. Again, bathroom doors must be left open for proper ventilation.

Total Score: 18

Cabin 3: Not neat (why is there a used napkin and a receipt on an otherwise neat bed?). Room offended the olfactory senses; proposed solution: *open windows* to allow proper airflow. Inspectors disapprove of BAD bag (unless representative of initials).

Total Score: 15

Cabin 4: Further ventilation problems resulted in assaults on olfactory senses; open windows cannot be desired enough when such plentiful and enjoyable fresh air is available. Briefly: Neat, but unadorned. Questions about the misplaced, yet plugged-in, fan.

Total Score: 19

Mashal Cabin

Who stuck you with this? In any case, given the circumstances and relative lack of potential, amenities (and ceiling height), this is the best cabin inspected in this round. Only bad mark: Curled and rigidity of sponge belies its condition (we know you haven't used it).

Total Score: 21

Ajalan Cabin

From what was the best cabin to the worst. TMVTM; worst offenders are: obstructing suitcase left in walking lane, unmade bed, open drawer, Orwellian all-seeing eye left for a highly disconcerting ambiance (i.e. it's really creepy). Saving graces: Very clean bathroom, and interview from newspaper in window—will forgive source of *that* soon-to-be extinct rag centered in New York, which compared Birch beliefs to a Dan Brown plot.

Total Score: 14

Fiction

Editor's Note: This volume of the Fiction section features only poetry because that was the only type of fictional submission. However, short stories, fictionalized(or serialized) narratives

"Rain"

Splatter, plop

Drip, drop

Goes the Rain

Going through a puddle

along North Main

children running around

jumping through puddles

having a good time

I watch; being very subtle

Thinking about those times

when I used to be like them

Going to the circus

mimicking the mimes

And, of course, jumping

through the puddles

Splatter, plop

Drip, Drop

Goes the rain

—Melanie Fiorino

"Music is Life"

Music is life...

Music is death...

Music is heaven...

Music is hell...

Music is good...

Music is evil...

There is a melody to go with every emotion

Mourning...Gospel

Fear...Screamo

Anger...Heavy Metal

Sadness...Classical

Happiness...Dance

I could go on about music because...

MUSIC IS LIFE

—Melanie Fiorino