



To the Point

THE SMALL POINT SUMMER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2011



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President's Letter

HAPPY SPRING... I HOPE! As I write this we still have about two feet of crusty, dirty snow on the front lawn at my house, but remain optimistic that the daffodils will eventually find their way up out of the muck, and that fair skies and warmer weather will blow us back toward Big Beach and the pleasures of summer.

The SPSS board is excited to welcome back co-directors Ben Lewis and John Herrigel. They've been hard at work since last September, hiring counselors, tweaking programs, and preparing and revising budgets. Now that they've gained their sea legs we're sure that their second year will be even better than their first.

Our theme for this summer is KISSPSS — Keep It Simple Small Point Summer School. Everyone's lives are complicated enough already; summer's supposed to be easy. So in that spirit we've tried to simplify and clarify the SPSS schedule, pare down our annual fundraising event, and develop a program that sticks to the basics. We've provided an overview in this issue of *To the Point*, but stay tuned for last minute adjustments!

It has been my experience that each summer is different, and yet somehow the same, as families return year after year to enjoy adventures on the water, on the tennis courts, on stage, in nature, and in the arts. While staff and board members may change, the Summer School retains its essential spirit and character. SPSS continues to thrive because of the dedication of countless committed community members. Before I step down this August at the end of my term as president, I want to thank the tireless



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Have no fear!

Summer is only a few short months away! Soon enough the steps of Brad's Barn will be crowded with children and parents awaiting the first moments of camp. We've got a few tricks up our sleeve this year, so make sure to read on to learn about new program offerings, schedule changes, and important dates.

Most of our wonderful staff will be returning to SPSS this summer, joined by a few fresh faces to liven things up, and we're getting ready for more exciting Wednesday race victories by the Tadpole, another insanely great overnight beach campout, tremendous trips to Seguin, adventuresome Thursday excursions, and everything else you have grown to love about SPSS. We've got a great summer ahead of us, so jump on board!

Remember to check the website (www.smallpointsummerschool.org) for announcements and updated information, and join our new Facebook group (see below for details) to stay in touch with us and with other SPSS friends and fans.

Enjoy the spring, and we look forward to seeing you all soon!

—Ben Lewis and John Herrigel



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volunteers, generous donors, dedicated board members, committed and creative staff, and endlessly energetic campers who make SPSS the truly unique and magical place that Sydney and Junie envisioned some fifty-plus years ago. I have been fortunate to work with such a wonderful bunch of people who care so deeply about SPSS. My hat is off to you all!

Finally, I would be remiss if I failed to address SPSS's fundraising needs. Every year the board strives to balance the budget, keep tuition affordable, and provide a well-rounded, safe and innovative program. While tuition fees pay for most of our staffing, operating

costs continue to rise. Our buildings and grounds require maintenance and upkeep; boats need to be hauled and repaired; outboards and automobiles need gas; insurance must be paid; snacks have to be purchased; art supplies acquired; and it's nice to be able to turn the lights on for evening functions. To say nothing of badly needed additions and improvements, like last year's make-over of the Arts & Nature building or our proposed renovation of Sprague Hall.

If Summer School has made a difference to you or your children or grandchildren, I hope you'll consider

acknowledging that fact with a gift. Every donation matters, however large or small. SPSS counts contributions to sustain and improve its programming and its facilities. We simply can't survive without your support.

My very best wishes to all as the season turns toward summer. We are fortunate indeed to have the sense of continuity, the creation and renewal of relationships, and the sense of inspiration and stability that Small Point and SPSS bring into our lives. I look forward to seeing you again on the front steps of the barn!

—Lynne Mitchell

2011 Season Preview

Program Overview

We're continually working to improve the SPSS experience for all ages, maintaining our fun and informal atmosphere while attempting to keep things as simple and flexible as possible.

Our focus for 2011 will be on greater program integration as we try to ensure that Summer School provides all of its students – whatever their ages or interests, whenever and for however long they participate – with a memorable and “uniquely Small Point” experience. Toward that end we've introduced some new features, simplified the schedule, and added an option for campers who elect to do both morning and afternoon programs to stay at the Summer School for lunch. So here's how it all shakes out:



Beginning Tennis

Our camp day will start as usual with 45 minutes of tennis instruction for kids aged 4 to 7 who are just learning to play the game. Beginning Tennis will meet from 8:15AM until 9:00AM on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Explorers

The Explorers program for kids aged 4 to 7 will meet on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9:00AM until 12:00PM. Explorers will now include a day of introductory sailing each week, to enable all campers to experience this vital part of Small Point's summer culture.

Adventurers

This revamped program for kids aged 8 to 14 will integrate Arts & Nature with Tennis and Games, so that children can engage in a variety of activities every week, including tennis, games, arts and crafts, and nature adventures. Adventurers will meet on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9:00AM until 12:00PM. (We also hope to be able to offer limited morning sailing, and for campers who'd like three mornings of tennis, match play tennis on Tuesday mornings.)

Sailing and Water Sports

While this will still be primarily an introductory sailing class, we will also be incorporating other fun aquatic activities like lobstering, kayaking and tubing. Sailing and Water Sports meets Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 1:00PM until 4:00PM and is open to campers aged 8 and older.

420 Class Sailing

For sailors looking to sharpen their skills with a bit more focus on competition, we will be offering an in-depth program geared toward racing and participation in two regional regattas. 420 Class Sailing is open to campers aged 10 and older with previous sailing experience. It meets Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 1:00PM until 4:00PM. (Note: We are actively seeking a volunteer adult who would be willing to serve as regatta coordinator. Please contact us directly if you might be interested.)

Navigators

Coming off its hugely successful first year, Navigators (for campers aged 13 and up) will be enhanced through the addition of afternoon tennis instruction as well as expanded sailing and water sports activities. Navigators meets

Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 1:00PM until 4:00PM.

Counselors-in-Training

Would you like to join the Summer School team? If you are entering 10th grade in the fall and are interested in being part of our CIT program, please email Ben and John at <smallpointsummerschool@gmail.com>. CIT's will work with directors and counselors to help plan, organize and run morning programs. Minimum time commitment is one month. (Note: The CIT program will not conflict with the schedule for our Navigators program, and we are strongly encouraging all CIT's to actively participate in Navigators.)

Thursday Programs

Thursday Programs this summer will include plenty of old favorites — trips to the Basin and Seguin; beach days and campouts; schooner cruises — as well as some surprises. Details will be posted on the website and at registration at the start of each week. Ages 6 and older, depending on type of program.

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2011 Season Preview cont.

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Important Dates

Memorial Day Clean-Up	Saturday May 28 from 9:00am to 12:00PM (please bring tools!)
SPSS Opening Day	Monday June 27
July Play	Saturday July 30
August Fundraiser	Saturday August 6
August Play	Friday and Saturday August 19 & 20
SPSS Last Day	Friday August 19

SPSS Weekly Schedule

Beginning Tennis

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
8:15AM - 9:00AM

Explorers

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
9:00AM - 12:00PM

Adventurers

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
9:00AM - 12:00PM

Sailing and Water Sports

Monday, Tuesday, Friday
1:00PM - 4:00PM

420 Class Sailing

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
1:00PM - 4:00PM

Navigators

Monday, Tuesday, Friday
1:00PM - 4:00PM

Thursday Trips

Thursday
10:00AM - 4:00PM

Brown Bag Lunch

In an effort to reduce traffic, help parents with scheduling, and provide campers with a full day experience, we will now be offering supervision during the lunch hour free of charge on Mondays and Fridays. Campers who've enrolled for both morning and afternoon activities may bring their own lunches and eat at SPSS with friends and counselors.

Full Week Package

For families who wish to enroll campers for a full week, morning and afternoon SPSS experience – three mornings of adventures, two supervised lunch hours, and three afternoons of sailing and water sports – we will be offering a reduced tuition rate. Please check out our website (<www.smallpointsummerschool.org>) for additional information and pricing.



Call for Volunteers

SPSS is still looking for community members with special skills or knowledge and/or Small Point stories and memories they'd be willing to share with Summer School campers. Bridging generations and bringing our community together is at the heart of our mission, and we're eager to make this a feature of the SPSS experience. If you're interested, please contact Ben and John at <smallpointsummerschool@gmail.com> or 207/650-5383.

Program Reports

Tennis Program Report

On the first official day of spring we still had several inches of snow on our courts here in western Mass... but they're clear now, and we're thinking ahead to another great tennis season at SPSS. We're delighted to report that Sam Hyland will be returning this year, bringing his enthusiasm and talent (and patience!) back to the Summer School courts! This time around he'll be joined by his cousin Emma, along with several familiar faces, to help campers new to tennis learn the rudiments of the game; sharpen the skills of veteran players; play a variety of tennis-like creative games; and organize friendly tournament competition. New Small Point rivalries are blossoming! There will be opportunities for every age group to participate and benefit from the program, so pull out your rackets and get ready for some summer fun!

—Sarah Hoffman

Sailing Program Report

As Rat famously informed Mole in *Wind in the Willows*, "Believe me, my young friend, there is nothing — absolutely nothing — half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats," and all of us here at the SPSS sailing program heartily agree! Many exciting new developments are shaping up for the coming season: Adam Koski will take the helm with beginner sailors, and Byron Malcolm will lead and oversee general program structure and boat maintenance in the afternoons. Be it learning basic sailing skills in an Opti or challenging yourself with more advanced tactics in a 420, there will be wet fun and learning for all ages... sponge tag, relay races, pirates and more. And watch for *Tadpole* to lead the way on Wednesdays!

—John Herrigel

Drama Program Report

SPSS is delighted to welcome back director Debba Curtis, with Musical Director Crystal Cawley, for the August 2011 production of *Cinderella*, a classic tale pitting unremitting good against many evils, featuring improbable characters such as mice footmen, a clueless king, a spunky girl and her prince who crave unconventionality, and an ending in which love, trust, and magic combine to triumph over all! Fabulous songs, great ensemble numbers, plenty of cool roles for boys as well as girls, and good fun for all involved. Performances August 19th and 20th.

Mark your calendars!

Auditions will be held on July 31 and August 1. To prepare, aspiring thespians aged 11 and older should review the Julie Andrews production of *Cinderella* (YouTube video) or rent the movie (available from Netflix) and learn the songs. **Casting preference will be given**

to those already familiar with the music!

Evening rehearsals will be held Sunday through Friday, with additional times (including during the day) for leading roles. You will not be called for rehearsals unless your scene or scenes are actually going to be rehearsed. Debba will be sending out requests for costume items later in the spring.

In an innovative stroke, this year's July production for younger children will feature selected songs and scenes from *Cinderella*, performed informally on July 30 and subsequently incorporated into the August performances (for those able to participate.) Children aged 5 and up are invited to rehearse. Auditions are not required for the July play.

[Note: Fees for participation in the July and August plays are not included in standard SPSS tuition and will be charged separately.]

—Sarah Sewall



Development and Fundraising

Annual Fund

Many thanks to the following people who contributed \$27,552.07 towards our 2010 Annual fund! As your annual support helps to cover the operational costs of the SPSS, it is critical to our success and greatly appreciated.

—Amy Coes

John and Peggy Adams
Susan Ascher and Paul Kalb
Ian and Helen Ballard
Matt and Samantha Ballard
Pippy Belz
Ben and Sandra Bole
Jon and Ruth Bole
Richard and Mary Bole
Brian and Linda Bowman
Elliot and Hattie Branson
Angus and Dana Burton



Lolly Burton
Jack and Sarah Chandler
John and Tania Chandler
Nancy Chandler
Peter and Liza Chandler
Reynolds and Sarah Chandler
Anne Charles
Peter and Crissy Cherry
Cynthia Coates
Malcolm and Deborah Coates
Malcolm Coates Jr.
Mary-Louise Coates
Stacey Coates
Ted and Martha Coates

Putnam and Amy Coes
Rufus and Linda Coes
Robert and Mary Cooper
Tom and Shirley Cooper
Deborah Curtis
E.P. and Claire Curtis
Rodger and Rebecca Cuthbert
Owen and Peggy Daly
Andy and Birgit Deeds
James and Carter Donovan
Harry and Carol Doughty
Francis and Diane Eberle
Jean Eberle
Wally Edge
Wade and Aliza Edwards
Sally Graves
Helen Greene
George Grove
Ted Hampton and Lisa Kassenaar
Tom Hampton
M. Reid and Bondie Hankin
Montagu Hankin
Bill and Melinda Harnett
Margaret Hedeman
Sam and Elizabeth Herrick
Rodger and Jillian Herrigel
Daniel and Katherine Hinckley
Bill and Jan Hoffman
Bill and Nancy Hoffman
E. Shane Hoffman
Fenno and Constance Hoffman
Louise Hoffman
Sarah Hoffman
Tiny Hoffman
John and Susan Hunt



Jack and Sally Ijams
Nancy Ijams
Seton Ijams
Richard and Anne Jackson
Sewall and Martie Janeway
Kennon and Sabra Jayne
Truxton Jayne and Christina Williams
(with a matching gift from Nintendo)
Tony Kieffer and Susan Conley
Adrian and Carolyn King



Andreas and Jenty Kirsch-Wood
Michael Lasell and Cercie Miller
Anne Lee
Bevis and Clara Longstreth
Alaster and Sue MacDonald
Tevere MacFadyen and Lisa May
Bill and Alex Mackey
Donald and Brigitte Manekin
Crozer Martin
Miguel and Alison Martin (with a matching gift from Altria)
Michael McCrary
Sydney McDowell and Ward Archer
Hugh and Paula McLaughlin
Leo and Marty McLaughlin
Abigail Mellen
Henry and Polly Mellen
Henry S. and Claudia Mellen
Cleveland and Margot Miller
Don and Pam Miller
Donald and Lyn Miller
Kennon Miller and Jenny Newkirk
Diane Mincey
Lynne Mitchell and Richard Lewis
Shirlee Mitchell

Timothy and Elizabeth Mitchell
 Whit Mitchell and Judy Coates
 Whitter and Mariah Mitchell
 Ned Motley and Kim Cox
 Tom Motley and Dorothy Cameron
 Warren Motley and Cynthia Saltzman
 Sean and Sarah Murphy
 Leslie Owen
 Marty Owen
 Peter Owen
 Dan and Joan Peacock
 Anne Pfitzer and Emil Parker
 Marc and Anke Pfitzer
 Charles L. Read Foundation

Rodney and Roberta Tenney
 Bunny and Lane Terry
 Grey and Joey Terry
 Porter and Carol Terry
 Susan Thomas
 Ben and Katrina Tober
 Seymour Toll
 John and Karen Totman
 Houghton and Patricia Trott
 Arthur and Nancy Turner
 Chris Uhl
 Elena Vandervoort
 Robert and Katherine Vaughan
 Peter and Barbara Vickery
 Hans and Lee Warner
 Sam and Kaiulani Wharton (in honor of the marriage of Astrid Williams & Greg Martin)

Gordon and Susie Wiegand
 Arthur and Hanne Williams
 Ann Williams
 Astrid Williams
 Christopher Williams and Sarah Cecil
 Craig and Jane Williams
 Anne Winter
 Katie Winter and James Shulman (in honor of the marriage of Astrid Williams & Greg Martin)
 Jeffrey and Serena Winters
 Camilla Sewall Wood

Summer Fundraiser

Mark your calendars for the annual SPSS community gathering and fundraiser, Saturday evening August 6th, from 6:00PM - 11:00PM. This is a chance for the friends and family to get together for informal social time, fun and festivities, dinner and dancing — and to support the Summer School!

Once again, we'll be offering a partial potluck dinner (SPSS will supply the main course) a live auction, and music. New this year will be a 25% / 75% cash raffle. Only 200 \$100 raffle tickets will be sold, and the lucky winner will take home a \$5,000 prize! (Raffle tickets will be available beginning on Memorial Day weekend from Liza Chandler, Abbie Rowley and Martie Janeway.)

Stay tuned for additional details closer to the date...

—Liza Chandler



Tony and Patsy Rogers
 Suzanne Rothschild and John Baynard
 Virginia Rothschild
 David and Abbie Rowley
 Sarah Sewall and Tom Conroy
 Small Point Operating Company
 Andrew St. John and Katie Blair
 Susan St. John and Bob Rheault
 Linda Sturgis

John and Tish Whipple
 Pinkie Whipple
 Bumper White and Ann Bartoo
 John and Kathryn White
 Peter and Deborah White





Follow Us on Facebook!
 We recently established a Small Point Summer School group on Facebook, and we invite you to join! We would like to use this as a community resource where we can post timely SPSS information and comments. Our Board will use it as one way of getting the word out about policy changes, programming, scheduling issues and upcoming events. As a member of the SPSS group, you are welcome to post your own comments and pictures. To join, just go to Facebook and search for Small Point Summer School, then click the SPSS icon and select the "Ask to Join Group" button.

Memorial Garden

As spring nears, our Memorial Garden is beginning to show signs of life, green shoots pushing up through the grey ground cover. It is a fitting symbol of resilience and renewal. We hope you'll consider adding the name of a loved one to the circle of engraved stones that form the heart of this peaceful and beautiful space. To recognize someone in the garden, please contact Grey Terry at 207-899-1997 or <writegrey@yahoo.com> for more information.

Community Calendar

Thanks to everyone who submitted photos for this year's Small Point Summer School Community Calendar. The calendar is finished and printed, and it contains not only wonderful pictures but low tide times for the entire year. Copies will be available for \$20.00 at the Summer School and the Small Point Club starting on Memorial Day.

Community Directory

2012 Small Point Community Directory order forms will be mailed to everyone currently listed in mid-May. Renewals are due by July 4th. If anyone has moved or changed addresses, contact Leslie Belz at <lbelz@aol.com> with your updated information. Also, we still have a few copies of this year's directory, in you still need one.

Tadpole Restoration Fund

Our beloved *Tadpole* is in need of more than cosmetic repairs. A substantial rebuild will be required in order to ensure that she will be able to continue to campaign for many seasons to come. Contributions of any amount are welcome, and are tax deductible. Please direct inquiries to <smallpoint summerschool@gmail.com>. Thanks!