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# THE CANNONBALL

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[www.coppercannon.org](http://www.coppercannon.org)

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## Operation Purple Camp®

*Supporting members of the Armed Forces...*

Last year Copper Cannon was selected to be one of many camps throughout the country to host Operation Purple Camp (OPC). OPC is a program of the National Military Family Association (NMFA) and is free thanks to support from the Sierra Club and the Sierra Club Foundation. This year we have been approved for two weeks, one for teens and one for 8-12 year olds.

During OPC, campers do many traditional activities: skunk, archery, high and low ropes course, arts and crafts, etc. They also participate in curriculum designed by the NMFA.

OPC is intended to help alleviate some of the stresses which come from living in a military family. When a mother or father goes overseas, the dynamics of that family change. Children whose parents deploy must take on new roles and responsibilities at home. They adjust to the "new normal".

It is not easy for these children to find others in their school or community who understand what is going on in their lives. OPC gives youth a chance to be with others experiencing the same stresses they are.

Copper Cannon is excited to be part of Operation Purple Camp again this year. Registration for OPC opened on March 15<sup>th</sup>. If your mother or father is in the Armed Forces, you could be eligible for OPC. Check out [www.nmfa.org](http://www.nmfa.org) for more information!

## Auction Success!

*Another sensational event...*

On March 6<sup>th</sup>, Copper Cannon held its 38<sup>th</sup> annual auction. This event is held on the first Saturday of March at the Littleton Elks lodge. It is the biggest fundraiser of the year for camp and the 2010 auction raised enough money to bring over 80 youth to camp.

Some of the most exciting items auctioned off were hand crafted wooden bowls, a pen and pencil set, spinning tops, and even a kaleidoscope from the Twin State Wood Turners (TSWT). The TSWT is a group from Vermont and New Hampshire who create beautiful works of art out of wood. The 15 items for the auction were made from a tree that had fallen camp's land.

Teen campers will remember the TSWT coming to Copper Cannon for a lathe demonstration last summer. They were kind enough to donate their time and brought enough gifts for all the campers to take something home.

During the auction, Pete asked guests to sponsor campers for a day. Approximately \$8000 was raised in an outpouring of support for the youth of Copper Cannon. It works out to be over 100 days of camp raised from auction participants.

Volunteers also played a big role in keeping everyone excited. They helped with computer input, monitoring tables, selling raffle tickets, greeting guests, washing dishes, clearing tables, and doing anything else we asked. We appreciate their dedication and couldn't have done it without them!

The 2010 auction was a big success with over 280 people attending in support of Copper Cannon Camp. We've already begun planning for next year, so send us your ideas on how to make the event even better.

## Inside This Issue

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summer staff

To be removed from our mailing list or to invite your friends, e-mail  
shudon@coppercannon.org!

## Spring Cleanup

*Camp is looking rough!*

The scene could almost be from a Disney movie. Ice is melting, the sun is shining, and the birds are singing. Only the few mounds of crunchy snow dot the shadier parts of camp to remind us how snowy and cold it was only a short time ago.

Those of us in the office are feeling the effects of melting snow as we squish, squelch, and lose our shoes on the muddy paths between buildings.

This wet time of year reminds us spring is right around the corner. We are getting applications from campers, interviewing counselors, and preparing the facility. With campers coming in less than 3 months, Copper Cannon has lots of spring cleaning to do!

During spring cleaning we may paint buildings, plant the garden, complete maintenance projects, cut wood, clean cabins, organize the arts and crafts building, and walk trails to clear debris. Copper Cannon staff can't possibly tackle these projects (and more!) by ourselves. This is where you come in!

Help Copper Cannon get ready for the summer by joining us for spring cleaning. Camp would be impossible without the support of volunteers. If you are as smart as a tractor and strong as an ox, we'd love to have your help!

Call Copper Cannon at 603-823-8107 or e-mail [shudon@coppercannon.org](mailto:shudon@coppercannon.org) to organize a time for you and your family or a group of friends to come up to camp and get started!



*"The mission of Copper Cannon Camp is to enrich the lives of under-served youth of New Hampshire by providing a quality tuition tuition-free camp experience."*



## Camper Applications

*First come, first serve!*

Summer is fast approaching. Copper Cannon is getting ready to give almost 500 New Hampshire youth the best week of their summers! If you know a child that could benefit from camp, get them in touch with Copper Cannon.

Applications for campers are available at our website, [www.coppercannon.org](http://www.coppercannon.org) or by calling us at 603-823-8107. Another great way to get information about Copper Cannon is to contact your local Elks Lodge.

Since 1969, Copper Cannon has been the state project for the New Hampshire Elks Association. They provide approximately 10% of our budget and support us with clean-up days, in-kind donations, and recruitment of campers for the summer.

For young adults looking for a summer job, staff applications are also available at our website. Camp doesn't pay very much, but can be life changing for staff as well as campers. Go to our website and see what programs we are offering!

Stephen Hudon  
AmeriCorps\*VISTA  
[shudon@coppercannon.org](mailto:shudon@coppercannon.org)  
P.O. Box 124  
Franconia, NH 03580  
(603)823-8107