OVER A CENTURY OF ADIRONDACK SUMMER CAMP TRADITION

A Martin Providence

The Pok-O-MacCready family!

Founded in 1905 as a camp for boys by Dr. Charles Robinson, <u>Pok-O-MacCready</u> has been passed on to Sharp Swan, the fourth generation of camp owners and directors. Our boys camp is the longest running camp under the continual ownership of one family in the United States. What started as an education and recreational summer experience for a few young men has now become a flourishing co-educational camp for 300 campers each summer.

<u>Pok-O-MacCready</u> sits on a peninsula on Long Pond in New York's Adirondack Park, just minutes from Lake Champlain. Our campus contains over 300 acres of woods and fields along two miles of scenic waterfront surrounded by gentle peaks - a perfect place to do any of the countless activities camp offers!

Come experience "the way summer camp should be" at <u>Pok-O-MacCready!</u>



Our founders, Sarah Westcott and Dr. Charles Robinson, in 1905



## "There's a camp called Pok-O-MacCready... and it's a camp we all love..."

opening line of the Camp song, weitten by Eddie Cameron, Camper andHeadmaster, 1911-<u>1921</u>



<u>Pok-O-MacCready</u>'s philosophy is to help each camper develop an awareness of, and appreciation for, the natural environment by participating in new experiences, <u>learning new skills</u>, and making new friends.

These opportunities are presented in a safe and supportive environment that fosters self-confidence, leadership, and sportsmanship. Poko gently pushes campers to challenge themselves with <u>different and exciting activities</u> to broaden their perspectives and achieve personal growth.

Each camper has the chance to realize a goal and feel a sense of accomplishment, wheter it be showing off a talent at a Moonshiner event, hitting a bullseye in archery, hiking a high peak, winning a ribbon in a horse show, or becoming an Admiral in sailing. Whatever it may be, every day at <u>Pok-O-MacCready</u> is filled with prospects of learning, growing, and gaining a better sense of self.



*Campers, circa 1912, on their way to climb Whiteface mountain (background).* 

One of the best reasons to come to <u>Pok-O-MacCready</u> is because it's so much fun! The <u>days and weeks are jam-</u> <u>packed</u> with classes, section activities, all-camp games and <u>events</u>, clubs, intercamp sports competitions, and more. The summer flies by, full of innovative and new experiences.

Campers choose from <u>over 35</u> <u>classes</u> where they can start a new activity or hone previously learned skills, from basketball to blacksmithing, canoeing to crafts. Yet the real fun starts with our <u>unique and imaginative games</u>, such as the all-camp Revolutionary War Game, which takes place every July 4th in an epic capture-the-flag battle of the British versus the Americans.

This ingenuity extends to every aspect of camp so that no matter what the weather or what you're doing, a day at <u>Pok-O-MacCready</u> will be filled with energy, excitement, and fun!



At the intermediate swim docks in 1909 - the fun was just beginning!



"Creativity is what makes Pok-O the most **fun** place on earth. The games, activities, and traditions are some of the most wonderfully bizarre things I have ever done in my life." Liana, 5th Year Camper "Pok-O Spirit is an intangible ingredient that you can only find here at camp...Pok-O Spirit lasts a lifetime."

Jack Swan, Owner



<u>"Pok-O Spirit" is an intangible</u> feeling that surrounds camp and extends to all of our campers and staff. It includes the qualities of cooperation, friendliness, initiative, enthusiasm, flexibility, courage, and creativity along with loyalty, trust, pride, and tradition. These positive attributes translate into the energy, laughter, singing, joking, and smiles that abound in the general camaraderie and good times of a summer at Pok-O!

<u>"Pok-O Spirit" is woven</u> <u>throughout the camp experience and our</u> <u>camp traditions.</u> Generations of campers and alumni take comfort in knowing that year after year, <u>Pok-O-MacCready</u> is a constant in an ever-changing world. "Pok-O Spirit" is the magical ingredient that has made camp so successful and so beloved for over four generations of campers, parents, counselors, and friends. It's just part of what makes our camp <u>"the greatest camp in the</u> <u>universe!"</u>



James Hankins, chef from 1905 - 1950, was a testament to "Pok-O Spirit" and is memorialized in the camp song for his famous homemade ice cream. Here he plays the bugle to signal the start of dinner.

At <u>Pok-O-MacCready</u>, campers are encouraged by our experienced staff to be themselves, to accept others as individuals and to contribute in their own way to the camp family. This welcoming and nurturing atmosphere allows old friendships to be strengthened and new ones to be created.

The friendships formed during summer sat Pok-O last a lifetime. These close bonds bring campers back year after year and last far beyond summers at camp., A high percentage of Pok-O campers return as <u>staff</u>, include childhood camp friends in their adult lives, and of course, eventually send their own children to Pok-O as well!

<u>Pok-O-MacCready</u> is truly a second home and a second family - one that spans the country and the world. Since its inception, campers have come from a variety of nations including Venezuela, Germany, Spain, Italy, Egypt, Mexico, Israel, France, Singapore, and the United Kingdom.



Throughout its century-old history, Pok-O-MacCready has always been a place to build lasting friendships.



"Camp is where everyone **belongs**; I met my best friends here over 35 years ago, and I get to see the same type of relationships developing today in young campers.

> Kenneth "Squeaky" Herz, at camp since 1969 as a camper, counselor, Section Head, and Assistant Headmaster



## "As far as what you can do, the question should really be; what can't you do?"

Andee Camper for 6 yrs

#### WILDERNESS PROGRAM

Pok-O-MacCready is located in New York State's Adirondack Park, which encompasses six million acres of mountains, rivers, and lakes to explore. Our <u>wilderness trips</u> range from afternoon excursions to multi-day activities and we encourage every camper to explore the Adirondack wilderness in some way, whether it be hiking, mountain biking, rock climbing, canoeing, kayaking, or trail riding on horseback.



CANOEINC

#### ver 35 activity offerings



ROCK CLIMBING



MOUNTAIN BIKING



#### RIDING PROGRAM

Pok-O-MacCready's renowned <u>equestrian program</u> is perfect for both beginning and expert riders. with classes from lead line to hunter jump courses. Each weekend, campers have the opportunity to ride in shows at our camp or at nearby equestrian centers. Our Horsemasters program is an integral element of the <u>daily equestrian schedule</u>, where campers learn responsibility by feeding and grooming the horses.



<u>KAYAKINC</u>

#### er 35 activity offerings.





SAILING

FISHING

#### A "SOLDIER" IS CAUGHT WHILE ATTEMPTING TO CAPTURE THE CITY ; REV-WAR

#### **BIG GAMES & EVENTS**

MASSIEN THE

For over a century, <u>"big games"</u> have been the ultimate experience for our campers, with events such as Rev War, The Blue & Gray Game, and Indian Days. The newest of the "big games" are the Greek Games, which feature activities spanning over three days.

#### CREATIVE ARTS AT POK-O

At Pok-O, we offer a range of creative activities such as crafts, music, theater, pottery, creative writing, and drawing & painting. Our <u>1812 Homestead</u> is an onsite working farm where campers learn pioneer living skills and crafting techniques.



POTTERY

#### ver 35 activity offerings!



1812 HOMESTEAD CRAFT



BLACKSMITHING



#### POK-O INDOOR ROCKCLIMBING SPC

Campers can develop their climbing skills onsite at the state-of-the-art Champlain Valley Climbing Center. <u>"The Crux"</u> offers over 3,200 square feet for climbing, rappelling, and bouldering; making it the perfect training facility for field climbing trips.

#### SPORTS PROGRAM

Pok-O-MacCready Camps offers a <u>wide variety of</u> <u>sports</u>, from athletic conditioning to volleyball to ultimate frisbee! Our facilities include tennis courts, soccer & lacrosse fields, two baseball fields, a basketball court, hockey complex, archery and rifle ranges.



ARCHERY

#### over 35 activity offerings





SOCCER

TENNIS

# Are you ready to join the Pok-O-MacCready family?

### LET'S GET STARTED!



518.963.7656

www.pokomac.com