

A child's dairy of 2006 CMC camping trips.

July 4th 2006 Mt Marcy Camping Trip

3rd Day, 2006-07-06

Mm.... Good night's sleep, I am happier today. I put on some regular clothes and went to brush my teeth. Elsa asked me if I felt better and I said yes. My legs and arms were still sore though. My Mom and the other fast people (Chung, Nancy, etc...) were going to Algonquit. It is either 8 miles or the loop (13 miles).

I decided to go to Mt Jo and Heart Lake (3 miles). I also wanted to go canoeing and swimming.

While I was writing my Journal, eating eggs, and drinking hot chocolate, I heard my Mom considering the hike to Algonquit. Finally Mom decided to stay with me. We were going on a short hike up Mt Jo with Mr. Joe.

Soon Mom, Mr. Joe, Fabian, Kelly, Jennifer, and I headed over to the trail. We planned on going to the town afterwards. The trail began as a gravel road. We passed a small art/wild museum. Then we got to the actual trail to Mt Jo. There were a lot kids on the trail and their parents were always behind them. All of the kids had a lot of energy. I was ahead of the group as we went higher. I waited for Mom though. When we reached the last part, a little girl slipped on a rock.

My Mom and I finally got to the top! I took a lot of pictures, but saved some for the very top.

We waited at the bottom part of the peak until the other kids and family left. Soon I went up to take pictures. It was really cool. You could see all the four peaks and Heart Lake.

Four peaks and Heart Lake



Mt Jo at Adirondack Mountain area



I was just about to go back down to mom when I saw a chipmunk! I quietly turned on my camera and got a perfect picture.

Chipmunk



I took some more random pictures before going down. Mom was lying on the big rock with her handkerchief over her face. There were some other rather old men and women nearby. Once mom woke up from her “sand bathing” – er sun bathing, we ate our peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Soon we set off down the mountain. This time, I carried the back pack. We were going the long way around now; it is supposed to be flatter than the short path. When we got to the start of the long path, it was pretty steep. I headed down pretty fast and saw Alex, his wife and his kid. When I got to a straight part of the trail, I sat on a rock and waited for mom. She did not come for a while and the bugs were killing me, (I realized that I shouldn't have sat by a rotting tree stump) so I left. After a bit, I made it to the small art museum. I took some pictures of the exhibits and a white admiral butterfly. The lady said those kinds of butterflies like to land on scat (droppings, poop, fecal matter, ECT...). There was some fake scat in the exhibit box so the butterfly landed right by it. Maybe 10 minutes later, mom showed up and we took a look around the lake. We decided to tell Mr. Joe that we wouldn't be going on the lake walk anymore. We wanted to swim in the

lake! Mom said, “I could go to the camp first to prepare dinner – uh no. Or you could go to the camp to get ready first – no? Okay we wait here together.” We waited for another 10 minutes or so and got another picture together from the same guy who took our picture on the top of Mt. Joe. He was a very good photographer.

Then Mr. Joe and the others arrived. They did not want to go to the lake walk either; they wanted to go to the town. We finally decided that mom, Fabian and I would go swimming and Mr. and Mrs. Joe would stay at camp and wait for us until 2 pm. They would leave at 2 pm for the town. Hooray! Time to go swim! I got ready and put some shorts and a shirt on top of my swimming suit. We headed over to the lake, mom wondered if we should tell the other people we were going swimming. We didn't. There were lots of people already in the water. When I got in, the water felt pretty cool, but nice. Then one of the kids remarked, “wait ‘til you get in the water...” I laughed and jumped in (mom jumped first). It was cold! I soon realized that it took a lot of energy to swim in the lake. As you got deeper, there was no bottom! I was kind of scared that I would sink since I didn't swim very well without my goggles. Mom was worried too. We swam around a little area surrounded by rope and floats. Then Fabian came swimming across the area and mom felt a little better. We made it to the shallower part. Mom explained how dangerous it was to swim in the lake at first and was sorry she didn't warn me. Phew! I got my goggles and looked underwater. The water was really

deep back there! There was also a stream of cold water that ran underneath the surface. The deeper the water got, the darker it got. Soon it was just a mass of murky dark green. We decided to stay in the little swimming area. Fabian taught us how to float on the water. The trick was to keep your belly up. I had a little trouble since my posture is very bad. Once I got the hang of it, it was cool.

After a long while, we got out of the lake. I saw a kid showing his parents a crawfish he caught while getting out of the water. When we got dressed and clean, we entered Mr. Joe's big minivan. We got to the town around 2:30 or 3 pm. Our car was parked by the Black bear restaurant and the Golden Arrow Inn. There were a lot of other inns too. Our shopping time was about 2 hours, according to the parking meter.

Mr. Jwo's car



As we walked down the streets, I noticed a glass blowing shop! We looked inside and saw a demonstration. It was really cool! There were ornaments, barometers, little animals, and a whole lot more – all made of glass! I particularly liked

a blue dragon holding an orb, but realized almost nobody I knew was left in the shop (and by nobody I mean no mom). Mr. Joe was sitting on a bench outside and I soon found out Mom and Fabian were at a cloth shop. Kelly Kwan was in the glass shop though. She got a glass frog and dolphin. I guess it was time to go now. We all got together again and went to get ice cream. I was really hungry, so I had no objection – though ice cream isn't a very healthy way to satisfy hunger. Oh well. There was a big line at Ben and Jerry's, but it gave us ample time to choose our flavor or kind of cone. I got mint chip and chocolate chip cookie dough on a waffle cone. Mom got dark chocolate chip with banana ice cream on a waffle cone. Jennifer got mint chip and chocolate with waffle cone. Mr. Joe just got chocolate ice cream. Fabian got a smoothie. Most of us liked the fresh made waffle cone. Mom said Fabian is the healthiest. It was really yummy. After we ate all the ice cream we went to EMS. I looked at shorts and T-Shirts for a long while, Mom wondered where Mr. Joe went, and Kelly said he went to fill up the meters again. We felt bad for taking so long, so I tried on the shorts and got a T-Shirt with it. All of them were hiking material and got them for really cheap. Shorts were 30% off and T-Shirt was 20% off. I think the total is \$50.00. Cool! A whole hiking set! Now we went quickly out. Mr. Joe (actually I think it is Mr. Jwo) said to see the lake so we lied down by the grass lawn next to the lake. There were lots of ducks. And lot of people too. I took some pictures and all was well. Then we decided to look at the

gift stores and the glass blowing shop again. On our way back we visited Mrs. Jwo (Jennifer) at Bass Shoe shop. Everything was on sale: 50%, 60% and even 70% off!

We had until 6:00 pm to shop. When we got to the glass shop Mom said I could not get the dragon so I got a little owl. Mom also got some handkerchiefs. Fabian had a pretty red one. Time to go now! We walked over to the car, but before that Mom stopped to sit down! She thought another car was Mr. Jwo's. We all laughed. Then we all waited by the real car while Mr. Jwo got Mrs. Jwo. Fabian wanted to look at the shop again as well. After a while we all got into the car and Mr. Jwo told us a story: His wife and a friend were waiting for his car, but then a different car stopped by. And instead of going into Mr. Jwo's car that was honking, they went into the other car and sat down! The other guy was totally befuddled and it was all very funny. Anyway, once we got to the campsite we got logs to make a fire. I set it up real nice with all of Mr. Jwo's birch bark in the middle. Fabian got a lot of twigs too. Mom said there wouldn't be enough logs, so I went to get another bag a while later. When I got to the host's trailer, two guys were loading the logs into the storage. I got one bag of fresh cut wood! The fire was really good and mom was making really good pasta. It was the last night, so it better be the best one! There was a little incident in the morning, but I'll get to that later... Dinner was tortellini (ricotta cheese/spinach) with tomatoes and sausage.

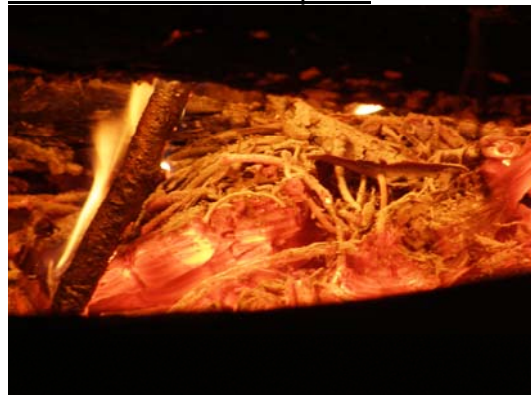
Pasta Dinner



After dinner, I tended to the fire. Mr. Jwo kept on bringing lots of pine branches and he also brought two small trees! It was pretty late and I noticed a butterfly. It was really big and nice until it plunged itself into the fire... Mr. Jwo told us another common mistake: Most girls stay with the bad guy, even if they know he's a bad guy. Then they end up very unhappy. In this case, the butterfly plunged itself into the fire knowing it was fire. It just did it anyway. It was funny because everyone was like, "ohh" and "ahh." Then the butterfly got toasted and we were like, "aww." Mr. Jwo told me to remember that story.

I took a lot of pictures of the fire and it was really cool.

Ember from our camp fire



Soon all the people from the Algonquit hike returned. Good thing Chung went out to search for them. Kelly Ko hurt her leg so some people were still out there in the dark. Everyone got back eventually. After a while, Ming Wah came over to our fire. We talked a lot with Fabian too. We talked about the Grizzly Man, 8 Below, and a lot of other stuff. It was really cool. Soon the fire died and Nancy came over. She thought there was a fire, but I told her, "too late." That was when I went to sleep.

Goodnight!