

LOG 'N BEADS NEWSLETTER OF ONTARIO GILWELL

Gilwell Reunion, Sept. 8 – 10, 2023

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Gilwell Academy

First Edition

Friday Evening, Sept. 8

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WELCOME TO THE 70TH GILWELL REUNION!

CURRENT REGISTRATION: 480

Camp Chair : Rick Camps and Medvent Emily Braida



For those of you who are returnees, welcome back! We hope that you get a chance to see all those friends that you have been apart from for quite a while, and that you get a chance to meet some new people in your travels around the Camp.

For the first time, we have Scouters who hold their Part 1, and are currently “working their tickets”, to earn their part 2, and receive their beads to join the ranks of the Scouters that have been coming home to this site for many years. It is our privilege to have you here, and to hopefully pass on some of our knowledge to you. Please make sure that your Mentor takes the time to walk you around the site and introduce you to as many people as possible. These Scouters will be more than happy to “impart their wisdom” to you, and even have a story or 2 to tell.

Enjoy your stay at Blue Springs.

Library Hours - Saturday

9:00 – Opening.

After Opening to Parade of Years

After Parade of years – by appointment only

Bus Times

In keeping with the “Academy” theme, our Bus this year, we have a School Bus as our official mode of transport. The first trip will be 1:00 pm on Friday and will run the following schedule.

Friday: 1 pm – 11:45 pm

Saturday: 7:30 am – 11:45 pm

Sunday: 7:30 pm – 1 pm Roads closed / no busses during ceremonies.



Camp Chief – John Edwards

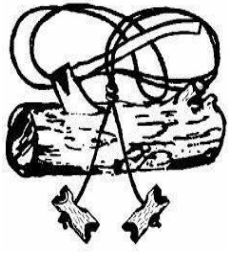


John is the current Mayor of Blue Springs. If you see him, say Hi!

Nottawasaga Contingent has announced that they have 50 Scouting mugs from previous Gilwells to give away on Saturday. Pay them a visit and see if there's any years you need.

South Lake Simcoe also has Gilwell mugs to give away, along with assorted Gilwell paraphernalia. Come and see if there are any goodies that interest you.

Please remember that we are not able to do fundraising or raffles of any sort. If you have items that you are offering for people to choose, please make them available for pick up.



2023 Reunion Committee

Honorary Camp Chief – John Edwards

Chair – Rick Camp, Agincourt/Halton

Past Chair – Glenn Bryers, Whitby

Treasurer – David Wiebe

Online Presence Manager – Katherine Attallah

Accommodations
& First Aid

Lloyd Fruitbelt

Campfire Program,
Resource Hub &
Fire Prevention

Shelley Sprague, North Waterloo

Control / Whiskin
Control / Ebor Park
Elections, Sanitation
And Scouts Own

Rob Rick, OWASCO
Barb Roosemalen, Blue Heron
Sara Maclean, QEOS / Peterborough

Log n' Beads

Kim Connors/ South Lake Simcoe

Registration

Dan Wiebe / Canal Connection

Parking

Bob Martinell / Nottawasaga

Social Activities

Marie Widdis / Mississauga

Friday Night Activities

- 7:00 pm BSSR Camp Tour (The Loop)
- 8:00 pm Friendship Fire
(Campfire Circle)
- 8:00 - 11:00 pm Evening Activity - Karaoke (The Loop)

If you require Police or Fire, please contact 911, and then report to the Lister Hut, so that they can report to the proper on-site authorities. For a Medical Emergency, please report to the Medvents in the basement of Ridley. Door faces the loop

PLEASE CONSIDER OFFERING YOUR ASSISTANCE TO THE FOLLOWING GROUPS. YOU CAN USE THE ATTACHED QR CODES TO REGISTER YOUR NAME IN THEIR FILES. ALL 3 REQUIRE HELP OVER THE WEEKEND, AND YOU WILL BE WARMLY WELCOMED



REGISTRATION



PARKING



CONTROL

THESE SCANS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN FRONT OF RIDLEY LODGE. PLEASE SIGN IN AND OFFER YOUR SERVICES.

PARKING REQUIRES HELP FOR THE FOLLOWING TIMES

FRIDAY - 4 PM, NEED 5 PEOPLE

SATURDAY - 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM, 2:00 PM, NEED 4 PEOPLE PER PERIOD

SUNDAY - 12:00. NO ONE HAS REGISTERED FOR THIS TIME PLEASE HELP

The Cookoff Challenge this year includes Beef, Okra and Barbeque Sauce. Right now, we have only 2 contestants. Please see Marie @ the Mississauga Contingent, and place your name on the list, to take part.

Fire Issues

Please remember that your Lanterns and Stoves must be inspected before you light them. Please go to Lister Hut to let them know you are ready to be inspected.

Designated Smoking Areas.

If you are a smoker, please note that the designated area is in the loop. Tomorrow mornings issue will identify 2 other place, please watch for them. Please make sure to go there to light up.

Handouts

Today, you will have received 2 handouts. One pertaining to any recognition, Gone Home etc. The other is asking you what your thoughts are on how to bring our Camp back to life. Take some, fill these out and drop them in to us in the basement of Ridley Lodge. We will do our best to ensure your information is presented.

Waste Water

Waste or Grey water disposal is available for waste cooking and washing liquids only, next to KeKe. Please ensure to remove al Silverware from water, and do not put garbage into the tanks. Solids make it difficult to drain the tanks and leads to extra expense.

Garbage

Items which are not able to be dumped into the tanks are considered to be “garbage”. These should be bagged and packed out!

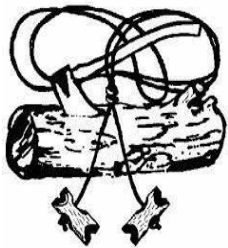
ERP

A copy of the ERP should be accessible within your Marquis

Physical Fitness

Please ensure that all Physical Fitness Forms are readily accessible.

Please note that all information that has been supplied up to this point will be posted in tomorrow mornings Issue.



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Registration - 510

Let us introduce to you our guest Speaker for this year, Katherine Attallah and Harl3y



Harl3y is Katherine's Service Dog. He helps her through times when she needs just a little support. And, with a face like that, how can he not help her feel Better 😊

Katherine's speech today is to be based around the fact that not all disabilities are visible to the naked eye, and how important it is for us to be vigilant. We look forward to hearing what she has to pass on to us.

Today's Weather

Want to see today's Weather Forecast? Stick your head out of your Marquis and look up!

IMPORTANT REMINDER - THERE IS NO CAMPFIRES / COOKING ALLOWED IN BLUE HERON. ALL COOKING MUST BE DONE ON THE MAIN FIELD

Saturday Activities

7:00 am Rise and Shine, Breakfast

8 am - 7:00 pm Registration (*Blue Heron only*)

8:00 - 9:30 am Gilwell Store (*Ridley*)

8:30am - 1:00pm Meet & Greet (*Whiskin Field*)

10:00 am **Opening Ceremonies & Guest Speaker** (*Whiskin Field*)

Contingent Rep meeting to follow at the Yak Shack (one rep per contingent)

11 am - 2:30 pm Gilwell Store (*Ridley*)

11:45 am Lunch (*Contingents*)

12:45 - 3:00 pm Contingent Afternoon Activities (*Program based*)

1:00 - 3:00 pm Resource Hub (*Whiskin Field*)

1:00 pm BSSR Camp Tour (*The Loop*)

3:00 - 4:00 pm **Parade of Years,**
Election Speeches Tea on The Lawn (*Whiskin Field + BYO Mug*)

4:00 - 4:30 pm Gilwell Store (*Ridley*) *if needed.*

4:00 - 5:00 pm Elections - *Polls open*
(*Various locations around BSSR*)

4:00 - 5:00 pm Cook Off Competition
(*Whiskin Field*)

5:30 pm Dinner (*Contingents*)
No bus service during this time

6:30 - 7:30 pm Gilwell Store (*Ridley*) *If needed.*

7:45 pm Gather for Campfire

8:00 pm **Reunion Campfire**
(*Campfire Circle*)

8:45 - 11:00 pm Contingent Evening Program 9:00 pm - 12 am Prom Night with Live Band:
Connors Brothers Band (Keke)

Committee News

This year there is 4 seats being vacated on the Committee that we need to fill. In order to do this, we need to people to step up and run. Please consider and make your intentions know to the Q.E.O.S Contingent as soon you can.

The Committee also needs to fill the position of Treasurer, which was vacated this year. This is an appointed position and will require an Interview by the Executive. If your considering this position, please notify the Committee by email, to the Chair at chairman@ontariogilwell.scouters.ca and to Secretary@ontariogilwell.scouters.ca. This position closes on September 30th.

Afternoon's Activities

Scarborough South / Peterborough

They will be presenting "Songs and cheers for Campfire. They will be leading interested parties in Songs and Skits all afternoon and will have handouts available, so that you can increase your repertoire. You can also request a resource by emailing them at scoutermandy@gmail.com.

They will also have Campfire Blankets from their groups Scouters for viewing, and if you have a crest to be pinned onto a Campfire Blanket. At the end of the day, one lucky individual will take the blanket home with them.

Owasco

Scouter Terry Fielder has been working diligently to put together a list of reunion "mentoring" events, a list which he has chosen to keep close to his chest until this afternoon. Make sure stop in to Owasco and see what kind of surprises he has for us. We will also be mentoring on Knots.

Here's a fun challenge for all!

This idea was presented to us last night, after the first edition was printed, but we wanted to make sure it came out! What we propose is for each Contingent to speak to all their Onsite member, and poll them for how many years they been coming to Gilwell. Once you've done that come up with a total number, come to Log 'n Beads in the basement of Ridley Lodge, and give us your membership number, the number of years, and what the average is for your group. Then take your number and multiply it by the number of contingents we have onsite, to come with your guess for the total number of years onsite. There will be a prize of unmentionable value for your contingent. Let's see how many years of experience we have at reunion this year.

Evening Activities

South Lake Simcoe

Scouting Jeopardy, come spend some time with us, and see how much knowledge you have about Scouting.

Owasco

Come and join us for a game of "Are you smarter than a Cub Scout"

What do you know about the McLaren Tartan?

Did you know that there is a storied history behind the tartan on our Scarves? Did you know that we are members of the McLaren Clan? Please watch for the afternoon edition, and we will be giving you the lowdown on the history behind this. From what I've heard, this is extremely interesting, and look forward to learning more.

Registration has brought us the following.

A very bubbly, friendly young Lady (44 years old or so) who we believe to be a Teacher, came in and purchased previous badges and pins in Ridley Lodge on Friday night. She got so carried away buying items that she left 3 items on the table. She paid for them. We are not sure who she was, or which Contingent she is with, but we want to get her items back in her hands. The items she bought were a black 2021 Reunion and a 2021 Reunion Badge and a 2021 pin. Please come see us.

Awards

Owasco

Doug Henry – 15 years of Service, Sharlene Avann – Medal of Good Service, Michael Row – Bar to the Medal of Merit

Kevin Beleskey – the Silver Acorn. Kevin and his wife Cat are Owasco's Quartermaster

Terry Fielder – Bar to the Silver Acorn

Q.E.O.S

Linda Lyons – Bar to the Silver Acorn

First Year Gilwellians – Welcome!

Matthew Dunn – 1st Bolton

Donna Metzner – South Lake Simcoe

Greetings to all our Part I Scouters, who have chosen to come and spend time with us. Please stop in at The Log 'n Beads, and introduce yourself, so that we can recognize you here. Currently, we have 15 registered to be with us. We look forward to meeting you.

You know you're a Scouter when....

...You open your shirt drawer, and discover it is full of Scouting paraphernalia.

... You can relate anything you do to a camp story.

... You think that camping in any weather is still better than the best day at work

... Your friends limit you to one Camp Story a Day

... Your Trunk is full of Tent Pegs and Tarps

Today's Mentoring "Map". Please try to visit as many of these Contingents as possible.

Owasco / YBMT

Useful Knots

Q.E.O.S.

Crafts

Oshawa

Hot to STEM

Halton

Camp Songs and Cheers

London

Ice Cream and bring a bowl

North Halton

Survival Kits

KROY/ ACENES

Match and Fire for Cubs

West Scarboro

Woggle and Hydration Beads

Whitby

Trees and Plant Identification, weather game, build a chair

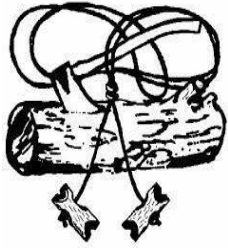
South Lake Simcoe

Communication Skills and Scout Jeopardy

There will be a map of the activities pasted on the info wall at OWASCO, to help you find your way.

GOOD MORNING GILWELL!





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Gilwell Academy

Information Request Saturday, Sept. 9 afternoon edition

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Registration - 532

Scouting and Clan MacLaren - There is a Connection!

In 1907 at the Brownsea camp, Major Kenneth McLaren was B-P's assistant and became the first Secretary of the Scout Association when it was founded in 1908. In 1919, Scottish Scout commissioner, William Frederick DeBois McLaren (no relation to the major), wanted a camp for the Scouts in East London. Mr. McLaren made a deal with B-P that if a suitable location for a camp could be found, he would pay for it. The search was on!

Gilwell Park was found near the town of Chingford and purchased for the Scout Association. Mr. McLaren paid 7000 pounds sterling for the property and added another 3000 pounds sterling for infrastructure improvements. In July 1919, Mrs. McLaren cut ribbons in Scout colours of green and yellow and Gilwell Park was open for camping and training.

To honour Mr. McLaren's generous gift, the staff at Gilwell Park wore neckers of full McLaren tartan. However, tartan fabric is and was very expensive and eventually a necker of a dove grey fabric with a warm red lining was adopted and a small piece of ribbon in the MacLaren tartan pattern was adopted to replace the full tartan neckers.

After the early Wood Badge courses at Gilwell, the familiar Gilwell necker with the MacLaren tartan ribbon was adopted for those who completed their Wood Badge, and we continue to wear this necker to this day.

Some years ago (in the dim ages of the past), the Chief of Clan MacLaren, Donald MacLaren of MacLaren learned about the McLarens who were instrumental in Scouting's earliest days and made the decision that any Scouter who has completed his/her Wood Badge training and received their Gilwell necker, Beads and woggle were, in his eyes, "Honourary MacLarens."

In 2005, Chief Donald was made an honorary Wood Badger/Gilwellian. In mid-July 2023, at the local Highland games near his home in Scotland, the Master of all Scouts called Chief Donald MacLaren of the MacLaren Clan Home. The new Chief of Clan MacLaren is Chief Donald's son, Florian. The Clan MacLaren Society of North America, Ltd., created a "Wood Badge" membership so that any Wood Badger/Gilwellian may join. Visit the Society's website for more information on this membership.

We are happy to Welcome our 2023 NEWBIES:

Matt Dunn Nottawasaga

Karen Aspden Wellington

Kathy Bryer Whitby

Riley Matthew Windsor

Jose Lloyd Wendel

Yvette Mallen Winder/Tecumseh

Jocelyn Falls Windsor/Tecumseh

Crystel Comarhin Windsor/Tecumseh

Dan Comarhin Windsor/Tecumseh

Mark Falls Windser/Tecumseh

Aisha Daanish Hamilton

Katherine Vlossak Northwest Blue Water

Donna Metzner South Lake Simcoe

Colen Quinn Owasco

Jeff Quinn Qwasco

Alan Yip York

Keith Robinson Windsor

Adam Zoch Windsor

We hope you had a great time and we look forward to seeing you in 2024.

BSSR Camp Tour

New Gilwellians, Part 1 Scouters and current Gilwellians were taken on a hike around Blue Springs, to show them why this listed as a “Scenes” site. They were met at the loop, and shown Blue Springs, the Chapel and River Tower. Blue Springs Scout Reserve is like “going home” for many of us, and we hope you feel that way as well after this weekend.

If you are a first year Gilwellian, or a Part 1 Scouter who has joined us for the mentoring, please go to the Whitby Contingent before 6:30, and register yourself for their Graduation Ceremony. The Commencement will start at 8:15 pm and will be completed in time for you to go to the Prom. Don't forget the Connors Brothers Band will be entertaining us from 9:00 pm to Midnight.

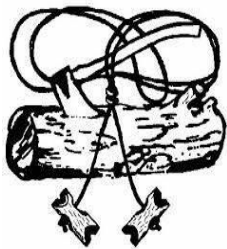


For those of you who have asked for the information about this plaque, we've discovered that it comes from a Scouters greatest resource – Dollarama. So, head out and pick up your copy this week.

Parade of Years



This year's Parade of Years carried us all the way back to 1956, the year before I was born! The fact that these Scouters keep coming from year to year speaks volumes about what Gilwell means to all of us. Here's hoping that we see you all next year!



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Gilwell Academy

Evening Edition

Saturday, Sept. 9

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Registration - 532

Experiences from WSJ03, South Korea

Today, I sat with Tristan, a young Scouter who had travelled to the World Jamboree in Seoul, South Korea. I wanted to get his perspective on how the Camp went. With all the media reports showing that the Jamboree had become bit of a disaster, the “boots on the ground” were the best place to learn about the Experience.

Tristan attended the Jamboree as a Venture Participant, as a member of the 1st Kempenfelt Scout Group. To be able to make the trek, he did his own fundraising, doing bottle drives, Aluminum Cans and Pepperettes. Many hours of fundraising made it possible for him to make it to Korea.

When I asked him about his experience, he told me with no hesitation that it was not as bad as the media portrayed it. He did say that the bugs were very prevalent, but that was why bug spray was invented. The temperatures at the site were very high, but the site had established “cooling

Stations”, which initially were covered tubes. Within 2 days, they had added misting into the stations, and they found that once the sprays came on, the environment became a little more bearable. The youth found this a great place to meet new friends and build relationships. After a few days the group was supplied with a shelter that was put up on their site. Their patrol was able to move to a different site, where there was a lot less standing water. The current site is to be turned into a Rice Paddy once the Jamboree was complete.

Tristan was privileged enough to meet Scouts from all over the world and add to his collection of Crests, Scarves and Woggles. He was wearing a woggle in the shape of a bull, which he managed to garner from a Group from the Philippines. He explained that he had seen the woggle on a youth onsite and decided that he had to have for his collection.

I asked if he felt his trip was positive and he told me without any hesitation yes. They were transferred inland when the site was “abandoned” to a university that was well away from the Coastline. From there, they had the chance to visit Museums, Arboretums and other facilities that gave them a chance to experience some Korean lifestyles. He was very surprised at how many people could speak English.

Tristan stated that to him, this was an Experience of a lifetime.

Gone Home

The following members of our Gilwell Family have Gone Home since the 2022 Gilwell Reunion. Please keep the following people and their families in your prayers:

South Lake Simcoe: Ken Kirton

Scarborough South/Peterborough: John Blake, Adrian Barker

Q.U.E.S.: Bonnie Mitchell

Essex: Harry Price

West Scarborough: Donald MacLaren, Chief of Clan MacLaren (1954-2023) – Honorary Wood Badger/Gilwellian as of 10/2005 in U.S.A.

Windsor: Guy Jolin, Dave MCWha, John Brimmer, John Lacey

Mississauga: Kate Schaefer, Charlotte Vogel

East Willowdale: Jim Spears

Hamilton: Ben Piper

Nottawasaga: Brigitte Jordan

Oshawa: Claire Ford

David Hatton: 50+ years, age 93

Awards

Q.E.O.S. : Linda Lyons – Bar to the Silver Acorn

West Scarborough: Daniel Carter Beard – Masonic Scouter Award

Hamilton: Max Kindy – Medal for Good Service

Zac Kindy – Medal for Good Service

South Lake Simcoe: Ken Kirton – Bar to the Medal for Good Service (presented posthumously, September 2, 2023), at his Celebration of Life, by Bob Pearson

B.S.S.R. Ranger Paul Garofolo – Medal for Good Service, for his Service to the Blue Springs Scout Reserve. He spends countless hours preparing the site for our annual get together, so that when we arrive, the Reserve is a beautiful space, as always. Mrs. Scouter Paul supports him completely, and you can tell that they are a strong team.



Don't forget, if you haven't given us your number of Gilwell years, please stop in at Log and Beads, and make yourself known.



NOW THIS IS GILWELL!!!



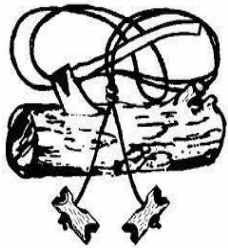
We need to get the field back to this – People visiting different activities that helps them to learn different skill sets, different activities and meeting with old and new friends. The spirit of Gilwell was alive and well here today.

When we sent out our first edition, we included with it an information request. This request was for ideas on how to breathe life into our Camp. The results were quick to come back and varied. Some of these ideas are things that we can do as Contingents, and this is where we need to start.

- As Contingents, we need to be able to reach out to those people that have been working their Part 2. Because there hasn't been in-person training, there may be Scouters out there that have been working online to complete the process. I personally know of 2 who had no idea what the result would be when they got to the Mentorship level, because they hadn't let it be known how far they were in the process **PLEASE!** Talk to your current Pat 1's and tell them to let you know if they're going to start, and make sure you stay with them all along the way.
- What if all contingents could issue invitations to each new Gilwellian. If we could find a way for their names to be published to each Contingent President, so that this could happen.
- What if we could do some training which pertains to the history of Gilwell, and why it keeps us coming back. Have a meeting where the Newbies can sit with the Current Gilwellians, so they can ask "why do you keep going back?"

The biggest response from all Contingents was **BRING BACK IN PERSON TRAINING!** So much of what we learn as Gilwellians done through face-to-face interaction. We all know that you can't converse with your computer (or at least hope not. If you can, please refer back to Katherine's speech). As individuals, we need feedback from others to keep us on track. I have 2 Scouters that have come to me after starting to work on their Part 2, saying that they found themselves starting nod off while watching.

As of yesterday, it was conveyed to me that Scouts Canada has advised that we are in fact able to start doing Part 2 Training again, but the layout is to be completely different than what we all experienced. We won't go into all the details here but reach out to your GC'S and they can help with the Process. Make sure to also speak with your CRM who should have all the details, and let's get these potential Gilwellians back on track.



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Gilwell Academy

Information Request Sunday, Sept. 9 Final Edition

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Our first and most important piece this morning is an apology.

In yesterday's edition, regarding the members that Gone Home, there was a spelling error. Jim Speirs was represented with incorrect spelling. We missed the error when proofreading, and want to sincerely apologize to Fiona Empke, his Life Partner for many years. Please accept on behalf of the Log 'n Beads.

Also, Linda Michaud from Wagon passed yesterday. She a past Reunion Chair and was onsite Friday. She was admitted to Hospital and went be with our Chief Scout after visiting. She did not let on just how serious her illness was, because she knew if she did, she would probably not be able to attend. She just wanted to come to one last Gilwell, which she was able to do.

Rest easy both of our dear friends, until we meet again, at the eternal Campfire.



PROM NIGHT!!!!



For a second year in a row, the Connors Bothers Band entertained us with foot stomping – hand clapping Celtic music and a mixture of popular songs. The Keke was jumping, dancing, stomping and clapping all through the room. The Band absolutely loves playing for us, because where else do you see people pulling chairs up front so that they can sit down, people sitting on the floor and everyone

trying to get a spot just so that they can be closer to the action. They are honorary members of the South Lake Simcoe Contingent and told us outright that this is their favorite “gig” to play. Good on you all!

GILWELL YEARS ONSITE

As part of an interesting exercise, we asked for the Contingents to supply us with how many years of Gilwellians service they had on site this weekend. This is in no way an exact number, but based on an average for Contingent. We took the years presented to us, added them together, then divided by the number of Contingents that reported. This number was then multiplied by the number of Contingents. We came up with the phenomenal number of 10,584 years onsite. And that does not include any members that have not come back for one reason or another.

We hope that Scouts Canada recognizes the numbers of years that come back here each and every year, because they love Scouting and this where we come to recharge our batteries before going out with the youth.

SAFE TRAVELS HOME, TO WHEREVER THAT MAY BE, AND SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!