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Inaugural Issue,
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The Arts Camp of New England at Med-O-Lark



Welcome to the first issue of **iMAGINE**...

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It is with great pleasure that I have the opportunity to introduce to you Med-O-Lark's brand new newsletter, **iMAGINE**. Over the coming months, we will bring you news and updates about camp, camp life, and the lives and activities of those in the Med-O-Lark community.

iMAGINE is the first in a series of steps to strengthen what is already an unbelievable community of diverse people from every corner of the world. Our community draws from a rich variety of traditions, ethnicities, and religious affiliations, and seeks to live by the highest hopes and dreams of all persons.

It is in this incredible tradition that **iMAGINE** comes to you as a forum for your own expressions, and as a place to help

keep this tightly-knit community woven together during "the rest of the year." We want to hear why you love camp, what you miss, and what you are looking forward to next summer! This publication is for *you!*

Med-O-Lark's home is in the arts and its greatest strength lies in the cultivation of the imagination. Whether that comes as visual arts or in creative writing, through musical expression or in theatrical productions, it is this imagination that drives the life of our campers, not just at camp, but throughout their lives.

It is also this imagination that lies at the center of any hope for progress in the larger society. As simple as it sounds, it really does all start at camp.

So in the months to come we invite you to join with us as we imagine together, at times in fun, and at times a bit more seriously. Join us as we imag-



Another bright and sunny Med-O-Lark morning.

ine the future of this amazing place we have come to know and love as Med-O-Lark Camp. But most of all, join us to imagine *together*.

We hope you enjoy!

-Jody Moser
Editor, **iMAGINE**

Inside this issue:

- New Website Coming!
- Fall Improvements
- Expanded Leadership program at MOL
- Camper and Staff News
- Green, Green Ireland
- How to contribute!
- A Dream in Glass
- Countdown to Next Summer!

Fall Improvements at Med-O-Lark

Every year after camp ends, a flurry of activity begins at Med-O-Lark as we begin to prepare for the upcoming summer. So far, a number of improvements are in place for next summer. The fence around the tennis courts has

been completely replaced with green tennis mesh, and the courts are looking better than ever with the upgrade. And, to top off the first round of improvements, next summer campers will enjoy a completely new building to re-

place Kozy Cottages, home to last summer's fabric arts program, and additional showering facilities for female campers. With fall pruning and planting well underway, Med-O-Lark is set to look spectacular next summer!

Leadership Development at Med-O-Lark

“Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.”
-John F. Kennedy

For many years, Med-O-Lark has benefited from those amazing people we have come to know as Counselors In Training (CITs) and Rising Counselors (RCs). Based upon the great success of this program over the last few years, and the consistent increase in its popularity, next summer will debut an expanded and integrated

Leadership Development program for older campers.

The keystone of this program will be an expanded leadership program for former Senior Campers, and former CITs, allowing more campers than ever before to benefit from the program.

This expansion will allow all Med-O-Lark Campers to benefit from the skills

and talents of this amazing group of former campers, and will allow for the introduction of a mentoring program to provide one-on-one contacts between our leaders in training and new campers.

Anyone with questions about the new leadership program is welcome to email Jody at imagine@medolark.com.



I can't wait to see it!

New Website Coming!

All eyes should keep watch at www.medolark.com as a new Med-O-Lark Camp website is in the making! Completely redesigned, the new website will allow campers, parents, friends, and staff to learn about Med-O-Lark's extensive

class offerings, evening programs, and amazing community in a new, easy-to-negotiate format.

Rest assured that the wealth of pictures you have come to love from Camp will still be available, and eventually camp-

ers and staff will enjoy the use of a new online community forum which will allow campers to share thoughts and ideas via interactive online postings.

Keep your eyes open, it'll be here soon!



Flowers from outside the Stained Glass studio, Summer 2006

A Gardener Among Us

Rumor has it that Scott's wife **Dana Weinstein** is an incredible gardener.

Already having transformed their Connecticut home into a masterpiece fit for *Better Homes and Gardens*, I've already heard

that she has turned her well-trained eye to Med-O-Lark.

While Med-O-Lark is already beautiful, Dana has her eye on several places around camp that have the potential to go from beauti-

ful to GORGEOUS! (Think: outside Pottery and Stained Glass...) I for one can't wait to see what is in store for next summer, with new flowers and landscaping ideas from Dana's green thumb!

A little birdie told me that...

Since camp ended, *Jadwiga Kellock* has moved to Seattle. *Scott Weinstein* traveled to Ireland for an amazing week in October.

Jody Moser has relocated to Chicago, where his dog *James* is discovering a newfound love of water, leaping into Lake Michigan whenever possible.

Matt Grossman has started college at Vassar. There was an informal Med-O-Lark reunion in *Southern Florida* early in October.

Back in *Maine*, things at Med-O-Lark are just about ready for the upcoming winter months. And while it's very peaceful with the brightly-colored autumn

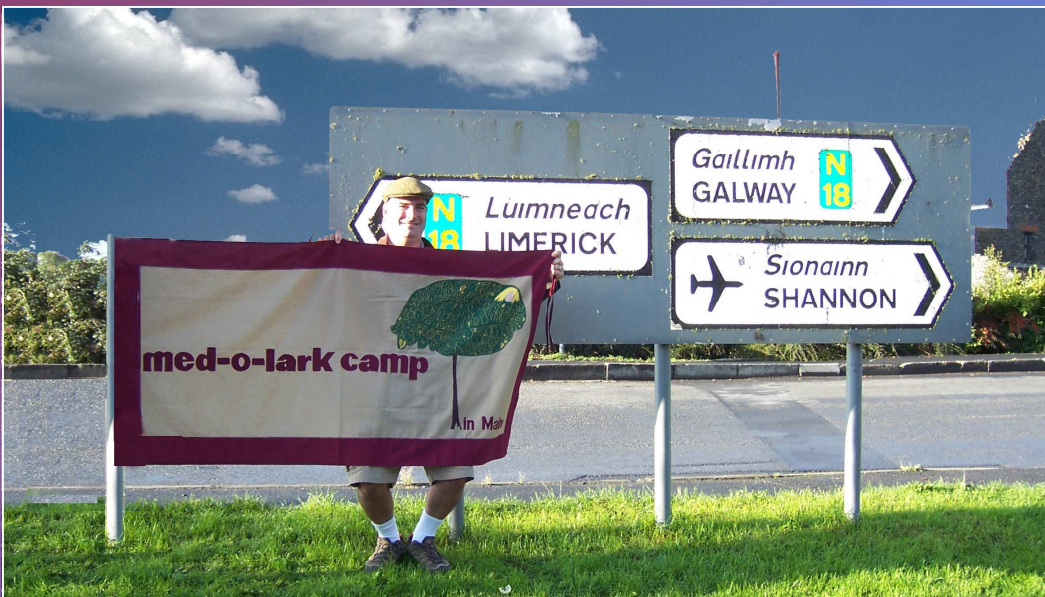
leaves covering the property, we miss all of your voices and energy at camp!

This is all the news we have for now, but remember, we want to include *you* in the next issue of **iMAGINE**. So, let us know what's up! Just drop an email to Jody at imagine@medolark.com



Guess what I heard...

Med-O-Lark Around the World!!! - Ireland



As we all know, Med-O-Lark campers come from nearly every corner of the globe, allowing campers to make friends in some very incredible places. AND, we know that every year Med-O-Larkers travel far and wide, both to meet old friends, and to discover new places. We at

iMAGINE, want to feature one of those places each month, so each month of this year the Med-O-Lark banner is going to travel somewhere in the United States, or to a far-distant corner of the globe. This month, the banner traveled with *Scott Weinstein* to

the lush green hills of *Ireland*. If you are heading someplace in the near future and would like to have the MOL banner travel with you, just drop an email to Jody at imagine@medolark.com and next month, the picture above could be of YOU!

Did you know that the harp, and not the shamrock, is the official symbol of Ireland? Played by ancient Celts, the harp is one of the oldest instruments.



Already on Board...

The campers below are what we at Med-O-Lark call the *ultimately dedicated*. With camp barely over, and the laughter of campers still echoing through the Maine woods, the following seventeen campers have *already* submitted their registration forms for next summer. That's right: when camp is still at least 235 days away, these campers love Med-O-Lark so much that they have joined the ranks of enrolled campers for the summer of 2007. We're impressed! And word was that at the time of press, even more of these super-dedicated early enrollments were streaming into the camp office at a steady clip! So get your forms in, and then we can list YOU in next month's issue of **iMAGINE!** Camp is closer than you might think! As we say, "Don't delay! Sign up today!"

The following campers have already signed-up for this coming summer! Have you?

Emily Ringel

Rachel Weiss

Livia Downs

Sammy Rosenberg

Maddie Marino

Nicole Snapper

Hannah Peters

Junes Ossman

Nicole Braun

Katherine Rosengarten

Yonit Friedman

Kayla Moller

Joe Gordon

Emanuela Boisbouvier

Camille Biancheri

Grace Hodges

Marta Basanez de la Rica

Who will be next?



Jay Stager as a Pirate,
Summer 2006

**"Don't Delay!
Sign-up today!"**

YOU can be in next month's iMAGINE...

We want to hear from YOU! What have you been doing? Where have you traveled? Did you get together with other Med-O-Larkers somewhere?

Maybe you have a piece that was featured in an art

exhibition at school. Or maybe you performed in a school play or Musical. Maybe you even have formed your own band, or joined a dance company.

Whatever it is, we want to know so we can spread the

good news among the members of the Med-O-Lark Community!

But how do I do this, you ask? It's easy! Just email Jody at

imagine@medolark.com with your news!



*We're always looking
for your news!*



The Arts Camp of New England at Med-O-Lark

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Check us out online at:

<http://www.medolark.com>

Arrival Day is Coming...



*Only 235 days until First Session...
Only 263 days until Second Session...*

Last summer while we were at camp, eyes around the world were turned toward the Middle East, to the Israeli/Lebanese conflict. In response to news reports that he had heard, one of our campers, Aaron Peckler, created this truly impressive stained glass piece showing the Israeli and Lebanese flags united under a peace symbol.

With an unprecedented number of Israeli counselors on staff last summer, the piece was deeply touching on many levels. And it remains as hauntingly powerful today as it was last summer.

This idea of peaceful coexistence, of a world living together in peace and understanding, lies at the very core of what Med-O-Lark is all about. It is also the inspira-

You may say I'm a dreamer...



tion for our newest publication, this edition of **iMAGINE**.

In 1971, John Lennon wrote the song which has served as one of the chief inspirations for the title of this newsletter. That song was, as so many now know, *Imagine*, and is filled with an utopian dreaming very similar to what we seek at camp. As *Imagine* puts it, imagine a world where all persons could live together, "living life in peace." Imagine a world with "no possessions," without greed, without hunger. "Imagine all the people, sharing all the world." Imagine living for all people, for today.

There is no doubt that Med-O-Lark is one of the most fun places I have ever been. But for those of us who have been privileged to be a part of this community, we know that there is something

incredibly powerful about the experience of living together in *this* community that, even if for a brief 4 or 8 weeks, seeks to bring out the very best in every person.

Is it possible to maintain this vision outside of the camp environment? It's a terribly complex question, and to be completely honest, I don't know. I can say though, that I, for one, am willing to try.

And so, it is fitting that this inaugural issue of **iMAGINE** concludes with the chorus of that simple, but profound song:

"You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one. I hope someday you will join us, and the world will live as one."

Just imagine it.