## KFPT DONATES \$1,000 TO AMICI

The story of the KFPT donation to AMICI started out when John and Peggy Latimer were kids... long before they met and long, long, long, long before they became known as Chief and Mrs. Chief to Kilcoo campers.

Like all marriages, Chief and Mrs. Chief brought many friends into their union... some dating back to their pre-school days. As those friends got married and had kids, a strange and wonderful thing happened. Nine of those original friends, with the Latimers as the magnet, gravitated to each other in a special way and started to gather formally in the 50's and 60's...

Somewhere along the way... no one is exactly sure when... it was decided that they should ALL get together with ALL of the kids for a weekend of fun at Kilcoo. It was the first KFPT (Kilcoo Family Party Time) and no one knew how long the tradition would last or how big that original core group would expand to...

On this past Labour Day weekend, the 33rd or 40th or 54th Anniversary KFPT was held. All nine families were in attendance with representation coming from Dubai, California, Vancouver, Calgary, and Montreal... those living in Greece, Australia and England sent their regrets! Amazingly, 120 souls, spanning three generations were in attendance, with 50 kids under the age of sixteen!

During the weekend, it was determined by the KFPT gang that experiencing a camp like Kilcoo is truly a pleasure that should be shared by as many kids as possible. The virtual hat was passed and a \$1,000 donation was made to AMICI in the name of the Latimer Family!!!

How how!



## KILCOO CANOE PROJECT UPDATE

Now in its second year, the Kilcoo Canoe Project has been moving ahead steadily. During the past winter Builder Marc Russell moved shop to Toronto and by June two more new Kilcoos were added to the fleet, while three vintage Chestnut canoes were restored. These, and all the 2G canoes, saw lots of use over the summer both on Gull Lake and on out-trips.

Much of July was spent in milling wood, preparing boat elements for later assembly, and repairing several ABS and Kevlar tripping boats. The summer's main project, however, was the restoration of Kilcoo's second war canoe, which was in need



of an extensive refit to correct extensive hull damage and serious rot. "The repairs," Marc sighs, "went very well, but the finishing slowed me down some. The boat is very big, about three or four times the volume of a Kilcoo, and at times seemed a daunting task on which to work. There's a lot of sanding." Camper Colin Dooley was a great help during repairs, and he and Marc both were very pleased to work in the hot sun on a free section of the canoe docks. The boat was set aside in August while Marc, LiT Kevin Preiksaitis, and camper Gabe Lane focused on building two new Kilcoo hulls, which will be finished and completed early in the new year. The refit resumed during the fall, with members of the Post Camp work crew helping to canvas the boat. Repair work has also begun on "The Needle," a unique 22" cedar-strip racing canoe.

Interest and awareness of our Project continues to grow: outside of the immediate Kilcoo community, our new boats have attracted the attention of recreational canoeists and private collectors, and already Marc has been commissioned for several custom projects. "My winter is pretty full, but I hope to have at least three new canoes on the dock by July next. I just want to keep rockin' and rollin', making better boats for Kilcoo." By summer 2011, we



should have 9 Kilcoos, and by 2012 (assuming any and all important repairs are complete) a regular cycle of preparation, construction, and maintenance can begin in earnest.

Both Marc and Kilcoo welcome sales inquiries

and comments about the Project, and as it progresses, the Gazette will certainly keep the Kilcoo community involved with all the developments in this expanding endeavor.

F. NELSON ARCHER

## IDEAS ALWAYS WELCOMED!

If you have ideas for articles of interest for future issues of the Gazette please contact us at gazetteeditor@kilcoo.com. If you have a good topic idea, we will do the follow up research; if you want to write an article please put on your creative hat, and if you have some photos to accompany your piece, please send those along as well!