

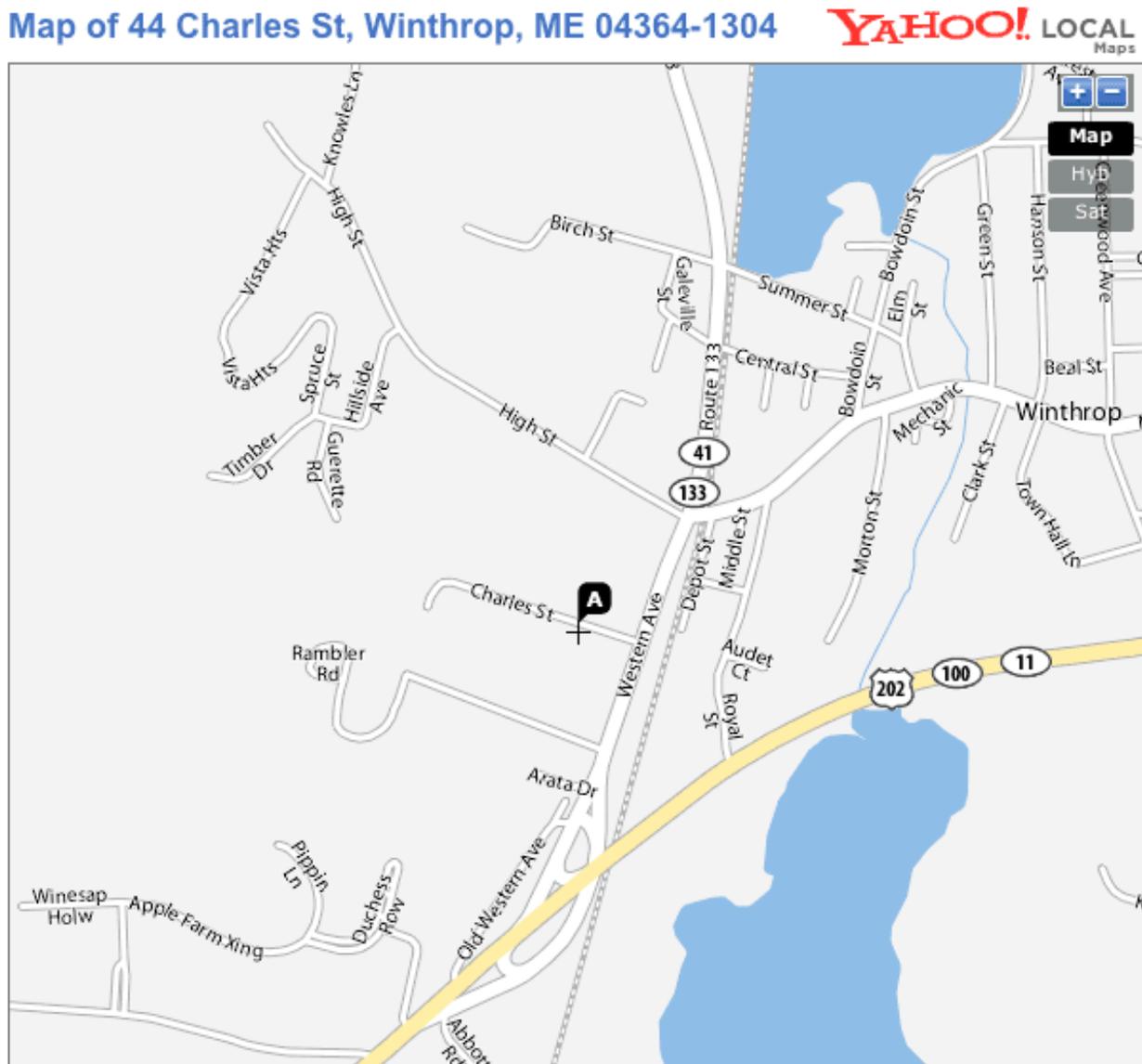
From: Jeffrey Frankel <jfrankel@mac.com>
Subject: **CAMP Potluck Dinner August 13; email newsletter**
Date: August 9, 2008 7:25:56 AM EDT
To: CAMP Members
▶ 2 Attachments, 65.6 KB



It's time for CAMP's annual summer potluck dinner at Bob Darby's house in Winthrop!

As long-time CAMP-ers know, each August we hold a potluck dinner in lieu of a regular meeting. This year's event will take place on Wednesday, August 13 at 6:00 p.m. This an hour earlier than our regular start time. Please bring a salad, hot or cold entrée, or dessert. CAMP will provide beverages.

Bob lives on 44 Charles Street in Winthrop. (See point A on the map below.) This is the last house on the left after you turn onto Charles Street from Route 133.





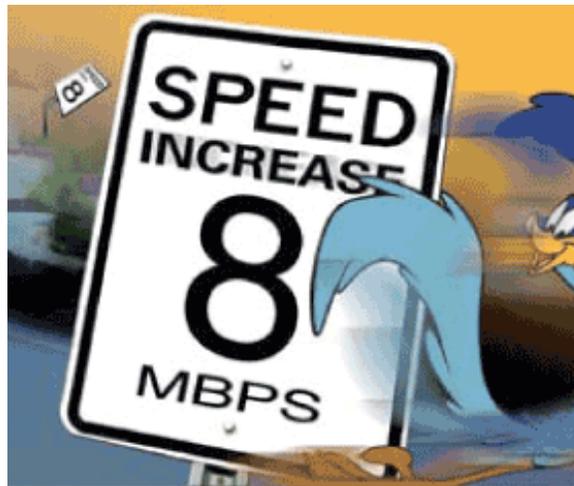
This weekend Bob is also participating in a [Partners in the Parks](#) program at Acadia National Park. The description Bob wrote for his segment of the program is worthy of reflection:

Photography can be considered the only universal language in that it can be understood by all groups. However, one of its pitfalls is that it is so easy to "take" a picture that people do not study photography further. There are constructs to any language and that is true of photography. Photography also changes with time like languages do. Compare a Civil War era photograph to a photograph of today. What we photograph today will bear the imprint of our time in history. For your brief time with the Partners in the Park, think of photography as an adjunct to your written word. A camera is a tool that can teach you to see. Say with your photography what you feel, what you have seen, and what you think is important. Learn not to "take" pictures, but instead to "make" Photographs. Learn to include the important and to eliminate that which does not add to your message. If a picture is worth a thousand words, shouldn't you put as much thought in the making of the photograph as you would the words?

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When I was uploading photos to a web gallery recently I noticed that the progress bar was zipping along at a much faster clip than I was accustomed to. A check of my Roadrunner connection speed at [Speakeasy](#) confirmed this. My download speed had increased from about 4.7 mbps to 7.7 - 7.8 mbps, and my upload speed had increased from 350 kbps to over 480 kbps.

With little fanfare, [Time Warner Cable](#) significantly increased bandwidth for its cable internet customers in our area:



If I remember correctly, 8 mbps was formerly Time Warner's premium level service. The new premium level service delivers 15 mbps. Beep-BEEP!

I can't say enough good things about Time Warner's cable service. The connection has always been rock-solid reliable. Even more remarkably, Time Warner has not increased the price for high-speed internet since they established service in Windsor in September 2005.

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Last February CAMP took advantage of the IRS' new simplified reporting mechanism for small tax-exempt organizations—that is, 501(c)(3) corporations that ordinarily have annual gross receipts of \$25,000 or less. Before the so-called e-Postcard filing system, small nonprofits such as CAMP had no obligation to file. An unintended result was that the IRS lost track of how many small nonprofits remained active. This led the IRS to administratively suspend the nonprofit status of small nonprofits that did not respond to IRS mailings. CAMP got caught in this net due to our failure to notify the IRS of changes in our mailing address. Thankfully, we were able to have our nonprofit status restored.

The e-Postcard filing system requires small nonprofits to file a very short informational form via the internet. There is no requirement that the nonprofit continue to meet the operational standards that qualified the organization for nonprofit status originally. What the form amounts to is a statement to the effect of, "Hey, we're still here!" There is no penalty for failure to file, except that an organization that does not file for three consecutive years will automatically lose its nonprofit status. You can view CAMP's e-Postcard for the 2007 tax year [here](#).

A [recent IRS newsletter](#) noted that 139,815 e-Postcards had been filed for 2007 as of July 27, 2008. I never would have thought that so many small tax-exempt organizations existed.

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Will yet another CAMP member join the legislative ranks? Former CAMP-er Lisa Miller is running for her third term in the Maine House of Representatives. Current CAMP member Robert Sezak is running as a new candidate for the Maine Senate. Good luck, Rob! Take a look at Rob's [web site](#) and [campaign video](#).

* * *

I try not to go overboard on email forwards, but I got a kick out of this one:

Do you keep falling asleep in meetings and seminars? What about those long and boring conference calls? Here's a way to change all of that.

1. Before (or during) your next meeting, seminar, or conference call, prepare yourself by drawing a square. I find that 5" x 5" is a good size. Divide the card into columns-five across and five down. That will give you 25 one-inch blocks.

2. Write one of the following words/phrases in each block:

- * synergy
- * strategic fit
- * core competencies
- * best practice
- * bottom line
- * revisit
- * expeditious
- * 24/7
- * out of the loop
- * benchmark
- * value-added
- * proactive
- * win-win
- * think outside the box
- * fast track
- * result-driven
- * empower (or empowerment)
- * knowledge base
- * at the end of the day

- * touch base
- * mind set
- * client focus(ed)
- * paradigm
- * game plan
- * leverage

3. Check off the appropriate block when you hear one of those words/phrases.

4. When you get five blocks horizontally, vertically, or diagonally, stand up and shout "BULLSHIT!"

Testimonials from satisfied "BullShit Bingo" players:

"I had been in the meeting for only five minutes when I won." - Adam W., Atlanta

"My attention span at meetings has improved dramatically." - David T., Miami

"What a gas! Meetings will never be the same for me after my first win." - Dan J., New York City

"The atmosphere was tense in the last process meeting as 14 of us waited for the fifth box." - Ben G., Denver

"The speaker was stunned as eight of us screamed 'BULLSHIT!'" -Betty B., Los Angeles

* * *

I look forward to seeing you next Wednesday at Bob's house.



Jeff Frankel

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"Where the woodpecker pecks and the porcupine plays"

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