

ICEP Sweden Russia 2011



Daily Report

Elyse Gordon
Jordan McNiven

DAILY REPORT

6/29/11

Campers arrived at 2 pm. The group had a meeting with parents and Jim and Alysa. After introductions, the group played a number of games: stop drop and introduce yourself, screaming toes, entourage, etc. The group walked to Becket along the intercamp trail, got settled in to Gibson, and then met up to go over expectations for the trip. The rest of the afternoon was spent doing team building and games. The group enjoyed their first dinner at Becket and were greeted by the whole dining hall. After a delicious dinner, the group went to get their health checks. The rest of the night was spent talking about leadership and the journal. The group had cabin chat together the first night, and then everyone went to bed.

6/30/11

The group had a lot to do in the last full day at camp. We woke up at 7:15 and went to breakfast at 8:15. After breakfast the group did their swim tests, then warmed up with showers. Then, the group presented their cultural projects that they had prepared for camp. We did a few scenarios and games, then went to lunch. After lunch, past Sweden/Russia participants joined the group for siesta and shared stories from trips of years past. Following the meeting, the group began their leadership packets. At 2:00, we met with Jim, then took time to plan American Day for Brevik. The rest of the afternoon, one of the leaders facilitated team building and low-ropes. The L.O.D. facilitated a structured free time before dinner. Following dinner, the group did a very fun luggage race and repack, discussed home-stays and scenarios, and ended the night with a sauna cabin chat!

7/1/11

Up at 7:15! The group got their luggage ready before breakfast. After breakfast, we packed lunches, then hit the road for Newark. After a lot of traffic, the group finally arrived at 2:00 and got through to the gate with no problems. The L.O.D. changed over the night, and everyone enjoyed the many movies and meals on the plane.

7/2/11

The group woke up in the AM on the plane. We landed in Stockholm at 7:00 AM and had a 3 hour layover before the flight to St. Petersburg. The flight was short, and we spent most of the time filling out our customs forms! When we arrived in Russia, the host families were waiting for us with big smiles. Everyone was paired up, except for one camper because of odd numbers. The leaders were also on their way to a home-stay. Everyone went home to get settled in, take a nap, and enjoy the evening with their new homestay.

7/3/11

This was a free/family day so that everyone could rest after the long day of travel. The leaders called all of the participants to check in. A few campers experienced cat allergies, but it was not a problem. Everyone was already too settled into their home stay to leave! People went to the park, went shopping, and mostly just slept. The L.O.D. for Monday helped facilitate Monday's plans.

7/4/11

The group was so excited to be reunited for the first day in St. Petersburg together. Everyone took the subway with their home-stay siblings and met up at Nevskiy Prospekt, the main street in downtown St. Petersburg. We met a translator, Alexander, who walked the group all around St. Petersburg. We went to the Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood, which is a beautiful church. We walked to the Green of the Eternal Flame of the Revolutionary Hero to play games. Elena, one of our hosts, led 2 games, and ICEPers led 2 games. We continued on a long tour of the city, taking brief stops at the Hermitage, Peter and Paul Fortress, and more. The group stopped for lunch at Tepemok (pronounced Teremok), a Russian fast-food chain that became quite popular with the group.

After lunch, the group changed and exchanged money, then went up St. Isaac's Cathedral to see an amazing view of the city. Alexander had many insightful comments to share, and the group descended after to debrief and play some games. Around 6, everyone went home to their homestays, and the leaders accompanied two of our hosts for dinner. A great first real day!!
Happy 4th of July!

7/5/11

The group met up around 10AM to begin volunteer service with a local kindergarten. In St. Petersburg, kindergarten is for all kids age 2-7, and it is heavily subsidized by the government. The group played with dozens of cute kids, with 2-3 campers and hosts in each group with kids. They came up with many silly games throughout the playground. The leaders held individual conferences while everyone played. At noon, the little kids went in for naptime, and ICEP played games with our hosts. At 1:00, everyone went inside for a delicious lunch of fruit, pastries, and traditional Russian dumplings.

After lunch and an intro from the director, ICEP took a tour of the amazing facilities, then left the school to play soccer the rest of the afternoon. The day concluded with a group of debrief, some final games, and a walk back to the train. Many of the members went to a large mall with their hosts. Others went on their way home.

7/6/11

Our group met up at Nevskiy Prospekt with the home stay hosts. We walked a short way and waited for a boat to arrive for a boat tour of the St. Petersburg canal system. It was beautiful!! After the tour, the group walked to the home of a 19th century Russian congressman who was incredibly wealthy. Anna, our host, treated the group to an ice cream party – a tradition she's done for many years! Following the ice cream party (which was in a golden room of the estate), ICEP took a tour of the estate. The group then did a small service project at the house. One group helped move rubbish to the trash, and another group helped wash windows. The group also picked up some trash around the facility. The group had lunch at the estate at 3:00. Following lunch, the group went souvenir shopping at a large shop. Finally, after a long day, the group debriefed before heading home with their hosts. One of the home stay hosts had hurt her leg, and her two campers accompanied her to the clinic to keep her company. A few campers headed to the mall. Everyone left very eager to go to the Hermitage!

7/7/11

The group met at the subway and walked to the Hermitage. Wow! We took a 2 hour tour with Alexander, who showed us the chandeliers, gold, mosaics, and lots of paintings. Some of the group's favorites were definitely the Picasso and Matisse rooms. After the museum, the group went to have lunch at a traditional Russian café, where everyone got the chance to order their own lunch.

Following lunch, the group decided to take a quick tour of the city with Alexander and then go shopping. The leaders opted to walk around and get to know the city better. At 5:30, the group met up to debrief, eat dinner at Tepemok (the group favorite), and then get ready for the Swan Lake ballet!! It was so beautiful, and the group enjoyed seeing the Russian ballet performed by Russians. The whole day was chock full of cultural experiences, and it was wonderful to share it with our hosts and hear the history from Alexander.

7/8/11

The group met at a new subway station at 9:45 which was also a train station. We took the train for almost an hour out of St. Petersburg into the country. After arriving at our destination, the group walked about a mile through the fields to a horse farm where we would spend the day. The farm is for old and retired horses, and ICEP helped move rocks out of the horse pens so the horses had more room to relax. The leaders did a few conferences during the service project. Two of the campers went with a leader to a park, because they couldn't participate in the service project that day.

After the service project, the farm family prepared Russian pizza for the group, which was a treat. The farm managers then escorted the group to a bus stop nearby, where we waited for a public bus to take us to the Summer Palace, Katherine the Great's summer residence. After regrouping with water and ice cream, Alexander lead the group on a quick tour of the park grounds. Everyone made their way back to St. Petersburg by bus or train, and it was the end of a long day.

7/9/11

This was the final day with the homestay hosts. The group met at 8:30 at the train station metro stop, same as the day before. We took the train out to the country, transferred to a bus, and arrived at the Peterhof Palace. The palace is known for its many fountains and statues, and the fountains all began at 11:00 AM. It was a hot day, so the group made its way to a shady spot to leave our stuff and have a picnic. A few of our hosts watched our things while the group went to go play in some of the fountains. After drying off in the sun, the group enjoyed a picnic by the Baltic Sea. The leaders finally finished up conferences, while the rest of the group relaxed on the beach and played games. Around 5:00, the group made its way to a boat, which took everyone back to St. Petersburg. Many of the campers stayed to have ice cream together, but the leaders went home to their home stay. It was a bittersweet goodbye, since everyone knew that it was our last full activity.

7/10/11

The group woke up super early in order to get to the train station by 6:00 AM. The homestay families accompanied everyone and then they departed when the train left at 6:40 AM. Most people read books, napped, or played cards. Customs checked everyone's passports early on. At 9:30, the train pulled into Helsinki. After the L.O.D. took charge, the group walked their bags through Helsinki from the train station to the boat terminal – about a 30 minute walk through the beautiful city! Finally, after checking in and storing our luggage for the day, everyone was in great need of lunch. Luckily, the L.O.D. found a lovely outdoor market right on the water which featured traditional Finnish cuisine! Almost everyone tried reindeer meat, and the group also enjoyed Finland's prized strawberries – some of the best we'd ever had! At 2:00, the group went to a beautiful park near the historic center. The leaders rested while the campers bonded and re-grouped after being in homestays for a week. At 4:30 we walked back to the boat to catch our ride to Stockholm! The evening was spent playing games on the deck, eating a huge buffet dinner, exploring the ship, and having a cozy cabin chat in the boat cabins.

7/11/11

We woke up on the cruise to see Sweden's stunning coastline. At 8:00 everyone went down to the plentiful breakfast buffet. The boat docked at 9:30 and Daniel, a Brevik director, met us outside of customs. He walked the group to the metro station, about 15 minutes. One of the leaders went with him to get tickets while the rest of the group waited. At about 11:00, we arrived at our metro stop. After a 15 minute walk, we arrived to our new home. The check-in was not until 3:00 pm, so the group stored their bags for the afternoon and then went off to enjoy thai food from a local kiosk. After lunch, Daniel took the group on a walking tour to and around Gamla Stan, the 'old city'. There, the leaders went to cash travelers checks while the participants had about an hour to explore. They saw the changing of the guard at the Royal Palace! Finally, the group walked back to the hostel, and on the way picked up groceries to cook dinner together. We also picked up groceries for lunch the following day. Half the group cooked while half hung out and worked on the journal. Dinner was quite fun, with the group eating all together in open air in the courtyard. After doing dishes, the group had some downtime before chat. Everyone was in bed around 11:30 after a long day. It was great to be reunited!

7/12/11

First full day in Stockholm! We woke up at 7:45, a few people awoke earlier to go for a run, because the hostel is located within a beautiful park. The group ate breakfast at the hostel at 8:30 and moved our luggage into storage for the day because we had to move rooms. Everyone had 2 hours of free time to explore the city – some people walked to a historic prison, while others shopped and explored their neighborhood. At 11:30, everyone reconvened to make lunch at the hostel. After a low-key sandwich lunch, we left the hostel to go to Lovely days, a summer program run by the YMCA(KFUM) Fryshuset. – a well known social program. We had a tour, learned about the history, checked out their massive indoor skate parks, played games, and planned activities for the following day. At 5:00, we left and came back to the hostel neighborhood. Two groups of campers split up to find a good spot for dinner. After dinner at an Italian restaurant, we went back to relax. Chat was early because the group was super tired from the long, fun day at the Y!

7/13/11

Woke up at 8:15 for 8:30 breakfast at the hostel. The L.O.D. helped organize the group to plan the day's activities. One of the leaders had to accompany a camper and their buddy to a clinic to check out a persistent cough. The rest of the group went on for our first full day at Lovely Days. We got there in a fraction of the time as the previous day, because the L.O.D. was a whiz with the map! The group split up and joined the available activities: half did kickboxing while half did urban percussion. At 12:45, everyone finished their classes and had lunch. They planned their afternoon activity and at 1:15, rallied the Swedish kids to play games for the afternoon in the gym. We played hours of dodgeball, knockout, and small games. The ICEP group did an excellent job keeping the energy up, and everyone was sad to see us go. After the day's activities, the group split into two for some much earned free time. Half the group went to the hostel neighborhood to explore, see sights, and play some soccer. The other half went on an excursion to the Moderna Museet, Stockholm's leading modern art museum. The group met up at 7:00 and went to dinner at a kebab restaurant. After dinner, a few volunteers went grocery shopping for the following day's lunch while the rest went back to start leadership paperwork. We had a late chat in the courtyard, and were in bed by midnight.

7/14/11

The group woke up at 8:00 and ate at 8:30. We packed up and hit the road for Lovely Days. We arrived by 10:15 in order to catch a bus at 10:30. The program leaders there had invited the ICEP group to join an excursion to a lovely spot along the archipelago, where a YMCA program organized outdoor activities for day groups. We arrived with Swedish teens around 12:30, got oriented, and then jumped into activities before lunch. Lunch was homemade sandwiches which we assembled along the shore of the estuary. After lunch, the day was spent canoeing, kayaking, sailing, fishing, playing Frisbee and volleyball, swimming in the chilly water, and learning Swedish lawn games. A few campers accidentally capsized their boats, but were incredibly resourceful in solving the problem! After a long day of socializing, exercising, and relaxing, the group went back on the bus at 4:45 for Lovely Days. We decided to go back to the hostel and change before going out for our last meal all together before homestays and Brevik. The leaders found a wonderful looking restaurant, but decided that it was too pricey, so the L.O.D. jumped in to find another destination: sushi!! The group enjoyed the final meal, and went back to the hostel to have chat on a knoll, with the sunset in the background. After chat, the group packed and prepared for their homestays.

7/15/11

The group woke up very early to have breakfast before they met their homestay families. Everyone was ready to check out by 8:45, and the L.O.D. led the group to the Central train station to meet Daniel again, and also to meet two of the homestay families, who live in or near Stockholm. The rest of the group went with Daniel on the train to Norrköping, where they would meet their homestay families. The leaders exchanged money, said farewell to the campers, and then spent the day catching up on paperwork and business. The group members were incredibly excited for their homestays, but sad to say goodbye to each other for a few days.

7/16/11

The leaders went to Brevik early in the morning to partake in the staff training with Brevik counselors and ad staff. The campers remained in homestays.

7/17/11

The leaders stayed at Brevik to continue staff training. The campers remained in homestays.

7/18/11

Leaders finished up Brevik training, and then the campers arrived after lunch!! It was raining, so there were get-to-know you games played indoors. All of the senior campers met in the dining hall at 3:00 to play name games and an enormous game of Wah!, among others. At 4:00, each cabin group went on a tour and scavenger/riddle hunt around camp. At 5:00 it was time for dinner, and it was a delicious feast! After dinner there was some free time for interest groups, where different leaders hosted activities like soccer, hobby/crafts, and canoeing. After interest groups, there was an opening skit where all of the camp leaders presented themselves through silly skits. It was a huge hit. After dinner, everyone went to flag lowering, and then returned to the dining hall for evening snack. After snack, each cabin returned for vesper. The leaders each joined a cabin group for opening vesper, which was quite fun. The campers had lights out at 11, and the leaders hung out with all of the camp leaders to re-hash the first day. Everyone loved Brevik, and was so happy to be there!

7/19/11

The campers were woken up at 7:15 and got ready for breakfast at 8:00. After breakfast, everyone met at the flagpole for morning announcements, and then cleaned their cabins and shared spaces. At 10:00, the first activities began. The leaders jumped in with different cabins for hajk instruction and teambuilding games. After some free time, lunch was at 12:30, followed by swim tests. At 2:00, the camp store was open, and many of the senior campers enjoyed snacks and candy on the lawn. At 3:00, afternoon activities began. The cabin groups switched, so the first group started teambuilding games, and then the second group started hajk instruction. Unfortunately, a huge storm came through, so the teambuilding groups went inside, but the hajk instruction was postponed. At 5:00 it was dinner time, where we learned that the evening activity would be a campfire!! There were interest groups until 7:00, and then the campfire started at 7:30. The theme was TV commercials, so each cabin had to advertise a specific product. Many songs were sung, and it was incredibly silly. Everyone went to the flag lowering, night snack, and vesper at 10. Both ICEP leaders were covering cabins that night, so they lead their own vesper.

7/20/11

Breakfast was at 8:00 as usual, and then the campers went to flag raising to learn the day's activities. Each cabin did an activity in the morning: either hobby room, canoe instruction, or hajk instruction. The cabins had free time a bit before lunch, and then had free time after lunch again until 3:00. The ICEP leaders pulled campers out to do their mid-conferences before the hajk. At 3:00, each cabin went into the woods to do a challenge course, which was incredibly fun. It was basically like a low ropes course, but with no instruction. Each element just had a

name, and a number hidden somewhere in or around it. Each cabin had to use their problem solving skills to solve each riddle and reveal the number. It was so fun! There were also heaps of blueberries in the woods, and everyone enjoyed picking them as they went. Everyone came back for dinner at 5. After dinner, there were a few interest groups: climbing, a hair salon, and Frisbee. After interest groups, the all camp activity was How Well do you Know Your Counselor? It was hilarious, involving eating contests, balancing plates on one's head, and the classic historical facts about each leader. The night ended with flag lowering, night snack, and Vesper.

7/21/11

Breakfast at 8. After the flag raising and cleaning, the senior camp was broken into four groups. After cabin and camp cleaning, one group went to the hobby room, one group did canoe tipping, and 2 groups stayed together to play games. Everyone got back to their cabins for lunch at 12:30, and then had free time for the afternoon. The ICEP leaders did more conferences before 3:00 activities. Anna Karin, the Brevik priest, hosted a wonderful and thoughtful discussion session with all of the senior campers for the afternoon activity. It was a great opportunity for the senior camp to think about their role at camp and as teenagers in today's world. At 5:00, everyone went to dinner and learned that the night's activity would be the "Brevik Oscars"! It was a classic event, with each cabin acting out a scene from a movie. One of the ICEP leaders helped emcee the evening with other leaders, and it was a great hit. The other ICEP leader took a motor boat tour of the Brevik archipelago before leaving on hajk, in order to have a better sense of the sea and the islands. Everyone was reunited before flag lowering, though, and then went to night snack together before Vesper.

7/22/11

Breakfast at 8. It was a camper's birthday today, so the ICEP group went full force to celebrate. After flag raising, the senior groups broke up again, but switched the activities they had done the day before. So everyone got another chance to either flip canoes, play games, or work in the hobby room. The ICEP leaders lead games to let the Program leaders have a rest. Free time was for thirty minutes before lunch, and then again after lunch. At 3:00, the whole camp partook in a scavenger hunt in cabin groups. The rest of the day was spent doing hajk preparation and packing. The evening activity was a game called Klondike, which involved the cabins competing for points at different stations. Each station was a different country, and had a different activity. It was incredibly fun, and at the end, the cabins with the most points got to bid at an 'auction' for gifts from various leaders. Some cabins won a zipline vesper, baked goods, cabin cleanings, etc. That night, everyone packed for the hajk, and made their final preparations. Everyone was so excited for the big day ahead!!

7/23 – 7/30

Hajk – Canoe trip

The canoe hajk (pronounced 'hike') is a Brevik tradition. The senior camp goes out for 7 nights and 8 days of paddling through the archipelago that extends out from Brevik. Each group had about 8-9 campers, and 2 leaders. There were four groups. Each group had 2-3 American teens. The American leaders were split up amongst two of the groups, and had Swedish co-leaders. The other two groups had one Swedish leader and one other leader. The hajk is a really fun camping experience. Each group has a different itinerary that you plan amongst the leaders before (or during) the hajk. Each day, the group will paddle to a new island, set up camp, and make lunch

and/or dinner. The group carries all of their gear in the canoes, and everyone has one individual bag. The groups cook all of their food and set up their own camp every night. There are no clocks or electronics allowed on hajk, so the group never really knows what time it is. So, an average day goes something like this:

- Wake up whenever a majority of the group has risen, a few people assemble breakfast (sandwiches or porridge). The group packs up the group gear, kitchens, shelter, and personal gear. The leader of the day (either Swedish or American teen), leads the way to the next island using the maps. The group is split up so that 2 people are in each canoe. On a long paddle day, some groups would stop to make lunch. Others would paddle all the way to their island, and then make lunch. Generally, a few campers would make lunch while others set up the wind shelter. The shelter is a makeshift tent using tarps and sometimes the canoes (picture Lincoln logs stacked with the tarp pulled over them). In the afternoon, the groups spent their time swimming, playing cards, reading, playing music, cooking, napping, exploring their islands, and having informal cabin chats. Eventually, the groups would make dinner, and then play games for the evening. The weather remained positive for the most part, with only a few spits of rain in the 8 days. Everyone had an amazing time, and it was an incredibly positive experience!!

7/31/11

The whole camp had a sleep-in until 9 am, since the seniors all got back from hajk the day before. They had had a 'spa night' evening activity, so everyone was very relaxed. With the schedule pushed back, the seniors were broken into three activity groups. One group did the epic Brevik zipline, one went to the high ropes course, and one enjoyed the craft room. After lunch (a special Sunday lunch... delicious!), the American teens assembled to plan American day! It was a great meeting, and we enjoyed planning the menu and activities. At 3:00, the three groups split up again and alternated activities. Dinner was at 5:00, and then there were interest groups in the evening: ultimate Frisbee and 'military' sport training in the woods! Many campers stayed behind to plan their evening activity, though: air band! Always a favorite. Air band began at 7:30, and then everyone met at 9:00 for flag lowering. Night snack followed, and then a ghost story Vesper. Everyone went to bed, and then the Brevik leaders woke up the whole camp after midnight for a Brevik tradition: scary night! The campers went on a trek through the woods, had a candle lighting ceremony, and then had to go 'catch' all of the Brevik ghosts that 'escaped'. It was really fun, and everyone was thoroughly spooked... in a good way!

8/1/11

After the late spooky night, the whole camp was rewarded again with a sleep in until 9. The morning activities were a final switch so that all the seniors got to try high ropes, zip line, or hobby room. The leaders helped facilitate games for another set of cabins on camp, which was very fun. At 12:30 it was lunchtime, and then there was free time until 3:00. The campers were excited, because the afternoon activity was a soccer match between Sweden and America!! Both campers got decked out in face paint, with many of the Swedes painting their entire back with the Swedish flag. After valiant effort, and a majority of the game tied at 2-2, Sweden took the lead in the final 10 minutes and took the victory. It was still incredibly fun, and everyone made their way to the swimming area before dinner. After dinner, one leader and two campers left for Stockholm to replace a lost passport, and the rest of the campers stayed to partake in the evening activity. It was a campfire just for the senior camp, where each hajk group prepared skits from their hajk. It was a lot of fun, and everyone enjoyed learning about the jokes and good times

from other peoples' hikes! After the campfire was flag lowering, then night snack, and a closing vesper for the night.

8/2/11

The group woke up and went to breakfast. After breakfast, they went to flag raising, cleaned their cabins, and then met up for the morning activity. The whole senior camp played a game of Swedish baseball, where the campers adopted the personality of someone in the group or someone famous, and had to be that character while they played. This went until lunch, and then after lunch was free time for swimming or going to the kiosk. At 3:00, the senior camp battled the German campers in capture the flag. It was epic! This was followed by more swimming, and then everyone got dressed up for a formal goodbye dinner. Prior to dinner, the leader and two campers returned from the embassy in Stockholm and reunited with the group. The staff were so impressed with this year's senior camp, that they waited tables for us with a fancy dinner. There were many toasts, and some silly celebrations, but overall it was the best meal at Brevik. After dinner and many acknowledgements, the senior camp got ready for a fashion show! The night closed with night snack and vesper. Also, the American teens spent a good deal of the day planning for American day!!

8/3/11

It was finally American day, and the group did a rousing wake up for the whole senior camp. They played "Party in the USA" to wake all the campers and staff. The day was bound to be excellent, since the group had planned great activities and requested delicious American food. Breakfast started off with pancakes and 3 sauces: red, white and blue! (whipped cream, strawberry, and blueberry!!). After breakfast and cabin cleaning, the senior camp played Escape from Brevik, a game that the boys adapted from Becket. Everyone loved it, and many campers said it was the best activity ever. At lunch, everyone was thrilled to see macaroni and cheese and a bacon Caesar salad. The leaders stayed for a leader meeting, and then went swimming with some campers. The American teens prepared the afternoon activity, which was a Carnival with different stations. They had: sponge toss, bobbing for apples in the canoe, water balloon toss, slip n' slide, face painting, and ultimate frisbee. Everyone had a blast. Finally, the ICEP leaders ran a barbeque for dinner, and grilled burgers, hot dogs and corn for the whole camp. It took a long time, but it was really fun and everyone appreciated the effort. The closing activity for the night was 'club night', and the ICEPers rolled up in style. The club was a huge hit, and was followed by flag lowering and then the best night snack ever: apple pie! Since it was the senior camp's last day together, the senior leaders organized a very special closing vesper for the whole camp. We had a quick highlight of the session, then some campfire songs, and finally a closing ceremony with origami lanterns and candles, which we sent out into the Baltic Sea. It was a beautiful evening, and everyone appreciated it.

8/4/11

The group woke up very sleepy after a late last night together. They were very sad to say goodbye, and spent the morning packing and cleaning. The leaders were finishing packing, organizing paperwork, and collecting photos from the time at Brevik. At lunch, the leaders said their goodbyes to the staff and were very grateful. Everyone had some free time for last minute goodbyes. At 2:00, the bus departed with the ICEP group, a few campers, and some staff. They stopped in Norrköping to drop off campers at the train station, and then ICEP continued on to

Stockholm. The group was dropped off very near to the hostel, which was in Old Town, very near the train station. The group got settled in, and by 7:00 went out to buy bus tickets for the morning and find a delicious restaurant for dinner. The group settled on a little Italian place in Gamla Stan, and then the leaders gave the campers some free time to take one last stroll through Stockholm. Everyone came back to the hostel by 11:00 pm, and settled in for bed!

8/5/11

The group woke up at 5:00 in order to head out to the airport. Everyone walked for about 20 minutes to the subway station, then took the subway one stop to the bus terminal. From there, the leaders gave everyone money to buy some breakfast items. Everyone was back to board the bus at 6:30, and then we arrived at the airport at 7:20. The flight wasn't until 10:25, so the group took some time to check in and go through security. The group did their final paperwork while they were waiting to board, and then bought some last minute candy and gifts. The flight was uneventful, and everyone slept and watched movies. The leaders did their closing paperwork as well. The group landed at 12:30 pm, went through customs, and then waited for the bus. One camper left her wallet on the plane, and had to go back to the airport terminal to retrieve it. By 3:00, the group was on the road back to camp. Because of traffic and getting lost, ICEP missed dinner back at camp, so they stopped along the way for a very American dinner of burgers and fries. They finally got back to camp at 10:00 pm, settled in, and then went to bed!

8/6/11

The group woke up for breakfast at 8:15, and had waiters go set the tables. Everyone showered and felt refreshed after a summer of traveling in the woods! The leaders finished paperwork while the campers started working on their slideshow. Before lunch, everyone continued working on the photo slideshow, and the leaders did conferences. After lunch, the group had their health checks and then met with Nat to debrief about the trip. After a brief siesta, the group continued slideshow work and conferences until dinner. After dinner, the campers continued to work on the slideshow, and the leaders did more conferences. Everyone was incredibly tired, still, so the group did an early last night chat which was quite nice. Everyone was in bed by 11, eager to get caught up on sleep.

8/7/11

Today the campers woke up a bit late, because Chimney Corners had a sleep in until 8:30. At 10:00, after breakfast, ICEP Sweden Russia did their final work on packing, cleaning, and slideshow. At 12:00, they made their way over to the Chimney Barn to practice their slideshow. The parents arrived around 1:00, and then the slideshow began at 1:30. After a lovely presentation, a delicious pie brought by a parent, and some heartfelt goodbyes, the participants departed by 3:00.

SERVICE PROJECTS

Service Projects

7/5/11 – **2 hours** – Played with little kids at a kindergarten. A few did yard work, but most helped care for the children while they played.

7/6/11 – **1.5 hours** – Helped clean up the estate of an old congressman, which is now an architecture museum. Helped move rubbish, clean windows, and pick up trash outside the house.

7/8/11 – **2 hours** – Moved small rocks at a farm for retired horses to get them out of the way for the horses.

7/13/11 – **3 hours** - At YMCA Fryshuset, they run a day camp program called Lovely Days, which is drop in week by week. There are tons of activities offered, and ICEP was invited to partake in the activities and lead their own, too. On Wednesday afternoon, the group planned and facilitated the afternoon activities for kids in Lovely Days.

8/3/11 – **8 hours** - American day at Camp Brevik. The ICEP campers planned and executed a full day of programming at camp brevik for the senior camp. It involved planning a morning, afternoon and evening activity, coordinating the food requests, and waking up the whole camp.

Total Hours:

16.5 Hours