



Happenings From Horizons



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Staff gears for camp with a flurry of activity

The activity level here at Camp Horizons is ratcheting up as staff puts the finishing touches on new projects, completes landscaping, fine tunes programs and activities and eagerly awaits the arrival of campers for our 27th season of summer fun!



Carpenters work on the edition of new stalls and a new tack room to the horseback facilities.

We have some major new facilities improvements that will add tremendously to our programs. We're expanding the barn facility at horseback to add 10 new stalls, a new tack room and a new office. The horses will each have their own stall – each with its own nametag. At the lake, the foundation posts have been set on the shore of Lake Philippa, and the new Wet Willy water slide has been ordered and will be installed within the next few weeks, just in time for plenty of water fun. The slide, which will run parallel to our popular Zipline, should make our Lake Philippa one of the most popular spots at camp during those warm summer afternoons! Also, the pool has been cleaned, repaired and is being filled for the summer.

Horizons is expanding its horseback options this summer to offer two one-week sessions of Equestrian Camp for girls 8-12. The one-week sessions will be at the begin-

ning of summer, June 14-20, and at the end, Aug. 16-22, and will feature full days of horseback riding lessons, trail rides, horse care and more, plus plenty of other great camp activities. A new activity option for Explorer campers this year is afternoon

horseback trail rides.

The two-week Adventure Camp will run July 19-Aug. 1. The popular program for older teens, ages 15-17, will be based at our Adventure Village for part of the session, but also will venture to beautiful West Virginia

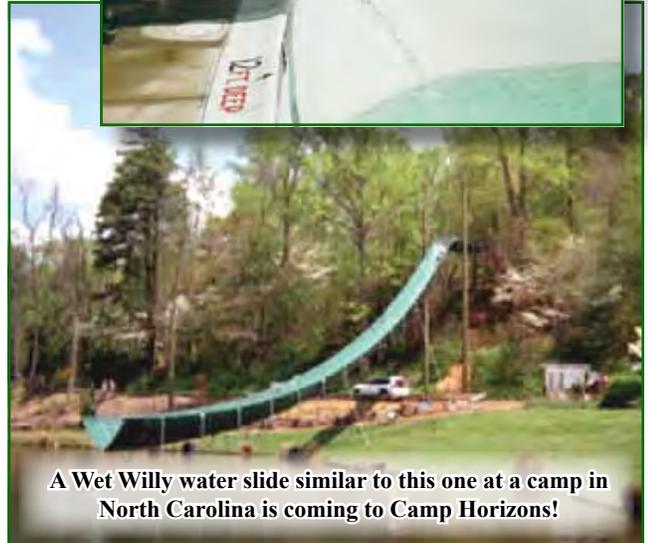
for activities such as whitewater rafting, mountain biking, rock climbing and the exhilarating Via Ferrata rock climbing challenge course at Nelson Rocks near Franklin, W.Va.

Horizons is pleased to announce the addition of our own golf instructor. Phil Steen currently is on the golf team at Bristow University in England, and has been a children's golf instructor for a number of years.

For both our campers and staff, coming to Camp Horizons is a time to get away from the hectic pace of the school year, and have a much needed break from e-mail, instant messaging, cell phones, web surfing, computer games and all the other technology that is so much a part

of our day-to-day life. In their place, camp offers kids the chance to be outdoors, make new friends, enjoy new activities and grow in independence, self-confidence and communication and leadership skills.

So, please leave all electronic games, radios, CD and DVD players, laptop computers and cell phones at home. Personal stereos with headphones may be used only in the cabin during rest times. Instead, bring your enthusiasm, energy, ideas and desire to meet new people, try new things and have a great summer camp experience.



A Wet Willy water slide similar to this one at a camp in North Carolina is coming to Camp Horizons!

News Flash!

There are still a few spaces in most of our summer sessions, as well as in the Equestrian Camp and Adventure Camp sessions, so don't miss out on the summer fun at Camp Horizons. Register by calling 1-800-729-9230 or register on line at www.CampHorizonsVA.com.

Find the latest details for Summer 09 at www.CampHorizonsVA.com

The Directors' Corner

As we wrap up medical school at Howard University (for Steve) and another year of teaching and serving as a principal in North Dakota (for Lori), we're excited about being able to focus on camp full time now.



We had a great planning weekend at camp in March where we finalized lots of plans for the summer, including getting a water slide for the lake!

We're really excited about our fantastic team of counselors for Summer 2009. There are a lot of returning staff members and plenty of new faces this year.

In light of the economic situation affecting us all, we value the efforts that you as parents are making to ensure that your children can still enjoy a quality summer camp experience in a safe environment with nurturing counselors. To help make camp even a better value, we are continuing our own economic stimulus package – a \$100 “tax credit” discount to any returning camper who attended Horizons last summer.

As you and your campers start to pack for camp, here are a few things to remember:

❖ Bring an outfit for the dance! The theme for Journey campers is Disney and for Explorers is Western.

❖ Please label all items so that we can help them find their way back to you if they get misplaced.

❖ Make sure to bring a laundry bag for dirty clothes and a reusable water bottle.

We are counting down the days until we can say “Welcome to camp!” to our new campers and “Welcome Home” to our returning campers.

Lori Ostrem & Steve Martin
Program Directors

Horizons 2009 staff

Camp Horizons is thrilled to announce its staff for the 2009 summer season. Our staff truly reflects the Camp Horizons motto of “We are many, we are one,” as we welcome staff members from 11 different countries: Northern Ireland, England, Wales, Argentina, South Africa, South Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Hungary, the Ukraine and the United States of America. Our U.S. counselors come from eight different states: Virginia, North Dakota, Florida, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Hawaii and North Carolina, and from Washington, D.C.

Nearly half of our staff have worked at Camp Horizons during previous seasons, 16 were former campers, and seven of our first year staff served as Counselors in Training last summer.

We also welcome seven outstanding campers to the ranks of CITs this summer.

Our 2009 staff, as of June 1, is:

Seventh Year

- Steve Martin, Washington, D.C.

Fourth Year

- Mike Gregerson, Arlington, Va.
- Carolyn Harvey, Reading, England
- Lori Ostrem, Makoti, N.D.

Third Year

- David Beaumont, Johannesburg, South Africa
- Jake Bogdonoff, Charlottesville, Va.
- Chris Coventry, Liverpool, England
- Ralph Demeger, London, England
- Graham Hollingdale, Bromley, England
- Cayley Howard, South Gloucestershire, England
- Bill Wides, North Port, Fla.

Second Year

- Anna Buchanan, Bath, England
- Gustavo Calvi, Yerbe Buena, Argentina
- Hannah Dunn, York, England
- Megan Finnerty, Crownsville, Md.
- Jonathan Galbraith, Hartlepool, England
- Devin Hall, Halifax, Va.
- Caroline Hardaker, Bradford, England
- Yoon-Jin Kang, Seoul, South Korea
- Gaby Krohmal, Alexandria, Va.
- Roy Macias, Puebla, Mexico
- Kristine Mc Nerney, Kings Park, N.Y.
- Annabelle O'Hara, Rockville, Md.
- Kiara Ray, Philadelphia, Pa.
- Sabrina Stevens, Christchurch, New Zealand

First Year

- Szabolcs Barho, Eszterfom-Kertavros, Hungary
- Rhi Brokenshaw, Cardiff, Wales
- Grace Corapi, Leesburg, Va.
- Hayley Davis, Kent, England
- Becky Delo, Northampton, England
- Anne Frazier Elliott, South Boston, Va.
- Giulian Garruba, Silver Spring, Md.
- Gino Gauamis, Pearl City, Hawaii
- Nell Gauamis, Pearl City, Hawaii
- Jessi Gower, Alexandria, Va.
- Liz Heilbronner, Charlottesville, Va.
- Cassie Jackson, York, England
- Chris Jett, Fredericksburg, Va.
- Ben Johnson, Leicester, England
- Maxie Keeler, Arlington, Va.
- Yurri Maslyiak, Ternopil, Ukraine
- Lucy Mathews, Kent, England
- Jeremy McCray, Clifton, Va.
- Kaylie Metcalfe, Durham, England
- Jenny Nagy, Burke, Va.
- R.P. Oates, Rutherfordton, N.C.
- Alice Pollard, Salisbury, England
- Phil Steen, Dorset, England
- Grant Stiner, Malvern, Pa.
- Marshall Tuck, Richmond, Va.
- Jenny Walker, Belfast, Northern Ireland
- Andrew Wallace, Richmond, Va.
- Amanda Whitman, Charlottesville, Va.
- Doug Will, Ellicott City, Md.

CITs

- Andrea Becker, Rockville, Md.
- Mike Brown, Potomac, Md.
- Jocelyn Coates, Gaithersburg, Md.
- Julie Hunter, McLean, Va.
- Matt Porter, Alexandria, Va.
- Lizz Spicknall, Cooksville, Md.
- Laurent Sudreau, Marcq en Baroeil, France

We are many, we are one!

Dining hall staff looking forward to bounty of camp garden

What would summer be without fresh tomatoes, corn and cucumbers? Fortunately, the campers, counselors and

staff at Camp Horizons won't have to find out. For the second year in a row, Camp Horizons has planted a summer vegetable



Staff members David Beaumont, Gustavo Calvi and Ethan Zook take advantage of a break in spring showers to pull some weeds at the Horizons garden.

garden, and plans to use the harvested veggies as part of the salad bar offerings in the dining halls and in other delicious meal options at camp.

The garden project, spearheaded by Rick James, gardening enthusiast and innkeeper at Mountain Valley Meeting and Retreat Center, borders the baseball field at the southern end of camp. Planted veggies include squash, zucchini, cucumbers, tomatoes, peppers and silver queen corn. Rick was hoping to squeeze in watermelons and pumpkins, but "we ran out of room, so we're planning a separate garden for melons in the future."

While Rick is heading the garden project, staff and interested campers will be helping to care for it throughout the summer and harvest the produce. And with the kitchen staff gearing up for some delicious, fresh and VERY local produce, everyone on camp will get to enjoy the bounty of the Camp Horizons Garden.

Horizons Family Album: Gustavo Calvi

The desire for a change of pace, time to think through what he wanted to do with life, and a family connection all led Gustavo Calvi to Camp Horizons last summer. A wonderful summer experience, new friends and the opportunity to spend 18 months in the United States convinced this young man from Argentina to return to camp – this time as a staff member with the Outdoor Learning Center in the spring season before assuming his counseling role in the summer. At summer's end, Gustavo will remain at Camp Horizons as OLC staff and to help with marketing efforts for camp and for other subsidiaries of Endless Horizons, the parent company of Camp Horizons.

Gustavo, who has family ties to camp through the marriage of his sister to camp owner John Hall's brother, has always loved to travel. His father, who was in the Argentine army, was transferred throughout his career, which meant his family traveled to the United States for stints in San Antonio, Texas, Carlisle, Pa., and Washington, D.C., as well as to Israel and Cyprus. So when Gustavo had the opportunity to return to the U.S., his reaction was simple: "Why not?"

Although he owns a house in Yerba Buena, Argentina, and has a degree in social communication (which covers the areas of marketing, public relations and journalism) from Santo Tomas de Aquino

University in the Tucuman province, the 28-year-old "needed a change of air" as he pondered career options, relationships and life in general. So he rented his house for two years, got his visa in order and returned to Camp Horizons in March.

Admittedly, life at camp is far different than what he experienced both professionally and personally at home. In his work, Gustavo has started a radio station and worked for three years as a general manager for a chain of retail cell phone stores. In that position he opened nine stores in two different provinces. At camp, he's the jack of all trades, focusing on sports programming during the summer, and low and high ropes facilitating during the OLC season. And while at home he owns a modest two-bedroom home, here he has a room at Camper Care until summer starts – then he'll be sharing a cabin with campers.

But that suits the soft-spoken, easy-going Gustavo just fine. "I never imagined I'd work with kids," he admits, "but I really like them. It's easy to understand them. I've been through what they're experiencing." And, especially since he's older than most counselors, "it's almost like having a son – actually lots of kids," he says with a smile.

The fun of kids, a busy schedule that makes days fly by, the chance to reconnect with returning staff members and meet new staff, and the beautiful scenery of Camp Horizons are all huge draws for Gustavo. "I like this place," he says. "It reminds me of home."



Gustavo Calvi, right, encourages a participant during recent high ropes challenges.

Alumni News, Views and Happenings

1980s

Erica Parker (camper 1984-1989) wants to catch up with some other campers from the 1980s – T.C., Monica, Sunshine, Kevin, Sasson, Dara, Bryan, Jules . . . “Our connection through Horizons helped create who we are today and I want to set up a reunion!”

Julie Holman Juskiewicz (1983, 1988, 1989) lives in Alaska with her teenage son,

Holman. She has spent the last few years in the remote Athabaskan villages of Alaksa. She writes, “I had never slept in a tent or the woods until I arrived at Camp Horizons in 1983! My memories of my time at camp always bring a smile to my face. My love and respect for John and his camp are endless. My very best to everyone that makes Camp Horizons the place that it is today!”



Julie Holman Juskiewicz

1990s

Mandy Roach Brown (camper 1988-1990) is married and has an 8-year-old daughter.

Raul Alvarez (1992) is an environmental engineer and owns a recycling business in Puerto Rico.



Pavel Nosek (1996, 1997 and 1999) sends this photo of his 8-month-old son, Pavel Jr.

Pedro Paredes, former director of

Campin Rincon Grande in Caracas, Venezuela (exchange program with

Horizons in the 1990s), and his wife, Natalia, have two daughters – Alexandra, 6, and Andrea, 3. He is working in the financial world now in Venezuela and sends warm greetings to the Camp Horizons family.



Pedro Paredes, wife Natalia and daughter Andrea.

Julie Laffey Szerenyi (camper 1990s, staff 1998) and husband, Brandon, welcomed Abigail Davison on March 3 in Pennsylvania.

Darren Willis (1992-1995), wife Mai and big sister Dylann welcomed Gavin Russell on April 29 in Virginia.

2000

Matt French (2000) and wife Sally welcomed Angus John on April 30 in Australia.



Mabs Kaela

Mabuvuto “Mabs”

Kaela (2000) lives in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Paul Whitaker (1987, 2000s full-time) has been working in Thailand, the Philippines and Taiwan lately.

2003

Jay and Sasha Morris (both 2003) welcomed baby Olivia in April.

2004

Allie Ferko (2004) is stationed in Anchorage, Alaska, with the Coast Guard as a Response Officer responsible for Search and Rescue Planning,

Pollution Investigation and Maritime Law Enforcement for Western Alaska.

Kendall Murphy (2003-2004) is living in Oxford, England, and enjoyed catching up with staff from the 2000s lately: **Rhys Jones, Gemma Wilkes, Rick Josey, Dan Schaser, Aimee Woodill Payne, Andy Payne, Lisa Gee, Beyers Geldenhuys and Rick Lee!**

After camp in 2004 **Michael Musso** finished college, worked for Disney Entertainment for two years and settled in Destin, Fla., where he is director of recreation for Tops’1 Beach and Racquet Resort.

2005

Stephanie Drachsler (2005) graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work with a Masters in Social Work.

2008

Greg Rosenberg (2008) will be an A&R intern at Blue Note (the jazz record label owned by EMI) this summer.

We Remember

Joel Pena (1998), former camp cook, passed away recently. He is survived by his wife, **Leticia Ortega (1998)** and their three children in New Mexico.

Please keep in touch!

Let us know what's going on in your life! Stop by for a visit, drop us a line, call or e-mail us to update your address, send information or share any alumni news. Please send news or updates to Alumni@HorizonsVA.com. Also visit our Alumni page on our web site, www.CampHorizonsVA.com.

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