



# Happenings from Camp Horizons



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## Horizons to host Operation Purple again this summer

Camp Horizons is pleased to host Operation Purple Camp Aug. 14-20. This will be the second year that Camp Horizons has hosted the camp, a program of the National Military Family Association. Like last year, Camp Horizons will host 100 kids who have a parent who is deployed or recently has been deployed.



The camp gives kids a chance to enjoy the fun of summer camp, surrounded by peers who understand what it's like to have a parent serving in the military far from home.

In addition to great

summer camp activities, Operation Purple campers also will participate in a "Kids Serve Too!" community service day. Last year, groups cleaned and sorted donations for the Gift & Thrift store; picked peaches at a local orchard, canned those peaches and donated them to feed the homeless; weeded the gardens at Our Community Farm; and took cookies to the Harrisonburg Fire Department.

The camp will feature a Military Day, with special military-themed activities, and will provide campers with the opportunity to send one-minute videos of themselves to their deployed parents. As part of arts & crafts activities, campers and staff will create a Wall of Honor, featuring descriptions and pictures of the campers' parents.

"Operation Purple is a wonderful way to



give back to the families of military personnel who have given so much for our country," said Camp Horizons Director John Hall. "We're honored to be a part of this great program."

## Explorer options include new Canopy Tour



NROC employee Jim Flynn sets some anchors for a platform on the new North Fork Valley Canopy Tour

Last year, Camp Horizons expanded the optional activities for Explorer campers to include day trips to the Via Ferrata rock climbing adventure in West Virginia. This summer, we're again expanding the exciting adventure opportunities for our older campers by offering, in addition to the Via Ferrata, the new North Fork Valley Canopy Tour. Both activities are based at Nelson Rocks Outdoor Center in Circleville, W.Va.

The new canopy tour, which opens this spring, is nearly a mile long and features 13 zip lines and three sky bridges, and ends with a 40-foot rappel. Zip lines range from 150 feet to 680 feet in length and tower up to 80 feet above the forest floor.

Explorer campers can choose either the Via Ferrata or the Canopy Tour as an optional day trip for \$75. Campers who choose the Via Ferrata must be at least 13 years old. To enjoy the Canopy Tour, Explorer campers must weigh at least 70 pounds and no more than 250 pounds.

For more information, please visit [www.NelsonRocksOutdoorCenter.com](http://www.NelsonRocksOutdoorCenter.com).

## CH gets "Safety 1st" award for 4th year

For the fourth year in a row, Camp Horizons has been awarded the Safety 1st award from Markel Insurance. Camp Horizons is one of 69 camps and four Boys & Girls Clubs nationwide to receive this designation for 2010.

In announcing that Camp Horizons had received the Safety 1st award, representatives from Markel noted that Camp Horizons was "selected based on your proven safety record, which demonstrates your superior commitment to safety. We're proud of the work you've done to keep children in your care safe."

To qualify, camps must have a proven safety record of at least three years, undergo formal assessments and inspections, and participate in continuing education and certification programs.



**CH alumni, sending your kids to camp? Ask about our Alumni Discount!**

**Don't forget our Sibling Discount: \$50 off each tuition for two or more siblings attending camp.**

# The Director's Corner



Last weekend's rainy weather gave way to a beautiful March snowstorm. Fluffy snow coated the ground, trees and mountains – a sparkling reminder that winter isn't quite over.

However, you'd never know it by the activity here at camp. We're busy hiring our staff for summer 2011, inviting staff veterans to assume leadership roles and welcoming new staff to the Horizons family. Lori Ostrem, as Summer Programs Director, and Kim Betts, Director of Administration, back from maternity leave, (welcome to daughter Bristol Betts, born Feb. 23!) will anchor the 2011 summer staff.

We're starting to ready camp for summer. Clearing trails, trimming trees, opening cabins, and ordering new equipment and supplies all are potent reminders that summer is coming fast! The farrier is putting shoes on our horses, and we're starting to get them ready for spring groups and our first session of the Horizons Equestrian Camp.

This summer will mark the start of a new summer camp option at Camp Horizons, Camp Up with People. The performing arts intensive program will give older campers, ages 14-17, a chance to hone their performing skills and be part of full stage productions. The program, patterned after the international Up with People, will feature service projects as well as great summer camp activities.

Have a great school year. Drop us a line, give us or call, visit us on Facebook, or better still, stop by for a visit if you're in the area. And remember, it's only about 100 days 'til summer! Can't wait to welcome you home to Camp Horizons.

**John Hall**  
"Life is for Living"

# Staff 2011

## List of outstanding counselors continues to grow

The Camp Horizons summer staff for 2011 is beginning to take shape as we welcome back outstanding counselors and support staff and welcome new staff to Horizons. As of Feb. 8, our staff consists of 19 returning staff members and 12 new staff, representing six different countries and four states. International staff come from England, Northern Ireland, Mexico, Colombia and New Zealand, and staff from the US come from the states of North Dakota, Virginia, Maryland and Florida.

Lori Ostrem returns to be our Summer Programs director. Head counselors include Hannah Dunn, Kaylie Metcalfe and Adam Whitehall. The Discover lead is Jenny Walker, Outdoors lead is Amanda Heaton; Aquatics lead is Devin Hall, and Arts lead is Jake Bogdonoff. Anna Buchanan, equestrian director, will head the horseback staff of Emily Middleton, Anita Weyer and Jo Gibson. Other staff include Jo Eynon, nanny; Hamish McKenzie, Roy Macias Flores, Brittany Griffith, Katie Hamilton, Chris Jett and Jen Wilson, arts; Alice Latham, Liz Heilbronner, Oscar Oliveros and JC Campbell, sports; Tom Morris, Sabra Bushey and Grace Corapi, outdoors; and Alex Kindley, Daniel Batters, Mark Felton and TJ Kirk, aquatics.

A complete listing of our 2011 summer staff will appear in the June edition of *The Globe*.



## Welcome Leadership Campers!

Camp Horizons also is pleased to announce the 2011 Leadership Campers – Jessie Bass, Aude Buchmuller, Ted Diamond, Marshall Edmunds, Kara Grosbach, Julia Howard, Sam Kane, Megan Niewold, Isabel Vera and Erin Walsh.

These outstanding returning campers are rising high school seniors who will be at camp for the four-week Horizons Leadership Program. The program is designed to give students entering their senior year in high school the training, leadership skills, responsibility and self-confidence they need to excel in high school, college, careers and other aspects of their lives. Leadership campers help lead workshops and activities at camp, and plan special camp-wide programs. They receive training in communication, leadership, teamwork, group dynamics, conflict resolution, camp philosophy and more. They also plan educational and/or service projects that they implement when they get home. The Leadership Program also features plenty of special camp activities, including an overnight canoe trip, special dinners, the high and low challenge courses, and the Via Ferrata rock climbing challenge and/or the North Fork Valley Canopy Tour in West Virginia.

There are a few spaces left in the Horizons Leadership Program, so if you're a returning camper and a rising high school senior looking for some great leadership training and camp experiences, check out Horizons Leadership!

# Horizons Family Album: Devin Hall

If you'd ask Devin Hall about growing up in Halifax, Va., a rural city of 30,000 where everyone knows everybody, he'd probably sum it up with two words: comfortable and sheltered.

That all changed in 2005 when Devin took a job as a male counselor at nearby Camp Staunton Meadows. Initially, "I was terrified. I wanted to leave," Devin recalls. For the first time in his life, his peers weren't all from Halifax. Rather they were from other states and other countries – including England and Russia. They talked differently, had different customs and viewed the world from a different perspective. Ready or not, Devin was jettisoned into a global perspective that changed his world forever.

"I met incredible people that summer," Devin remembers. "It was a life-changing experience" where he set aside stereotypes of other cultures and learned to "see people as people."

After three summers at Staunton Meadows, Devin accepted a counseling position at Camp Horizons in 2008, and has been a summer fixture every since. "I absolutely love this place. Some of my best friends come from Camp Horizons. They'll be in my life for the rest of my life." His extended family now stretches across the globe.

During his first two summers at Horizons, Devin headed performing arts

– a perfect fit for the gregarious Mr. Hall who delights in performing in front of audiences and in getting campers to step outside their comfort zones, just as he once did, and do the same. Last summer he served as Journey head counselor, and this coming summer Devin will work as aquatics head.

His enthusiasm for the upcoming summer is contagious. "It's always great to see the kids who haven't missed a beat. It's like they never left camp."

That enthusiasm comes, in part, from what Devin considers to be the best part of summers at Camp Horizons. Camp gives kids the chance to "just be yourself," Devin says. "Kids here don't need to worry about impressing their peers or hanging out with one particular group of kids." All types of kids – jocks, drama and arts enthusiasts, nature lovers, outdoor adventure seekers – blend into one big, extended family where everyone is encouraged to branch out, express themselves and accept others.

That acceptance of others and building of self-confidence give campers the courage to try new things, make friends with people from different countries or cultures, and realize, like he did that first summer at Camp Staunton Meadows, that people are people, no matter where they come from or what their backgrounds are.

Devin's welcoming, encouraging



attitude also has served him well in his role as a staff member for the Outdoor Learning Center at Horizons during the non-summer months.

It also led to him joining the New Market Community Theatre group for a recent production of "Shrunken Heads." Devin played a fun-loving, free spirit who wears tie die t-shirts, shorts and crocs. For those who know him, that's remarkably similar to the Devin Hall of Camp Horizons – dressed in tie-die, welcoming to all and definitely out to have fun!

## New to Camp Horizons?

*Check out our great facilities, meet the staff during our Open Houses*

New to Camp Horizons? Would you like to visit camp, check out our great facilities and meet some of our talented staff before summer? If so, join us for one of our remaining Open Houses.

All Open Houses start at 1 p.m., rain or shine, and include a slide show, refreshments and a walking tour of camp. Be sure to wear sturdy shoes, bundle up if it's chilly and allow about two hours for your visit.

Please call our office during business hours, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., at 540-896-7600, if you'd like to attend one of our Open Houses.

### Open House Dates

Saturday, April 2

Sunday, April 3

Saturday, April 30

Sunday, May 1

# Alumni News, Views and Happenings

## 1980s

Former camper **Erik Myers (1980s)** sent us a message to say hello. He is living in Arizona and writes, "I attended (Camp Horizons) for two years and had a blast!"

## 1990s

**Amy Swan Webb and Sherrine Swan (1990s)** reconnected with us recently. Amy has three children and lives in the Shenandoah Valley.

## 1992

**Ben Temchine (1992)** served in the Peace Corps and lived in San Francisco before returning to the East Coast. He and his wife, Mikayla, welcome their new son, Asher.



The Temchine family welcomes Asher!

## 1995

**Sarah Mangelsdorf (1995)** and husband Rich welcomed their third child, Zachary Taj, on Jan. 9 in New Delhi, India.

Congrats to **Jen Reznick (camper 1980s/1990s, staff 1992, 1992, 1995)** on her engagement to Leo Inoue!

## 1996

**Drew Ritchie (1996)** graduated from Oklahoma State with a broadcast journalism degree, spent three months in Russia filming a documentary on Russian orphanages and was a weekend anchor and reporter for the second smallest TV market in America. He and wife, Heidi, now live in Enid, Okla., where he owns

his own homebuilding and real estate company. In 2008 he & Heidi welcomed baby Ethan, and in December welcomed their second child, Zachary David.

## 1999

**Pavel Nosek (1996-1997, 1999)** sends this photo of his son Pavel, Jr. He and wife, Zuzana, are expecting baby #2.



## 2000

**Mabvuto Kaela (2000)** works in the mental health field in a group home and is attending the University of Pittsburgh, working on a degree in Finance/Economics. He is married, and writes that he would love to visit camp again soon!

**Matt French (2000)** and wife Sally welcomed daughter Evie Jane French on Jan. 25 in Bowral, Australia. She joins big brother Angus (21 months).



## 2001

**Francie (Iloff) Van Ostenbridge (camper, staff 1999-2001)** and husband Eric moved to upstate New York just in time for 48 inches of snow.

## 2003

**Brett Druger (2003)** and wife Irene welcomed Spencer Ethan Druger this fall. Both Brett and Irene are dentists and together run The Dental Family ([www.thedentalfamily.com](http://www.thedentalfamily.com)) in Westfield, N.J.

## 2004

Former camper **Cameron Schrantz**

**(2003-2004)** is working at camp as an intern for the Outdoor Learning Center this semester. He is a senior majoring in Kinesology at James Madison University in Harrisonburg.

## 2005

**Meghan Carr (2003-2005)** received certification in Deaf/Blind Rehabilitation.

**Ben Pomphrett (2004, 2005)** has been working the last few years as a tour manager and has been all over Europe working with bands.

## 2010

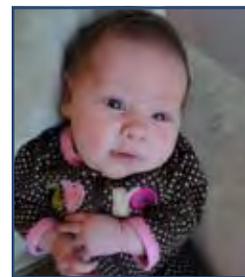
Camp Director of Administration

**Kim Betts** and Facilities Manager **Kenny Betts** welcomed daughter Bristol Grace Betts on Feb. 23. Bristol weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces, and was 19.5 inches long.

She joins big brother Brayden and big sister Brinley.

**Ali Holmes** is studying Crime and Criminal Justice at York University in England, and really enjoying it.

Summer Programs Director **Lori Ostrem** traveled to London in January on a staff recruitment trip. She enjoyed catching up with many of the 2010 staff from the UK!



Welcome Bristol!



Left to right, Carolyn Harvey, Chris Coventry, Hannah Dunn, Adam Whitehall, Lori and Kaylie Metcalfe.

## Keep in touch!

We love to hear from our ever-growing Camp Horizons family, so keep in touch! Please send news and photos to [Alumni@HorizonsVA.com](mailto:Alumni@HorizonsVA.com). Visit our Alumni page on our web site, [www.CampHorizonsVA.com](http://www.CampHorizonsVA.com) to see if you have contact information for any of the staff listed there. Also be sure to visit us on Facebook.