



Happenings from Camp Horizons



June 2013

Let the summer fun begin!

Horizons staff readies camp for 31st season of outdoor fun

Spring is in the air here at camp and that can only mean one thing: summer is just around the corner!

As some of you know, in December we bid farewell to the Betts family after 10 years at camp. Kim, Kenny and the kids relocated to Colorado to pursue a fantastic opportunity. Their departures reminded us that while sometimes change can be difficult, it can also provide new and exciting opportunities.

With that in mind, we have re-tooled our administrative and director-level leadership teams to meet the evolving needs of our campers and their families.

• Many of you have already interacted with Emily Law, our camp registrar/customer relations supervisor. Emily oversees the camp registration process and handles much of our camp inquiries and paperwork, and, of course, answers questions about camp.



Emily Law

• We hired a former counselor from our early days, Colleen Lovelace, to oversee our marketing strategies. Colleen lives in Loudoun County and has two teenage children who have attended camp for several years.



Colleen Lovelace

• In keeping with the tradition of Camp Horizons being a "family affair," my wife, Mandi Smith, recently joined our administrative team as director of administration.



Mandi Smith

While much of her work will be behind the scenes, Mandi will also oversee our Camper Care Center and all transportation scheduling and logistics.

• We will now have three program directors at camp, each responsible for very spe-

cific areas of camp (activities, villages and camp life) to ensure excellence in each of our core areas. Our 2013 program directors have a combined 10+ years of experience at Camp Horizons.

• Lastly, two full-time, year-round staff have taken on active leadership roles in two major program areas. Bridget Hutchens, our full-time equestrian director, will oversee all horse-related activities at camp and ensure top-notch, safe instruction. Kimberly Lane, the full-time program coordinator for our Outdoor Learning Center, will oversee our Outdoor Department at camp, ensuring all outdoor classes and activities are safe and high quality.

What else is new for 2013?

• Brand new lake toys, including a 15' Aqua Jump (water trampoline), complete with an attached Aqua Slide and Aqua Log; an inflatable climbable Iceberg; and our very own 20' Water Whoosh!

• A three-panel, two-sided slate chalkboard located in front of the Western Building to share messages and memories.



Girl Scouts who recently visited camp remind us that summer is just around the corner!

• Our very own greenhouse located right behind the Dining Hall that will be used to grow tomatoes and other vegetables for our dining hall.

• An indoor class and/or meeting space under the Explorer Dining Hall, the perfect place for our camp yoga class and rainy day activities.

• A beautiful stone entrance to camp, crafted by a local stone mason and featuring a solar-powered camp sign.

While we have exciting changes and updates this year, one thing remains the same: Camp Horizons' commitment to providing safe, outstanding camp experiences to children from around the world. Horizons is a place where your child can try new things, enjoy favorite activities, build confidence, grow in independence and respect for others, and, of course, develop friendships that may well last a lifetime!

As a parent, I understand that sending your child to camp isn't always an easy decision. We appreciate the opportunity to serve your child and your family.

If you have any questions or concerns, please shoot us an e-mail or give us a call.

Chris Smith, Director
(540) 896-7600
camp@horizonsva.com



A manufacturer's photo shows the new Aqua Jump, Aqua Log and Aqua slide that soon will be a part of the fun at Lake Philippa!

Take advantage of our **Multi-Session Discount:** Register for 2 or more sessions and save \$35 per session; and our **Sibling Discount:** \$50 off each tuition for two or more siblings attending camp.

Presenting... Camp Horizons Staff 2013



Excitement is building here at Camp Horizons as we finalize our 2013 summer staff and prepare for the start of summer. Our 45-member staff includes 19 returning staff members and 26 who are new to the Horizons family. In all, we have eight countries – Hungary, Iceland, England, Scotland, France, New Zealand, Ireland and the USA – and seven states – Virginia, Massachusetts, Maryland, Kentucky, Florida, Texas and Pennsylvania – represented.

As of May 1, our staff includes the following:

Administration

Chris Smith, camp director; Mandi Smith, director of administration; Emily Law, registrar/office supervisor; and Colleen Lovelace, sales/marketing.

Program Directors

Devin Hall, camp-life director; Jenny Walker, villages director; and Tim Weaver, activities director.

Head Counselors

Kendall Helton, Rainbow; Keith Walsh, Sunrise; Tom Morris, Sunset; and Sheila Anliot, Starlight.

Creative Arts

Hamish McKenzie, lead; Dionyah Randolph; Jack Heyssel; Louise Manahl; Jessi Gower; Megan Niewold; Joe Haynes; and Aude Buchmuller.

Sports

Liz Heilbronner, lead; Ingrid Moyer; Marshall Edmunds; Sam Fine; Beth Darbyshire; Agnar Jonsson; and Sammie Bogolin.

Aquatics

Matt Leathley, lead; Caroline Mihm; Dan Constant; and Madison Ide.

Equestrian

Bridget Hutchens, equestrian director; Beth Davies; Phil Pallas; Covington Paulsen; and Jenny Nichols.

outdoors

Kimberly Lane, outdoor coordinator; Shoni Tavendale; Nick Young; William Ballew; Shannon Athey; and Tom Young.

camper care & Support

Lizzie Fisher, medical staff.; Vanda Virosztek and Katalin Szonyi, laundry/kitchen.

2013 Leadership Campers

Congratulations to our 2013 Leadership Campers! Leadership Campers (LCs) are rising seniors with substantial camp experience (at Horizons and/or elsewhere) who are accepted into our three-week intensive leadership program. The program includes workshops and training sessions on communication, decision-making, teambuilding, camp programming, risk management, counselor training, and much more. The program is coordinated by our Camp Life Director Devin Hall.

Session A

From Virginia: Emily Golden, Madison Edmunds, Katya Maslova and Loren Hepp; and from Maryland, Amy Watkins.

Session B

From Maryland: Stephen Bauer; from England, Georgina Lister; from France: Louis de Valbray and Louise Fousse; and from Virginia, Alex Huffman and Maria Jones.

Love Camp but want a different outdoor experience?

Check out our Adventure & Equestrian specialty camps!

Equestrian

What do you get when you combine girls, horses, a week of non-stop fun activities and the great outdoors? Horizons Equestrian Camp for girls ages 9-14! This one-week specialty camp combines horseback lessons, horse care, trail rides, equestrian games, swimming with the horses at Lake Philippa, and plenty of other fun camp activities. The week culminates with a horse show on Friday morning and a riding exhibition where campers show off



their new equestrian skills for parents on Saturday morning.

The camp is headed by Equestrian Director Bridget Hutchens, who has more than 20 years of horse experience. Bridget graduated from St. Andrews University in North Carolina in 2009 with a bachelor's degree in Equine Business Management. Among her many horse-related jobs, she served as assistant director of riding at the Madeira School

in McLean, Va.

The four sessions of Equestrian Camp are June 16-22; June 23-29; August 11-17; and August 18-24.

Adventure

Want to take your adventure to a new level? Love the thought of non-stop outdoor fun, including rock climbing, high ropes, zip lines, mountain biking and whitewater rafting? Want to tackle these new adventures in a supportive, small group environment? Check out Horizons Adventure Camp, a coed one-week specialty camp for campers 12-15 years old.

Adventure campers, led by experienced instructors, begin their week here at camp before heading off-site to camp and play in various recreational areas of the region, including the New River Gorge in West Virginia! Activities will include rock climbing, high ropes, low ropes, mountain biking, zip-lining, whitewater rafting and more!

The Camp Horizons "Challenge by Choice" philosophy allows campers to set individual goals and feel pride in their accomplishments, regardless of their skill or experience level.

Adventure Camp runs two sessions: June 23-29 and Aug. 11-17.



Focus on your favorite activities!

Now offering 'tracks' in Equestrian, Golf and Outdoors

You spoke and we listened! You asked for more time, extended instruction and the ability to "specialize" in the activities you love. As a result, we created "tracks" in the areas of equestrian, golf and outdoors. Each track, offered during sessions 2, 3A, 4A, 5A and 6, gives campers extended, specialized instruction and lots of fun doing their favorite activities.

Golf

Campers ages 9 and older can register for the Golf Track. Campers in the golf track will eat breakfast before leaving camp to head to a local golf course where they will receive top-notch golf instruction from the professional staff at First Tee of Harrisonburg. They will return to camp in time for lunch each day, so they will not do camp activities during activ-

ity periods 1, 2 and 3. The First Tee staff will provide appropriately-sized clubs, age-appropriate instructional methods, and 10+ hours of hands-on opportunities. Driving, fairway work, pitching, putting and golf etiquette will be included along with character-building and life-skills lessons. The final day will include a partial round on the course, and campers will leave with improved confidence and skills.

Campers ages 12 and older can register for the Equestrian and/or Outdoors track.

Equestrian

The Equestrian track will include approximately 15 hours of instruction, taking place each morning between breakfast and lunch, in place of activity

periods 1, 2 and 3. Lessons, trail rides, stable management and horse care will be included in this intensive horse experience.

Outdoors

The Outdoors Track will include several off-camp trips, such as rock climbing, caving and canoeing, as well as some in-camp adventure programs such as mountain biking, the challenge course, and more. The Outdoor Track will begin at the end of breakfast and end before free swim each day – so Outdoor Track campers will not participate in "traditional" camp activities during normal activity periods that week.

Register through our website or call the office, (540) 896-7600, for more information.

Important reminders for parents...

The start of camp is just a few weeks away. Here are a few important reminders to help parents and campers make packing and preparing for camp a breeze.

- New this year, all campers will have a \$35 per week Swap Shop credit, included with your registration fee. For any additional purchases over this amount, the Swap Shop will be open for cash, credit, and/or check purchases on the opening and closing day of your camp session.
- All camp forms and CampDoc medical information should have been completed by May 1. If not, they must be completed upon registering for camp.
- All payments are due by June 1 or upon registering for camp if after June 1.
- All medications must be submitted to our medical staff upon check-in. Basic over-the-counter meds can be left at home, as our Camper Care Center is stocked with the basics.
- For children who take medication for ADHD or similar conditions, please be sure to send this medication with them to camp.
- To minimize the chances of head lice at camp, please check your child two weeks prior to camp and again the morning camp begins.
- Please do not send packages to your campers. Letters and emails are strongly encouraged!
- To encourage children to "unplug" and enjoy this beautiful setting and new friends while at camp, please leave all electronics at home, including mobile phones, tablets, iPods/mp3 players, gaming devices, etc.

- We are situated in the midst of a beautiful forest, and as such we have many cute little critters in the woods that love camper snacks! To keep our wild guests in the woods and out of buildings, food, candy and drinks are NOT allowed in our cabins. Please do not send food/candy to camp.
- Label ALL personal clothing, bedding, towels, etc.
- Closed-toed shoes are required for

most (land-based) activities; shoes with heels and long pants are required for horseback riding; and long pants are required for caving.

- Any special dietary needs should be communicated to our office (through the registration process or by contacting us directly) ASAP, at least two weeks before your camp session. We try to accommodate all needs.



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Hey teens... check out



Are you a teen who loves summer camp but is passionate about the performing arts? Check out



Camp Up with People, (www.CampUpwithPeople.org), a sister camp of Camp Horizons that focuses on the performing arts but also offers traditional camp activities. This exciting three-week program for teens, ages 13-17 from around the world, also offers leadership training, a chance to make a difference in your world through service projects, and cultural activities and exchanges. The first session is **SOLD OUT**, but we're offering a special 25% discount exclusively to CH campers who are first-time CUWP campers for **Cast B: July 21-Aug. 10**. E-mail: Contact@CampUpwithPeople.org or call (540) 742-4093 for details.

Keep in touch!

We love to hear from our ever-growing Camp Horizons family. Stop by for a visit, drop us a line or e-mail us at Alumni@HorizonsVA.com to update your address, send information or share any alumni news and photos. Visit our Alumni page on our web site, www.CampHorizonsVA.com. Also visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/camphorizonsva, follow us on Twitter at http://twitter.com/camp_horizons, or check out our camp blog at <http://camphorizons.wordpress.com>.



Back by popular demand ... CH Family Camp!

We're reinstating our popular Family Camp that gives parents a chance to come to camp too! Camp Horizons Family Camp will be Labor Day weekend, Aug. 30-Sept. 2. Bring your family for the weekend...enjoy a stay in our rustic cabins, participate in many of our great camp activities, and of course sit by the fire at night eating s'mores and singing camp songs. For more information and pricing, please visit our website, e-mail us, or give us a call!