

# Geneva Glen Breeze



1922-2012 CELEBRATING 90 YEARS!



What do you get on your birthday? A cake? Songs, friends with gifts, fireworks? Well we need to emulate those gestures times *ninety!* As we commemorate 90 years of enriching lives! GG alums will celebrate during a Labor Day weekend reunion, but all through the summer sessions campers will pay homage to this special year with "themed" extravaganza's and silly camp rites. Maybe we will have a 90-squirtgun salute during Rendezvous, or a 90-lollipop-licking contest during Myths. You come up with some notions, and we'll try to include them. Send them via email to the camp.



## On-The-Dog-Beat –

Canine Columnist: Huckleberry

Spring DOG-wood... for Huck!



**Howdy Campers!** Greetings and an enthusiastic tail-wag to all you first-time campers out there! Also, a sloppy, dog-lick to you returning veterans who are anxiously awaiting your check in Sunday when you return to *YOUR* camp, GG! I'm thinking about the summer too, as I sleep on the steps of the deck these days, taking in the sun and warmth, (Nancy thinks I'm 'guarding the castle gate!'), I *dream* of camp: through foggy mist I see dodge balls bouncing into the stream bed as junior boys scramble after them. I see twenty middlers running down the meadow after bubbles that seem to pop too soon. I fantasize about overnights when hot dogs are falling off the sticks, and I'm snarfing them up before you can rescue them, or the tantalizing smell of roasting chili's as some counselors do a gourmet Southwestern cooking demonstration right here under my sensitive nose! Sometimes I have a day-dream that I'm a huge, black stallion, cantering all around the ring, and Courtney is chasing me with a shiny silver bridle. But then I awake, and know that's Skye, or Sweet Pea, and not Huckleberry! I hanker for that opening council ring, and some lucky campers puts a bandanna around my neck. I have a vision of a bearded mountain man up at rifles showing everyone how to load a blunderbuss, or even better, me rolling in the marvelous mud during Myths with a bunch of little tykes covered in Jell-O, sand, and brown, goeey, muddy gunk! Well

these phantasm's only last a short while. I wake to see snow melting on girls hill – to hear pounding on boys hill as Dorm D and H are getting new pine-tree bunks, and E and F are getting a roof over their cool deck to "keep it cool" in July.

Be sure to read about your favorite counselors on the Staff Stew. Ken and Nancy have cajoled a healthy bunch of last year's folks back to their favorite camp, and you should see over 65 familiar faces around the council ring when you return. I see Tucker most every day, but Reid doesn't let him wander, like I do, because he runs away! I also see Corey every day. He runs away too, but he doesn't drool as much as Tucker! There's a new mounting for the memorial bell over near the Chapel. Right next to the lilac bush there, a rock wall has gone up with names inscribed in the stone. It looks really pretty.

Well now as the snow melts mud is everywhere, and I'm having to get a bath every other day .. AAarrrrgh! Just know that camp will be ready for you in June, July, or August ... so get excited and I'll see you then!

Your camp doggy pal, Huckleberry





As summer approaches we are brewing up our 2012 batch of STAFF STEW, the crucial ingredients that help create the Magic of the Glen!

Let's pretend to be Wizards and translate our dynamic counseling skills into the critical elements of a successful summer:

Any brew needs a basic substance of MANDRAKE ROOTS ... our three crew heads, JEREMY PARSONS, MATT AYRES, and our root-ling, EMMA SAJSA, supply that component well. SEA-HORSE MUSK, which is efficacious in repelling the odors of honey-pyle, perhaps could be COURTNEY MCKNIGHT, EMILY JACOBS, and MACKENZIE WORLEY, all down at the barn. That comic tag-team of JEFF ELLENOFF, RICHARD ONESLAGER, CASEY SWEENEY, NICK BROWN, and ANDY SCHULTZ, will surface as CITs and resemble HORNY-TOADY TOES. Ropes Course is like DELICATE FLOWERS come from cobweb silk shooting through the pines ... JESSE GARHART is especially needed for that area with her handsome co, NATE ARIKI. Most stews need a savory shake of DANDELION FLUFF! Ours is SHELBY HARTWELL, DOMINIQUE LACROIX, EMMA THOMPSON, and KIM MCMULLEN. Rowdy, and boisterous "MOOSE-HORN POWDER" is appropriately represented by MOOSE MÜLLER, NICK BROADY, HENRY HOYT, STEVE MARES, and ADAM GRIBAS, swinging away with his Belegarth scimitar! "BLUE DRAGONFLY WINGS"

welcome the return of BONNIE SILER, KEVAN BEALL, ELLE MCNAMARA, and CAITLIN PLUNKETT Let's add some rare essence of "ABALONE PEARL" shining out from MEG MEAGHER, CODY LUBCHENCO, SIDNEY PROVAN, EMMA JOHNSTON, and LONDON MCELVAINE. How about a dash of "TURTLE DUNG" from MAX DICKTER and CASSIDY ROBISON as our Trainee heads! ALBATROSS MUCUS – that glue that holds the ingredients together – could be our intrepid PETE MAHAN, returning as Program Director. Let's add some quick retorts as fast as the flick of a SALAMANDER TONGUE like from ASHER HUSSAIN, TOMMY HURRELL, MORGEN SCHMEHL, BEN LEDERER, MELISSA KARSH, and LUCA BACCEGA! In the GG kitchen, "HONEY-SUCKLE RIND" translates for our sweet cooks: ANITA, JOYCE, MELISSA, CRYSTAL, ALANA, KATE, and the inimitable NINA! Every true brew needs a few "EYE-OF-NEWT!" How does the compilation of HALEY MIRR and JORDAN COHEN sound for keeping a watchful eye on the CIT's?! Let's throw in some TINCTURE OF SNOWY OWL for the thoughtful addition of our Vespers guru's, GRACE MICHAELS and SAM ROBISON. Our heads of hill, COREY DICKTER, and ABBY EURICH are the QUICKSILVER that coagulate this mysterious blend into a successful working team. UNICORN TEARS allow the substance to congeal and the ones with tears of joy for camp's success include CHRISTA, REID, and JOHNNY. At the very end we may throw in a tiny bit of HUCKLEBERRY FUR, just so KEN and NANCY can add that unique spice, and ... *abracadabra!* You have our savory, hearty, magical counselor compote!



Tending this savory garden will be Trainee Directors: Cassidy Robison, and Max Dickter



Each year Geneva Glen "grows" its own leaders (usually 90% of our staff come from the former camper ranks). Check out new crop of young leaders in the form of our floral bouquet of Trainees this summer!

## A Message to GG Newcomers ... From the Directors:

Dear First-Year Campers,

We hope this newsletter finds you and your parents ready and excited about this coming season. If this will be your first time at the Glen, WELCOME!! Let us introduce ourselves. We are Ken and Nancy Atkinson, the directors of Geneva Glen. We both were campers and counselors at GG, in addition to being parents of three former campers (and, now, grandparents to several current campers!). We love this place very much and are excited to share its magic with you.

### Here's a few hints for having the best time at camp

Try to get plenty of sleep the night before you come to camp. You may be too excited to sleep and, if so, don't worry about it, you'll sleep well at camp!

Bring old, comfortable clothing. You'll only need one nicer outfit for Sunday, and you may want to bring something unique and crazy for the dance.

Instead of packing all your "gadgets," bring your imagination! We try to leave the hi-tech, screen world for a couple weeks and enjoy a different kind of entertainment here at camp. Along those lines, the familiar way of writing by e-mail is traded for good old-fashioned letters and post cards! So bring stamped envelopes/postcards with your home address (also feel free to bring a family photo to stick up in your trunk). NO CELL PHONES please - no big surprise here!

Our favorite place at camp, has got to be our wonderful **Council Ring**. Most camps have a "center" of activity such as a campfire area where songs are sung, skits are created and camp legends are spun! At Geneva Glen, this is our treasured Council Ring, the "heart" of camp. This theater-in-the-round comfortably holds 300 folks on bleachers and logs, set around the sacred fire pit! Daily, we tromp across the bridge to hear stories, announcements of activities, goofy songs, and corn-ball antics of leaders who invite teens to join them on a wilderness adventure, or to persuade middleers into helping them write a radio program for our own station "KGLN."

At the end of **American Heritage**, we gather in the



Council Ring for Pow Wow, a ceremonial performance of various dances, games, songs and rituals that follow the traditions of native tribe we seek to emulate. The fire, of course, is the center of the program — it's where the last-song poems from the Funeral Dance are chanted and where the sacred eagle feathers for the Snake Dance are burned.

Through Arthurian legends the Council Ring is transformed during **Knighthood** to 6th Century Wales and Britain. Celtic melodies, magic swords, and royal pageantry permeate our ring, as castle order banners bedeck its rustic walls, and smoky tales trip imagination to romantic fantasies.

Often during the **World Friendship** session, musicals are presented in the Council Ring. Peter Pan is lifted in flight or munchkins prance down the Yellow Brick Road in the Wizard of Oz. The Council Ring also is the center of ethnic legends and dramas of various cultures we learn about during this session. At the start of the summer, during **Myths and Magic**, the Council Ring is a big-top brimming with color, balloons, twinkle lights, popcorn and cotton candy. This is where the strong men attempt incredible feats of super-human strength, mermaids sing siren songs, tiny acrobats flit across imaginary high wires, and clowns, seals, and dancing bears make us laugh at ourselves.

The Council Ring is the most important on Sunday evenings, when we faithfully bring back old campfire favorites of the past 88 years. Somehow, the chants and harmonies of these familiar songs passed down to the current generation is like a "silver cord that binds." Some are silly, typical songs, like *Baby Bumble Bee*, or *Choo Choo Cha*. Others, such as *Peace I Ask of Thee O-River*, are traditional to many camps. Some are great spirituals, like *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*, but the closing fellowship circle at GG always includes "We're on the Upward Trail" . . . "Geneva, We Love You. Your wonderful fragrance of pine" . . . and "Day is Done" (taps). These melodies, sung in swaying shadows around the fire, provide a connection to GG's wonderful past, and they create a warm memory to last a lifetime.

Bring your expectations to meet wonderful new friends, sing silly songs, create a slapstick skit, be really busy, or to just kick back and relax. AND always be yourself in a wonderful outdoor atmosphere of fellowship and fun!

For camper veterans, this *Glen Breeze* is part of the GG tradition, with articles like "On the Dog Beat" and the Garden of Trainees.

Whether you're one of our 10-year veterans or a brand-new, first-timer, we treasure this fellowship at the Glen and look forward to our summer together.

Nancy & Ken

### Attention First-Time Campers!

#### **GG's Strawberry Pancake Breakfast!!**

You're invited to our version of an "Open House"

(Saturday, May 19; 8:30-10:30)

**Mark the Date:** Sat. May 19 between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. for GG's annual Strawberry Pancake Breakfast! Families new to GG are warmly welcomed to a breakfast open-house that includes guided tours of the camp. This is a great way for parents to see where your children will be situated and for the kids to get a flavor of the camp. If you are planning to attend, PLEASE REPLY by email ([christa@genevaglen.org](mailto:christa@genevaglen.org)) or phone (303-697-4621, ext 25), so we know how much vittles to prepare!



# HELPFUL HINTS AND REMINDERS FOR PARENTS!

*Here's a handy list of some of the basic things to keep track of. ... Hope this helps, and see you soon!*

1. **HEALTH FORM** (blue) was mailed to you in February, if you were enrolled. If you need the form, contact us to mail you one, or you can access it online via the parents link on the GG website ([www.genevaglen.org](http://www.genevaglen.org)).

**Doctors physical exam** – just what IS required? A physical exam is required for admission and the exam must be current within 24 months of attendance (before signing off on the GG Health Form, your doctor may require an exam within the past year). A physical exam does not need to be conducted by a licensed physician, but the exam form **MUST** be signed **EVERY YEAR** by “Licensed Medical Personnel” (MD, DO, Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant). The physician exam form is on page 4 of the camp’s **Health Form** and can be submitted separately from the rest of the health form. Contact us if you need more information. All medications will be checked through our nurse on Check-In Sunday. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING VITAMINS AND HERBAL SUPPLEMENTS.** Health information must be current, and the health form must be at camp *by MAY 1st*. Go to the Parent Resources link on the camp’s website to access downloads of our policies and the health form itself:

<http://www.genevaglen.org/general/healthservices.php>

2. **TUITION PAYMENT** — We ask for the balance of tuition by MAY 1ST. Please call us if this presents any problems. A statement of your account is included in this mailing.

3. **CHECK-IN SUNDAY** (2-week sessions) — Big, exciting day! You’ll be directed where to park, and given an information sheet and map. Come straight up to the GG lodge *before* moving your luggage. At Step-1, you will get the Camper Release Form that you need to sign and give to the heads-of-hill (Step-3). The Release Form tells us who will pick up the camper on Check-Out Saturday (and that’s the only person to whom we will release the camper). At Step-2 of the check-in process (located at the GG Health Center), you will have the chance to visit with our camp doctor and nurse (and drop off your medications, clarify any concerns, etc.).

**Myths and Magic**  
**Check-In: 10:30 – noon; Mon., June 13**  
**Check-Out: 3:30 – 5:00; Fri., June 17**

**Start time:** The time to come is **2:00 p.m. or after**, until 4:00 p.m. We won’t be able to register anyone until 2:00 p.m., so **PLEASE DO NOT COME ANY EARLIER THAN 2:00** on Sunday. If you come at 3:00, you will have **no wait** in the Check-In lines.

 **BUNK BEDS WILL BE PICKED BY “LOTTERY”** with the counselors in the cabins (getting here early is no advantage!)

4. **CHECK-OUT SATURDAY**— Check-Out times are from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Please remember that parents must sign the **Release Form** (counselors will have these forms, which must be signed before releasing your camper). Your medications can be picked up at the top of the meadow, and there you also can peruse the remaining lost-and-found! Some families will have a yellow card attached to the release form indicating that a miscellaneous charge is due and can be paid at the Sportswear window (bottom of the lodge).

**What to pack? Here’s the checklist from your Parent Handbook:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimsuit / towels (3 towels)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Shorts / summer clothing                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight (optional; mark with camper’s name)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Camera (optional); inexpensive/disposable (w/ camper’s name) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Warm jacket and rain jacket or poncho   | <input type="checkbox"/> One dressy outfit for Sunday Vespers and dances              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toiletry articles (toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, comb/hairbrush, washcloth, etc.)  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sturdy shoes, for hiking and horseback riding<br>(GG barn policies require having hard-sole shoes with a heel for horseback riding; sturdy hiking boots are sufficient) |   |



**TAKE A LOOK AT THE ENCLOSED FLYERS FOR FOOT LOCKERS, AND FOR CARE PACKAGES. THEY’RE WORTH CONSIDERING!**

*Our camp has been providing a fun, positive camping experience for children for 90 years. It remains our expectation that you have a fantastic summer at Geneva Glen ... and we know you will.*

***See you soon !!!***

**Important Note to Parents**

Parents are reminded that we **discourage sending expensive items** to camp, as they easily can become lost and Geneva Glen cannot accept responsibility for lost items. **Cell phones are not allowed.** We will hold out-of-state camper cell phones in the safe. Our policies **prohibit any drugs**, or any kind of **medication not checked in** with our camp nurse. Other items not allowed include: **tobacco** of any kind, **alcohol**, **fireworks**, **matches**, **lighters**, **personal sports equipment**, **gum**, **personal safety gear** (helmets), **vehicles** (boards, bikes, scooters), and **weapons** of any variety. Finally, to help reduce lost-and-found mysteries ...

**BE SURE YOUR NAME IS ON THE INSIDE OF ALL YOUR CLOTHING! - AND ON EVERYTHING!!**

*Thanks for your cooperation.*

**Recipe for Happy, Resilient, Independent Children**

- 1 gallon of Nature (outdoor exploration, looking at the stars, getting dirty in the streambed, building a fort)
- 1 quart of Friendship
- 1 cup of Free Play (making up games, coming up with your own rules, spontaneous creative)
- 1 cup of Character Development
- 1 cup of Independence
- 3 tbs of Imagination
- ¼ cup of Tradition
- Generous helpings in equal amount of Music, Art, Dance, Drama
- A dollop of "let's pretend"
- Several sprigs of Adventure
- Sprinkles of child-like laughter (from the medicine cabinet!)
- 5 swirls of Storytelling



Spice to taste with mischievousness, pranks, and a sense of humor  
 Spoon in heaping amounts of great role models, a pinch of persistence, and a dab of odore du equine!  
 Whip generously in a large vat labeled "Safe Place to be Yourself." Bake in perfect Colorado summer temperatures and cool in fresh mountain air, cover with a blanket of stars, using the aroma of unconditional love, and ... VOILA!

**A note to Campers and Parents, from Ken & Nancy**

Spring salutations to all our camp family. We hope you are seeing a few crocus peek out through the melting snow. We are gearing up for a spectacular new season and *cooking up* fresh features for adventure.

Continuing our Culinary Breeze theme, we'd like to share with you more confirmation for the notion that camp is not just recreational and "fun." There's some significant development happening with your camper and substantial moments in their life as they join in a large, loving family to experience so many occasions that are slowly disappearing in our social landscape.

When we hear findings telling us that on average in America, a child spends 5-minutes a day in unstructured play, and *seven hours* a day in front of some kind of screen; when recess is fast becoming a thing of the past, along with walking to school and back home again, we begin to see a more imperative pattern that says CAMP is not only a good, solid adjunct to education, it's crucial to the balanced development of a *whole child!* Camp not only helps teach kids how to get along with each other, it helps kids learn how to get along in LIFE!

At the heart of every *good* summer camp is the goal of growing confident, happy, resilient children. And of course "children" refers to our college-age staff as well! The work of Youth Development has never been more important, and most all parents share this cause with us.

So consider this recipe to be an analogy to the parts of a camp experience that helps to comprise a healthy clump of memories and experiences that a child will draw upon all of their life!

Bon Appetite! ***These are the vital ingredients for a healthy child. And the store is stocked!***

**"CRE-8"**

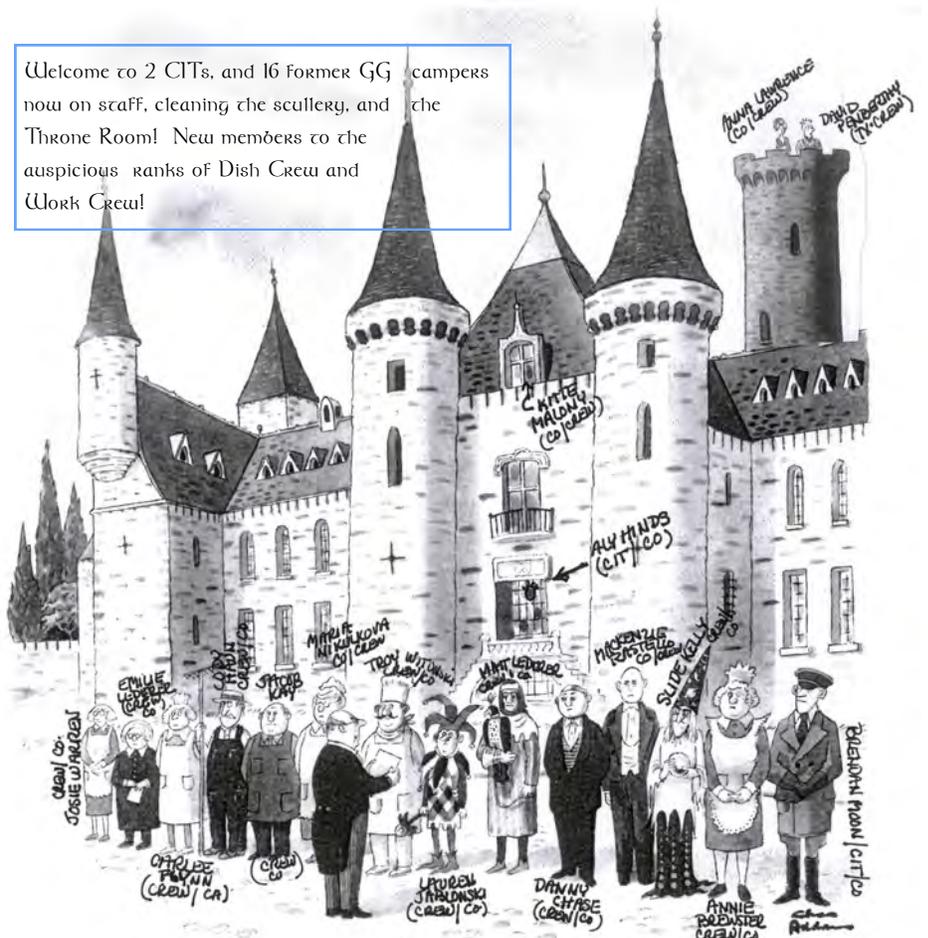
We love introducing new programs at the Glen. How about the inventive costuming collaboration of future fashion designer, Madame Melissa Karsh, and a cascade of feathers, furs, leather, bolts of fabric, boodles and boodles of beads at the "Cre-8" (Cabin 8!)

Myths circus always needs extravagant garb; Pow Wow headpieces that represent more than just Ute or Pawnee tribes, but north-coastal groups full of shells and ribbons. This can really be a place where imagination can bloom! Two of our alums are supporting this fun endeavor, Barb Tenbrook, from California, and Kate and Xander Sommers' designer mom,



Kathleen, in San Antonio. We send grateful accolades their way with expectations of a marvelous new program.

(Welcome to 2 CITs, and 16 former GG campers now on staff, cleaning the scullery, and the Throne Room! New members to the auspicious ranks of Dish Crew and Work Crew!





**A WINTER WORKSHOP, 2011**  
**Letter to Saint Nicholas**

Dear "Sandy Claus": Thank you again for a fabulous Winter Workshop! We had plenty of snow for icing on the Winter Workshop cake. The meadow was covered with just the right amount of white stuff, and the frosty thermometer kept a festive feeling alive. My favorite part is always just hanging out with my camp friends. There were plenty of guys to balance out the sixty screaming girls when we played "Clench-a-Wench." That pajama atmosphere-sipping cocoa, playing Risk, playing spoons, or even "extreme spoons," which we made up just for camp, decorating cookies, helping with the dishes, it's all great and it's just camp fun. The ice rink was super-spectacular, as Reid really has "zambonied" it into NHL perfection! Johnny's Gnomie ceremony in the council ring brought back lots of 2011 staff making it a holiday reunion. The ending is always bittersweet, but the gift-themed Vespers, with us all piled together in the chapel, is wonderful. When Ken plays Silent Night from the Mannheim Steamroller Christmas album, and you hear the sleigh bells at the end, that's the best! The greatest gift, of course, is just being yourself at this place we love. Thanks again, Santa, for granting my Holiday wish, Winter Workshop at the Glen! Love,  
*Cindy-Lou-Who, (who lives in Cabin 2)*



**Raffle Winner**

**RAFFLE NEWS** – Great joy fell upon **Madison Griggs**, 8<sup>th</sup> grader, a seven-year veteran from Denver, after her name was picked from the Wassail Bowl during Winter Workshop. She chose Knighthood II for her session. Congratulations! And thanks to all you who purchased a raffle ticket. The total benefit from this year's raffle provided three camperships!



Applause!