



Geneva Glen Camp



Camper Breeze ... Fall 2013



WHAT A TREEHOUSE!

What would you pretend if you had a giant Treehouse? Pretending is an important skill at camp – it allows our imaginations to climb through clouds like Jack in the Beanstalk, or soar on dragonfly wings, or better yet to live in the pure concoction of your own visions – visions from inside a seashell to a mythical moon on a made-up planet zillions of light years away. That’s one reason our Treehouse was built: for your imagination!

After three years of plans, and struggles with Jefferson County for an “elevated picnic pavilion,” aka, the “Tintagel Treehouse,” it is finally a reality. As wildflowers and natural undergrowth fill in where the earth was disturbed, it will only grow more lush, and we are grateful the 250 year old Spruce remains strong and untarnished as the Treehouse structure is built around the tree, not in it.

This inventive structure amidst the spruce branches harbors the daydreams of our younger campers. It may be the Black Pearl pirate ship during Myths and Magic, Tecumseh’s hunting lodge in American Heritage, or the Leprechaun Castle during World Friendship. It’s large enough for all our juniors (Hilltop and Mackenzie) to “safely abide” (like the “little rabbit in the woods”!) during a rainy overnight. A rope ladder allows little tykes to sneak up through the trap door, and a “Skimo Swing” is a shady ride beneath Rachel’s Roost. A mushroom table supplies a place for a “Mad Tea Party,” and you can just guess where we might find the Cheshire cat! So, we introduce it to all our campers—it’s our newest pride and joy as a cool (and we mean *literally*- as the breeze wafts down the valley from Merlin’s rock) covered respite above the rocky creek. With gratitude we thank GG Camp Family supporters for making this dream come true!



On the Dog Beat

*Canine Columnist: Huckleberry
Salutations from Huck the camp Lab,
bringing you all the camp tidbits!*

Hey Gang, Huckleberry here!

Happy Indian Summer to all my camper pals! It's a slow start to autumn, still very green with so much rain. Our bushes are thick with choke-cherry and keep the robins and chipmunk's satisfied. I can hear the trumpet of elk, but they haven't meandered down to camp's green grass, probably staying in the thickets of Marshmallow Meadow. So, I guess everyone knows that dogs have a pretty good sense of smell! My favorite odoriferous day at camp is when Myths campers roll in the mud! It's not that I enjoy the kids imitating me, but the fragrance of all that leftover goo tempt my doggie nature and excite the olfactory to savor the jelly beans covered in lime Jell-O, or ice cream dripping from the deck, which I lap up eagerly to help with the cleaning!

Now a favorite exercise for a canine like me is to roll in *pucky* ... elk scat, honey pile, deer droppings, call it what you like, I like it all, and I'm uncommonly adept at it! So last week, while checking out the rare aromas at the barn, I found a superior black-clump with a huge paw-print next to it. It was not from Bert or Sweet Pea, because they don't eat chokecherries. I was confident I could bravely roll in Black Bear poo – which I happily did! (Nancy



wouldn't let me in the back of the car afterwards, no wonder!) During the Rendezvous I was hidden beneath the bleachers when "Pemmican Pete," the mountain man, started telling his tall tales. He was wearing pieces of Ginny's old beaver coat (which smelled *very* authentic) and he had a bona-fide scent of an old rummy-eyed trapper. He didn't shoot his musket, but he spat a lot and made the campers giggle. My keen dog snout could identify

from the bouquet of his socks and the girth of his overalls that he was really Ben Brasch!

The biggest mystery that plagued me this summer was that darned dragon egg. Somehow it just appeared in the fire pit in the Council Ring, and the counselors taped it off so that no one could accidentally damage its contents. Again, my keen "scents-ability" picked up varied clues as I investigated its origin. There was a strong whiff of "Knutter-Clinq" dragon tooth, horn-tail scales and cotton candy, with a smidgen of fairy dust and plaster-of-paris!



The next day, holy smoke – it cracked, and whatever young'un was inside had flown away up the canyon. Very exciting stuff!

Other fragrant perfume I enjoy during the summer: the snow-cone syrup from the 4th of July celebration and Luau (and sometimes, I even get to wipe up your leftovers)! The sock-puppet stick horses created in crafts, give off the scent of feet, glue, and streambed sand. Some campers took theirs home, but we still have a bunch in the "Room of Requirement" aka, the Tumes! There are oodles more GG scents, especially on Boys Hill—it reeks! You guys sure win the "pungent" contest!



Have a great fall and winter, and we'll keep the Glen safe and magical for you all next season.

Love, Huckleberry



The Prosperity Feather was presented to three outstanding campers during American Heritage: Abbey Obourn, Wyatt Grice, and Allison Haun, are honored for their enthusiasm, and attitude of inclusiveness



Mud shows up particularly well on blond moppets, and it apparently helped these two become our mudpie king and queen – seven year-old Oliver Meuse, from California, and Kate Todd, a Colorado gal whose parents met at camp as campers themselves!

Camper Edition

Fall, 2013

Greetings from the Directors

Happy Autumn campers!

We are bustin' at the seams from a full and memorable summer with good news, great activities, and fresh areas from the summer of 2013. This issue of your **Breeze** will highlight many of your activities with photos. Our theme this summer was "Harmony," and that lovely quality prevailed throughout the season, and we have three examples of how concord reigned (and *rained*) for us at the Glen.

Just before camp kicked off, we drilled the first water well in fifty years! After seasons of watching our summer water supply slowly dwindle, we went for it with a new well. In Iroquois, Winnepesaukee means "smile of the Great Spirit," and in the shadow of Mt. Winnie, we've always believed camp to be a place where God smiles. The original hydro-geological spot for this new well to be drilled had to be relocated when the 80,000 pound drilling rig got stuck in the archery lane #1! But God smiled on that spot because we ended up drilling two lanes down, and voila! An Artesian spring! Camp pumps more pure H₂O from this new well than from all five of the existing wells *combined!* There's nothing that harmonized our summer more than this, so we are now calling this well "The Harmony Well!"

The dire forecast of another sweltering, dry, active fire season faded soon after the 4th of July as the fire ban was lifted; rains cooled fears and nourished our forests. The fake gas fire of Pow Wow was replaced by the loved crackling, pungent pine that warmed the Council Ring for the introduction of the Knighthood characters. Miraculously none of the major outdoor "happenings" were ruined by raindrops.

Besides the Treehouse construction, the **Marathon expansion** was foremost on our mind, knowing it will bring a welcome and generous gathering place in inclement weather. One hurdle we were faced with was



Prayer Flags Worked!!

the demand by the county to cut some 100 trees. To lose these beautiful trees, some of which are 90 feet, that shade the Glen at archery, campcraft and rifles, and the Forbidden Trail, seemed a heart-breaking trade for the refurbished Marathon. The campers desired some symbol to show our stewardship of these living sentinels. To honor their longevity (some, 200+ years old), during World Friendship, the juniors and middlers designed individual batik pennants to be hung from the Pirate Bridge close to Archery. Annie Brewster and Cass Robison spearheaded this Buddhist tradition and prayer flags flapped around these trails all through to our present Indian Summer. Here's where harmony comes in: instead of felling trees right away, we waited, and soon the word came that we were no longer required to cut any trees! We were yelling "Halleluiah" through the mountains when this wonderful news came.

The joys and triumphs of our summer will be reflected in this newsletter. Peruse it and recall your own personal memories ... and then come back to make more! See you next year!

Ken & Nancy

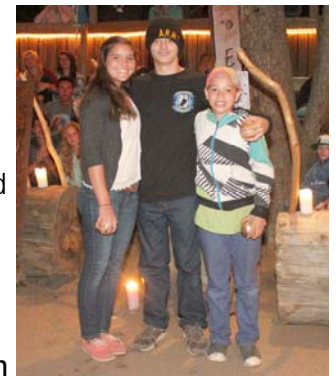


The Geneva Glen Peace Prize, a coveted award given in World Friendship, was bestowed with great respect on three senior campers: **Lindsey Magill**, **Jack Stewart**, and **Sam Kumagai**. These exemplary GG citizens will see their names added to a plaque with all the former recipients, as the award definition says, "*who have displayed outstanding leadership and unusual devotion to the ideals of friendship among nations and respect for human life, liberty,*

and dignity. Their constant commitment to these ideals also acts to inspire those around them toward a heightened respect and appreciation for all."

SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD WINNERS

And with similar dignity to the Peace Prize, these three wonderful campers were honored for their conspicuous display of sportsmanship during the World Friendship award ceremony: **Grace Romer**, of Colorado, **Patrick Day**, another Colorado camper, and sixth-grader **Rhyan Carr**, of Oak Park, Illinois.



Congratulations!

Myths and Magic!



Myths & Magic Is in a league all by itself! One of the few overnight camps for 6, 7, and 8 year olds entering 1st—3rd grade only, it is beginning to fill with campers who's parent(s) attended, and so boasts almost one-third GG alumni progeny! Five days of solid, packed fun, it's a great experience for a first time away, for parents and kids!



WINTER WORKSHOP

Mark Your Calendars!

(Dec. 20-23)

Winter Workshop is our warm winter blast of GG spirit, disguised as a teen slumber party! It's open to VETERAN GG campers currently in 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th grades. Roughly 100 lucky kids come for sledding, cross-country skiing, hot-tubbin' and general socializing. Dates for the 2013 Workshop are Fri., Dec. 20 (between 3pm and 5pm) through noon on Mon., Dec. 23. We hope you can join us for the Workshop this year, so be on the lookout for the WW enrollment [accompanying your camp registration mailing.](#)

The information will be mailed in November along with the summer registration materials. The cost will be \$250 and that includes the popular WW shirt. Winter Workshop is the perfect way to renew your summer friendships – after all, what could be better than “camp” to cure the winter blues?? *Think SNOW!*

Interested in the Trainee Program?

How does the Trainee program work? A Trainee is a camper who is selected for a leadership role and attends all five sessions of the summer. We generally choose between 8-10 campers to participate in this program and it's an honor to be accepted. Trainees are able to enjoy the fun of being a camper with some of the similar responsibilities that come with being a staff member. It's an incomparable way to deepen one's commitment to GG and to the cause of camping by opening the door to a staff career at Geneva Glen.

There is a high expectation of the Trainee's leadership abilities and loyalties to the values they've learned through our teen programs. At Geneva Glen, a camper who will be 16 in the summer may apply for Trainee. Keep in mind that it is a full summer commitment, from the beginning of Myths & Magic to the end of World Friendship.

If you are interested in applying for a Trainee position, simply call or email the camp (the camper should correspond, NOT the parent!), or send a postcard requesting an application. Trainee applications will be available by mid-December.

NOTE: even if you apply for the Trainee program, you still need to send in your regular camper registration card (as soon as possible), starting in early November, for the camp session(s) of

**P.O. Box 248 Indian Hills, CO 80454
303-697-4621 ... www.genevaglen.org**

Ken's Chimp Charlie says "THANK YOU!"

In the Spring Breeze we introduced the **Children's Chump Change Challenge** and the campers did a great job responding! We asked you to bring your loose change to Check-In and add it into the change basket. *Well, you did it and we raised \$754.63 for the GG Campership Program – thank you!* It is amazing how a little change can make a big difference!! Start tucking your pennies away now for the 2014 Chump Change Challenge; rumor has it a bigger Chimp and a challenging tongue twister is in the works! Ciao!



September 7th was the inaugural **Fall Foliage Fandango** - a wonderful afternoon and evening up at GG. This was a chance for our alumni and camper families to spend time together at Camp. We had over 150 attendees, a terrific team of 2013 summer staff running activity areas, a delicious dinner prepared by our summer cooks, and a nostalgic evening Council Fire. The weather was great and a fun time was had by all!!

Camp Staff donates \$1,383 to the Campership Program!

A huge THANK YOU goes out to the 2013 GG Staff - their donations to the Campership Program totaled \$1,382.50.

GG Fundraising Update

We are so grateful to the staff and the camper parents and alums who donated to Geneva Glen this year!

The support that each of our donor's provide is truly appreciated and greatly needed. This year, gifts to GG ranged from \$3 ("all the money in my pocket") to \$100,000 (a challenge grant that doubled gifts in our annual campaign!). *Truly, every gift matters.* Please remember, Geneva **Glen is a private, non-profit, 501(c)3 organization.** *Donations to GG are tax deductible.* To learn more about fundraising efforts at camp please call Kathy Thornton or Molly Robison – 303-697-4621 ext. 21.

Get your tickets for the 16th Annual GG Knighthood Raffle!!

This is your chance to win "a spot" and tuition in the *session of your choice* for the summer of 2014! The proceeds from this raffle support Camperships at GG – we raised more than \$5,000 and helped support 87 full and partial Camperships in 2013. Congratulations to **Cameron Kirke**, who won the raffle and attended Knighthood II in 2013; not bad, turning his raffle ticket into a space in KHII and a \$1,695 tuition credit. Don't miss your chance to win tuition and space in the session of your choice - the form for buying tickets will be included with your registration materials... *coming soon!*



Clockwise from top left...

World Friendship Olympics belly flop contest!

Some Rider and Lancer Ladies with a Chalice Well-Banner made for our Knighthood program.

Kokopelli Story Teller during American Heritage

Blow Darts was added to the excitement of Slingshots and Archery!



Geneva Glen PRE-Registration Information for 2014

Greetings from another pleasant and colorful Colorado autumn, and a quiet camp! We're so thankful we could share the magic of Geneva Glen with your child. We had a fantastic summer and look forward to another one! Registration for summer 2014 will begin soon.

*** If you received this newsletter, you qualify for early registration! You will receive the registration card by mail, either at the end of October or early November. This newsletter is NOT the registration mailing! ***



THIS WILL BE THE ONLY MAILING PRIOR TO THE REGISTRATION PACKAGE WHICH WILL SPELL OUT ALL THE DETAILS ABOUT ENROLLMENT DEADLINES.

LOOK AT THE MAILING LABEL! Do we have it right?

The address on the label is what we have on file, and where we will send registration materials. If there are any changes or corrections needed to revise what's on the mailing label, please email Christa with details— christa@genevaglen.org or (303) 697- 4621 ext. 25



SUMMER DATES 2014

	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>
Myths and Magic.....	June 16	June 20
	<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
American Heritage.....	June 22	July 5
Knighthood I	July 6	July 19
Knighthood II	July 20	August 2
World Friendship.....	August 3	August 16

Dates for the Upcoming Geneva Glen Season — Fall 2013 & Summer 2014

Registration Mailing Dates

- ◆ Registration mailed to ALL out-of-state families
Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2013
- ◆ Registration mailed to veteran in-state families
Monday, Oct. 28, 2013
Enrollment begins for veteran Colorado families —
Friday, Nov. 8, 2013
- ◆ Registration mailed to in-state, first-year families
Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2014

Off-season Events and Staff Orientation

- ◆ 2013 Winter Workshop (for veteran teens only)
Friday, Dec. 20 – Monday, Dec. 23, 2013
- ◆ 2014 Staff Orientation
June 8-15, 2014



We're looking forward to the summer of 2014 and Geneva Glen's 93rd season. See you soon!



Jessie Dickter, of Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Tyler Kelly, of Morrison, Colorado, were the royal couple of Knighthood II. They performed the roles of Guinevere and King Arthur beautifully in our seventy-seventh Arthurian Pageant.



Leadership is Recognized at the Glen

This year the awards flowed abundantly for our exceptional staff during Knighthood. 21 leaders were recognized with Roses, Spurs, Ladies Disks, and Stars creating an especially highly charged Inductions and Ladies Court.

Roses bloomed for: Bonnie Siler, Emma Thompson, Elle McNamara, Morgan Schmehl, Emily Jacobs, Kim McMullen, and Emma Johnston. Spurs jangled for Adam Gribas, Nick Brown, Asher Hussain, Austin Lee, Casey Sweeney, Nate Ariki, Max Muller, Naveed Easton, Steven Mares, and Ben Brasch. A gold star now shines on the shield of Luca Baccega, and these four ladies are honored to wear a white bracelet that includes all of the charms: London McElvaine, Jessi Garhart, Melissa Karsh, and Emma Sajsa.



Check out five of our metal peace banners as they hung in the chapel window during World Friendship. They express the value of peace in five languages: Lakota, Hebrew, English, Spanish, and Welsh. The two for Hindi and Somali were hidden out of range of the camera.



Slide Kelly teaching "aerial silks" – Cirque style!

Trail rides at the glen sometimes head up the Ute Trail where campers in the 30s and 40s found plenty of arrowheads.

The Patchwork Quilt 2013



This old wellhouse (#1), which dates back to the early 60s was magically transformed to a Hobbit House! Its grassy roof, round door, and diminutive runes give it the aura of Frodo and his little pals! It is aptly set at the apex between the Fairy Garden, the Treehouse, and the Place of the Blue Spruce. A charming neighborhood!



Dana Coren and Jessie Garhart on the Giant's Ladder checking out the equipment in case any *real* giants come through in search of dragons.

From circus antics to Chautauqua's bittersweet candlelight end, silliness is chorded with the substantive like a summer symphony. We treasure the freedom campers can feel to express daffy skits, or sentimental honesty. We joy in providing just those types of opportunities for kids to be kids; to grow in self-confidence, deepening already treasured friendships and making new friends to look forward to seeing each summer.



Trainees at circus

2013 Trainees (and Jessi) helping to clean up after the Myths Circus Night



BEAR MURAL ON TRASH DOOR

One eyesore at camp is our ever-present trash dumpster barn that greets visitors as they round the corner to park in the meadow. Once again, our resident artist, Cass Robison, saved the day! She magically made the beat-up doors into a mural of five bears, and our favorite fox and shoe thief, Rupert! Great gobs of gratitude to Cassidy for the vast improvement and a fun reminder of our forest pals.



Jurassic Park is always a favorite Evening Play!