Camp Equinunk & Blue Ridge

The Leader in Children's Camping Since 1920

Getting Ready For Summer 2004

We hope everyone is well and your entire family is getting excited about the coming summer at Camps Equinunk and Blue Ridge. As we prepare together for the summer of 2004, please make note of the following:

1. Please feel free to contact Sheryl or Richie if you have any questions concerning your child(ren). You can contact Caralyne, our office manager, directly for all other administrative questions that arise now and during the summer..

2. Camp starts on MONDAY, JUNE 28th. Directions for meeting camp buses will be mailed in the next notice.

3. We will only accept trunks and duffels delivered by NEW MILLENIUM TRUCKING or TEAM TRUCKING (for Florida families). They are fully licensed and pick up at your home and the baggage will be placed directly into your child's bunk. Florida Trucking pick ups will be early June and New Millenium Trucking pick ups the 17th, 18th and 19th June. They will be contacting you this month.

4. Our bus company will not permit duffels or luggage on or under the bus in the storage compartments. These items must be shipped by our camp trucking company. Children are permitted ONE (1) CARRY-ON, AIRLINE SIZE BAG ON THE BUS. EXCEPTION: Since many of our campers participate in hockey programs throughout the month of June, hockey equipment in appropriate storage bags will be permitted in the under-storage compartment of the bus.

5. Reminder: Please adhere to the uniform and clothing list that was enclosed in the last mailing. Shirts should be Red and Grey for Equinunk; Blue, Grey and White for Blue Ridge. Please: let's keep our camp environment simple and natural. All inappropriate or extra clothing will be returned home.

6. Please be sure to return your child's Health Forms that were included in our last mailing. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE HAVE A SIGNED FORM FOR EACH CHILD BY MAY 20TH TO INSURE PROPER MEDICAL TREATMENT.

7. It is important that you take your child to the dentist for an examination and that all dental work is completed before camp begins.

8. Bunk 1.com provides summer website services that enable you to stay in touch all summer long. See the full page enclosure to get started today.

9. We are not responsible for baggage, clothing, radios, cameras, sporting goods, laundry, etc., sent or brought to camp that may be damaged, lost or stolen, either during transit or while at camp. Secure yourself against the above by getting coverage under a broad personal effects floater policy. This coverage is available through AM Skier Co.; call Caralyne if you need information.

10. Please review Birthday, Golf and Horseback Riding options and return tear-off if applicable.

11. The next mailing at the beginning of June will include Camp Updates, Staff News, Bunk Assignments, Telephone Calling Schedules and Bus Departure times.

12. All correspondence after June 15th should be mailed to camp. The camp mailing address is:

CAMP EQUINUNK-CAMP BLUE RIDGE
R.R. #1, Box 74
Equinunk, PA 18417
(570) 224-4121

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2004 Important Dates:

New Parent Meeting
Monday, May 3rd, 2004

New Camper Picnic
Sunday, June 6th, 2004

Start of Camp
Monday, June 28th, 2004

Visiting Day
Saturday, July 17th, 2004

End of Camp
Monday, August 16th, 2004

Welcome New Campers

Camp Blue Ridge Welcomes....

Gabrielle Aaron
Hayley Caligor
Khatijah Corey
Sydney Fabisch
Mara Lynn Faerman
Melissa Finkelstein
Lynsey Garfinkel
Carly Goldman
Alison Grossman
Rose Gulant
Jessica Horowitz
*Marni Katz
Dani Kellner
Rikki Kessler
Fannie Koltun
Emily Korn
Sarah Krakowski
Cynthia Kurstein
Rikki Lyons
Anna Menaged
Sarah Michaels
Vlada Rokhlin
Brooke Roitman
Alexandra Ross
Amy Rolfman
Emily Silverman
Danielle Starr
Madison Steele
Mackenzie Stein
Rachel Stepan
Allison Strauss
Samantha Steinberg
Allison Steinberg
*Jacqueline Steinberg
Samantha Wagner
Samantha Weinstein
Ashley Yankowitz
Nicole Zuckerman

*Returning Campers

Camp Equinunk Welcomes....

Benjamin Bell
*Jonathan Blumenthal
Matthew Brown
Evan Caligor
Gregory Friedrich
Kevin Fuchs
Alex Golden
Ethan Greenberg
Brian Hackel
Josh Herman
Brett Katz
Brandon Katzman
Max Kramer
Anton Kristel
Ithan Levenson
*Zachary Levitt
Jeremy Manus
Ryan Marcus
Matthew Meyers
Brandon Michaels
Tyler Nathan
Philip Nussbaum
Brett Parket
Alexander Polk
Zachary Polsky
Alec Posner
Marc Posner
Jack Roberts
Zachary Richman
Jonathan Rubin
Jason Rubin
Bryan Rubin
Michael Schechter
Joseph Shavel
Harry Singer
Eric Singer
Zachary Smilowitz
Hunter Stein
Alex Toussaint
Jack Tumen
Zachary Wilkins
Hunter Willis
Ross Zuckerman

*Returning Campers

What Camp Means

By: Sloane Zuckerman, PC 2004

Camp. Everyone has their own definition of camp. It means different things to different people. To some it means just a sleep away camp. To others it means friendship, fun, family, and a lifetime of experiences and memories. Some people are the first in their family coming to Blue Ridge and are experiencing something totally new. Others have family and relatives who have been to camp, and tell them all about their days as a camper or counselor, like myself. Camp comes in all different shapes and sizes. But this camp was the perfect match for me. My mom and her two sisters went to Blue Ridge and my mom automatically knew that I would end up there because she wanted to be able to share her memories with me, and also have me experience them first hand.

For me, I have my brothers on boys side, who always tell me how great camp is and how they are obsessed with it. I would nod along, not really comprehending the true meaning of camp yet, like they did. It takes time for someone to truly appreciate camp. As you get older, this feeling, this love for camp becomes stronger and stronger and you just want to keep coming back to build more onto this love.

If someone was to ask me what camp means to me, I wouldn't be able to tell them. This is because the way I feel about camp and I can basically say this for everyone, is unexplainable. The way camp makes me feel is so unique and indefinable. It is such an important part of my life. My camp friends mean the world to me. We see each other through out the school year and catch up and reminisce about the summer. We all have countdowns on our walls and in our rooms until that special moment when we will be known as the PC's of 2004 ! I know that after this summer, whatever we do, we will always stay friends and keep in touch. Camp has taught me many things about friendship, tradition, being kind towards one another, and many other things. My camping experience has been beyond amazing, and just being a part of Blue Ridge has impacted my life greatly. I am a part of the legacy of my family at Blue Ridge.

One thing that we all love about our camp is tradition. From the outside looking in, one cannot see the thing that holds our camp together. It must be experienced and lived. You may talk to your friends, and they'll say that their camp is the best and that it is like no other. But you know the truth, our camp is truly the best.

I was one of those girls, who would get homesick and cry, but it wouldn't last long. Looking back, I think, why was I crying when I could've been having fun with my friends and enjoying myself? After .years as a camper, I see how much camp has changed me and made me a better person. It is said that you don't just meet friends at camp, you meet your sisters. At Camp Blue Ridge, this is a fact. "Friends are the family we choose," and at camp, we are one big family.

We all pass down our love for camp to our younger siblings, or camp sisters, but camp means something different to everybody. The feeling for camp is contagious. It isn't preventable. It is like a chain reaction that effects every individual in the camp family ranging from your first summer to when you're a counselor. It is an addiction, and is what keeps us coming back every summer.

The greatest feeling is when you get off that bus, and see camp. You are in the place that you have been dreaming about for 10 months. You have entered a fairy tale that will last for 7 weeks. You see all of your friends, and you say to yourself, "This is the start of the best summer ever," because every summer will be the best summer ever. You're at your home away from home.

But, that night before you leave camp, and you're sitting at the lake watching the summer slip away, you know that it was all worth it, and that the next summer will be even better. You hold your friend's hand and cry, but that is just your way of saying, it's over, but I'm glad it happened. You're not going home, you're leaving home.

Now, as my days as a camper slowly fade away, I think to myself, I wouldn't have wanted it any other way. Time flies when you're having fun, and that certainly is the case at Blue Ridge. I remember saying, if times flies when your having fun, then I don't want to have fun because that means that we're going to have to leave each other. But at Blue Ridge, there is no such thing as "not having fun." My advice to any new campers would be to just enjoy your days as a camper, because you can't relive such precious moments.

Looking forward to seeing old and new faces this summer at camp!

Staff Spotlight Shines On: Stan Graham

The biggest smile, loudest voice and warmest heart in camp belong to CBR/CE Hobby Center Director, Stan Graham. This is Stan's eighth summer at camp and under his leadership the program has grown to more than twenty activities including every possible art form, creative crafts and outdoor recreation pursuit.

Stan was a former professional hockey player and currently coaches high school hockey and lacrosse.Truly a Renaissance man Stan's pottery is displayed in museums and galleries throughout the United States. Stan is a "life-long" Boston Red Sox fan and is thrilled with their winter acquisitions even though they did not get "A-Rod." Stan is looking forward to meeting all of our new campers and welcoming all our returning campers to the Hobby Center.

Welcome Clarke Corey, Tennis Director

We are thrilled to have Clarke join our Camp family this summer. Clarke is a certified USPTA – Level 1 professional. Clarke has worked for the Peter Burwash International Tennis Academy since 1983 in some of the most amazing locations around the world such as Doha Sheraton Qatar, Walt Disney World FL, Four Seasons Hotel Singapore, Little Dix Bay British Virgin Islands and most recently Carmel Valley Ranch, Carmel CA. He recently won the PBI Professional of the year award. Clarke will be joined by his wife, Rose and their daughter, Khatijah, who will be enjoying Camp Blue Ridge for her first summer.

Alumni Corner

By: Robert Butwin, 1972-1985

Richie and Sheryl asked if I would be interested in contributing, from the alumni point-of-view. So here I am, just turned 40, and writing a Buzzer article...Its' anytime between 1972 and 1979, my camper years, and CE / CBR is filled with names like Butwin, Tucker, Wilkins, Bell, Greenberg, Mosberg, Lazarus, Masa, Kolton, Finklestein, Strauss, Rafman, Greenwald, Gelobter, Kotcher, Stern, Kryger, Shavel, Crystal (, and many, many, many others). Shortly it will be the summer of 2004, 25 years since Bunk 32 of '79, and once again CE / CBR will be filled with all the same names (or their married equivalents).

Its truly awesome to sit around my dinner table and hear Samantha (Mediate) & Brandon (Junior) talking about 'the break', inter-camp camps, swimming in the lake, and Milk Bar. What could be better than having my kids enjoying the exact same experience that I had (and still have) in Equinunk , PA. Camp has always been, and continues to be, a big part of our lives, not just to reminisce about the great times, but to get together for new ones. While writing this today, I got calls from Wilkins and Shimpkin, and an e-mail from Kalina. Next week we'll be in Florida, swimming with Meryl, Sammi & Brandon at the Tucker's house with Beth, Gary, Jake & new born Jami. For my family, and our very large expanded group of friends from camp, Equinunk has become not just the place we spent our summers as kids, but rather an ongoing part of our lives. This past month we celebrated Samantha's Bat Mitzvah, and, out of 200 family and friends in attendance, at least 55 had been to CE /CBR as either campers, counselors, or visiting day parents (many, a combo of all 3). This summer, in what has become an annual event, Meryl & I are looking forward to spending the day at Skinner's Falls on Friday, July 16, the day before Visiting Day, BBQing with many 'camp friends', just like when we were counselors. A day at Skinners', followed by a day in camp…not a bad way to spend a weekend. Looking forward to packing and the buses. See you all this summer.

CE Alumni arriving at Skinners' Falls for a BBQ and relaxing afternnon on the Delaware River during a weekend visit to camp. Left to Right: Robert Butwin, Seth Davis, Joe Altman, John Schandler, Keith Wortman, Jason Dudzinsy, Gary Greenstein, Josh Sipkin, Robert Wilkins, David Shyer and Eric Premisler.

Winter Season Camp Scenes

My Second Home

Camp is a place that's like your second home
The minute that you get off the bus you know from the start that this is going to be a really great summer!
My mom grew up here and she loved it and she passed that down from her heart to me
I love camp because of the singing and the cheering… its just great
I love the fact that my mom can sing all the songs with me because they are the same ones that she sang when she was a camper

Samantha Farber 2001 -Forever
Michelle Arginsky Farber 1977-1980

A CBR Poem

Counting down the days until camp
A journey that has just begun
Memory's that will last a lifetime
Playing and singing everyday!

"BLUE AND GRAY EVERYDAY!"
Lake tests- people saying "I passed my 24 lap"
United under the Blue Ridge banner
Every second of the day you enjoy

Riding in a canoe on the lake
Imagine a camp that feel's like paradise
Dinner time is a blast with all the singing
Go GRAY go BLUE!
Enough fun I don't think I ever want to leave!
By Samantha Farber

Sing Along

My Daughter Dani and I love to sing to the Camp Blue Ridge CD. My husband, having gone to Equinunk, is understanding of our desire to sing along. It's so great that it's 20-30 some odd years later, and my daughter and I can share these same special songs and further the wonderful bond we have, because of Camp Blue Ridge.

-Karen Gentry Rubin 1971-1979
-Danielle Rubin 2002- Current

A Note From Mitch

Only 72 days, 9 hours, 72 minutes and 21, 20, 19 seconds until Camp starts!!! *(approximately)*

I had a great summer last year and it was all because of the great kids, staff and parents in the Equinunk/ Blue Ridge family. On behalf of my children, Hayley, Lynsey and Kyle and myself I'd like to thank all of you for making us feel so welcome and we look forward to many, many great years together with you and your families at camp.

From The Directors

Blue Ridge and Equinunk "WIN" (Wholesome, Inclusive and Nurturing)

Anyone who has spent time at Blue Ridge and Equinunk will tell you that our traditions, spirit and family feeling truly identify the "core" of a summer experience at our camps. The names of our color war teams and lyrics of most of our songs reflect these themes.

When we look closer at our "core" we identify our mantra that resonates loudly that we are a camp that is Wholesome, Inclusive and Nurturing "WIN". The time honored traditions and values that are embraced by our staff, campers and parents aren't "fast track" and are epitomized by the uniforms we wear and logo that dates back to the early 1920's. Everything we do is "grounded" and reminiscent of a simpler time that encourages individuals to be kind, carefree, relaxed and natural and our campers quickly get with this rhythm.

The social and emotional "playing field" at camp is leveled for everyone and the recognition that they receive and the connections that they make tells them that they are "okay!" Learning from other groups, particularly our seniors, inspires younger children who hunger for contact with older campers.

The feeling of satisfaction that children derive from success in learning skills and building relationships is so profound and sweet that it stays with them forever. Our entire camp community strives to make each individual "friend eligible" by helping them shine at some activity or skill at camp.

Join us and celebrate the "WIN" philosophy: Wholesome, Inclusive and Nurturing and help us make this summer the best ever for all of the campers and staff at Blue Ridge and Equinunk.

Warmly,

Sheryl and Richie