

Geneva Glen Breeze

CAMPER EDITION ... SPRING 2010



From the Directors:

Dear Campers,

If this is your *first* summer at the Glen, welcome to our camp family, and be sure to read "Tips for First-Year Campers" in this *Breeze*. Hopefully the articles in this issue will be fun for you to read, even if you are a bit unfamiliar with some of the folks, the horses, the dogs, and the special places we talk about.

There was an exciting event in February, as 40 of GG campers helped us with a camp production at the Hyatt Regency hotel in downtown Denver. The celebration was for the American Camper Association's 100th birthday! Because the national conference was in Denver, we pitched in on hospitality and offered up Ken to conduct 100 campers (commemorating 100 years) in a camp-song choir. Eight camps participated in this activity, with those local groups ranging from day-camps, Girl Scouts, special-needs camps, and a few private camps like Cheley, Sanborn, and Colvig. But GG had by far the largest contingent. We sang *One Bottle O' Pop*, *Choo-Choo-Cha*, and *Green Trees!*

A hearty thanks to the campers who participated in the choir on Feb. 16, showing up in GG t-shirts and big smiles. We also wish to extend a thanks to Shwayder Camp, which provided our rehearsal area and lunch. The whole event was a great success, and camp directors from all over the world joined us in sticking out their tongues to the last verse of *Choo-Choo-Cha!* Here are a couple photos of the group.

We're full of expectant gratitude for the outstanding bunch of returning counselors leading you this summer! You'll find 60-plus familiar faces in the Council Ring, all hankering for one more GG summer. How fortunate we are that these GG luminaries are returning to help create the magic!

The refurbished pool is our proudest asset for 2010! The pool is over 50 years old, and various facelifts over the decades have kept her "afloat." Of course, the revamped plumbing, tiling,



plastering, deck and heating systems are amenities that campers may not readily notice but the cool slide is awesome and guaranteed to create a new level of aquatic fun! New porches on boys dorms are an added dividend for your guys in Dorms D, C, B, and A. It's been difficult to make these outdoor improvements at camp due to there being so much snow still on the ground (and dumping on us almost every week!).

Be sure and read Huckleberry's column for gossip and check out the Trainee Garden to get a peek at those camper leaders. Remember to carefully review the helpful hints (what to pack, what NOT to pack, etc.).

If you are a veteran, you WILL NOT receive the Parent Handbook again but may access the full-color PDF version online at www.genevaglen.org (contained in the parent section).

We look forward to seeing you all this season, as we celebrate our 89th summer of camping.

Warmly,
Nancy & Ken

Tips for First-Year Campers

- Try to get plenty of sleep the night before camp.
- Remember that, due to the altitude at GG, it's important to drink plenty of water every day.
- Bring old, comfortable clothing. You'll only need one nicer outfit for Sunday Vespers, and you may want to bring something unique and crazy for the dance.
- Instead of packing all your "gadgets," please bring your imaginations! We try to leave the hi-tech, fast-paced 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 postcards! So bring stamped envelopes/postcards with your home address (also feel free to bring a family photo inside your footlocker).



The exciting gyrations to "Choo-Choo-Cha" were among the highlights from the 100-singer camper choir (featuring some 40 GG kids) that performed at the American Camp Association's 2010 national convention in Denver.



Geneva Glen

Since 1922

On-The-Dog-Beat

Canine Columnist: Huckleberry



Howdy Camp Pals!

Huckleberry here, GG's resident "licorice Labrador," romping through tons of snow as I make the rounds from Dorm D to the old swimmin' hole! There's lots of commotion with new porches being built on Boys Hill and crazy digging and pounding at the pool.

I perked up a lot over the holidays with the teenage gang here for Winter Workshop, laughin' and playin' all over the meadow. Those tubes and sleds still can't move as fast as I can! Heck, I even can run circles around them!

Most of our snow has come since February, but there was just enough in December and it was cold enough to make it feel like winter, and to make it just fine with me to come in and sleep on the sofa!

I guess you can tell it's spring now 'cause the "birdsies and beesies" are trying to visit camp, even through all the layers of snow are still around. Romance is in the air! I see the flickers playing catch-me-catch-me in the spruce trees near the dodgeball court, and the ebert squirrels (you guys call them "squabbits") are scampering up and down near the ponderosa pines near Hilltop, with a gleam in their eye! ... Guess what? Cowboy Reid and Cowgirl Courtney (check 'em out in the photo) have that same gleam as they will be "hitched" right after camp in late August! All the horses are neighing about it, and this means that Lucy-Brown-Dog and Tucker will be "kissin' cousins!"

Sad news from the barn, though, as wonderful ol' Bombay didn't make it through the cold winter. Bombay was a leader in the string and a real favorite with most of the wranglers. This is even a harder chunk to swallow as her daughter, Daisy, also headed to the horse-hunting-pasture to join her mom in February.

My new "best pal" of the two-legged variety is Corey Dickter, who dog-sat me while K&N were prancing about the U.S. ... and I played a great April Fools trick on them. Their lovable black lab (ME!) magically turned into a dalmatian as I'd helped Corey paint the CTU (they like that look better than muddy paws!).

Now, up at GG, there really isn't a "spring" ... we just call the season "mud!" Snow is melting and everything is mud! Soon, though, that will dry up and we'll be getting out there to pound on buildings, dig, water, paint, clean and make everything ready for another season. Can't wait to see all you guys!!

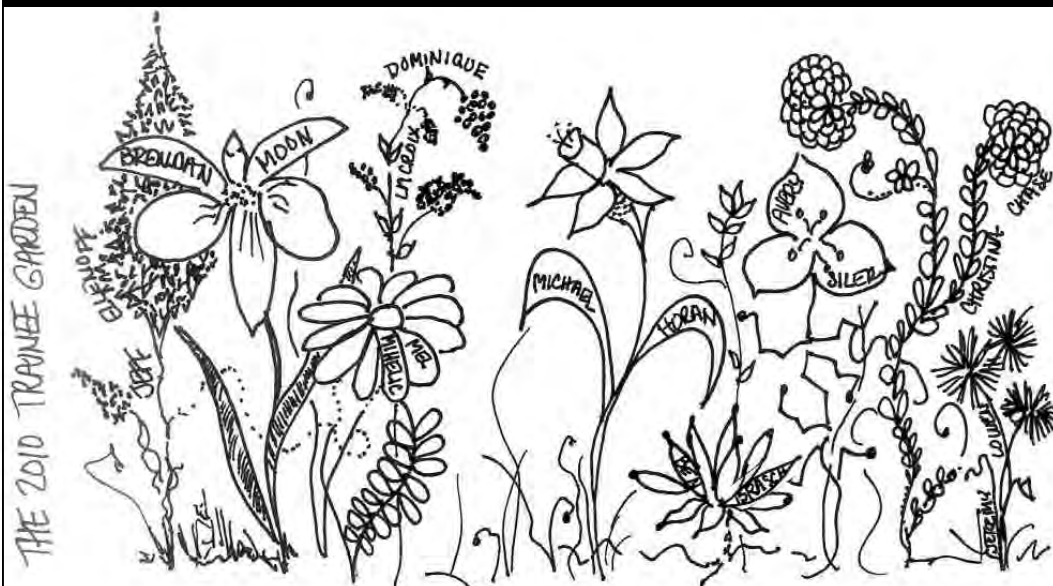
Woof! Woof!



(Huck)



GG 2010 TRAINEE GARDEN



Old-Fashioned Fun Resurfaces at GG ...

Ever knocked a popcan off a back fence? Each time we read *Huckleberry Finn*, we're envious of **SLINGSHOT** antics. We will set up a "Sling-Slayer Labyrinth" among the GG ponderosa trees ... and best of all, it will be a **MIDDLER AREA**. Just as we learned safety and propriety with BBs, we definitely will have "sling rules" for this new program. Goggles will be required and only inanimate objects will be targeted (like water balloons, pumpkin-headed bogeymen, haybale monsters ... but no dragons).



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** (pink colored) was mailed to you in February, if you were enrolled. If you need the form, you can access it online via the parents link on the GG website (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, many family licensed medical personnel may require an exam within the past 12 months). 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. Mail the form to camp by May 1. 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 1!** Go to the Parent Resources link on the camp’s website to access downloads of our policies and the health form: www.genevaglen.org/general/healthservices.php

2. **TUITION PAYMENT** — We ask for the balance of tuition by THURSDAY, MAY 6. Please call us if this presents any problems. A statement of your account is included in this mailing.

3. **CHECK-IN SUNDAY** — Big, exciting day! You should 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 counselor (Step-3). The Release Form tells us who will pick up the camper on Check-Out Saturday. At Step-2 of the Check-In process, you will have the chance to visit with our camp doctor and nurse (and clarify any concerns).

Myths and Magic
Check-In: 10:30 – noon; Mon., June 14
Check-Out: 3:00 – 4:00; Fri., June 18

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 A “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 on Saturday. Please remember on Check-Out days that parents must sign the **Release Form** (counselors will have these forms, which we need to have signed before releasing your camper). Go to the top of the lodge only if you need to get meds or to check the lost-and-found. Note that there no longer are camper store charges due at Check-Out, but a small percentage of 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="radio"/> Swimsuit / towels (3 towels) | <input type="radio"/> Shorts / summer clothing |
| <input type="radio"/> Flashlight (optional; be sure to include camper’s name) | <input type="radio"/> Camera (optional); inexpensive/disposable (w/ camper’s name) |
| <input type="radio"/> Warm jacket and rain jacket or poncho | <input type="radio"/> One dressy outfit for Sunday Vespers and dances |
| <input type="radio"/> Warm sleeping bag for bunk and overnights | <input type="radio"/> A twin-bed fitted sheet and a pillow |
| <input type="radio"/> Toiletry articles (toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, comb/hairbrush, washcloth, etc.) | |
| <input type="radio"/> Sturdy shoes, for hiking and horseback riding
(GG barn policies require having hard-sole shoes with a heel for horseback riding; sturdy hiking boots are sufficient) | |



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

Our camp has been providing a fun, positive camping experience for children for nearly 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 (iPods/MP3s and other portable electronics), 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.

NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE

Geneva Glen provides rich opportunities for fellowship, leadership, making friends and building a strong sense of self esteem. But not to be forgotten is NATURE! Included below is our latest "plug" for the importance and value of exposing children to nature. ...

You have heard the buzzphrase "going green," but a far more important lesson for kids is the answer to the question: "What's so great about *green* that we should feel compelled to protect it?" Why save aluminum cans and install CF lightbulbs if you don't know what a mountain river sounds like, have not seen a raptor migration, or have not experienced sunset at timberline? If children are rarely in the woods, basking under the stars, or climbing a tree, they tend not to value those kinds of nature experiences. As a consequence of this "experience void," such children will grow up with a shallow sense of stewardship.

A couple of years ago, we shined a light on Richard Louv's fantastic book *Last Child in the Woods*. Camp directors and outdoor educators from across the country have been lauding his eye-opening perspectives (please find a copy of this book and read it!).

In addition to what Louv points out, other concerns shared by educators and camp professionals include:

- On average, children spend only four minutes a day in unstructured play in the out-of-doors
- Conversely, they spend roughly eight hours a day in front of a screen (computer, phone, gameboy, TV, etc.)
- The U.S. Park Service has reported that a dramatically smaller number of children are visiting the nation's parks than a decade ago (this is an alarming fact)



Not only are children less curious and less attracted to nature, they are being taught to be afraid to venture into the outdoors. Camp directors across the country are witnessing the following trends:

- As the glut of media images intensifies and accumulates, children and parents are being "educated" to fear everything from terrorist attacks to sunspots.
- In the past three generations, the outdoor play area in which a child has been allowed to wander has shrunk, on average, from six miles to 300 yards!
- Medical practitioners are seeing an increase in chronic health conditions among children (childhood diabetes, food allergies, asthma, childhood obesity, and other insidious conditions that draw children into a smaller protective bubble).

If you are reading this, you already are one of the proactive parents who share our appreciation for nature. You value the need for providing a chance for kids to prolong and savor their childhood by opening the door to a summer-camp experience!

You are to be congratulated and thanked for supporting the camping movement, and you can further help by being aware of the groundswell of interest that is being given importance on the local and national congressional levels:

11th Annual National Geneva Glen Day

June 1, 2010, is National Geneva Glen Day. June is a time when camp comes to life and many of us find our thoughts turning to the upcoming camp season. We hope you will join in this celebration of GG (and nearly **90** wonderful years of outstanding camp experiences) by wearing anything and everything you have with the GG name or logo on June 1. Then, send us an email (pete@genevaglen.org) showing you in your GG gear and tell us about any GG-Day encounters with fellow alums!

H.R.2054 (No Child Left Inside Act of 2009): "This bill seeks to enhance the environmental literacy of American students, from kindergarten to 12th grade, to foster understanding, analysis, and solutions to the major environmental challenges facing the student's state and the nation as a whole."

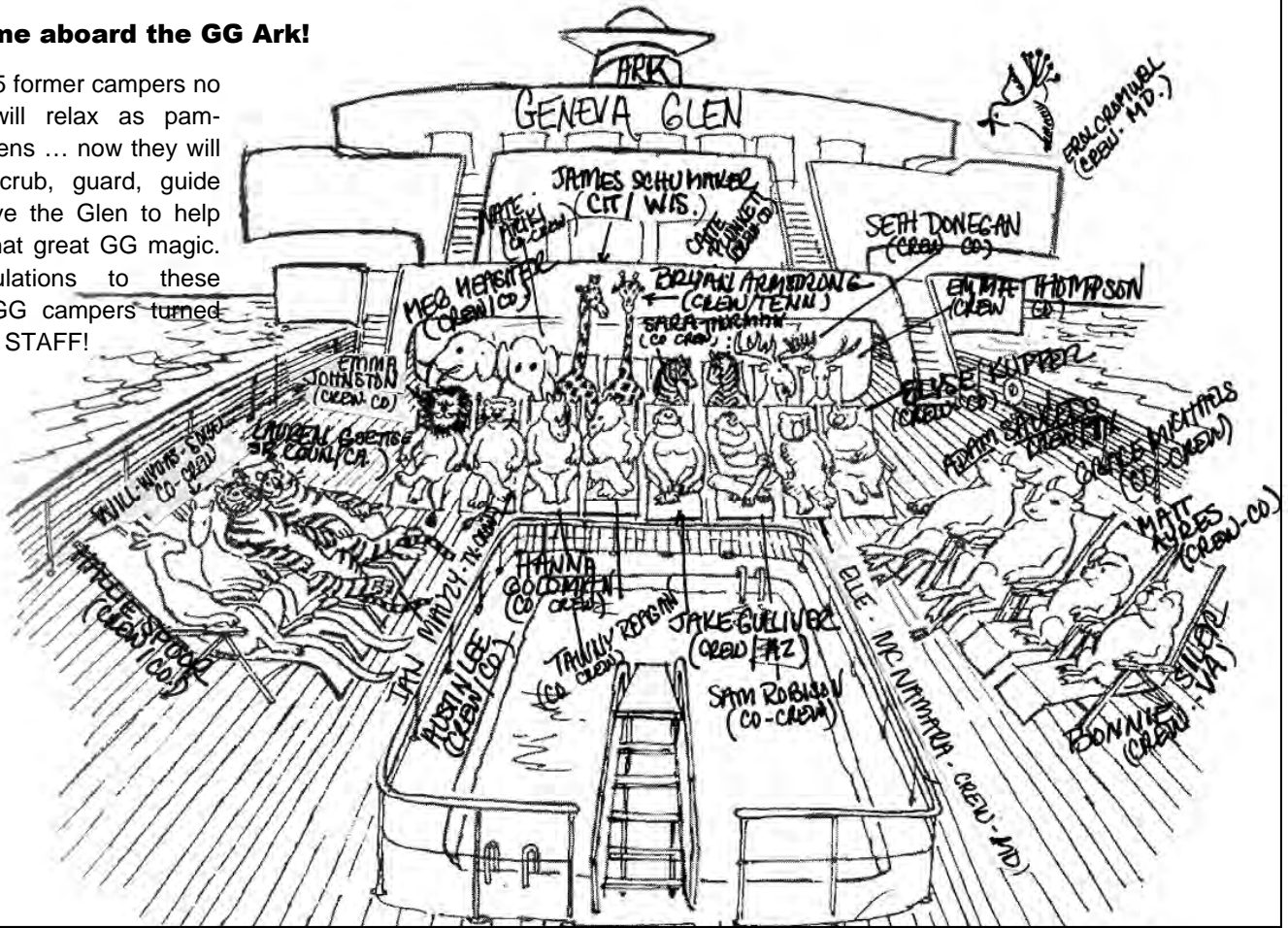
In July 2009, Lt. Governor Barbara O'Brien launched an initiative called "Colorado Kids Bill of Rights" that was created to bring awareness to the need for encouraging increasingly sedentary kids to become more active. This bill seeks to remind children of the state's natural riches, which they must both respect and protect.

We appreciate you sharing with us your interest and support for the vitalizing influence camp can have in the complete development of children. We invite you to become familiar with these public efforts, as well as the abundance of opportunities to connect with nature in our beautiful state. To this end, Geneva Glen continues to cherish the little slice of healthful beauty and safety that the camp environment has continued to provide over the past five generations!

Welcome aboard the GG Ark!

These 25 former campers no longer will relax as pampered teens ... now they will clean, scrub, guard, guide and serve the Glen to help create that great GG magic. Congratulations to these former GG campers turned first-time STAFF!

The animals, they came on, they came on by two-sies, two-sies! ...



2010 STAFF ORCHARD

The "GG orchard" is humming in anticipation of the 2010 season! The rich soil of 2009 caused seedlings to flourish and a new crop of saplings is sprouting up in the mountain sunshine. Here are the **returning 2010 leaders** whose roots have made sturdy trees that will grow into an eclectic orchard that only GG could nurture:

The edge of an orchard has sturdy oaks to protect from gusts of wind. **Brad Sheehan** and **Davis Wert** will represent that poetic tree. ... Our first row of fruitbearers are d'anjou pears. Sounds French, must be **Gabi** and **Andre Landau**!

Every orchard needs apples, in shades of red, yellow, pink and green. Our granny smith's, jonathan's, rome's and golden's are **Tommy Hurrell**, **Elliott Smith**, **Alex Eurich**, **Elyse Schultz**, **Alana Wilson**, **Scott Wert** & **Jordan Cohen**.

Dancin' in the breeze are the bing cherry trees: **Angela Breitholtz**, **Paige Pahlke**, **Teghan Binnings**, **Jess Laub** and **Amy Stanesco**. ... Palm trees grow crazy coconuts. CIT heads **Heidi TenPas** and **Dan Hall** are cracking a few coconuts, as they "milk" the CITs for all their talents!

The flowering plum are in the next row – **Piper Rastello**, **Lainey Tick**, **Aryn O'Donnell**, **Kera Lingk**, **Sonia Makol**, **Abby Eurich** and **Lizzy Shay**. ... Mango trees provide a juicy fruit, just like **Coza Perry** and **Corey Dickter**, who will lead our camper trainees this summer.

Bread-fruit trees have a history going back to Biblical times. So do some GG old-timers, such as **Mike Manco-Johnson**, **Chris Gallagher**, **Matt Sheffer**, **Sarah Propeck**, **DB Mares** and **Chris Linsmayer**.

On the north end of our orchard grow some limber pines, with branches that twist under the heavy snow. This would be **Ben Horne**, leading Special Events, and that wise old bristlecone pine is **Pete Mahan**, as our program director.

The craziest tree you may ever see is a monkeypuzzle tree! That's got to be our Mexican man-of-merriment, **Santiago Salcido-Madrid**! ... Ever heard of horse apples? They are bumpy, inedible fruit, but horses like to eat them! So our horse apples (not road-apples!) are **Courtney Clarke**, **Tom Odenheimer** and **John Barker**.

Pineapple trees, "stickery" on outside, but sweet taste – our bunch are **Ben Lederer**, **Asher Hussain**, **Spencer Curtis**, **Peter Arkel**, **Jeremy Parsons** and **Henry Hoyt**.

Olive trees provide fruit for cooking oil. Our grove of cooks includes **Anita Boucher**, **Joyce Overholt**, **Alana Gay**, **Crystal Turner**, **Connie Blanckaert**, **Nina Haines**, and **Barbara Flowers** and **Mary McCaskey**.

How about nut trees – pecans, walnuts, almonds . . . we have plenty of nuts on the staff. Here's a deluxe mix with **Max Dickter**, **Kevan Beall**, **Evan Hall** and **Nathan Godsman** – each with their particular shell, hopefully not roasted (maybe salted!).

In the CIT category, we have a peach tree: **Jesse Garhart**, **Cassidy Robison**, **London McElvaine**, **Jenna Dworetzky**, **Emma Sajsa** and **Aviva Sonenreich** are the juicy fruit!

A favorite Geneva Glen song is about bananas. Our banana tree unpeels our heads of hill: **Amanda Lewis** and **John Stanesco** (who *loves* to unpeel!). We depend on their leadership for this great summer, but never, never, never put them in the refrig-erat-or – no no no, no no . . . no no nooooo!

Geneva Glen Camp
P.O. Box 248
Indian Hills, CO 80454
(5793 Santa Clara Road)

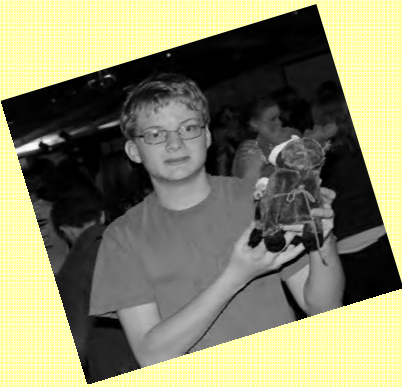
phone: 303-697-4621
fax: 303-697-9429
www.genevaglen.org
ggcamp@genevaglen.org



Winter Workshop 2009 !

Dear Santa,

Well, Santa, I thought last December was perfect at "The Xhopper" ... but now I truly believe Winter Workshop of 2009 was the supremest, bestest, most fantastic ever!! All my friends showed up. Sometimes the guys are really outnumbered, but we had nearly 60 from Boys Hill to balance out the excited, screaming-meemies of the GG girls.



The White Reindeer gift exchange brought crazy items for trade – some highlights were: the light-up elk antlers; a 'snuggie,' and an honest-to-goodness prom dress of Nancy's from the '50s! Holy Cow!! But Richard Dyer ended up with the favorite: a bucking reindeer that did back-flips.



The full cadre of top GG counselors kept us laughing and active all evening! Of course, we did the snow-tubing and caroling, cookie decorating, and silly skits. But the best part is just being with your great camp friends. Thanks Santa for answering my wish-list for a fantabulorish-est Winter Workshop!



Love, Cindy-Lou-Who
("who lives in Cabin 2")



Attention First-Time Campers!

Geneva Glen's Strawberry Pancake Breakfast!!

You're invited to our version of an "Open House"
(Saturday, May 22 ... 8:30-10:30)

Mark the Date: Saturday, May 22nd between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. for Geneva Glen's annual Strawberry Pancake Breakfast! Families new to GG are warmly welcomed to a breakfast open-house (come any time between 8:30-10:30), which includes tours of camp by members of our staff and board of directors. This is a great way for parents to see where children will be situated at GG and for the kids to get a flavor of camp, while possibly meeting some bunkmates as well! Consider this an invitation to join us on this fun day!

If you are planning to attend, PLEASE RSVP by email (christa@genevaglen.org) or phone (303-697-4621, ext 25), so we know how many pounds of bacon to fry! See you soon!

Raffle Winner

Danny Volin was our lucky GG raffle winner during the official drawing at Winter Workshop. The Volins (from Denver) are a five-year GG veteran family and currently are sending four campers to the Glen.

Thanks to all who took their chance on the raffle — it again was a big fundraising success, with the proceeds helping fund Geneva Glen scholarships for approximately three campers in the 2010 summer.