The summer will be here before we know it, and we are excited for the adventures and surprises ahead. The new zip-line traversing across the fishing pond will be open this summer, and we have many events in the works for the new live music venue at lakefront. We work hard each year to provide new opportunities and experiences for our campers that they would not get anywhere else, and we’re certain that this summer is going to be unforgettable!

Thanks to the more than 50 participants in the third annual Jingle Jump, we raised more than $44,000 for the ASCCA Campership Fund. The jump into 30-degree water was a little chilly but well worth it! The funds raised help more than 85% of our campers attend summer camp each year, so without events like the Jingle Jump, ASCCA summers would not be possible for many families. Registration for all campers - paying full price or needing financial assistance - opened up at the start of the year, and we are already overflowing to waitlists for several sessions. It is exciting to see so many people from across the Southeast signing up for the experience of a lifetime.

Earlier this year, we were also joined by groups from the Lakeshore Foundation for two weekend sessions of hunting and a group of Pi Kappa Phi men who visited Camp to help complete projects across the campus as a part of The Ability Experience. Before summer arrives, we have several events lined up for spring. Fun Fish Weekend will kick off on March 23 and will be a weekend of nothing but fishing and fun with some of our ASCCA campers and volunteers. It’s sure to be a great catch! Later in the spring, we will also welcome a variety of groups who will be using our facilities for camping programs, school events, and much more.

COMING UP:

March 22: Beulah Elementary Day Camp
March 23-25: Fun Fish Weekend
April 6-8: Pilot TBI Camp
April 11-13: St. James Science Camp
April 20-22: Kiwanis Key Leader
April 26-29: RYL
May 4-6: Autism Family Weekend
May 9-11: Lee Scott Academy Science Camp
May 11-13: Camp Seale Harris Family Weekend
May 17-20: Shepherd Center Adventure Skills Workshop
May 21-25: Hall Foundation Camp
June 2-8: Camp Seale Harris Senior Week
June 10-15: Camp Seale Harris Junior Week
June 17-22: Hope Heals
2017 Easterseals Gold Award

MS. PEGGY LONG WAS NOMINATED FOR THE 2017 EASTERSEALS GOLD AWARD FOR HER CONTINUED CONTRIBUTIONS TO CAMP ASCCA FOR ALMOST TEN YEARS.

After almost a decade of service to Camp ASCCA, Peggy Long received the Easterseals Alabama Gold Award. Every year, the Camp ASCCA full-time staff has the opportunity to nominate someone for the award. The nominee is often a person who has shown great dedication to Camp ASCCA for more than five years. Due to her continued devotion, Peggy Long was this year’s nominee.

Easterseals Alabama selects each year’s recipient based on significant contributions to the work of an organization for no less than five years. Involvement can be through Easterseals county chapters, Easterseals affiliate boards, Easterseals corporate board and committees, fundraising events or activities that benefit Easterseals Alabama programs and services.

Ms. Peggy Long was described to the group as an integral part of Camp ASCCA’s work over the years through her contributions as a summer camp nurse, volunteer nurse, current Camp ASCCA Board member, and a faithful donor. She is still often referred to as Nurse Peggy by campers and staff, and she continues to participate in Camp’s annual “Jingle Jump” fundraiser where she raises money for the ASCCA Campership Fund by jumping into the freezing Camp pool in December! It’s safe to say that she is one of Camp’s all-time favorite people.

2017 Easterseals Gold Award

Thank you, Jingle Jumpers!
We raised more than $44,000!

Robertsdale Rotary Club

ROBERTSDALE ROTARY WAS NOMINATED FOR THE 2017 EASTERSEALS CLUB OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR THEIR CONTINUED CONTRIBUTIONS TO CAMP ASCCA.

At the beginning of the year, Amber and Kasey visited the Robertsdale Rotary Club at Mama Lou’s for lunch and a special presentation. The club made a record-breaking donation last year to help many campers from their area attend ASCCA Summer 2017. Amber spoke to the club about several of those campers and explained to the newer club members how thankful we are for their support and what it means to our campers’ families.

After sharing summer stories and the new projects coming to ASCCA, Amber explained to the club that we were actually there for a special reason outside of our presentation. As the club members looked around in confusion, Amber explained that we had a special award to present. In recognition of their incredible support last year, Easterseals Alabama selected the Robertsdale Rotary Club to receive the 2017 Club of the Year award. The award was presented to Club President Joshua Mims and Member Doug Byrd.

The Club of the Year is presented annually to a club or organization for support of Easterseals Alabama programs and services through services rendered, volunteer work, and/or financial support. For the past two years, the Robertsdale Rotary Club has provided numerous camperships to children and adults with disabilities.

This summer, the club donated a record amount that provided 12 full camperships and 10 partial camperships. The club hopes to offer similar support for campers in 2018. We are proud and thankful to have clubs like Robertsdale as partners who make a difference in many lives!
To date, Camp ASCCA has never denied admission of a camper due to their inability to pay. Annually, Camp ASCCA provides over $230,000 in free services. This is made possible through your support of our Endowment Fund. Your gift to the Camp ASCCA Endowment Fund is never touched. However, the interest earned on the investment of your gift allows us to provide these services to individuals in financial need.

Please consider a gift of any amount today. You can make a donation online or by using the card and envelope provided in your newsletter. Thank you for your support of children and adults with physical and intellectual disabilities!

This year, the Demopolis Rotary Club was nominated for the Easterseals Special Appreciation Award in recognition of their support of Camp ASCCA for more than ten years. The Club has been annually providing donations to the Camp ASCCA Campership Fund through funds raised at their annual golf event.

Their continued support has allowed many children and adults with disabilities to attend summer camp each year. Thank you to the Demopolis Rotary Club for their continued support of Camp ASCCA and the incredible people we serve!

This year's hunting groups from the Lakeshore Foundation got lucky out on the ASCCA hunting fields and harvested 3 bucks and a doe. They also had some fun doing shooting competitions out at the range.

VISIT WWW.CAMPASCCA.ORG TO READ BLOGS BY A FEW OF OUR CAMPERS ABOUT LIVING WITH DIFFERENT ABILITIES!
Thank you,
Alliance Communications!

Since 1997, Alliance Communications Management has been in the telecommunications business providing “Best-In-Class enterprise communications management services.” According to the company website, the organization “is focused on providing the highest level of service in the industry,” and that same level of service to their community is reflected through their regular giving and support to Camp ASCCA.

CEO Robert Hunter says, “Alliance has realized many benefits by being part of the Alabama business community. We feel we have a responsibility to give back to those in our community who don’t have the same opportunities that we enjoy. Our long-term history with Camp ASCCA is a deliberate investment into our state and community given the camp’s mission, fiscal responsibility, and the population it serves. We feel that committing to an ongoing relationship with the camp yields sustainable benefits both to those with disabilities and businesses operating in the state.”

Over the past ten years, Alliance Communications Management has contributed more than $27,000 through a simple recurring donation each month. Organizations and individuals like Alliance are helping to make Camp ASCCA a continued opportunity for individuals with intellectual and physical disabilities, and we are very grateful for those who believe in what we do and the people we serve.

Does your company match gifts to a nonprofit organization? If so, contact Dana Rickman at dana@campascca.org.

UPDATE!
The new zip-line traversing across the fishing pond is now complete and will be available for Summer 2018. Several members of the full-time staff tested it out earlier this year. The live music venue location is still under construction, but is expected to be complete by the start of summer sessions.