Every summer has its own story

Camp ASCCA’s 40th summer was certainly one to remember with incredible stories, adventures, and reunions of many campers and staff, old and new. Thank you for your support in making this summer possible and an incredible success through the everyday experiences of our campers. Inside this newsletter you will get a glimpse of our 2016 summer, new staff, and donation opportunities!

Coming up this year we have a lineup of adventures for visiting groups serving people with disabilities as well as a few weekend events of our own! Also, don’t miss out on our 2nd annual “Jingle Jump” fundraiser that will be your opportunity to participate in raising funds for our campership program. It is sure to be a winter blast!

Thank you again, and if you haven’t already this summer, please visit us online at campascca.org and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!

Camp ASCCA provided 5,435 camper days of service to individuals with disabilities this summer. Camper day - one camper visit for five days equal five camper days of service - the typical week of camp!
TIS THE SEASON: 
For a Big Splash!

In Memory of Allison Wetherbee

On Thursday, July 21, 2016, we lost a beloved member of our Camp ASCCA family.

For the past 38 years, Allison Wetherbee has embodied the spirit of Camp ASCCA. For many of us she is the first person we think of when telling the Camp ASCCA story.

As both a camper and a full-time employee, Allison had a unique perspective of the impact Camp ASCCA had on her life and the lives of others -- campers, counselors, parents and so many more.

Those of us that had the honor to know her and love her know that Allison had a unique and uplifting impact on our lives.

Counselors and others that knew Allison share their memories.

Helene Goldson, who worked at ASCCA in PR and was her caregiver, recalls Allison’s feelings about mortality. Helene recalls “how she knew she would finally be able to hug back, in her heaven.”

Kim Berry Williams, who worked with Allison in the 1980s, writes, “In my mind Allison had superpowers and was going to live on way past me! I remember my first thought when I met Allison was that she had to be the most inspirational person for every camper that graced Camp ASCCA! Her very presence was inspiring, not to mention her beautiful smile!”

“She is such a huge part of all of our camp experiences,” writes former counselor A. J. Doody. He remembers Allison from her teenage years at ASCCA. “I could not imagine being at camp without her. Our loss is heavens gain because that Angel can fly now!”

Donette Mullinix, who was her first counselor at ASCCA, writes, “I am in shock and heartbroken...not for her, because without a doubt I know what her relationship with Jesus was and where she is. She is healthy and complete and rejoicing but I know for her family this is a huge loss. What a legacy she leaves! It is immeasurable how many lives she has touched and inspired!”

“I believe it was in 1979 when Allison first came to camp as a seven year old and I was her first counselor. What a precious gift to watch her fall in love with Camp ASCCA and the people there! She embraced everyone and every activity she was challenged with. From the time I was 20, she has continually inspired me in how I have viewed people with disabilities and my teaching. This I know, she loved people and the Lord and she’s in His presence.”

EASY with ZERO fundraising fees. 
Individual or teams seek sponsors and raise funds via a personal fundraising site that’s provided by Camp ASCCA.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS JUMP IN THE POOL! (costumes encouraged)
The event will be held during Camp ASCCA’s annual Christmas Weekend on Saturday, December 10, 2016.

Camp ASCCA would ask for a minimum donation from each participant for a campership, which is $725.

Send in “Jumper(s)” name and contact information to Dana Rickman at dana@campascca.org.
As the new Social Media Specialist here at Camp ASCCA, Kasey will be responsible for providing you guys with fun, enjoyable content and updates year-round on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, the Camp ASCCA website, Youtube, and Flickr. Her favorite part of the job is getting to use her passion for camp and her love for media to share the stories of every person that comes through the gates of this wonderful place.

Kasey grew up in Northeast Alabama in the small town of Sardis, and she attended Gadsden City High School. She is also a 2015 graduate of Auburn University with a Bachelor of Arts in Media Studies. During her summers as a college student, Kasey spent her weeks here at Camp ASCCA from 2012-2014 working as a counselor and a Public Relations intern. As a student at Auburn, Kasey spent her time getting her hands on everything media related that she could. In her years at Auburn, she gained experience working with Auburn’s WEGL 91.1 FM, Eagle Eye TV, WHNT News 19, CBS Sports Network, ESPN, and SEC Network.

In her spare time, you will often find Kasey tuned in to whatever sporting event she can find or curled up reading a good book. She also enjoys spending time outdoors with her dog, Roxie.

““To live will be an awfully big adventure” – Peter Pan

Here is a glimpse of our 2016 summer that you helped make possible!

In Memory of Robert Eugene McBride

On August 30, 2016, the Camp ASCCA family was saddened to learn about the passing of former Camp Mac Director, Bob Gene McBride. Bob Gene will be remembered by many through the adventures of the summer camp started in 1948 by his family, Camp Mac, and the impact his family had on the successes of camps across the state. Over the past 40 years, Bob Gene has been a huge part of Camp ASCCA where he served as a board member, acted as a mentor for years of ASCCA administration, and was an unforgettable friend to many.

When the ASCCA family heard the news, many people who knew Bob Gene personally and others who were impacted by his legacy shared their thoughts. Camp Administrator, John Stephenson, and Camp Director, Matt Rickman, both share in the sentiments that Bob Gene has had such a positive effect on Camp ASCCA and that he has been a mentor to the past and present administration personally and professionally. He will greatly be missed and thoughts and prayers are with the Camp Mac Family.

Many people also took to social media to share their memories and give their condolences. Robert French, a former staff member at ASCCA and now an Auburn University professor, recalls Bob Gene’s kindness and leadership, “Rest in Peace Bob Gene McBride. You certainly left a lasting positive impression upon so many people’s lives. Camp Mac is legendary in the hearts and minds of so many children and adults. Your influence is also strongly felt at Camp ASCCA Easter Seals where you served as a board member, mentor and friend for all of ASCCA’s 40 years. The world is better for having been graced by your kindness.”
Welcome Home

We love having visitors each summer!
Here are a few of the organizations that stopped by to visit this year.

2016-2017
Board of Directors
Marshall Griffin, Chair
Alexander City
Bob Kelley, Vice-Chair
Selma
Dale Glover, Secretary
Tuscaloosa
D. Tyler Whitson, Treasurer
Birmingham
Louis Buettner
Tuscaloosa
Jim Carlo
Wingtred
Greg Frith
Rainbow City
Andy Gosselin
Dothan
Rob Hunter
Daphne
Peggy Long
Jacksonville
Tom Mann
Montgomery
Donald Perkins
Albertville
Wayne Reuter
Opelika
Joseph Saloom
Auburn
Peggy Stevens
Hampton Cove
John Stephenson, Administrator
Jacksons Gap

Keep up with all things Camp ASCCA!

@campascca
facebook.com/campascca
www.flickr.com/photos/campascca
www.youtube.com/campasccaeasterseals

ASCCLA's 40th Reunion

This summer, camp alumni came together to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Camp ASCCA. Current and previous staff members traveled from all over the country to celebrate the accomplishments and growth that camp has seen over the last 40 years.

Staff members from camp’s very first summer in 1976 and beyond were in attendance along with friends and family of camp staff who were ready to join in on the fun and see what camp is all about.

When asked about how camp has progressed over the years, Bert Emmons, the first camp administrator, said, "It's just overwhelming to think that we had a tiny part in starting this wonderful program that has now served so many, thousands of people over the last 40 years."

As we end the 40th summer of Camp ASCCA, we look forward to many more life-changing summers here!