The meaning of spring (to us...)

According to Wikipedia.org, spring is, “one of the four temperate seasons, the transition period between winter and summer. Spring and “springtime” refer to the season, and broadly to ideas of rebirth, renewal and regrowth.”

Spring to us at Easter Seals Camp ASCCA has elements of “rebirth, renewal and regrowth.” Our groups and spring sessions steadily increase and “pop up” on the calendar. Office staff are “busy as bees” processing all the camper applications that are arriving. Nurse Joe is excitedly preparing for the campers to come and doing some “spring cleaning” in his new-to-him office. The program staff are preparing and cleaning their specific areas (the pool is becoming bluer and warmer every day!) Camp Director Matt is hiring and conducting interviews for summer staff members (we still need a few more male counselors!) Allison Wetherbee is still traveling around informing people and groups about our very special camp.

Our staff and Board of Directors continually look for opportunities to make each camper’s stay at camp even better than their last. This past summer our campers were greeted with another new activity - a 160 foot waterslide overlooking Lake Martin. This spring we continue to add to that area by completing the construction of the “outdoor gameroom” and new launch area for tubing and waterskiing!

We believe that it is our commitment to our mission and the loyalty of you, our supporter, that has allowed Camp ASCCA to continue to grow during the past 35 years. Every decision made at Camp ASCCA is measured against how it will better allow us to meet our mission of serving children and adults with disabilities. Please consider visiting the “renewed” Camp ASCCA this year!
Fun Fish Weekend 2011!
Campers, counselors, and volunteer boaters, convene at Camp ASCCA for the annual excitement!

On March 25-27, Camp ASCCA held our 19th annual Fun Fish Weekend for anglers with disabilities. We started the weekend with one of our volunteer boaters demonstrating his unique painting technique and a campfire with s’mores. Saturday morning started off a little windy, but we got a great morning of fishing in before lunch. We ran into some bad weather Saturday and Sunday, but stayed busy with a talent show, trivia games, and games in the gym. Our awards ceremony took place after lunch on Sunday with Doug Jones winning the Big Fish contest and Ben Brewbaker winning the Overall Most Fish Caught award. This weekend would not have been possible without great help from Staff, Volunteer Counselors, Volunteer Boaters, and our wonderful Nursing Staff. Thank you all. See more pictures at www.flickr.com/campascca.

Alabama Elks gift helps to renovate

The Alabama Elks Association provided a generous gift of $50,000 last fall to provide renovations to the Administration Building - look at it now!

The Alabama Elks Association has nearly 7,000 members and 27 Elks Lodges in Alabama. They came together last year to provide much-needed funding for renovations to the Camp ASCCA Administration Building.

Throughout the winter and spring, new windows and doors were installed. New siding and a new roof improved the exterior. An energy-efficient Daikin heating and cooling system was installed this past winter. And finally, Push America volunteers painted the exterior to complete the project. We painted the building green to distinguish it from the other buildings for our guests! Additional funding was provided by Push America and the U.S. Steel Foundation.

The Alabama Elks Association intends to make a sizable contribution to Camp ASCCA again this year!

Stay tuned for what happens next!

For more information about how you can help with our capital improvements, please contact Camp Administrator John Stephenson at 256-825-9226.

www.campascca.org
Visit online for camper applications, summer hiring, the news blog, photos, & more!
Volunteers & Supporters

This late winter and early spring brought two annual events that help Camp ASCCA reach its mission of serving children and adults with disabilities.

16th Annual Ina Watson Valentine Dinner & Dance

The Friends of Camp ASCCA (FOCA) volunteer group held its annual event on February 12, 2011. The event was a success as usual, raising over $15,000 for Camp ASCCA’s campership fund. The 12 piece performance band GLOW was back for its second year and the guests enjoyed a night of dancing after a candle lit steak dinner. The silent auction raised over $6,000 this year - the most yet! Special thanks to our Orchid $1,000 donors Duane and Shandy Lehman and Dr. Greg Frith.

Push Camp 2011

This year on March 13-17, 2011, 22 young Pi Kappa Phi from across the country helped Camp ASCCA by building an accessible ramp to the waterslide, creating an accessible area at the “new” lakeside area, worked on the “outdoor gameroom,” and painted the newly renovated exterior of the administration building. Additionally, Push Camp leader, Nick Breaux, presented Camp with a donation of $5,000 to help cover the cost of the supplies from the projects. Additionally, on Wednesday of their visit, some of our yearly campers from the nearby Randolph County Learning Center stopped by for a day trip to interact with the Push Camp volunteers! To find out more, visit www.campasca.ca.

To see pictures from both events, visit www.flickr.com/campasca.ca.

EYE ON ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

www.theenvironmentalcenter.org

Our staff has been very busy this spring providing outdoor environmental education to many school groups and science camps. A student from Radney Elementary in Alexander City is shown participating in the Living Streams Program activity on a recent science day camp visit.

Our education programs offer excellent “hands on” activities that are a unique combination of supervised instruction and self guided discovery. Classes are conducted on-site utilizing the beautiful 230 acres including streams, forest, pond, Lake Martin, and Dunn Environmental Center. Programs are customized to each group’s level and complement the Alabama Course of Study in both Science and Social Studies.

To find out more, contact Geni Payne, Director of Environmental Education, at geni@campasca.ca or 256-825-9226.

Allison on the Road

Allison Wetherbee, Director of Public Relations, shares the Camp ASCCA story. Contact her at allison@campasca.ca

January 5: Hoover Civitan Club
January 6: Tuscaloosa Rotary Club
January 12: Gulf Shores Lions Club
January 18: Opelika Pilot Club
Jan. 22: Alabama Court Reporters Assoc.
February 10: ADRS Transition Fair
February 22: Robertsdale Rotary Club
March 4: Alpha Tau Omega, Troy University “Walk Hard for Others” Fundraiser
March 5: Anchor Club District Convention in Eufaula
March 22: Enterprise Rotary Club
March 26: Elks Club Event in Calera
April 1: Rotary 6880 RYLA Youth Conference
April 14: Ala Power “Energizers” Retiree Convention
May 7: Brashers Chapel Church Albertville
May 22: Flint Hill Church Alexander City
Welcome Joe Spavone, R.N.

Hello, my name is Joe Spavone, and I am a Registered Nurse from Newman, Georgia. Now, few people can remember how to pronounce or spell my last name, so just call me “Nurse Joe.” I am Camp ASCCA’s new Director of Health Services. I have spent the last three years as a charge nurse on a busy med-surg unit at Tanner Medical Center, in Carrollton, GA, and, teaching CNA students at West Georgia Technical College in Lagrange. I have an awesome and amazing wife, Debra, who is also a nurse. Camp Nursing is now a recognized nursing specialty, and I am lucky enough to make it my career. I plan on being true to Camp ASCCA traditions and mission, while bringing some new ideas to the table. The Camp ASCCA family has been wonderful, and I thank all of you for the warm welcome.

To read more about Nurse Joe, visit our news blog at www.campascca.org/news.

The 2011 Summer shirts are here!
Call or come by and get yours today.

More from the online News Blog...

Easter Seals Alabama’s Day on the Hill 2011
On March 10, 2011 Easter Seals Alabama celebrated their annual “Day on the Hill” at Alabama’s capitol in Montgomery. Staff from Easter Seals’ 9 affiliates and the state office gathered at the Alabama State House building to talk to each senator and representative about the work of Easter Seals in Alabama. Camp ASCCA employees John Stephenson and Dana Rickman walked the halls and shared information with senators, representatives, and their staff members regarding Camp ASCCA and Easter Seals Alabama. The group is shown here with Governor Robert Bentley!
YOU can make a difference.

Camp ASCCA needs your support in continuing to provide quality services for campers with disabilities. Join us today with a gift to the Campership Fund. Your tax-deductible gift will provide unforgettable educational and recreational experiences during a week of summer camp this year. Thank you!

www.campascca.org