

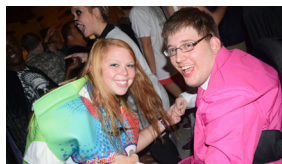
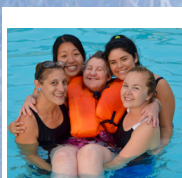


Winter 2016



# THE CAMP ASCCA *good* TIMES

*Where positive, life-changing experiences are happening every day.*



**CHECK OUT  
CAMPASCCA.ORG**

Early Bird  
Camper Registration  
for Summer 2017  
is now available online.

Summer camper and  
summer staff applications  
will be available  
on January 3rd.

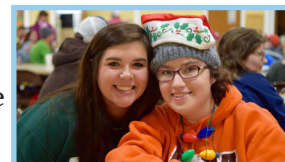


Visit [campascca.org](http://campascca.org)  
for all of your camp news  
and registration information!

## An ASCCA Winter Wonderland



Since the end of Summer 2016, we've been dreaming of a white Christmas, and this year's Camp ASCCA Christmas was perfect! It was a time to remember with snow on the ground, a crowd of our closest family and friends, and an afternoon of "Jingle Jumpers" hopping into the ice-cold ASCCA swimming pool to raise money for our Campership Fund.



We'd like to thank the Alabama Elks Association, campers, counselors, volunteers, and contributors for making this weekend and all of our events possible each year! We have had a season full of fun, new groups, new hires, and more!



Camp ASCCA is a nationally recognized leader in providing outdoor recreation for people with disabilities and health impairments.

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256-269-0714 FAX  
[info@campascca.org](mailto:info@campascca.org)



YouTube flickr





## Operation Rise & Conquer

In early October, the Lakeshore Foundation's weekend event, Operation Rise & Conquer, was made up of challenging, outdoor activities of all kinds. The visiting, injured military members from around the country took on challenges that many of them did not think they would be able to do since their injury occurred. However, the ASCCA staff along with the Lakeshore staff reassured every person that where there is a will, there is a way, and all of the weekend's activities were adaptable for anyone interested in participating.

As the weekend progressed, one man's story stuck out the most. He shared with us how his experiences in the military helped him through each event that weekend. He recalled his time in the Army training program where he was told to always trust his instructor, trust his equipment, and then trust himself. Any time that he questioned his ability or the safety of the activity, he reminded himself of that trust and conquered every program. It is that type of trust that we do our best to instill in every camper that comes through the gates of Camp ASCCA because nothing is impossible here.



Each summer, the Camp ASCCA Camper of the Year is chosen by the summer staff. The staff comes together to nominate ten campers, and the field is voted on and eventually narrowed down to the top three.

Then, the top three are voted on again with the camper receiving the highest number of votes being named the Camper of the Year. The staff members individually consider campers and what makes each one special to them.

There are many qualities that are considered as the staff votes on the camper, for example, how much the camper enjoys the summer camp experience, the happiness that he

or she exudes, how they encourage other campers, friendliness, and overall enthusiasm.

Matthew Davis, the 2016 Camper of the Year, is a great example of all of these qualities! Matthew has been coming to camp for a few years and is always remembered for his smile and the energy that he brings to camp.

More than 30 fans of Matthew made up of Camp ASCCA staff members, family members, and more, met at the Little Italy Pizzeria in Auburn, Alabama, in October to surprise him. Matthew's brother, Cole, who worked at Camp this summer, kept the event a secret from Matthew and the rest of their family, so when they arrived they received a great surprise.

With tears of joy and lots of hugs, Matthew was greeted and then awarded a plaque recognizing him as Camp ASCCA's 2016 Camper of the Year.

As this year's recipient, Matthew attended the Camp ASCCA Christmas Weekend free of charge and once again experienced the fun and unique experiences that Camp ASCCA has to offer people with disabilities. However, Matthew's presence was one of the greatest Christmas gifts of all!

We would also like to thank Mark McClurg and the Little Italy Pizzeria in Auburn for allowing us to host the awards dinner at their location.



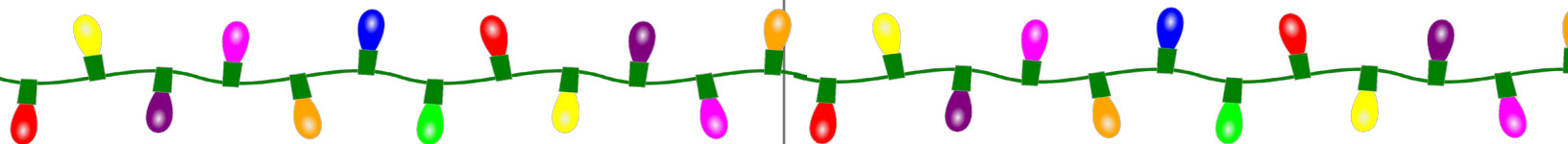
## Special Projects

We have been hard at work this fall creating new activity areas to have ready for the upcoming year. At one of our new projects, campers will have the opportunity to pan for gold behind Marc Roberts Lodge near Arts & Crafts.

Our latest project is located near Bocce Ball and Hammocks and Horseshoes. It is expected to bring new opportunities for outdoor talent shows, group hangouts, and more. We'd like to thank all of our donors for making these projects possible!



## Christmas Weekend 2016





# ASCCA Jingle Jump 2016

Camp ASCCA's second annual Jingle Jump fundraiser was held on December 10, 2016, and it was a huge success thanks to campers, staff, donors, volunteers, and friends. All fundraising began on November 1st and lasted until the final jump into the ASCCA pool on December 10th.

This year, we had 53 jumpers participating in the fundraiser, and they all worked together to raise over \$37,000 to sponsor campers with disabilities to attend summer camp. The funds raised this year have the potential to support 51 full camperships. All participants who reached their goal of \$725 had to jump into the ice cold ASCCA pool.

This year, the pool was much cooler than last year with a temperature of 42-degrees. On the day of the final jump, many participants jumped into the pool solo or with other members of their fundraising team, and they were all wearing their best Christmas costumes. During this year's Jingle Jump, campers were also given the opportunity to participate through Christmas games at different times throughout the event. We would like to say thank you to everyone who donated this year and helped make this event possible!

*For more photos  
visit our Flickr!*



## By the Numbers

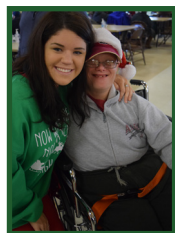
- **Total: \$37,613**
- **Jumpers: 53**
- **Teams: 32**

## Who raised the most money?

**ASCCA Staff: Amber Cotney**  
**Camp Counselor: Jay Gosselin**  
**Camper: Sam Sullivan**  
**Club: Alexander City Rotary Club**



*Dear Santa,  
I can explain...*



## MEET: HEATHER

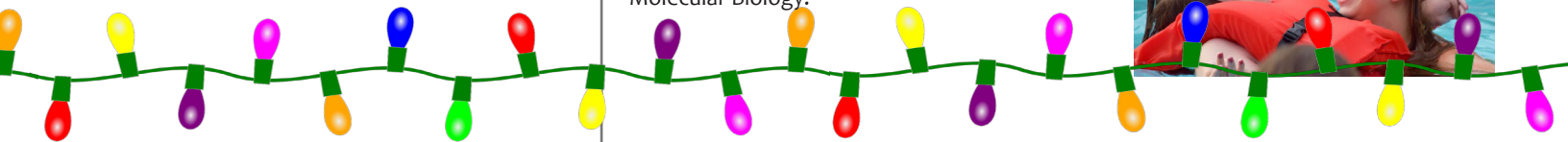
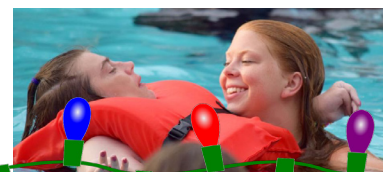


As the new Aquatics Program Specialist, Heather is primarily responsible for the Pool, Waterslide, Splash Pad, Tubing, and Boating programs. Her favorite part of the job is having the opportunity to share the aquatics activities she grew up loving on the Tennessee River with all of the campers that come through the gates of Camp ASCCA here on Lake Martin. Over the summer, Camp stole her heart, and she knew that she could not leave such an impactful place.

Heather is from a small town in West Tennessee called Humboldt, right outside of Jackson. She graduated from Jackson North Side High School in 2012 and later attended the University of Tennessee Martin. In December 2015, Heather graduated from college with a Bachelor of Science in Cell & Molecular Biology.

Growing up on the Tennessee River, she has years of experience doing activities on and in the water. She also worked as a Certified Nursing Assistant through college, and Heather recently worked on the aquatics staff here at Camp ASCCA this past summer and continued through the fall as a member of the seasonal staff. In her spare time, Heather enjoys hunting, fishing, and hanging out with her friends. When she was in college she actually fished a tournament trail with her dad.

Her favorite thing about camp is that campers are given the opportunity each year to do activities that they may not do anywhere else and are treated based on their abilities rather than their disabilities. She has been overcome by the unconditional love that is seen through Camp ASCCA, the campers, and the ASCCA staff, and she is excited to be able to share her passions with the place many people consider to be the greatest place on Earth.





## 2016-2017 Board of Directors

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# 2016 Camp ASCCA Award Recipients

Thank you to all of our friends and donors! This year's recipients will receive a brick in our "Pathway to Our Future" path honoring their accomplishment.

## Endowment Award

Gregory Douglas

## Meritorious Service Award

Meredith Birchfield

Elise Williams

## Continuing Meritorious Service Award

Alabama District Pilot International

J.L. Bedsole Foundation

Benjamin & Roberta Russell Foundation

Solon & Martha Dixon Foundation

## James D. Orr, Jr. Award

Alexander City Elks Lodge #1878

## Organization of the Year Award

Alabama Elks Association

## Ina Watson Special Appreciation Award

B'Beth Weldon

Christian Women in Action

## Legislative Award

Representative Mark Tuggle

## Oscar C. Dunn Environmental Award

Dr. Randy Plaisance

## Communications Award

Clayton Smith

## Camper of the Year

Matthew Davis

## Special Recognition Award

Autism Society of Alabama

Jackson Rotary Club

Mark McClurg

The Montgomery Area Down Syndrome Outreach Group

Andalusia Rotary Club

Central Baldwin Sunset Rotary Club

Dothan Rotary Club

Enterprise Rotary Club

Greenville Rotary Club

Montgomery Sunrise Rotary Club

Ozark Rotary Club

Robertsdale Rotary Club

## ASCCA ON THE ROAD

ASCCA on the Road is a new opportunity for potential campers and their families to learn more about Camp ASCCA and everything it has to offer. ASCCA staff members are traveling to various locations across the Southeast to meet people that could benefit from attending camp.

During each trip, a Camp ASCCA video is shown to the group to display all of the activities that we offer, as well as the opportunity for students to make Camp ASCCA t-shirts. We encourage each student and their parent or guardian to check out camp and visit for a weekend event or perhaps a full week during the summer. Many people do not realize that a place like Camp ASCCA exists, so we decided it was time to bring Camp to them.

This year, we have traveled all over the state of Alabama to local schools, rotary clubs, and more. If you are interested in having us visit your organization, contact Amber Cotney at [amber@campascca.org](mailto:amber@campascca.org)!

Keep up with all  
things Camp  
ASCCA!



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