

FALL NEWSLETTER

2009

Camp ASCCA VISION





A proud Easter Seals Alabama, Inc. affiliate.

Helping children and adults with disabilities achieve equality, dignity, and maximum independence.

WHERE POSITIVE LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCES ARE HAPPENING

Summer 2009 a Huge Success!

Summer 2009 is officially over and what a great summer it was. As it turns out, it was one of our busiest summers. All of our ASCCA sessions were not only full, but had waiting lists. It tells us that families and organizations understand the value of camp and the amazing things that can happen here.

"I believe the two biggest reasons why Camp ASCCA has had so much success are that our campers are wonderful and the high quality of our staff." Matt Rickman, Camp Director

I believe the two biggest reasons why Camp ASCCA has had so much success are that our campers are wonderful and the high quality of our staff. This summer's campers were second to none. They had so much fun and had so much love to give. I am always overwhelmed with how our campers have such a positive effect on our staff and how our staff has the same effect on the campers. This summer's staff was one of the best I have ever had the pleasure of working with. It was amazing that no matter how hot, how rainy, or how long a day was, our staff stayed positive, enthusiastic and always kept the campers needs first priority.

Another fact not to be overlooked is that once again we maintained an excellent safety record, which is one of the number one issues we "preach".

A sincere thanks to all the people that made this summer great. It begins with the campers and their families - thank you all for making Camp ASCCA such a



special place. Thanks to all the "behind the scenes" people like our office staff, our administrator, and our board members and volunteers. Without their hard work and support, Camp would not be what it is today. Thanks also to our summer staff including full-time program specialists, our Health Services Director and summer nurses, head counselors and unit leaders, and the people that are truly the "backbone" for our summer program - the counselors and program staff. I was amazed every day by your selflessness and hard work.

Finally, I can't end without expressing a big heartfelt thanks to <u>you</u>, our donors! Sincerely, Matt Rickman, Camp Director



leader in providing camping and outdoor recreation for people with disabilities and health impairments.

A nationally recognized



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FALL CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Sep. 18-20	Autism Family Camp
Sep. 24-27	Lakeshore Foundation camp
Sep. 21-23	Drake Middle School
Sep. 29-30	Drake Middle School
Oct. 8-11	Diabetes Ed. Camping Assoc.
Oct. 17-18	Epsilon Sigma Alpha AL Council
Oct. 23-25	Camp Seale Harris Fall Wknd.
Oct. 26	Alex City Rotary Golf Challenge
Oct. 30-Nov. 1 MD/PD Weekend	
Dec. 4-6	Disabled Family Hunt Wknd.
Dec. 11-12	Christmas Weekend

www.campascca.org www.asccafriends.org www.facebook.com/campascca www.theenvironmentalcenter.org www.alabama.easterseals.com www.easterseals.com



Here's a quick sample of two of the summer positions available every summer, and there are so many more!

COUNSELORS: (38 hired) Direct care and supervision of 2-3 campers per session. Counselors work directly with campers to provide guidance and assistance in all phases of camp programs and activities of daily living. Requires that you live in the cabins with the campers. May involve physically lifting and transferring campers. **AQUATICS DIRECTORS:** (4 hired) Current lifeguard/ CPR for the Professional certifications required. Lifeguards will be supervised and work with Camp's full-time Aquatics Director. Activities include but are not limited to: waterskiing, tubing, pontoon boat rides,

swimming lessons, pool games, care & maintenance of pool, boats and other aquatic equipment.

2009 Summer Staff FACTS

- 37 counselors 19 males & 18 females
- 15 program staff, 2 head counselors, & 5 unit leaders
- 5 nurses including 1 fulltime nurse
- 3 full-time program specialists & 1 full-time camp director
- 38 total returning staff, 20 had worked more than 1 summer prior
- 8 staff from out-of-state: MS, NC, GA, LA, IL & IA
- 3 staff from other countries: 2 from England & 1 from Scotland
- 4 named Matt/Matthew;
 4 Jesse/Jessy/Jessica's;
 3 Amanda's;
 3 John/ Jonathan's;
 2 Katie's;
 2 Kelly/Kelli's;
 2 Tiffany's and
 2 Erin's. We also had Kevin, Kelvin and Kenny
 thank goodness for nicknames!

Do you want to work at Camp ASCCA? Visit <u>www.</u> <u>campascca.org</u> or email <u>matt@campascca.org</u>.

Top 5 Reasons Why I **LOVE** Teen Week!

by Becky Johnson, camper



- **5.**.PROM and everything about it
- **4.** Nighttime activities especially the Fairytale Quest from this summer.
- **3.** Group time and activities.
- **2.** The "crazy pumped-up" spirit that goes on all week!
- **1.** Counselors.

I've been going to camp for 9 years and my favorite thing has been meeting new people and just hanging out with them for a whole week. I am a junior in college at Troy University Dothan campus with a major in psychology.

ALLISON ON THE ROAD

What's NEW for summer 2010?



We are excited to announce the creation of a new program area at Camp ASCCA - a WATERSLIDE! Yes it's true, we are constructing an accessible winding-down-thehill waterslide from behind the chapel to the pathway between the treehouse and lakefront. STAY TUNED...





Allison Wetherbee, Director of PR, is very busy sharing the Camp ASCCA story. Contact her at <u>allison@campascca.org</u>

CIVIC CLUBS & OTHER EVENTS

August 4th: Troy Rotary Club August 5th: Opp Rotary Club August 15th: NW Alabama Pilot Conv. August 17th: Winston & Walker County Civitan Clubs

September 3rd: Delphic Club - Dadeville September 10th: Alex City Kiwanis Club September 15th: Archibald Center Annual Luncheon-Montgomery September 18th: Montgomery Civitan Club September 24th: Auburn Rotary Club September 25th: Florence Kiwanis Club October 7th: Disability Awareness Day – USDA Special Emphasis Committee October 13th: WMU Group in Talladega October 14th: Worthwhile Club in Dadeville November 2nd: Dothan Rotary Club November 5th: Jackson Rotary Club Annual Fair-Special Needs Day

THE HOYT WEBB AWARD

Every year we recognize an individual who has devoted many years of service to Camp ASCCA with the Hoyt Webb Award. Named after Mr. Hoyt Webb, who passed away in early 2005, this is Camp ASCCA's most prestigious award and is bestowed upon one of its most dedicated supporters. Mr. Hoyt Webb, formerly of Dadeville, was Camp ASCCA's Chairman when Camp first opened its gates in 1976. He remained Chairman Emeritus and a dedicated volunteer throughout his lifetime.

Camp ASCCA Awards 2009-2009

It must be noted that many awards nominations were considered and we thank everyone who has supported Camp ASCCA this year! On behalf of the Camp ASCCA Board of Directors, staff and campers, we would like to congratulate you on being the recipient of this year's awards. In your honor we will place a brick in our walkway to the future, that will forever recognize your accomplishment.



OTHER AWARDS:

Endowment Award: The Estate of Ruth Bonham Camp

Continuing Meritorious Service Award: Andalusia Rotary Club Enterprise Rotary Club Dale Glover

The Solon & Martha Dixon Foundation Castone Corporation

James D. Orr, Jr. Award: John M. Wilson

Legislative Award: Rep. Betty Carol Graham Sen. Ted Little

Oscar C. Dunn Environmental Award: William Davis



Alexander City Rotarian Barbara Yates is shown with her husband Jimmy and daughter Taylor. Taylor is also a Camp ASCCA volunteer!

SPECIAL RECOGNITION...YOU!

Thank YOU to all of our friends and donors who contibuted in response to our newsletter appeals - the response was truly amazing! We have many more camperships, new bedding, gas in the tank for lakefront activities, a splash pad, and a new accessible Golf & Yacht Club! Many of you have gone overand-above your usual support and you are appreciated.

2009 HOYT WEBB AWARD RECIPIENT: DR. JIM KRUDOP

Dr. Jim Krudop of Andalusia is a great friend to Camp ASCCA. He remains a strong supporter financially and is an advocate of our programs, campers and mission. He never fails to tell the Camp ASCCA story to everyone he meets. Dr. Krudop served as Board Chair for the years 2005 and 2006. He is highly respected by all Camp ASCCA board members, staff, and campers. He IS one of Camp ASCCA's best representatives! Thank you!

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD: ALEXANDER CITY

ROTARY CLUB

ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR AWARD: ALABAMA DISTRICT PILOT INTERNATIONAL



Pilot Club members from throughout the state of Alabama visited Camp ASCCA several times this summer. One group is shown here at the dedication and grand opening of the accessible mini-golf course.

Camp ASCCA & You > military families

Camp ASCCA is now hosting 3 Military Family Groups during the year!

Operation Purple Healing Adventures is a program specifically designed to meet the needs of wounded service members and their families. The camp was hosted by Camp ASCCA on August 9-14, 2009. It is a program of the National Family Military Association with support from the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation. Visit www.nmfa.org

Operation: Military Kids (OMK) is the U.S. Army's collaborative effort with America's communities to support the children and youth impacted by deployment. The camp held September 4-6, 2009 at Camp ASCCA was a residential family camp for military youth with special needs. Visit www.operationmilitarykids.org

Lakeshore Foundation's Operation Rise & Conquer will be held September 24-27, 2009 at Camp ASCCA. It is an extended outdoor adventure weekend that involves service members and their families in a variety of challenging activities. Visit www.lakeshore.org



SEE MORE NATIONAL MILITARY FAMILY ASSOCIATION PICTURES AT WWW.FLICKR. COM/CAMPASCCA/

NEXT ISSUE...

special events, facility updates, & more!

2009-2010 Board of Directors

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> John Stephenson Administrator

WE HAVE A NEW WEDSTED

Visit www.campascca.org in early October for a new look!

& remember www.asccafriends.org for social networking!

Want even more? www.facebook.com/campascca



Camp ASCCA gets Wii System

taken from Dadeville Record, by Dale Liesch, www.thedadevillerecord.com/news/2009/aug/20/camp-ascca-gets-wii-system/

The system, donated by Beasley Allen in Montgomery, could bring additional exercise and rehabilitation to ASCCA campers, who visit the Jackson's Gap facility.

The law firm donated the gaming system to the camp as part of Project Wii-hab, a coordinated effort of more than 40 law firms throughout the country to donate a gaming system to a rehabilitative program in their area, according to Beasley Allen spokeswomen Helen Taylor.

The nomination could not have come at a better time for the camp and its administrator John Stephenson as they had begun to prepare a fitness room off of the ASCCA gym. "It was great timing for us because we wanted to put some resistance training and exercise bikes in there and this will fit in perfectly for those who aren't interested in traditional exercise," Stephenson said. "The day we thought about using the room they called us about the gaming system."

ASCCA was chosen for the program through a nomination drive on Facebook, according to Taylor. See this full story and more at: <u>http://www.beasleyallen.com/focus/Wii-hab-Charity-Project/</u>

Easter Seals Camp ASCCA is a nationally recognized leader in providing camping and outdoor recreation services for people with disabilities and health impairments in a barrier-free environment. Camp ASCCA could change your life, <u>you</u> could change someone's life - visit or call today.