

# NEWS & NOTES

For Campers, Parents, and Alumni • Spring 2011 • Vol. 23, No. 1



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## FIRST-YEAR FAMILY ORIENTATIONS

### Dates & Times

Wednesday, May 11  
7pm PDT

Sunday, May 15  
4pm PDT

Thursday, May 26  
7pm PDT

Are you new to GAC this year? Attend one of our online, interactive first-year family orientations this spring to learn more about what to expect at camp. Gather your family around the computer for an informative and helpful presentation. If you're unable to attend one of the scheduled events, we will have a recorded version available on our website in May to view at your convenience.



## FUN FREE TIME ACTIVITIES AT CAMP

As a camper, you're scheduled to do most of the activities at camp with your cabin group. Free Time at camp happens every night after dinner. During that activity period, you can sign up to go back to an activity you've already done or try something new. In addition to the regular camp activities, some extra activities are offered only at Free Time. Which ones will you try this summer?

- |             |                |                  |                             |
|-------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
|             | Big Swing      | Guitar           | <b>NEW!</b> Paddle Boarding |
|             | Crochet        | GAC Runners      | Paddle Boating              |
| <b>NEW!</b> | Drumming       | Ice Cream Making | Photojournalism             |
| <b>NEW!</b> | Geocaching     | Improv           | Slacklining                 |
|             | Giant's Ladder | Outdoor Cooking  | Zipling                     |

## SHAKE IT UP: NEW DANCE THEMES!

The themes for this summer's dances are new and exciting! Plan on bringing a costume or making one while you're at camp to maximize the fun! Download the full summer calendar, with all special events, at [www.goldarrowcamp.com/campers-calendar](http://www.goldarrowcamp.com/campers-calendar) or look at the back of your Parent Handbook.

June Shaver Specialty: **Excessively Preppy**  
Session 1: **Treasure Island**  
Session 2: **Hoedown Throwdown**

Session 3: **Hawaiian**  
Session 4: **Glow-in-the-Dark**  
August Specialty/Mini Camp: **Sports**



# CAMP NEWS

## LOVE CONNECTION



Ahoy! JJ “Chaos” Osterweil, Adam “Silent” Mattern, Andrew “Soy” Moeschberger, and Alison “Bean” Moeschberger were in attendance at a wedding reception held for Clinton “Rafiki” Jones and his wife, Samantha. The couple were married on September 19, 2010, in Las Vegas, and the pirate-themed reception was held in Fresno on November 27, 2010. Congratulations to the Jones Family!

For Matt “Maz” Martin and Heather “Nautica” Rabenold, both former GAC counselors (2009), Valentine’s Day was extra-special this year. Maz lives in New Zealand while he completes a building apprenticeship, and Nautica is in her final semester at the University of Tampa in Florida. With more than 8,000 miles between them, Maz and Nautica maintain their relationship by talking every day and traveling to see each other a few times each year.



Maz and Nautica were among the five winners of a competition held by Air New Zealand that brought together long-distance couples for Valentine’s Day. Maz made the trip in February and is returning to the States in May for Nautica’s graduation. Nautica is moving to New Zealand this summer to pursue her career in Nursing.

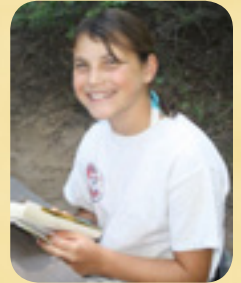
## CAMPER PROFILE: AVA & MADELEINE BENN

The Benn sisters, Madeleine and Ava, are thrilled to be returning to GAC for a fifth summer this year. When asked what GAC means to them, they both instantly reply, “It’s our second home!” The girls’ passion for camp was evident at a GAC Chat held at their house in January. Madeleine and Ava could have easily told the new families everything they needed to know about camp without Chilli or Monkey helping.



Both sisters are looking forward to getting their 5-year blankets and say that the blankets will help show how much they love camp and will always remind them of

the memories they have there. When asked what it is like attending camp with a sibling, Ava explains, “It is nice to know you have someone there, even though you make lots of new friends. It is also really nice to be able to share your summer experiences with each other when you’re back at home.” Madeleine added, “If sisters get worried they will see each other all the time at camp, they shouldn’t, because you’re always busy with your cabin. You see them at meal times, and it’s great to be able to check in and say ‘hi’.”



Ava, who loves waking up for early morning Horses, was 7 years old when she started at Gold Arrow Camp. Madeleine was 10 years old when she became a camper, and she says that her favorite activity is Sailing. She keeps coming back to GAC each year because, “The people are amazing, and it’s the best experience ever.” She appreciates every moment that she is at camp because, “The activities are awesome, and you learn new things while having lots of fun.”

As both Madeleine and Ava are experienced campers, we asked them for advice they would give a camper coming for the first time this summer. Ava responded, “Just have fun and try not to think about home too much. You make such awesome friends and have the best experiences that you can’t get anywhere else.” Madeleine wants new campers to know that, “Gold Arrow is a kids’ paradise, and it’s the perfect way to get away from school and homework and all the stresses that go with that.”

We really look forward to presenting 5-year blankets to both Madeleine and Ava at the end of Session 3. We hope to see the Benn sisters back at camp for many years to come.

## ASK THE CHIPMUNK

*Dear Chipmunk,  
I am very nervous to go on the high ropes again this year. Last time, they were so fun, because my friends helped me out. I act like I am excited when really I am so so so nervous.*

*Thanks,  
Scared of high things*

Dear Scared,  
Lots of campers and staff are really nervous when doing the high ropes, rock climbing, and other “high” stuff. Just

# CAMP NEWS

remember that you only need to do what you're comfortable with -- "Challenge by Choice" we call it. It's okay to be nervous, and I'm glad you had fun last year. Isn't it funny how you can be both nervous and excited? That's normal! I know you'll have fun again this year. Sometimes, the worrying about stuff before it happens is much harder than doing the actual thing! Maybe it's good if you focus more on your memories of how fun it was and how supportive your friends were. That will help you be more excited and less nervous!



See you at GAC!  
Chipmunk

## STAFF PROFILE: COSMO

Jessie "Cosmo" Werlin will be a new Sailing counselor this summer, but she is already familiar with GAC. Cosmo's family has been a part of camp since the 1960's when her grandparents, Boris and Irene Gregory, began their tenure as Gold Arrow's Sailing Directors. Cosmo's mom, Claudia "Cloudy" Werlin, was a camper herself and is now a Camp Mom, and Cosmo's older sister, Corrie "Corriander" Winnacker, was a long-time Assistant Director. Her brother, Jake "Genki" Werlin, was also a Sailing instructor in 2009. Returning to GAC for her 12th summer this year, Cosmo will surely feel at home.



Cosmo is currently a sophomore at Columbia University in New York, majoring in Biology. She has been on the Varsity Women's Rowing team since she arrived on campus and is also a member of the Columbia University Marching Band, playing the tenor saxophone. In her free time, Cosmo enjoys playing the piano, reading sci-fi novels, spending time with friends, and traveling with her family.

Cosmo's favorite activity at camp is Sailing (of course!), but she also enjoys horseback riding, kayaking, jet skiing, and high ropes. She said that she loves camp because, "I was pushed out of my comfort zone a little, trying things, exploring, and always discovering something new to be an absolute blast, be it getting up on water skis or careening downhill on a mountain bike."

We're excited to welcome Cosmo back to camp this summer!

## GAC RUNNERS' REPORT

### THE GREAT RACE OF AGOURA HILLS

Camp Dad Keith Crasnick ran the Half Marathon, and other team members competed in the 5K and 1 mile kids' run. Campers Emma Liberman, Libby Block, and Tara, Eric, & Hannah Baumhover were all competing in their first races.



### NEWPORT-MESA SPIRIT RUN

Despite rainy weather, GAC Runners had a fun morning at the Spirit Run. This year, GAC was a co-sponsor of the event, which raises money for area schools. Many of our runners received awards, including Quentin Talley and Charlotte Monke, who were both top runners in the Youth 5K, and Owen Monke, who won the Boys' 7-year-old race. Cutest runner awards go to Brooke Howard and Maddy Palmer, who sported green and gold ribbons while they ran! See more pictures at [www.goldarrowcamp.com/campers-runners](http://www.goldarrowcamp.com/campers-runners).

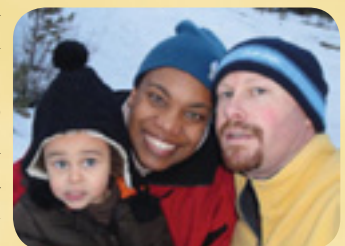


## FUTURE CAMPERS

N'Gina "Kermit" Kavookjian (Staff '95-'00) and her husband, Ian, welcomed a daughter into their family on January 29, 2011. Isabella weighed 7.2 oz. and was 19 inches long. She joins her brother, Isaac (4 yrs), as a future GAC camper. The Kavookjian family lives in Sacramento, where they own



and operate Eight American Bistro, Inc., a catering and wedding planning company. Kermit is excited to return to camp in a few years, when Isaac is old enough to be a camper. Congratulations to the Kavookjians!



# CAMP NEWS

## FROM CAMPERS TO COUNSELORS:

## 290 YEARS OF GAC EXPERIENCE ON STAFF



Pictured (from Left to Right):

“Polo” Wright, 8 years  
“Bean” Moeschberger, 18 years  
“Beeper” Golob, 11 years  
“Oakley” Adams, 10 years  
“Banana” Greene, 12 years  
“Quailman” Bader, 6 years  
“Panda” McDermott, 6 years

“Ninja” Fragner, 11 years  
“Gaga” Zigrang, 10 years  
“Sconnie” Loder, 9 years  
“Ali” Baker, 13 years  
“Jedi” Freedman, 11 years  
“Freebird” Freeberg, 8 years  
“TigerLily” Katzman, 2 years

“Shamu” Eichman, 10 years  
“Photon” Winning, 13 years  
“Cosmo” Werlin, 12 years  
“Chelster” Rowe, 22 years  
“Tank” Bressel, 9 years  
“Bubbles” Popkin, 4 years  
“Garbanzo” Dubchansky, 6 years

“Loona” Gamboa, 7 years  
“Bullseye” Block, 7 years  
“Koda” Vezie, 18 years  
“Sunshine” Monke, 26 years  
“Peanut” Spindel, 6 years  
“Charizard” Hohenschuh, 6 years  
“Aurora” Lamb, 9 years

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*And the seasons, they go 'round and 'round. And the painted ponies go up and down.*

*We're captive on the carousel of time.*

*We can't return, we can only look behind from where we came,*

*And go 'round and 'round and 'round in the circle game.*

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The sweet sounds of Joni Mitchell’s “Circle Game” still ring through the forest at the conclusion of each camp session, reminding everyone in the GAC family how quickly time passes. We watch as campers grow from Bears to Lions and from CITs to counselors, never losing the ability to experience fun in its purest form. An incredible number of our staff members will be returning to GAC this summer, where many of them have spent summers for more than half their lives. These former campers epitomize GAC spirit and seek to provide a new generation of campers with the timeless GAC experience they had as children. They are a valuable resource for new staff members because they can give first-hand accounts of the impact counselors had on them and provide insight as to what makes GAC such a special place for our campers.

In addition to other counselors who return to work at camp each summer, this group of former campers brings 290 years of GAC experience to our 2011 staff. With more than 50 CITs at camp this summer, we are cultivating future counselors who will lead us into the next chapters of fun, friendship, and growth at Gold Arrow Camp.

# CAMP NEWS

## GAC COUNSELORS IN TRAINING

With more than 45 participants this summer, GAC's CIT program is thriving. This two-week experience provides 16 and 17-year old former campers with training in leadership skills and activity instruction while giving them an opportunity to mentor our younger campers.



### Session 1 CITs

Ryan Acks	Mady Engle	Michael Pair
Ryan Craig	Bret Fitzpatrick	Michael Rothberg
Paige DeYoung	Gracie Mellenthin	Emily Tomei
Katy Edgington	Meredith Monke	Katie Voss

### Session 2 CITs

Kinsey Cohen	Caleb Kessler	Estie Pyper
Kelli Couture	Caitlin Lohman	Ryan Watanabe
David Foley	Josef Manfredonia	Simone Weisman
Sarah Grimmett	Claire Prange	

### Session 3 CITs

Katie Baral	Gordon Dean	Kelsey Johnson
Chloe Biren	Jamie Fine	Adam LaBrie
Heidi Buzzetti	Kaitlyn Furst	Tim Swann
Connor Caine	Lizzy Hegedus	Clayton Weirick
Aaron Crasnick		

### Session 4 CITs

Ian Anderson	Brandon Gross	Emma Kaye
Reed Burke	Elinor Haddad	Annie Osenbaugh
Gal Goldstein	Jake Howard	Katie Osenbaugh
Steven Goodrich	Nick Huebner	Alison Wexler
Jennifer Grey		

## Web Poll Results:

### Favorite Ultimate Free Time Activity



## 5 AND 10-YEAR CAMPERS AND STAFF

Each summer we recognize campers and staff members who have returned to camp for 3, 5, and 10 summers, a tradition that began with GAC's founder, Manny Vezie. We are proud to be awarding 84 5-year blankets and 9 10-year jackets this summer.

### 5-year Campers and Staff:

Adelaide Alva	Megan McGlothlin
Laurie "Java" Anderson	Dakotah Rose McGrath
Will Anderson	Neva McManaman
Alyson Barnett	Patrick McNamara
Emily "Fish" Andrada	Carina Merhi
Ava Benn	Daniel Merhi
Madeleine Benn	Savannah Miller
Alek Berg	Victoria Miller-Deboer
Robert Boghosian	Alana Minato
Quinn Brown	Megan Moore
Scout Brown	Ryan Moran
Reid Bryan	Preston Ortiz
Trevor Chong	Annika Paris
Joby Curra	Tim Pieschala
Lee Curra	Isaac Preven
William Dean	Luke Pyper
Joshua Dennings	Owen Pyper
Eli Dinkelspiel	Julie "Lilo" Rizco
Charlie Doherty	Quinn Rizco
Kelly Doherty	Michael Rothberg
Emily Ershig	Cameron "Cheeks" Russell
Amy Evans	Kurtis Scott
Brooke Faulkner	Sarah Selzer
Dan Feinberg	Eva Shuster-Arechiga
Brett Fitzpatrick	Jayden Slater
Brandon Gross	Tom "Chilli" Smith
Elizabeth Groux	Harrison St. Jean
Jenny Haderlein	Emma Stellwagen
Justin Harmon	Sammy Stokols
Lucy Harvey	Quentin Talley
Alexander Herman	Jack Tomei
Jake Howard	Denis "Pan" Tuzinovic
Matthew Huebner	Charlotte Valentine
Charles Jameson	Joris "Orange" Vermeulen
Patrick Kelly	Julia Walter
Gretchen Kibbe	Tori Weisman
Henry Kibbe	Tom Welch
Ryan Kirkpatrick	Wiley Woolf
Serena Kripalani	Declan Wright
Kiefer Martin	Austin Zaelke
Roland Martin	Caroline Zaelke

### 10-year Campers and Staff:

Katie "Oakley" Adams	Robert "Daffy" Monke
Heidi Buzzetti	Tim Swann
Shelby "Shamu" Eichman	Clayton Weirick
Charlotte Monke	Caroline "Gaga" Zigrang
Carole "Daisy" Monke	

# CAMP NEWS

## FACEBOOK FRIENDS

GAC's Facebook page ([facebook.com/goldarrowcamp](https://facebook.com/goldarrowcamp)) has over a thousand fans! Here are some fun posts from the past few months:

"Many great memories as a camper, later counselor and now parent of 2 campers. Definitely one of the highlights of childhood and college life."

**Susie Chambers-Salvi**

"I was the second group of girls to be invited to camp out at GA...After watching the current video, it is amazing how far camp has come! Manny & Jeanie would be so proud that their legacy went on... Some of my most wonderful memories come from Gold Arrow. I was one of the first water skiers to jump off the dock and filmed, boy that sure dates me, Ha! Even the campfires with the skits left a long lasting memory! Thank you for continuing the dream of giving every camper a loving, healthy and fun memory."

**Vicki Sketchley Martin**

"True life: I keep my yearbook in my backpack. Thanks for keeping me occupied in the library!"

**Jordan "Stretch" Loftus**

**Posts in answer to the question, "Why are camp friendships so special and different from friendships in the 'real world'?"**

"A camaraderie like no other! Hard to put in words...so if you haven't experienced camp then you can't relate to the bonds we share. I was a 5 year camper in the 70's and I am still friends with a number of my cabin mates. When we get together and talk about the good times, "outsiders" have no clue and cannot even begin to understand...usually, they look bored...lol."

**Shelley Ewer**

"These two amazing ladies standing next to me on each side are not only my camp friends but "real world" friends. Our communication lasts long beyond the time we spend at camp. We have been campers, CIT's and hopefully counselors together. We have been coming to camp together for four years last summer and many years to come."

**Katherine Davis**

"I think it's because you're there with some amazing people and nobody has to worry about looking better than somebody else or worry about being bullied. Then, on top

of that, you go to camp and make a friend that has a special bond with you, because you only get to see them once a year and it just feels really special. I've made some friends that I hope I get to see for a long time. Three of us are now CITs together, and I'm so excited for this summer :)"

**Simone Weisman**

## FAMILY CAMP



Gold Arrow Camp is offering a Family Camp program from August 26-29 for campers of ALL ages. It's a perfect opportunity to spend a few days on Huntington Lake in the High Sierras with your entire family.

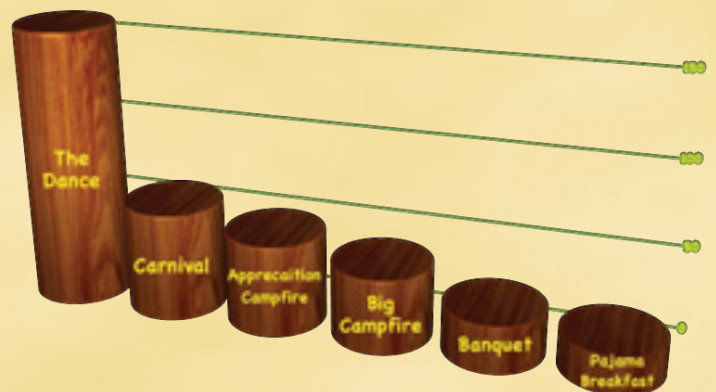
**Current GAC families...**give your kids a chance to show you the ropes around camp. Campers enrolled in a 2011 summer session attend Family Camp FREE with a paid adult! For **GAC alumni...**didn't quite earn that 5-year blanket years ago? Miss the smell of the mountains and campfires?

**New Families...**a great way to try us out before sending your kids the following summer. Are your kids too young for our regular camp program? Enroll for Family Camp today! To find out more about Family Camp and enroll online, please visit [www.goldarrowcamp.com/family](http://www.goldarrowcamp.com/family).



## Web Poll Results:

### Favorite Special Event at Camp



New polls are posted each month! Go to the GAC website to cast your votes. Current polls are "Favorite Activity" and "Favorite Smell at Camp." Vote today!

# CAMP NEWS

## THANK YOU, GAC CHAT HOSTS!



We appreciate the returning camp families who opened up their homes for GAC Chats this year. For your hospitality and great GAC support, a big thank you goes out to the following campers and their parents:



**WADDA  
WADDA  
WADDA**



- Justin, Julian, & Jonny Knott (Newport Beach)
- Grayson & Claire Feick (Menlo Park)
- Alek & Lukas Berg (Los Angeles)
- Maddy, Parker, & Cody Benfield (Pacific Palisades)
- Will, Brady, Charlie, & Maggie Jameson (Pasadena)
- Katie, Preston & Emily Ortiz (Manhattan Beach)
- Annie, George, & John Kingsland (San Francisco)
- Katy & Thomas Edgington (Danville)
- Ryan Daues (Palos Verdes)
- Sarah & Chase Groux (Newport Coast)
- Cobi & Bryan Baker (Rancho Santa Fe)
- Madeleine & Ava Benn (Studio City)
- Roxanne Strouk (Beverly Hills)
- Piper & Ashton Friedman (Las Vegas)


## GAC PARENT REPRESENTATIVES

See GAC's all-star line up of Parent Representatives at [www.goldarrowcamp.com/parents-reps](http://www.goldarrowcamp.com/parents-reps). Parent Representatives are experienced camp parents who support our philosophy and program and are willing to share GAC with others. Parent Representatives are available to talk to new and prospective families in their area or school about GAC. Parent Representatives are also part of an online discussion group, where we ask them (rather than the entire parent population) for their opinions on different topics. So far this year, we've "discussed" (via online messages) GAC's communication with parents and key reasons parents send their children to GAC.

We are still looking to build our Parent Representative group, so contact Sunshine at [sunshine@goldarrowcamp.com](mailto:sunshine@goldarrowcamp.com) if you're interested!

## GUESS THAT COUNSELOR!

Campers, Campers, Campers! Use the clues and the "Meet Our Staff" page of the website to guess the counselors described below. Email [mail@goldarrowcamp.com](mailto:mail@goldarrowcamp.com) with your guesses, and you will get a special GAC notebook in the mail. If you like this game, look for more opportunities to play on the online camper message board!




-----

crossed an ocean to get to GAC

lives near Big Ben

rugby

shares a name with a metal



-----

1st year at GAC

school mascot is a Seagull

wilderness explorer

will be bright at the Glow In The Dark Dance




-----

experienced GAC counselor

hails from the Magnolia State

attends the same school as NFL player Michael Oher

is found at the end of a river



-----

1st year as a counselor

hails from the Golden State

school mascot is a Mustang

shares a name with a Toy Story character



Administrative Office:  
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Telephone: 800-554-2267



## 2011 SESSION AVAILABILITY

Don't miss out on the fun at GAC this summer!

**June Shaver Specialty** (June 19-25)

**LIMITED!** Session 1 (June 26-July 9)

**FULL!** Session 2 (July 10-23)

**FULL!** Session 3 (July 24-August 6)

**LIMITED!** Session 4 (August 7-20)

**Specialty Camp** (August 21-27)

**Mini Camp** (August 21-27)

**Family Camp** (August 26-29)

For up-to-date session availability, please visit our website at [www.goldarrowcamp.com/sessions-2011](http://www.goldarrowcamp.com/sessions-2011).

## COMING SOON:

## ONLINE CAMPER CHATS!

Would you like to meet other GAC campers on-line? Participate in one of our fun camper chats in May! You will be able to hear all about camp, chat with fellow campers and counselors, and ask questions. Don't miss the fun!

For more information, visit [www.goldarrowcamp.com/campers-online-chats](http://www.goldarrowcamp.com/campers-online-chats) or email [mail@goldarrowcamp.com](mailto:mail@goldarrowcamp.com).

**Friday, May 13**

4:00 pm

**Tuesday, May 17**

7:00 pm

**Sunday, May 22**

5:00 pm



[www.goldarrowcamp.com](http://www.goldarrowcamp.com)

