

NEWS & NOTES

For Campers, Parents, and Alumni • Holiday 2006 • Vol. 18, No. 2



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PUT SOME MORE "WADDA" IN YOUR WINTER

Come meet returning and new GAC families, see a slide show from the summer of 2006, get a free camp T-shirt, learn about the summer of 2007, and participate in a fun raffle of camp prizes! GAC Chats are hosted by camp families in many cities between December and March. All GAC Chats run from 6:30-8:00 PM. Here is a list of the events for December and January:

Monday, December 11	Newport Beach
Tuesday, December 12	Pasadena
Tuesday, January 16	Manhattan Beach
Wednesday, January 17	Rancho Santa Fe
Thursday, January 18	Newport Coast
Monday, January 22	Oakland
Tuesday, January 23	San Francisco
Thursday, January 25	Fresno

More events are being scheduled. Check the schedule in the "Learn More" section of the GAC website.

Can't attend a GAC Chat in person? Parents who are interested in learning more about GAC can join Director Audrey "Sunshine" Monke at one of our interactive online sessions. Details are also on the website.

GAC FAMILY WINS ONE WEEK OF CAMP

Over 500 parents sent in their parent evaluations to us this year. As a reward for giving us feedback, all their names were put into an envelope for a drawing. To see who won, turn to page 4.



CAMP PEOPLE

NEW ARRIVALS

2012 is going to be a great year for Nuggets at GAC! We are pleased to welcome our newest campers, who arrived during camp last summer and will be ready to be campers in six years:

Collette Johnson, daughter of longtime staffer Becky “**Evergreen**” and Quin Johnson, lives in Colorado. She arrived on July 21, 2006, and weighed in at 6 lbs, 11 oz. Collette’s current interests include blowing bubbles, playing with her younger niece Sydney, cooing/giggling, and eating cat hair. Yum!



Danni Violet Sale, daughter of Shawna “**Fluffy**” (Personnel Director and full-time GACer in the late 90’s and early 2000’s) and Mark “**Chachi**” Sale (Shaver Staff 2001-2002), lives on the Big Island of Hawaii. Danni arrived on August 11 and weighed in at 8 lbs, 5 oz. Big Brother Brodi, age 3, is helping mom and dad a lot! The Sale family caught up with the Monke family for a beach day over Thanksgiving vacation.



Berkley Mark Lovett, son of Asia “**Frenchie**” and Hayden “**Muppet**” Lovett (who met each other when they were both counselors at GAC), was born on August 16, 2006, and weighed 8 lbs. Berkley lives in New Zealand, and, according to his mom, he can’t wait to go to GAC!



Sally Anne Winnacker was born August 20th, 2006, and weighed in at a whopping 9 lbs, 12oz and 22 1/2 inches long. So, although she’s the youngest of the group, we think she’ll hold her own just fine! Sally loves to eat, sleep, burp, poop, eat and sleep. She enjoys long walks in her baby carrier, playing with her elephant, and listening to her favorite song, the Cannibal King. Sally lives in Albany, California, with her mom, “**Corriander**” (long-time GAC staffer), her dad, “**Roscoe**” (a firefighter who used to help with projects at camp during days off), and her golden retriever, Beau.



GAC IRAQ

Best wishes to First Lieutenant Dave “**Wingnut**” Bradt. Only a few years ago, he was leading morning assembly at GAC. Now he is leading his Marines in Iraq. Thank you for your courage and dedication, Wingnut. We hope to see you home soon!

GAC RUNNERS

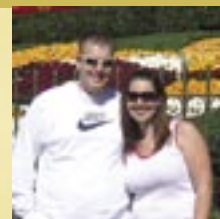
If you are a runner and love Gold Arrow Camp, this is the perfect opportunity for you. Sunshine and Monkey’s enjoyment for the sport of running has fueled the creation of a running club – Gold Arrow Camp Runners. Campers, parents, alumni, and families are invited to participate. You can request a free moisture-wicking t-shirt on the GAC Runner section of the website. In return, you must promise to send us a photo of yourself wearing your shirt at a local race or walk. We’ll put your name and picture on the website, along with your race report. Whether it’s one mile or a marathon, join the GAC Runners team today!



Father’s Day Run, Fresno, CA (6/18/06) Top: Babe, Flip Flop, Daffy, Monkey, A.Z., Pebbles, Special K, Dazzle. Bottom: Meredith, Owen, Glitter, Sunshine, Gretchen, Roxy, Jump.

ENGAGEMENTS

Maybe you’ve called the camp office recently and heard an extra-happy voice on the other end of the phone. It’s probably because our own Camp Registrar, Amy “**Glitter**” Goodsoozian, became engaged to be married on October 19th. Donald Bolton proposed to Glitter in front of Sleeping Beauty’s castle at Disneyland. Glitter and Donald (no camp name yet) are planning a wedding for the Fall of 2008.



NEW AMERICAN

Congratulations to **Ricardo** Dominguez, GAC’s mechanic for over 25 years, on becoming a United States citizen. Ricardo was sworn in on September 18, 2006, in Fresno, California. Along with his winter co-workers from Sierra Summit Ski Resort, Sunshine, Monkey, and Owen joined in celebrating with Ricardo and his wife Andrea. Ricardo’s family has been part of GAC for many years.

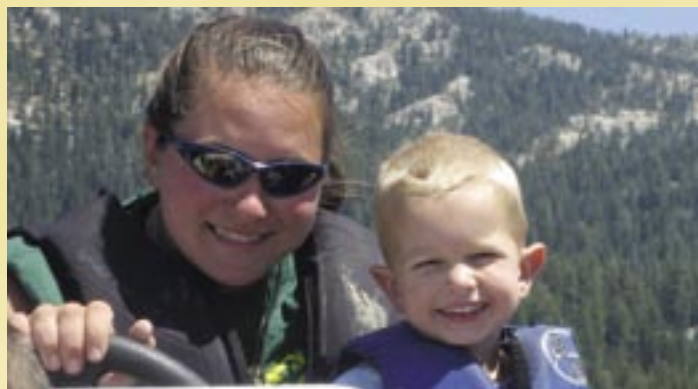


STAFF PROFILE

Returning for her 14th summer at camp is Bean, last year's co-waterfront director. Bean was a camper and Counselor in Training for eight years, and 2007 will be her 6th year on staff. Bean's favorite memories as a camper were the nights she spent on Shaver Island. She loves returning to camp year after year for the people, the campers and staff, because they are like family to her.

When not at camp, Bean can be found with her husband in Colorado where she is a 6th grade teacher. She is a graduate of Purdue University, where she majored in Elementary Education and was a member of the school's marching band. Having recently bought a house, Bean is becoming a home improvement expert, especially in the fields of painting and sanding. She is an avid reader and hopes to travel to Australia again.

GAC has become a big part of Bean's life, and she is excited to share her love for camp and the traditions of camp with the new campers and counselors this summer.



Bean and Owen catch some rays while boating on Huntington Lake last summer.

CAMPER PROFILE ELIZABETH EGGERT

Elizabeth Eggert, who is from Sacramento, California, has been coming to GAC since she was 8 years old. Last summer was her 7th at "Good 'ol GAC." Elizabeth heard about GAC from family friends, the Michaelsen family, and has attended camp each summer with her good friend Abby Michaelsen (from Newport Beach). Elizabeth has an older sister, Caroline, and a younger sister, Julia, who are also longtime campers. Her dog Winston (a Caviler King Charles Spaniel) doesn't come to camp with her but enjoys her stories when she returns. This is what Elizabeth remembers about her first summer at Camp:

"My first summer was new and exciting! It was my first time being away from my parents for more than a week, so I was afraid I would get homesick. I ended up not having any time to be homesick because there was so much to do! The thing I remember most was my counselor Elf. She was so patient with everyone and made every situation funny and positive! I also remember getting up on water skis for the first time! After about 20 tries I finally got up and stayed up until it started pouring rain and we all had to go in." Getting up on water skis for the first time is also Elizabeth's most memorable experience from her years at camp.

Why does Elizabeth come back year after year? "I love meeting new people and being able to do so many exciting

activities that I can't do back home." Her favorite food at camp is Choco Tacos. At home, Elizabeth plays soccer and has been on several basketball teams. Her favorite hobbies are crocheting (which she learned how to do at camp!) and fashion. She also enjoys hanging out with friends and shopping. Her favorite subject in school is history. Elizabeth was selected to be a Peer Helper at her school. Her job is to give tours to students who are interested in coming to the school, lead fund-raisers, be a role model for everyone in her school, and much more! Based on what a great camper Elizabeth is, we're not at all surprised that she was selected for this honor! All of us at GAC look forward to many more summers with Elizabeth. Her friendliness, willingness to challenge herself, and constant smile make her so much fun to be around!



CAMP NEWS



NEW CANYONEERING SPECIALTY CAMP

Gold Arrow Camp presents a new one-week program for campers looking for big adventure – Canyoneering Specialty Camp. Canyoneering is an outdoor recreational activity quickly increasing in popularity. It incorporates the skills of rappelling and rock climbing in a steep canyon setting. Campers learn how to set routes and negotiate waterfalls, boulders, and other obstacles.

Participants in the program will learn advanced rock climbing technique, anchor building, rappelling, gear review, first aid basics and risk and safety management. A final canyon adventure near Shaver Lake will apply the skills learned during the week to advanced ropes systems used for rappelling and zip lining. Team building and leadership skills will also be a focus of the program as campers work together to overcome each day's challenges.

The program is open to returning GAC campers, ages 12-17, and will take place August 19-25, 2006, during Specialty Week.

CAMP FAMILY WINS A WEEK

The Young family, from Manhattan Beach, are this year's lucky winners of a free week at GAC '07. They were one of many families who completed an evaluation of our camp program this year. Danny Young is 13 years old and has attended GAC for two years. His sister, Laura, is 11, and 2007 will be her second summer at GAC. When Mr. Young was asked for a statement, he said, "Our kids have really enjoyed their summer weeks at Gold Arrow. It's a great camp, and we're fortunate that many of their friends also go. They look forward to it for the whole year. I think Laura may have already packed her bags for next summer!"

Junior Mayberry (pictured to the left with sister Janae), a third-year GAC camper from Clovis, California, picked the winning family's name on Wednesday, November 29. Congratulations to the Young family, and thank you to Junior for helping with our drawing! Be sure to send in your Parent Evaluation right after camp next summer, so that your family can be entered in next year's drawing!



CAMPERS VOTE ON TOP FOOD ITEMS AT CAMP

Each camper in 2006 completed an evaluation of camp. One of the questions was to list your favorite camp foods: Here are the top 10 most-given answers:

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 10. "Teriyaki" | 6. Salad | 2. Pizza, and |
| 9. Pasta | 5. "Everything" | 1. Chicken Fingers!!! |
| 8. Soup | 4. Choco Taco | |
| 7. Waffles | 3. Calzone | |

Campers also were asked their least-favorite food items. The top five stinkers included meat/beef, quiche, omelettes, and eggs. But we are happy to report that the #1 response when campers were asked to list their least-favorite foods was "nothing" or "none." Congratulations to Sushi and the kitchen crew on another summer of great food. We're looking forward to more good eats in 2007!

LET GAC SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL WITH A DONATION

Does your school or organization have a fundraiser? Gold Arrow Camp makes donations to schools, sports teams, and other clubs each year. It's a great way for GAC to support its current families and get exposure to new ones. If you would like more information on sponsorship opportunities, call Monkey at the camp office or email him at monkey@goldarrowcamp.com.



GAC ONLINE

MANAGE CAMP ONLINE

Gold Arrow Camp has introduced an easier way for parents to manage camp enrollment, update contact information, submit forms, and make payments. During the summer, with the same login, parents will be able to view and download photographs from camp and look at the latest camp news. The goal of converting to this new system developed by CampMinder is to provide parents a convenient, efficient, and secure means to manage their campers' experience with Gold Arrow Camp.

Camp parents from previous years can access their accounts by getting login information from the camp office.

YOU PICK THE DANCES

Once again, GAC is polling all the campers to determine what the dance themes will be for 2007. We are giving you 10 from which to choose. You can vote online by clicking the "Dance Poll" tab in the Campers section of the website. Everyone can vote once per day. Here are the choices:

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. Hawaiian | 6. Prehistoric |
| 2. Colors | 7. Sports |
| 3. French | 8. Zoo |
| 4. Circus | 9. Western |
| 5. Food | 10. Gold Mine |

RECONNECT USING THE BULLETIN BOARDS

The Gold Arrow Camp website has a useful area known as the "Camper's Corner." This is a great place to leave messages for friends from camp. Or, if you're new to camp, you can post questions that will be answered by other campers and staff members. Something new for this year is the need to

register before you can post a message. To register, click on the word "Register" in blue in the wood sign on the left side of the page. You'll need a working email address to complete the registration process. The more posts you make, the higher your board ranking. Make your first post today!

CAMPER

GAC CAMPERS AND STAFF REPORT ON THEIR BUSY LIVES IN BETWEEN SUMMERS!

Hi Cabin 20,

I hope that you are enjoying school. I have been busy getting back into the California life and 6th grade. I am playing soccer, tennis, football, basketball and baseball. Wishing you the best wishes for a happy new year!! See you next summer at our favorite camp. Bye! **Noury Fekini**

Hi, this is **Chase Crider**. My favorite activity at camp was jet skiing. I really like going fast on the water! My other favorite things to do were horseback riding and riflery. The food was pretty good and I tried blackberry jam for the first time. Now we have some in the frigerator at home. Since I've been home I have gone to Colorado, turned 8 yrs old (Aug 13th). Entered a photography contest in the Kern County Fair - placing 5th place. I started at a new school as well. We have a cabin at Huntington Lake and I am looking forward to skiing and snowmobiling this winter!! Most of all I look forward to another session at GAC!

Two summers ago, each of the Kessler campers learned to crochet at camp. Since then, they have been blessing anyone and everyone with winter beanies. At first, it was just one or two. But then, the urge to crochet increased. They also began to improve in the quality of beanies. The 4 Kessler campers made 11 beanies - one for each of the staff at the local radio station that they listen to every day (88.9 KDUV FM) - each beanie had the name of the staff member it was intended for, and on the opposite side, had KDUV staff sewn into the beanie. The Kessler campers are planning on having a crochet instruction class for the youth group that they attend at the Church of Shaver Lake. They are planning on crocheting beanies to give away to homeless people, women and children at Samaritan Women and the Crisis Pregnancy Center. What a wonderful gift of sharing the staff at Gold Arrow shared the summer they taught the Kessler campers to crochet!! **Hosanna Kessler**

Contemporary society might find warrant in labeling me an idler, slacker or even the dreaded, wastoid. In time, I believe reality will reveal the truth behind my actions of delaying the search for a career and real job. I have found the true zeitgeist of our times; which I believe, revolves around the central idea of experience (not necessarily in an Existential way). I have begun the initial research for my first book and hope to complete a full draft in Melbourne, Australia. This is because I have heard rumors that eucalyptus cures writers block. The writer Jim Carr once wrote, "The biggest problem facing any young generation: how to keep your integrity and still be cooler then everyone else in sight. I have found the answer. Litera Scripta Manet. **Dutch**

Over Labor Day Weekend my friends Liz and Sonia, came to

visit me during the Millbrae Annual Art and Wine Festival. We laughed about our memories from GAC, and talked all day about the normal stuff teens talk about - went on the rides, Sonia stood in line behind a bunch of five-year-olds to get her face painted, and we all ate chocolate crepes from one of the vendors. After the street fair, we had dinner at my house, and took this picture in my backyard. The three of us keep in contact with one another. **William Grossman**



Left to right: William, Liz and Sonia

Well, just two weeks ago, the football team I coached ended their season 7-5. That's not a bad season for having 19 youngens playing football for the first time. But besides that I have just been hanging loose with my friends, the beach seems to be my main attraction lately. Looking forward towards winter break though. Totally got to hit the slopes up this winter. Heavenly and Sugar Bowl are calling me to go snowboarding. Sledding can get a little crazy too if you know how to do it right. Ha ha. And I can't wait to see what is going to happen next summer!!! **Yogi**

Fellow GAC Campers,

Thanks for asking how I am! I miss everyone! Here is a picture of me and my family. My daddy, mommy and brother (Bryce). We had a ton of fun on that day at Aliso Beach in South Laguna Beach. :) **Summer**



REPORT

Heya! Hope the holidays have been treating everyone nicely. Since camp, I have picked up and moved to The Big Apple (a.k.a. New York City). It has been a pretty wild ride since I got here. What I have been doing here: Getting to know the different neighborhoods (there are so many, and you can go from one to the next in the course of half of a block!), picking up the pace (everyone moves so quickly out here), getting to know the Subway (we have developed a very intense love/hate relationship), and making lots of new friends (that is what it is all about...good friends are key). As the days get colder, I begin counting the days until I can sleep under the stars once again in No Man's Land, and see all of the amazing friends I made at GAC, and all of the new friends I'll make in 2007! Miss all of you, and I hope everyone has lots of cool stories from this year to tell next summer!!! **Slick**

Fellow Campers!

After camp I spent a few more days at Huntington. Ainsley and I went fishing on Big Creek one day. Middle School is fun, but overwhelming at times. I have been really busy playing Basketball for my school and my NJB team. We are having a fun time. If someone does something weird or messes up we just laugh it off. I am also one of the Ball Kids for Stanford Basketball. It is a lot of fun. That's all for now. Happy Holidays to All!!

Megan Wride



Photo submitted by Andy Ribner.

I am finishing up student teaching the first week in December and then I will graduate from Purdue on December 17th. I hope everyone is having a great year and I miss you all! **Koby**

Hi from **Bridgette Lawton** down here in Nevada. Last night was my Homecoming and this is me before we left, having a great rest of the year. Hope to see you all next year at camp.



“The Gold Arrow Camp Experience” is the title of a report written by **Jocelyn Halperin** for school last September. Here is an excerpt from her paper..

“One of the many great times I had happened on the second week. We woke up, went to breakfast as usual, checked the chalkboard for the activities we were doing that day and saw that we had High Ropes. An activity where you get geared up with a helmet and a harness, an awesome attitude, and a good carabiner. Then, you climb up a 40-foot ladder to a cable. You get up on the cable and there are obstacles in which you complete. At the end you have to climb down about 10 feet and there is a small platform that you stand on, and you have to jump off of it and grab onto the trapeze hanging about 5 feet away. ... It was extremely surprising but also a whole lot of fun!”

This year, GAC was proud to sponsor former camper **Stephanie White** in her participation in the Amigos program. She spent six weeks in Honduras teaching English to children, planted trees, and built a new snack area for a local school. GAC is proud our campers are all over the world helping people and making a difference. Congratulations, Stephanie, on a successful journey.



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SPECIAL DELIVERY:

NEWS & NOTES
HOLIDAY
NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTORS



Dear Camp Family,

2006 was a wonderful year for us at GAC. We are so thankful for the dedicated staff and the amazing campers and parents who made our year so successful. We are so fortunate to have such a beautiful location for Camp, but we know that it's the people that make the magic. Thank you for being part of GAC. We wish all of you a healthy, safe, and fun Holiday season.

 shine *Monhey*

