

# Waldemar ROUND UP

WINTER 2021



## 'Tis the Season to be Grateful

By: Meg Clark

Walking out of the Waldemar office today, I looked across the athletic field toward the beautiful Guadalupe and was overcome with gratitude for those who walked this path before me. For 95 years, Ora, Doris, Marsha and Dale, and Teak and GA all forged ahead to advance the Waldemar mission ensuring young girls develop into the leaders and women they are meant to become.

In today's society, it remains even more important than ever to have a place where young women can hone their leadership skills, their social interactions, and awareness of their unique talents all while building confidence through trying new things.

These words from the Waldemar creed written so many years ago are a timeless beacon guiding us in our Waldemar mission to create that special place.



## My Creed

*This is my creed-*

*To live each day as though I am may never see the morrow come; to be strict with myself, but patient and lenient with others; to give the advantage, but never ask for it; to be kind to all, but kinder to the less fortunate; to respect all honest employment; to remember always that my life is made easier and better by the service of others, and to be grateful.*

*To be tolerant and never arrogant; to treat all with equal courtesy; to be true to my own in all things; to make as much as I can of my strength and the day's opportunity; and to meet disappointment without resentment.*

*To be friendly and helpful whenever possible; to do without display of temper or bitterness all that fair conduct demands; and to keep my money free from cunning or the shame of a hard bargain; to govern my actions so that I may fear neither reproach nor misunderstanding, nor words of malice or envy and to maintain, at whatever temporary cost, my own self respect.*

*This is my creed and my philosophy. I have failed it often and shall fail it many times again; but by these teachings I have lived to the best of my ability; laughed often, loved, suffered, grieved, found consolation and have prospered. By friendships I have been enriched, and the home I have built has been happy.*





## We love You Katie, Oh Yes We Do!

Dear Waldemar Family,

I never dreamed when Meg hired me 14 years ago that I would make a career out of Waldemar and gain a family that spans eight decades! Over the last 14 summers I've had the privilege of hiring over 2,800 counselors from all over the world. Every year, I have learned more and more, and my sincere hope is that your campers have grown from these counselors too.

I have learned years of wisdom from Teak and George Anne Elmore, Liz Pohl, Joyce Jordan, Barb Keller, Susan Gordy, and Marsha Elmore just to name a few. Teaching synchronized swimming and canoeing on the Guad every summer was my absolute favorite. I've gained more friendships than I could have ever imagined, I was married at Waldemar to the love of my life and had two babies with me at camp last summer. What a dream!



That being said, it is time for me to take a step back and be with my family. This is not the end of my time at Waldemar, but only a pause at least until Eva Jane draws for her tribe in 2029! Waldemar began in my family in the 1940's and will continue for many, many years to come. Thank you for all the memories, laughter, wisdom and love you all have shown me!

I am a better person because of this place,  
Katie Garza

*"After 15 years of heartfelt dedication, commitment, and loyalty to the ideals of Waldemar, our Captain of staff recruitment, Katie Blount Garza, has decided to step down to be a full time MOM to Rudy and Eva Jane. Thanks to Katie, our campers had the most skilled, caring and capable counselors to help guide them through their Waldemar experience. Katie had the unique quality of being firm yet loving with both the kids and the staff; providing a listening ear, a shoulder to cry on, and receiving well-earned respect, in return. From synchro classes and college campus visits, to Field Night coordinator and all-around great gal, Katie will be deeply missed. Thank you for everything you've done for Waldemar."* - Mary Jane Brezette





## Alumnae Feature: Caroline Jurgensen

By: Katie Garza

Waldemar teaches many life lessons to its campers. Living in a kampong with seven other girls for a month, friendly competition, table manners and skills in our 35+ activities offered each summer help to develop our campers into fine Waldemar Girls. We will be featuring exceptional former campers in our upcoming Round Up Newsletters. We have so many ladies to showcase! Current campers, we hope this will inspire you to do great things someday, too!

Our second featured alum is Caroline (Everett) Jurgensen. Caroline was a First Term Aztec camper from 1994 – 2001 and was also a First Term Aztec sponsor & counselor from 2004 - 2009. She now runs her own professional photography business with her husband Luke.

Caroline says, *“I learned many leadership, relationship and character building qualities at Waldemar. Being from a very small town in Texas, Waldemar was my first glimpse into the great wide world. I remember feeling overwhelmed by all of the different personalities and backgrounds my first summer at camp. Whether it was in my kampong, amongst my tribe, in the classes I took, or just around the dining table at meals, I quickly grew to love building and learning from these relationships each summer. To this day, I use those people skills in my career. In photography, you need to develop a relationship with your subject. You need them to trust you so that you can capture their best qualities and, most importantly, their hearts’ through your work. There’s no doubt in my mind that I learned how to nurture and grow relationships during my summers at camp.*



*One of my favorite parts of this career is that I get to reconnect with so many people from my time at Waldemar. Photography has brought many friendships from my childhood back into my life. For example, I have photographed 27 Waldemar girls’ weddings, and I can’t even begin to count how many Waldemar families I now photograph each year - whether it’s a newborn session or just family portraits. It’s an incredible honor to document and be present for these girls during such special seasons in their lives. Waldemar also happens to be my favorite wedding venue to photograph and where my husband and I were married 11 years ago!*



*I am forever grateful for my time at Camp Waldemar. It gave me lifelong friendships that I cherish dearly and sharpened many skill sets that have aided me in being a successful business owner. For these reasons, and countless others, Waldemar has been a blessing in my life and will forever hold a special place in my heart.”*

Thank you, Caroline, for sharing this experience with the Waldemar family! It is our sincere hope all Waldemar girls will take their teachings and implement them in their lives past the stone gates, as you have shown successfully.

**Caroline Jurgensen Photography**

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(214) 952-7569





## Conversations from the Kitchen: Companionship- “To Break Bread With”

By: *Laura Pipkin*



Dining at Camp Waldemar is so much more than the act of adding fuel to the body. Ora Johnson founded this camp with so many layers of concern in preparing young girls to be fully evolved and skilled women. One of the most significant aspects of Waldemar’s Dining Program is that campers can dine “Family Style” with the same mix of people for ten days. We have three arranged table seatings per summer session, and the campers are able to expand their community of friends during these different periods.

Several years ago, I had the opportunity to delve into this idea at a TEDx Conference at the University of St. Thomas in Houston. I titled my talk “Companionship: A Diet for the 21st Century”. The ritual of sharing a meal, conversation, and gratitude at the table while nourishing your body is one of the significant elements of experiencing culture. At Waldemar, we celebrate that aspect of sitting together for a meal and leaning into the vulnerabilities of sharing this nourishing time together. This tradition brings with it significant memories. I’ve had numerous parents share that they cook favorite dishes at home, but their campers say it never tastes quite as good as it does at camp. I remind them that a big part of the flavor is tied to actually being at camp and sharing the meal with their camp friends! Extraordinary moments imprint on the pleasure of the food. We love that we can share traditions around the table. We hope that during this year’s holiday season, you will enjoy the time together around the table and make your own significant memories. Click on the link if you would like to watch my [TEDx talk: Why Sharing a Meal Nourishes More Than Just the Body](#).

*Recipe on Next Page* >



## Recipe: Marsha's Vegetable Medley

Marsha first had this dish in the early 1960's and she fell head over heels for it. It is delicious and creamy. The vegetables almost caramelize in the pan. I usually serve this during the summer with some of Marsha's other favorites – Beef Stroganoff and Russian Cream with Raspberry Sauce! Marsha brings this dish to our holiday celebrations every year. It is a favorite in our family, and we hope you enjoy it, too.

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 – 2 Tablespoons butter
- 1 can cut green beans, drained
- 1 can lima beans, drained
- 1 can La Sueur Peas, drained
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- Pepper is optional (doesn't really need salt because canned veggies and mayo are salted)
- ½ cup grated parmesan cheese

### METHOD:

1. Preheat oven to 350 °F.
2. Prepare a casserole dish with a little butter, smeared all over the bottom and sides. Sprinkle parmesan throughout dish to cover.
3. In a medium bowl, stir together the canned vegetables.
4. Whip heavy cream to a soft whip. Add in mayo and stir until well blended.
5. Fold into the beans until well combined.
6. Add pepper to taste.
7. Put in prepared casserole dish.
8. Sprinkle top with parmesan cheese.
9. Bake for about 30 minutes uncovered until bubbling and parmesan is golden brown.
10. Serve warm.
11. It can be prepared and chilled in fridge the day before and baked before serving.

This dish and many recipes can be found in the Waldemar Cookbook. Order your copy today! [www.campwaldemarstore.com](http://www.campwaldemarstore.com)





# WWW 2021: Adventure Overload!

By: Marisa Alvey

September means the opening of events for Waldemar, and this year was one for the record books! We welcomed over 130 women of all ages to the 40th annual Waldemar Women’s Week (WWW) themed “Adventure Awaits.” This special event aims to provide a fun, creative, and invigorating getaway filled with laughter, relaxation, learning opportunities, and of course, amazing food!



Friends, new and long-standing, enjoyed a variety of class offerings from hat painting to iridology to horseback trail rides and massage. Each guest soaked up the beauty of Waldemar by day and danced like nobody was watching by night. Marvelous entertainment by My Friends and I, Exit 505, and a special surprise of Austin’s own Skyrocket, filled the evenings with joy and belly laughs!

WWW continues to be a coveted “highlight of the year” for so many, and we thank Marsha for her vision in providing a rejuvenating retreat for women of all ages.

2022 WWW dates are Tuesday, 9/21/22 - Sunday, 9/26/22. For more information or to subscribe to the WWW mailing list, please email [Maribel@waldemar.com](mailto:Maribel@waldemar.com).



## Spring Event Season 2022

We are looking forward to the following events this Spring!

- April 1st – 3rd: Samantha Anderson & Will Stauffer wedding weekend
- April 19th – 21st: Tentative Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid Conference
- April 29th – May 1st: Camie Carlock & Matt McKee wedding weekend

In addition, we are looking for an intern ([click here](#)) to assist with our special events starting in February 2022.

Please contact Lori Appleton for more information:

[Lori@waldemar.com](mailto:Lori@waldemar.com)

(830) 238-6005



New year, new website!



Go to [www.campwaldemar.com](http://www.campwaldemar.com) to view our newly designed site.



# The Beauty of Waldemar

By: Jeanne Stacy

Greetings from the Sea of Woods!

A few weeks ago, a Waldemar alumna and her husband visited camp. It was her first time to visit camp in over forty years. Her husband was awed by Waldemar's beauty and architecture - especially the Dining Hall and Rippling Waters. He particularly appreciated the manner in which natural beauty was showcased on the interior and exterior of each building. The alumna was focused on filling out a camper application for her granddaughter. She was excited to be able to share an important part of her childhood with her granddaughter. As she visited with Marsha, Linda, Meg, and me about her camper days at Waldemar and we compared her memories with our program today, she exclaimed "Nothing's changed except the trees - they've grown so beautifully!"

One of the greatest joys the Waldemar staff experiences is getting to see camp from new campers' perspectives each summer. It is wonderful to watch these young children grow, mature, and discover their second family in the friendships they make at camp. New camper invitations were mailed out just before Thanksgiving, and we are so grateful to be able to welcome these young ladies into the Waldemar family! Many of them have heard about camp from their mothers, aunts, grandmothers and sometimes even great-grandmothers. Others have learned about camp from their friends. We are delighted to provide another opportunity for families to learn about Camp Waldemar by attending one of our camper parties. We will host parties for prospective and current campers in Amarillo (February 24th), Corpus Christi (February 27th), Longview (March 2nd) and Tyler (March 3rd). If you would like more information about one of these events, please contact us at [info@waldemar.com](mailto:info@waldemar.com) or 830-238-4821. We would love to see your smiling faces there. We welcome your friends, too!

## Waldy on the Road!

Waldemar will soon be in a town near you!

- February 24th, 2022- Amarillo
- February 27th, 2022- Corpus Christi
- March 2nd, 2022- Longview
- March 3rd, 2022- Tyler

The following dates are still available:

- February 3rd, 17th, & 20th
- March 17th & 24th

Email [Marisa@waldemar.com](mailto:Marisa@waldemar.com) if you are interested in hosting us!

Before the alum I mentioned earlier began to complete the new camper application, she asked if it was too early to apply for her three-year-old granddaughter. The answer was a resounding "no!" Waiting lists for each term are sorted by application date, so the sooner a camper applies, the better her chances are of getting into Waldemar.

As we prepare for Summer 2022, we are working diligently to get camp ready for our campers. Hiring for the summer has begun, and we have already heard back from quite a few returning staff members. We hope you enjoy the updated Waldemar website we just launched ([www.waldemar.com](http://www.waldemar.com))! Because we know how much you love seeing pictures of camp in action, we will be hiring some summer interns to help Elizabeth capture the magic of Waldemar in pictures and video.

I hope that you and your family enjoy a holiday season filled with joy, laughter, love, and magic!

Warmest regards,

Jeanne Stacy



## From the Horse's Mouth

By: Liz Pohl

Greetings from the Waldemar Barn!

It seems as though we are being blessed with an actual fall at Waldemar this year. We all love the cool nights and warm days. The horses are beginning to grow their thicker coats, and some are looking a bit like grizzly bears. Seeing them transform from their shiny sleek coats to their winter warmth, I think about how their beauty goes so much deeper than their surface appearance. It's wonderful how girls sometimes love the most unlikely horses, often being ones that are not the most 'beautiful' on the outside. The horses also respond so differently to each camper. It doesn't always have anything to do with their riding skills. It's just a kinship that they both can feel about each other. A horse can make a person feel good just by being around them. As the old adage goes, "there is something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a person".

While we are on the subject of good things, I wanted to give another shout out and thank you to



two camp families for gifting their beloved horses to Waldemar.

The Quinns: Trey, Amy, Hudson, and Olivia (1st Term) gave us Leroy who has

already become a camp legend. Jennifer Johnson and her 1st Term daughters, Page and Ella, shared Luna (aka L-Cat). This was her first summer here at camp and she taught from Juniors to Quadrille. She is such a superstar! Catherine and I appreciate your entrusting us with these amazing animals.... if only we had 30 more just like them.

I wish a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year full of family and friends. We are gearing up and looking forward to next summer.

Until then, keep riding!

*I wanted to share an article written by Karen Perry. She worked under Connie Reeves in the 1980's and returned in 2019. Next summer will be her 6th summer as a riding teacher. She works as a middle school science and English teacher the rest of the year. This is her perspective on our riding department.*

## Developing Excellence

The ability to teach young ladies horsemanship skills takes enormous thought, foresight, and high expectations from the barn manager, teachers, girls, and horses. Liz is following in the footsteps of Connie by developing and maintaining a safe and healthy herd of horses that meet the expectations and traditions of Camp Waldemar.



As a barn manager, it takes a great deal of consideration when forming, planning, and maintaining a safe and healthy herd. Horses are the true teachers of horsemanship. Within a herd, there are a multitude of personalities, precision, and in-depth strengths that are passed to the young riders through each experience. Though frustration occurs through riding horses, it is the struggle for perfection that embeds each lesson into the mind of each rider.

Providing an array of teaching horses takes time and a fortitude of consideration. Raising foals in a herd must be accomplished through increments of exposure to the entire herd. Safety of the young horses is considered because herds of horses have a pecking order that continually changes as new members are

introduced. Breeding mares must be protected because they are an investment into the future.

The groundwork for the young horses takes two to three years to protect their spines. Too much weight too early results in a deep curve in the spine of an old horse. The damage results in unbearable pain for riding purposes.

Between three and five years, the young horse undergoes transformation through groundwork, arena training, and pro-active problem-solving riding practice in the training period. The manners and emotional stability of the horse is becoming the mindset. During this period, desensitizing is practiced regularly. The trainers and riders should be creative in calculating strange situations on the trail. An example would include shiny objects. Working through any potential fear from the horse should be considered. This practice prepares the young horse to remain calm in chaotic situations.

Between five and ten years of age, young horses experience growth through regular riding practice sessions with calm experienced riders. Positive reinforcement develops a strong drive to please. During this period, fine tuning the horse's skills include soft mouth, response to leg pressure, trailer loading and unloading, experience with the farrier, and accepting reactions when meeting strangers.

From the age of eleven to twenty-five, horses can

safely begin working with high intermediate through advanced young riders who are no longer nervous with horses. These riders have a firm foundation in reacting to different horse personalities and have the skills to get the horse to move forward and respond to many types of action beyond walk and trot.

From twenty-five and beyond, the horse fills the role of teacher/baby-sitter, keeping the beginner riders safe. The "old folks" part of the herd is vital to keep the young riders interested in learning horsemanship. Monitoring the health of each horse enhances the insight for longevity of life. This is where the barn manager plans for the future. It is a fact of life that "old" horses pass away or become unable to work a full day with young riders. Bringing the next generation of old folks works best by focusing on horses from thirteen to twenty-five years of age. They become integrated into the herd with fewer pecking order injuries and can be acclimated to the barn methodology. The beauty of a teaching herd remains in the different personalities of each horse and how learning takes place. Horses tell the truth about the strengths and weaknesses of each rider. The barn manager's role in maintaining a safe a healthy herd includes regular evaluations of the herd and deriving plans that keep the excellence of Waldemar. The traditions live on for generations through the watchful eye of the barn manager.





## Camp Store: More Than Just Shopping

By: Maribel Quinones

*“ [The girls] are given an important part in camp government and thus learn to do by doing. In this way each girl has come to feel that the camp belongs to her and it is her ambition to make it second to none.”*

**-Ora Johnson, 1927 Camp Waldemar Annual**



items, helping junior campers make their beds on Sundays, and raising and lowering the flag. Every camper is responsible for at least one service point that is recorded on their Record Card to add to their points for their tribe and to earn their All-Star. At Short Term this is called a ‘Plus Spirit’ job.

One of these service points is to help in the Camp Store. Campers are assigned a shift on either MWF or TTS, before or after lunch. They will rotate between regular store tasks: writing camper slips, greeting campers and verifying it is their assigned store day (bouncer), and folding and pricing items. Their responsibility is to show up on time or to find someone to cover their shift if they have a conflict such as a tribal meeting, Vesper practice, etc. Through these tasks, the girls are taught important customer service skills that we hope they carry forward in their lives outside of camp. The greeter, or “bouncer” as they have been nicknamed over the years, are typically the ones who make the first impression on campers as they walk into the store. The folder/pricer is advised to help campers find their size or to focus on pricing new merchandise while being available for any questions. One of the most popular and most important duties is writing Camper Slips. This is essentially checking out at the register where friendliness, task efficiency, assertiveness, and even correct spelling and neat penmanship are encouraged. It can be intimidating for a Lo-Sr to interact with a Hilltopper, but we’ve found that this is also a great way for campers to interact with other age groups and tribes!

Through our Store service point jobs we hope to teach valuable skills to campers in a fun and casual way!

“Hi! What kampong are you in?” is the friendly greeting that is heard over and over every day in the Camp Store by the campers. During Long Term, service point jobs are assigned to each camper or designated kampongs to provide an organized and more pleasant environment while at camp. Similar to community service, it’s a great way for each of the girls at Waldemar to help keep the grounds beautiful and add a helping hand to their counselors. Service point jobs can include the following: holding the dining hall doors open at meals, picking up trash after the movie or around the nourishment area, gathering lost and found

### Make Your list and Check it Twice!

You will find something for everyone in the family at the [Camp Store](#)! Add code  **HOLIDAYCHEER** to your cart for 30% off.\*

We will ship your order as soon as possible, with our last shipments going out on December 16th.

*\*Sale begins at 12 AM December 2nd and ends 11:59 PM on December 16th.*



## Hammer and Nail

By: Noel Quinones

Our fall calendar was busy with many weddings and retreats. As the year winds down, the Waldemar Maintenance staff is focusing on winterizing camp. This includes weatherproofing the water lines and turning off the breakers to water heaters in the kampongs.

On our list of projects, we will be leveling the area next to the bus barn and camp dump and giving the golf shack a new coat of paint. Repairing the Tejas Chapel steps is also on our list, and we will be moving the drama flats to the bus barn for storage. A fence will be built around them to keep curious horses away.

We have enjoyed our busy fall season and are ready to spend the holidays with our families!



*The bus barn looks better than ever! We cleared debris, organized, and set aside items for donation. Team work makes the dream work!*



## Waldemar Staff Grows: Welcome, Sylvia



### Assistant to Director

Born in San Antonio, Texas, Sylvia Flannery graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelor Degree in Education and earned her Master of Education Administration from Schreiner University. Sylvia has taught special education, served as a

principal at the elementary and secondary levels, and served as an administrator at the district level prior to retiring after 30 years in education.

Sylvia's extensive Camp Waldemar experience includes relatives who attended camp as early as 1928. She was a Waldemar camper from 1978 – 1984, a 5 year counselor, an Aztec Sponsor for 2 years, and also Department Head of Tennis and Department Head of Canoeing.

Her hobbies include nature photography, tennis, nurturing her spoiled dogs, traveling, and hiking.

## Angels Coming and Going

### Coming

- Clara Josephine Bennett, born July 21, 2021 to Emily Lawless Bennett, Aztec, 1999-2006.
- Isabella Garcia, born November 8, 2021 to our wonderful baker Paco Garcia and his wife Olivet.

### Going

- Ruthie DuBose Kendrick, mother of Kathryn Bowen, Tejas, 1939-1943, died August 18, 2021.
- Martha Shepperd, grandmother of Elle Shepperd, passed away peacefully February 27th, 2021.



## We Want You For 2022!

Hi Waldemar Families,

We are searching for the BEST summer staff for summer 2022! We are off to an amazing start with many returning counselors already signed up! We are looking for more returners and new counselors for this summer. If you know anyone who would be interested in being a counselor this summer, please send them our staff application link: [Waldemar Staff Application](#).

Feel free to email me at [Frannie@waldemar.com](mailto:Frannie@waldemar.com) with any questions.

Love from Waldemar,

Frannie Leonard

Staff Recruiter



## From Marsha's Corner: Did You Know?

Which Waldemar tribes were created first?

- A. Aztec & Screechers
- B. Tejas & Comanche
- C. Aztec & Comanche



Answer: B

**Contact us at Camp Waldemar**  
1005 FM 1340, Hunt, Texas 78024  
Ph: (830) 238-4821 • Fax: (830) 238-4051  
Email: [info@waldemar.com](mailto:info@waldemar.com)



## Waldemar Opportunities

- [Executive Chef](#)
- [Special Events Intern](#),  
contact [Lori@waldemar.com](mailto:Lori@waldemar.com)
- [Marketing & Communications Intern](#),  
contact [Frannie@waldemar.com](mailto:Frannie@waldemar.com)



## Thinking Ahead: Packing for Summer

Stay ahead of the crowd! Right now is the perfect time to:

- Order your camper's trunk! We recommend our friends at Kangaroo cases ([click here](#)). Trunks must be no more than 15" tall. Their size A trunk is ideal! Make sure to paint or mark your daughter's first name in large letters for easy identification.
- It is also a good time to have duffles and backpacks monogrammed. This helps avoid more items at the Lost & Found table.
- Take advantage of clothing sales during the holidays. We do ask that shorts and tops meet in the middle and are appropriate.

For a complete packing list, visit our official website [www.campwaldemar.com](http://www.campwaldemar.com).



New year,  
new website!



Go to [www.campwaldemar.com](http://www.campwaldemar.com) to view our newly designed site.