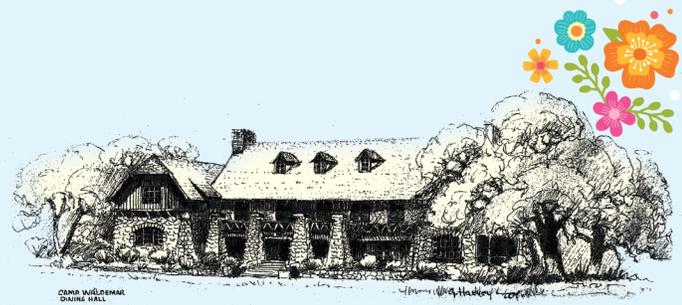


Waldemar Round Up

Spring 2022



Letter from the Director

As a parent, it gives me great comfort to observe my young adult children creating new communities of friends and colleagues and making homes of their own.

As a camp director, one of the most complimentary comments, and one I never tire of hearing, is that someone considers Waldemar their home.

What turns a house into a home? In my mind, the differences are distinct. A house is a structure that provides basic shelter from the elements of nature. Empty houses lack personal touches and character. They feel cold and impersonal. A home, on the other hand, is a place that provides comfort, safety and a feeling of ownership. It's a place where you feel special and appreciated for who you are. You leave your mark in a home, whether it's by decorating, creating special design elements, or (as parents of young children can attest) leaving fingerprints on windows! A welcoming home feels lived in and comfortable. It's a place where you can relax and be your true self. Simply put, it's a place where you belong. How does a house become a home? The recipe is simple: you fill a house with loving family or friends, and the positive energy they generate creates a home.

When Ora Johnson began Camp Waldemar in 1926, she built a strong foundation for this camp home. Ora began a practice of surrounding herself with outstanding staff members who shared visions and ideals to help young girls develop into outstanding, strong women. She welcomed campers into the Waldemar family with open arms, encouraging them to contribute their time and talents to Waldemar in meaningful ways.

Ninety-seven years later, Waldemar has survived - and thrived - through wars, depressions, recessions, the dot com bubble burst, and a pandemic. It has truly stood the test of time. Isn't it amazing to think that the campers of today can have the same camp experience their great-grandmothers had at Waldemar?



I continue to be inspired by the strong women – and men – who painstakingly designed, built and decorated Camp Waldemar. It is a privilege for the current Waldemar staff to serve as stewards of this beautiful place that is now home to four generations of campers, staff and alumnae. They are passionate about their work. They continue to care for this beautiful home with the same intentionality with which Ora and her team first built it. I am grateful that the Waldemar family has welcomed me home.

As we look forward to this summer, we are eager to welcome so many familiar faces back home to Waldemar. We are excited to partner with new campers and staff in discovering and creating their places at their new home, Camp Waldemar.

Janne



The Value of Summer Camp

Camp is almost here! As you can imagine, we are busy getting the grounds ready, putting the final touches on menus and most importantly thinking about the arrival of all the campers. We anticipate having a normal summer camp....finally!

Having met with many camp directors at the ACA (American Camp Association) national conference and the Texas based C.A.M.P. meeting, we all agree that children need camp more than ever. The past two years have been hard on us all and especially the young. Yet camp provides a space where a young person, while being disconnected from phones, instant messaging and computers, can focus on self-development, discovery of new skills and renewing old friendships.



Camp helps ease the challenges young people are facing through the 6 C's:



Connection
Caring
Character

Confidence
Competence
Contribution

At Waldemar, the **connections** you make with your kampong mates last a lifetime. I am still enjoying friendships that I made in Bella Vista 50 years ago.

Waldemar will surround your daughter with **caring** role models of all ages, who are focused on supporting and helping her discover unique talents. As a camper develops skills in athletics, speaking in public and even how to dine with grace, she will gain a sense of **confidence** in herself and **competence** in a number of life skills and activities.

And your daughter will build **character** through following the Waldemar Creed and seeing first hand how her positive actions are recognized, and her **contribution** to her tribe and kampong mates adds to the value of the camp experience.

A heartfelt thank you to the families who gave to the American Camp Association. Thank you for believing in the value of summer camp and Waldemar. See you this summer!

Meg

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

What is the **oldest** building at camp?

- a. Dining Hall
- b. The Nest
- c. Rippling Waters
- d. Casa del Monte

P.S. I am still here- might say I am "History Walking". Love You!

Marsha





To the Moon and Back

Dear Camp families,
GA here!

I hope this letter finds you well. I can visualize you shopping for camp and packing those trunks with your purple, orange and green, and let's not forget those who get to draw for their tribes!

This is a year of promise for you campers... A year to go back to your home away from home, to reconnect with friends in a safe and loving environment that will bring independence and build character.

The camp looks amazing! The river feels so refreshing! And the smell of camp still lingers through the cypress trees, the dining hall and of course the kampongs. You know that "smell!"

Teak and I have enjoyed some very fun travel with friends, especially celebrating his 60th recently. We have truly loved seeing our son Shaylon thrive with his artistic side, working for a marketing graphic design company out of Austin. I have become more involved with my Robinson blood in Austin while remaining in close contact with the Elmores and Pipkins in Hunt. It's the perfect balance.

In addition to family meetings, I have been immersed in spiritual enlightenment through a couple of events this spring:



I joined a '45 mile' pilgrimage walk from Taos to Sanctuario de Chimayo in April, along with directing a lady's ACTS retreat through our church in Kerrville. These practices have kept me almost as busy as camp since January. It's a different kind of busy as you can imagine, but the physical, spiritual, and mental growth is hard to describe. Prayer is a powerful tool for pretty much anything!

Teak has projects to enhance our landscaping around the house, build things that have been on his mind for years, shoot nature photography and make beautiful jewelry to name a few.

If your family is traveling, we might be spotted in Port A, Crested Butte, San Miguel de Allende or Whitefish, MT!

Please know my heart is always with you.

All good thoughts and prayers for a joyful successful summer. You deserve it after the last couple of unpredictable years.

As the hilltoppers say in the chapel speeches:

"MAKE the MOST of your TIME there because you blink and it's time to go home."

Happy Trails!
GA



To Our Culinary Mastermind Chef Laura

by Elizabet Quinones



Laura Pipkin is the master of wearing many hats. She's an artist, an author, a cat lover, and at Camp Waldemar, she was a culinary phenomenon. The job of being camp chef landed in her lap unexpectedly, but she took it in stride and with determination. Laura continued with Waldemar's traditional meals while also creating some of her own. Grilled cheese and tomato soup, anyone? Her love for providing the ultimate dining experience was unmatched. After having the first bite, you knew you were going to be taken care of for every meal.

I was able to work alongside her during several event seasons and I had the privilege of knowing a human being who is not only creative, but intellectual. There was never a dull conversation. We talked about movies, music, politics, and our families. In our talks, I heard someone who is passionate about a cause and someone ready to take action to right a wrong, which I admire wholeheartedly. I

walked out of my shifts learning something new every time. Another bonus: I was able to taste her very sought after Frida truffles, which are divine!

Laura is the embodiment of this line from the Waldemar Creed:

To remember always that my life is made easier and better by the service of others, and to be grateful.

No one benefited more from her support than her staff. From making welcome packages, to buying the dishwashers appropriate shoes, these were only some of the ways Laura showed her appreciation towards men and women who left their home countries to work for camp. Many returned year after year, just to be at Waldemar and to continue working alongside Laura.



Thank you Chef, for being the caterer of home cooked meals and never ending support. Thank you for being loyal to Waldemar, a place that has seen you grow both as a camper and counselor. And thank you for being my friend. We cannot wait to see your next creation and hope you will spread your creativity at camp in the future!



#2022TRASHOFF

We always want to keep camp grounds looking pristine and that includes the highway. Who are the gals behind the sign that picked up trash along the road? Well, none other than Linda, Liz, Catherine, Sylvia, and Marsha! Thank you for doing your part in keeping Camp Waldemar and its surroundings in tip-top shape.



Welcome Chef Sotear Kuy

Sotear Kuy (pronounced So-tear Kai) is a certified executive chef and registered dietitian with a master’s degree in public health from the University of North Texas Health Science Center. Sotear grew up cooking in the kitchen alongside her grandmother, who instilled in her that meals are best shared and that every bite must please all of your five senses. Sotear has spent the last ten+ years working in professional kitchens serving as chef, food service operator, and administrator in the K through 12 space. There, she was responsible for the production of over 8,000 daily meals. In collegiate dining, she specialized in culinary nutrition programming and menu development for buffet and retail dining venues. Sotear’s style of cooking can be summed up as simple gourmet cuisine, emphasizing fresh and local ingredients when possible. In her spare time, Sotear loves exploring nature with her daughter Alexandria, having karaoke sessions with her friends and family, and testing recipes in her kitchen, aka “food lab”. Her philosophy in life and food is “everything in moderation, even moderation”.



Welcome Chris Luby

Born and raised in Dallas, Texas, Chris Luby graduated from Howard Payne University with a major in Communications. Chris spent his summers as a camper in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado and attained the rank of Eagle in Boy Scouts.



Chris served on staff at Camp La Junta starting in 2000, and later joined Waldemar for the summers of 2004 and 2005 as a videographer. In 2006, Chris took on the role of Program Director for Camp Lonehollow for the 15 summers it was in operation. In late 2021, Chris Luby was welcomed back into the world of camping at Waldemar where he serves as the Marketing Project Manager, supporting Elizabet and her team. You may have seen some of his work on Waldemar’s social media accounts.

Chris has a passion for visual storytelling and looks forward to putting that passion to work this summer at Waldemar.



Waldemar's Full Time Staff

728

years combined in the camping industry



Exciting Staff News

by Frannie Leonard

We have been busy at Waldemar hiring some amazing staff for Summer 2022. We have hired counselors from all over the country and the world to help make this summer the best summer yet.

We have a very exciting sponsor returning for the first time in 20 summers! That amazing sponsor is Amy Witt. Amy will be sponsoring for the Tejas during First term and will be assisting Jill Johnson at the Archery Range! Joyce Jordan will also be back on the summer administration team. Jill and Joyce are both celebrating 64 summers at Waldemar. During Second Term, we have all three Goodmans returning to represent the three tribes.

We are adding another Leadership position to better support our counselors with teaching classes. Activity Directors will supervise different activities to enhance campers' experiences in classes. We have seven Activity Director positions that will oversee these activity areas: Adventure Sports, Horseback, Fine Arts, Landports, Performing Arts, Tribal Sports, and Waterfront.

We have amazing returning staff all over camp! At Horseback, Liz will have a fantastic staff including Ros Rogers and Pip Harland. Ramsey Ruffeno will be returning for all three terms this summer to teach Cheer, Charm, and Gymnastics alongside John and Nancy Hulse.

We are so excited to have both our new and returning staff at camp so soon! Summer 2022 Staff, get ready to make friendships and memories that will last a lifetime.

1st Term Sponsors

Aztec

Annie Walker
Evie Summers
Elly O'Brien

Comanche

Mary Crow Miller
Anne Rubi
Charlotte Seale

Tejas

Amy Witt
Betsy Taylor
Scarlett Smith

2nd Term Sponsors

Aztec

Susan Goodman
Ellie Jones
Amanda Mackenzie

Comanche

Abbey Goodman
Ramsey Ruffeno
Annie McConn

Tejas

Ellie Goodman
Madeleine Johnson
Mary Ellis Ferguson

Angels Coming & Going

Coming

Drew and Will Brezette are parents to a beautiful baby girl, **Elliott Brezette**. She was born November 5, 2021.

Going

Jeanne Amacker Browning was born on June 5, 1942 in Beaumont, TX. She was a Waldemar Camper '55 to '58 and a proud Tejas. She was crowned Miss Texas in 1963 and voted Miss Congeniality at the Miss America pageant. Jeanne passed away peacefully surrounded by family on March 4, 2022.

Charles Ridge Floyd was taken too soon this year. Born in Houston, TX on February 5, 1963, Ridge took the music world by storm. He learned to play the piano at the young age of 18 months! After touring Europe as a classical concert pianist, he came to the Texas Hill Country serving as a Music Director at Camp Stewart. He also head the Hill Country Children's Choir at Camp Waldemar.

A beloved Women's Week camper, **LaJeune Wint**, passed away on April 15, 2022. She has been coming to WWW since 1992 and marveled guests with her Dreams workshop. She will be missed!

Stay Connected- with the Waldemar Alumnae and beyond. We want to hear from you on news from marriages to new babies and of course, we would be honored to mention our angels who have gone. Email info@waldemar.com for news or to be featured in the Round Up!

Thank you!



Light It Up!

by Lori Appleton

Waldemar continues to attract and inspire groups from all over the country. Our busy season began in February with the International Landscape Lighting Institute. Past camper, Dawn Hollingsworth, brought her organization to camp for their annual Winter Lighting Installation. They worked and collaborated with lighting professionals from all over the country to illuminate three areas around the main athletic field. The week culminated in a “reveal party” which was enjoyed by all. As beautiful as Waldemar is during the day, the lighting created an equaling stunning view by night.



April 1st, no fooling, was an action-packed weekend celebrating Samantha Anderson and Will Stauffer-Norris' wedding. The guests had a great time, swimming, kayaking, paddle-boarding, and boating, playing kickball, going down the water slide and battling it out with corn hole and horseshoes. After departing Waldemar, the couple traveled to Tahiti and Bora Bora to spend time on a catamaran sailing around the islands, snorkeling, and relaxing on the beaches. They will reside in southern Washington state upon their return.



Family Camp weekend was April 8th-10th. This yearly tradition is a great opportunity for families to experience and learn about camp! Following Easter weekend, **Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid** returned for their spring lawyer conference. The season finished out with our very own past camper **Camie Carlock's wedding** weekend. We were excited and honored to be the site for such a special occasion. The Carlocks are a multi-generational Waldemar family.

If you are looking for a spot for a future wedding, corporate event, or family reunion, check out our new event website: www.waldemarevents.com



Save the Date: Waldemar Women's Week

September 20 - 25, 2022

Contact maribel@waldemar.com for more information



We are Family!

by Caroline Key

We welcomed 52 families for our Family Camp Weekend, April 8th-10th. The weather couldn't have been better and we played hard! On Friday evening, we kicked off the weekend with a delicious fried chicken dinner with all the comfort food sides. We played games at the playhouse, did the limbo and ended our night with s'mores around the fire pit.

"Oh it's Saturday" echoed through the hills to kick off our day! We went on camp tours, shot archery, rode horses, played at the river, got creative in the Craft House, went on a hayride, had some friendly family competitions, caught some fish, got the slide wet for summer, went canoeing, shopped at the Camp Store and watched a movie under the stars. It was a big, big day!

We concluded our weekend with a beautiful church service in Tejas Chapel on Sunday morning. Our families left camp with full hearts and calmed nerves. Our Camp Staff were so inspired by the families they met and now we are even more enthusiastic about summer! Family Camp is the perfect weekend for prospective families, future campers and new campers. It's a wonderful opportunity to get a feel for what Camp Waldemar is all about.



From the Archery Field- Never Give Up

by Laura Garrett

One of the best moments of Family Camp happened at the archery range. I love archery and have enjoyed teaching it over the years at camp. I was asked to teach our youngest archers that weekend.

There is quite a lot to go over before one can shoot for the first time. First, figuring out which eye you aim with can be challenging. Second, safety. Third, equipment. You get your bow, and in some cases, the bows are as big as the campers are. You are then fitted with arm and finger guards. The arrows are long, pointy and must be attached to the string properly. You must stand correctly, hold your arm just so and make sure you don't poke anyone! Once you've gotten through all of this, you are ready to shoot. Just pull back, aim and let go!

For one little girl, all the above came pretty easily except for the "letting go" part. She naturally had good form. She could pull the string back, no problem, but she could not let her fingers go. I could sense her anxiety increasing as the others around her released their arrows. She stood very still, holding the string back, but just couldn't do it.

We decided to stop; take a break. We took a few breathes. It didn't help that it was very windy, hot and dusty. There were also several moms and dads observing. We started again. She pulled her bow string back. We heard several "just let go's" from the onlookers. Her frustration was growing. She even said she felt a little scared that if she let go it might hurt her somehow. We took another small break and another deep breath. I told her, "Try to relax, breathe; you can do it." This little camper was not giving up. She pulled her string back again. Stood tall, held it and finally released her arrow hitting the target! Her second arrow landed, and her third, well, that was a bullseye! It was a joyful moment! The smile she gave to mom and dad said it all. I'm not sure who was more excited, me or her, but I know we were both thrilled.

I am so proud of you, Elle! You hung in there, and you did it! Your perseverance paid off, and your courage brought you through. I am so grateful I was there to witness it. It made my weekend!

Save the Date: Family Camp 2023

March 31 - April 2, 2023

Contact maribel@waldemar.com



Packing Tips and Tricks

You've read the packing list and checked/double-checked that you have everything your camper needs! Now you have to make it all fit in that trunk. Here are some tips:

- Pack one set of sheets, pillow case, one bath towel, bedspread (one that is easy to tuck in) and their shoe bag on the top. The first thing your camper will do when they get to camp is make her bed, hang her bath towel up, and hang her shoe organizer up. Remember to pack a pillow!
- Bring a blanket that is suitable for taking down to movie night (fleece ones are hard to shake the grass out of). They should also be comfortable to keep on the foot of your bed for rest hour.
- Send two pairs of tennis shoes (no one likes to wear wet shoes)!
- A Shoe Organizer is super handy! It will be hung on the side of the bunk, so send some twine, yarn or ribbon so it's easy to tie on. Pre-cut the pieces.
- A clipboard with a storage compartment is useful for writing letters and storing pens and paper.
- Pack both casual and dressier whites. Campers wear anything from t-shirts/tops with shorts/skirts/tennis skirts to dresses and short overalls. Wear what is comfortable and bring clothes that do not need to be ironed. Make sure it is all white!
- We really wear swim caps, so pack several bright colored ones!
- A water bottle with a wide mouth is much easier to fill at our ice machines.
- Long Term Campers: pack your black camp duffel with sheets, towels, and all the bulky stuff. Campers live out of their trunks day-to-day so pack clothes and everyday things in there!
- Short Term: Pack one set of whites (with white panties) in a ziploc. Your daughter's counselor will pull that out to ensure your camper has clean whites for the last day!
- Remember, there's no laundry service for Short Term. During Long Term, laundry goes out twice a week. It's gone for 4 days, so take that into account when you're packing!
- We know that you'll buy some new stuff for your camper to bring. Familiarize your camper with her things so she knows what belongs to her.
- Most importantly: label, label, label with your camper's first and last name!
- The clothes your camper brings to camp should be appropriate and tasteful (no midriffs showing, please)!



Amy Altizer gives her tips from a camp mom perspective:

- Stick surprise "love notes" throughout your child's trunk so she will find them throughout her camp term.
- Send both emails and letters! Emails are a great way to comment on the fun activities and new friends you've seen your daughter engage in on Camp InTouch. Handwritten letters brighten your daughter's day!
- Send card games and craft supplies for the bus ride to camp. They are also perfect for rainy days in the kampongs.
- For Short Term, pack a ziplock bag for each day with outfit, underwear, and socks. Campers will be able to find what they need easily in their luggage. Also, pack a few extra outfits just in case!
- For Short Term, put addresses and stamps on stationery so that all your camper has to do is write the letter and stick it in the mailbox.
- Pack a few more swimsuits than the packing list recommends. Campers can forget to hang their wet suits up to dry causing them to become mildewy. It's nice to have few back ups.
- Pack a thin blanket or quilt. Thicker comforters make bed making difficult for the girls.
- Send clothes, shoes, bedding, etc. that you expect to get dirty! Camp is a time to have fun and not worry about material things.
- Don't send light colored or white towels. Inevitably they will fall on the floor, get stepped on, etc.
- Make your hotel reservations early for camp closing. Places our family has enjoyed staying include WorldMark Stablewood Springs Resort, Inn of the Hills, Y.O. Ranch Hotel, and VRBO Rentals.
- Best places to eat after camp pick-up are the Hunt Store, Bridget's Basket and Mamacita's.



From the Horse's Mouth

by Liz Pohl

Greetings from the Waldemar barn! Spring is upon us with warmer weather and horses molting their thick winter hair revealing their shiny summer coats. Catherine and I had a great Family Camp weekend meeting many new campers and seeing some of our former campers as current moms. So much fun!....and a shout out to Olivia Quinn, 1st Term Tejas, and her mom, Amy, for all their great help.

We have decided to offer a new horseback class for senior English and Western riders, Skills and Drills, as well as our traditional camp riding classes. The Skills and Drills class will concentrate more on the riders learning to bend their horses, leg aids, finding their seat at a canter, getting their correct leads, not just identifying them and negotiating obstacles. This class is for campers who really want to improve their riding skills. We will ride many horses as well as incorporating a challenging trail or two. Our traditional camp classes will be walk, trot, canter and trail rides, learning to sit the different gaits comfortably and identifying their leads.

Either class will allow the riders the opportunity to achieve their Reeves Riders/Connies Cowgirls, Horseshow and Quadrille. If you have any questions, please email me: liz@waldemar.com

Susan Behringer, mother of 1st Term camper Taylor, has graciously entrusted us with their beloved Clark. Clark is a beautiful gentle red and white paint horse that I have no doubt will teach hundreds of girls to sit a canter. He is wonderful. Two of our mares, Grace and Ms. Thompson, went to live with Karen Perry, a longtime horseback counselor. We are so appreciative of her generosity in providing a home for them. Catherine and I also took Jim, the horse Ros Rogers rode Short and 1st Terms teaching the juniors, up to Fort Worth to live out his days with Sherry Jones. I'm not sure who was happier, Jim or Sherry.....it really made our hearts feel good. We have also added some new horses to the herd this winter. Hopefully a few will make good quadrille and polocrosse prospects. I'm looking forward to a wonderful memorable summer.

See you all soon!



Memory Lane

by Linda Pipkin

I wanted to share this quote from Jane Dillard Harvey about her granddaughter, Slaton Tompkins, a fourth generation camper, **“We grandmothers can relive our beautiful memories through our girls. Can't tell you how much fun it was last summer as we rode home singing ALL the camp songs together.”** Camp Waldemar wants to thank patrons, parents and grandparents for giving their daughters and granddaughters a chance to enjoy camp and to make their own memories each summer on the Guadalupe. Waldemar is built on living traditions, beginning in 1926 and affirmed each summer with the love and joy of every camper - new memories are made and old memories are relived. It's a beautiful circle. Whether the family has a history with Waldemar that is multi-generational or not, we are so grateful for the vision and support of Patrons making the exceptional Waldemar experience possible for their campers.



Not Your Average Camp Store

by Maribel Quinones

After all of the fun shopping and ordering we did at Dallas Market, it's finally time for you to see what we have in stock for Summer 2022. In early April, we opened Care Package ordering on our online store. Short Term campers receive their care packages on arrival day. What better way to say "welcome to camp" than with a bag full of Waldemar goodies and a note of encouragement from home? Long Term campers have a few options of when to receive their care packages: Welcome packages delivered on arrival day, Pep Rallies packages delivered before 1st Field Day, and of course Tribal Drawings packages (delivered on the second day of camp) for those who will be drawing for their tribes this summer.

We know grandmothers, aunts, and sisters would all love to send their camper a care package from home, however, the girls are only allowed one per term. Trust us, this is plenty when you think about the limited kampong space a group of 7 girls and their counselor have. Not to mention their weekly trips to the Camp Store; you may receive a letter or two asking for more funds in their Camper Account! Details on how to order care packages can be found in the email previously sent or by emailing Maribel@waldemar.com. Be sure to check out our newest arrivals under the New for 2022 section on www.campwaldemarstore.com!

Hammers & Nails

by Noel Quinones

Spring has arrived at camp, which means the flower beds are blooming and it's time to beautify camp for special events and this summer. The Maintenance Crew put on their masonry hats and made several stone flower beds in front of the French Chateau kampongs. We also made some minor repairs at the Pier to allow the majestic cypress tree trunks to expand. A small but noticeable project was the building of cedar post enclosures for the outside trash cans. Before Family Camp, we reinforced and repaired the treehouse. This made it safer for all of the future campers to climb and explore. As soon as the last event of this season is over, we will start moving furniture, cleaning the river, painting canoes, and much more to be ready for Short Term!



FOMO is Real- Download CAMPanion!

This summer, Waldemar is excited to offer families a brand new way to stay connected to all of the excitement, fun and unforgettable memories! Through the CAMPanion app, you are able to manage your camper's pre-camp forms (You can even scan paper forms using your phone's camera!) see all of the photos we upload throughout the term and download them for free! But the most exciting part of using CAMPanion is its face finder feature. Before camp starts, upload a "training" photo of your camper in good, even lighting and let the app find your camper in the daily photos for you! The app also allows you to send your camper emails, and stay in the loop on the latest news from around camp! Get started today, just search CAMPanion in your phone's app store and login using your existing Camp InTouch account information. We also ask that you enable push notifications so you don't miss a beat this summer!



Camp Waldemar
1005 FM 1340, Hunt, Texas 78024
Ph: (830) 238-4821 Fax: (830) 238-4051
Email: info@waldemar.com www.waldemar.com

c. Rippling Waters