

Waldemar Round Up

Spring 2023



Letter from the Director

My very first summer as a counselor, one of my campers arrived at camp with the most organized trunk I have ever seen. “Janie’s” trunk contained gallon-sized Ziplock bags. Each bag was filled with clothing: shirts, shorts, socks, undergarments, bows and sometimes other accessories. On the outside of each bag, this enthusiastic mom had written the day and date her daughter should wear this particular outfit. Wow – I was impressed!

On day three of camp, Janie reorganized her trunk. She pulled all the clothing out of their individual bags and placed them in piles by article. Then Janie proceeded to take great joy in creating mismatched outfits. One very memorable day, she wore pastel plaid shorts, a blue and red striped shirt, a pink polka-dot bow in her hair, and yellow shoes with one white sock and one grey sock!

I am certain that Janie’s fashion statements were not what her mother had planned for her camp experience. I am equally certain that Janie’s opportunity to express herself and make her own choices and fashion statements was a healthy, enriching growing experience, which is what camp is all about.

One of the life skills Waldemar teaches our campers is how to make their own choices. While we provide structure and guidelines, campers are given the freedom to make decisions (and sometimes change their minds) about certain parts of their camp experiences.



Many of our first-time parents and campers put a lot of time and effort into selecting just the right activity preferences. For our long term parents, please be aware that once your campers arrive at camp, several exciting events occur. First of all, even before your daughter gets off the bus, she has started making new friends! She will get settled into her kampong with her new kampong mates, and just a few hours later, our counselor staff will introduce themselves and explain the activities they teach. Finally, each kampong will go to DJ Lodge to register for classes.

If you’re like me, you probably have at least one activity that you highly encouraged your daughter to take and that you listed on her activity preferences. Your daughter, based on her first day of camp experiences, may change her mind. And that’s ok. As a parent, I have come to realize that my children learn best when they are responsible for their own experiences. By owning their own experiences in a nurturing camp environment, they become more confident and independent.

As camp quickly approaches, I look forward to watching your daughters make new friends, discover their potentials, and create their own exceptional experiences. Like Janie’s fashion statements, they may not be exactly what you expected them to be, and they will be uniquely hers.

Happy Camping,

Jenne

“By owning their own experiences in a nurturing camp environment, they become more confident and independent.”



Waymaker Weekend - New to Waldemar

At Waldemar, we believe that every family has a unique legacy to create, and we are here to help your family discover and build that legacy. Join us this fall for a weekend of connection and growth. Registration will open soon for Waymaker at Waldemar, October 6-8th.

Over the course of the weekend, families will have the opportunity to build a family mission and vision for the future, exploring what matters most to each individual by uncovering dreams and talents.

Through a series of interactive activities and workshops, families will discover their core values, deepening their understanding of each other.

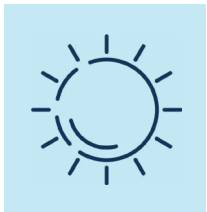
Imagine a weekend filled with nostalgic camp activities from archery to horseback riding to hiking and campfires, there will be plenty of memory making moments.

Waymaker at Waldemar - an interactive, multi-generational, play with purpose weekend - that sparks a family legacy.

If you would like to be on our email list to learn more about Waymaker and be the first to know when registration opens, [click here!](#)



Getting Our Head in the Game: Wellness at Waldemar



New this summer, Waldemar is adding a Wellness Program to camp. In today's fast-paced world, it's more important than ever to prioritize mental health and well-being, especially for children and young adults. This program will provide our campers and staff alike with the tools they need to manage stress, build resilience, and develop healthy coping strategies that they can carry with them throughout their lives.



Our wellness program will include multiple tools to include in day-to-day life, for use both at camp and at home. One of the key components of the plan will be a moment for reflection, where campers and staff can share their "highs and lows" of the day and talk about any challenges and successes they experienced. This simple exercise helps to build self-awareness and encourages campers and staff to communicate openly and honestly with each other.



Another important aspect is a gratitude practice. Studies have shown that practicing and expressing gratitude can have a positive impact on mental health and well-being, including increased feelings of happiness and decreased symptoms of anxiety and depression. By incorporating gratitude into our daily routines, campers and staff can learn to appreciate the small things in life and cultivate positive mindsets.

In addition, we will also include moments of mindfulness and deep breathing exercises. Mindfulness is the practice of being present in the moment and fully engaging with one's surroundings. Deep breathing is a powerful body-mind practice to use in overwhelming moments. We find there is no better, and easier, place to be present than at camp!

Ultimately, our goal is to help campers and staff develop coping strategies to balance their thoughts, emotions, and behaviors with healthy outcomes. By teaching these valuable skills at camp, we hope to empower our campers and staff with lifelong skills to enhance their lives outside of camp!

Waldy Love,

Meg

Welcome Abbey Goodman



Hello Waldemar Family!

I'm Abbey Goodman, and I am beyond thrilled to be joining the Waldemar Staff full time this May as the Program and Wellness Director! I often think back to my first summer at camp and remember fondly my rest hours on my bunk in Happy Haven, thinking "I never want to leave this place!" Since I fell in love with Waldemar that summer, it's been a dream of mine to one day join the wonderful people who run camp year-round. And I am so honored that that dream is coming true now!

As a third generation Waldemar camper, camp has been a part of my family for almost 100 years! My grandmother was a camper in the 1940's, my mom and her sisters and cousins in the 1970's and 1980's, and then my sister Ellie and I in the 2000's...sound familiar? That might be because you read about our family in the last Round Up! I'm proud to call Susan Goodman, Waldemar's newest Assistant Director, my mom! Camp has been such an important way for me to connect with my family, especially during these past few summers in which my mom, sister, and I each sponsored our respective camper tribes. While I will deeply cherish my six summers as a Comanche Sponsor, in the Goodman house, all three tribes are the best, and I'm excited that I now get to cheer for every camper all summer long!

I'm excited to integrate my love for programming and passion for supporting mental wellness in my new role. I will graduate with my Master's in Social Work from TCU in Fort Worth, Texas this May, and I am so ready to make the move to Hunt and hit the ground running with Summer 2023 just a few days later!

Waldemar truly is my favorite place in the world, and I can't express enough gratitude to the Waldemar staff for welcoming me into this dream role with open arms! I'm looking forward to a great summer for each and every camper, counselor, and guest who enters those magical Waldemar gates!

Waldemar Admin: Who Do I Talk to About. . .

- Marsha Elmore**, *Vision and Values Consultant*, is the expert on Waldemar's history, culture and ideals.
- Meg Elmore**, *Legacy Ambassador*, is responsible for maintaining the excellence of Camp Waldemar through the camp culture, vision, finances and liability.
- Jeanne Stacy**, *Director*, can answer your questions about camper absences during the term, serious medical conditions, and the overall operations of Camp Waldemar.
- Sylvia Flannery**, *Assistant Director of Staff*, can answer questions about the Health Lodge and staff development.
- Susan Goodman**, *Assistant Director of Camper and Parent Relations*, is the go-to person for camper needs, forms, and parent questions about camp.
- Linda Pipkin**, *Office Administrator*, is the go-to person for all general questions about Camp Waldemar, as well as birthdays, camper cards, paver orders, inspection and service points.
- Caroline Key**, *Curriculum and Enrollment Director*, can answer all your questions about buses, tuition payments, camper preferences and classes, awards, and enrollment for future summers.
- Abbey Goodman**, *Program and Wellness Director* – is responsible for the coordination of evening programs and health and wellness initiatives for campers and staff.
- Frannie Leonard**, *Assistant HR Director*, is the go-to person for all staffing questions (recruiting, hiring, contracts, training and support) as well as our waterfront activities.
- Liz Pohl**, *Head of Horseback*, is the expert on all things related to horseback riding and can provide answers to questions about our horseback program and classes.
- Catherine Pickens**, *Assistant Head of Horseback*, is also able to answer any horse-related questions you may have.
- Chris Luby**, *Marketing Project Manager*, has answers to any questions you may have about Waldemar's social media.
- Elizabet Quinones**, *Marketing*, is the go-to person for all camp photography and yearbook questions.
- Maribel Garcia Quinones**, *Store Manager*, has the answer to all things related to the camp store: camper store balances, care package orders, etc.
- Sotear Kuy**, *Executive Chef*, can answer all your questions about camp menus and food.
- Lori Appleton**, *Events Director*, is the go-to person for all special events during the non-camp year.



Spreading the Magic of Waldemar

by Lori Appleton

As Camp enters its 98th summer, our Event Season groups continue to be an important part of Waldemar’s traditions.

We host many types of events here at camp: weddings, corporate events, family reunions, art camps and wellness retreats. It’s always heartwarming to see brides who have spent eight years as campers return with their families to be married at Waldemar. And for those who did not attend as campers, we enjoy introducing new people to the magic of Waldemar. Cheers to all the participants whose lives have changed for the better by being here at camp.

🌸 March 31st – April 2nd: Family Camp

Once again, Family Camp was a sold-out event! Families from all across the country arrived at Waldemar’s gate eager to learn more about Camp Waldemar and spend a fun-filled weekend together in the Sea of Woods. Families experienced a wide assortment of camp activities, including archery, canoeing, hay rides, horseback riding, s’mores, and a movie night under the stars. It was a fantastic weekend filled with memorable moments!

🌸 April 13th – 16th: Austin AIGA Design Ranch

Design Ranch returned for their tenth year at Waldemar! Guests enjoyed the opportunity to participate in all sorts of creative classes from painting, to print making, calligraphy, leather works, soap making and so much more. A fun and creative time was had by all!

🌸 April 21st – 23rd: Madison Claer DeSpain Wedding

Madison Claer, 3rd generation Tejas camper, high senior leader and sponsor from Houston, married Jason Chapman from Austin in a beautiful ceremony in Tejas Chapel. She has always dreamed of being married at one of her favorite places on earth. Her mom, Christi Fields DeSpain, was a Tejas and her mother Barry Beck Jones was a Comanche. Her guests, who arrived from all over the country, were active “campers” participating in an intense game of kickball, shooting bows and arrows, swimming, hiking, and enjoying fine dining in the Waldemar dining hall. The guests had a wonderful time as they danced and dined under the stars. The couple are spending their honeymoon in the Bahamas.

🌸 April 28th – 30th: Kaki Miller Wedding

Kaki Miller, 3rd generation Tejas camper, sponsor, leader and IWG recipient married Payton Phillips from Dallas in a beautiful ceremony down by the river. As a 9 year old junior, Kaki fell in love with camp and had an immediate realization that one day she would be married at Waldemar. With much determination, Kaki brought Payton after one month of dating to her happy place. Unbeknownst to him, it was more of a site visit than a tour of her childhood summer camp. When there’s a will, there is a way! Kaki’s mom Julie Crain Miller was a camper (Comanche) as well as her Grandmother Eula Lee McBride Miller (Comanche). Her sister Mary Crow Miller (Comanche) was Best All Around her Hilltopper year and has come back several summers as a Sponsor for her tribe. We enjoyed a wonderful celebration and a fun weekend celebrating this special couple. They will spend their honeymoon in Italy.

If you would like more information about hosting an event at Camp Waldemar, you may contact Lori Appleton, Waldemar’s event coordinator by email at Lori@waldemar.com or by phone at 830-238-6005. Waldemar is truly a magical place to create memorable and impactful events.



Waldemar Women’s Week 2023: Turn Back Time

If you could turn back time, if you could find a way - where would you go? How about to a place to relax, laugh, and enjoy time with your friends? Grab your girlfriends, Aqua Net, rhinestone boots, and letterman jacket because you’ll need them at Waldemar Women’s Week this year! Online registration will open on May 18th at www.waldemar.com/events/www/.

Online Registration: May 18th

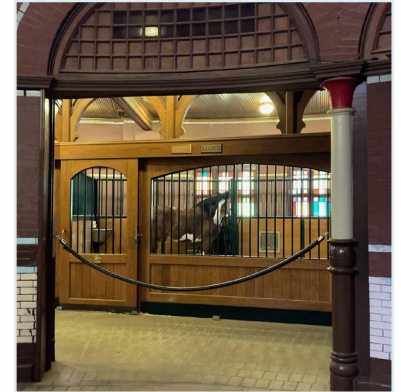
WWW Event Date: September 19th-24th

From the Horse's Mouth

by Liz Pohl

Spring has arrived with some rain and the beginnings of green grass for the horses. With it has also sadly brought the passing of one of our beloved camp horses, Ande. He was born at camp in 1998 and will be missed by campers and staff alike.

Catherine and I were offered an amazing opportunity to visit the Purina farm outside of St. Louis, Missouri for a Professional Horse Owners Conference. We were thrilled to get to go and learn about the science and innovation behind the feeds and products they have developed for horses. The nutritionists are all horse owners and lovers themselves competing in many different disciplines. The farm is an amazing and beautiful place. The care and thought they put into the animals and products they are producing is really awe inspiring. I'm so happy we feed Purina. As a bonus of the trip, they took all the participants on a tour of the Budweiser Clydesdale barns. It was another incredible and historic operation. We are so appreciative of the knowledge we gained on this trip.



As the campers' preferences roll in, we have had to think of how we are going to make it possible for every girl who wants to take riding to be able to take the class. Due to the age of our most reliable teachers (horses) for these young riders, we are once again requiring juniors to ride one hour rather than two. Our hope is that it will allow these old horses to continue to share their wonderful ability of helping develop in their young riders confidence, balance, strong horsemanship skills, etc.... As we have to replace these old teachers with younger horses, our wish is to continue to build upon what they have taught the young riders so that these campers, as they get older, can distill some of those same traits in the newer mounts.

To help achieve this, we have an amazing staff with years of experience. Besides Catherine and my 70+ years combined at the Waldemar barn, we have some great returning staff this summer. Pip Harland, from Bishopthorpe, York, Great Britain with a masters degree in Engineering and now owns her own business is here for her 10th summer. She is the head of "Team English" and is beloved by camper, staff and horse alike. Karen Perry is here for her 7th summer and is a middle school teacher with a masters degree in Public Administration/Policy/Law. Vivian Vickers, from Fredericksburg, VA attending Texas A&M is a wonderful western teacher for her 4th year. Aubrey Shuttles, also working her 4th summer, is graduating high school from Elgin, Texas. Aubrey plays polocrosse both nationally and internationally and assists Catherine with the polocrosse classes. Libby Dial, another polocrosse player, is from Vanleave, MS and is working her 3rd summer. We are thrilled to have her wonderful energy at the barn. Joining us also for her 3rd summer, is Rosie Dwyer from Kilkenny, Ireland. Rosie is a wonderful horsewoman and a Biotech Production Specialist and took a few years off from camp to try to make a difference in the world. Emma Satine, from Dripping Springs, TX is on staff for her second year and we hope for many years to come. I just want to give a big shout out to all the wonderful women who, along with the horses, strive to make the campers' riding experience at Camp Waldemar one full of safety, fun, singing, trotting, cantering and fun!!! Thank you, girls!!!



Kitchen Conversations

In a Cambodian household, the kitchen is the center of the home, and meals are always made to be shared. I grew up eating family style for almost every meal. My mom and grandma always prepared an array of seasonal vegetables, cooked a myriad of ways (stir-fried, steamed, stewed). Soup was a part of every meal and served along with a protein (many of them seafood). None of the dishes were considered the “main” entree as every dish was meant to complement the others in taste, texture, and nutrition. Family style dining at camp is quite similar. For generations, Waldemar has been known for our cuisine; and for many, the kitchen is considered the heartbeat of camp. We focus on using seasonal, fresh vegetables when possible and create menus that are balanced and aim to expand palates while teaching dining etiquette.



My favorite part of every meal growing up was dessert and at camp, this still reigns true.

Recipe: **Crème Brulée**

Pronounced: *krEHm broo-LAY*

Serves 6

I love many of the desserts we serve at camp, but one of my all-time favorites is crème brulee. In my humble opinion, crème brulee is one of the desserts that can be eaten at any time of the day. Leftovers pair perfectly with a cup of bold black coffee as a pick-me-up, morning treat.

Crème brulee is a classic French vanilla custard that is creamy and rich with a hard caramel layer on top. The caramel topping adds a slight nutty, burnt sugar flavor and crunch. This elegant dessert is typically served chilled. At camp, we top it with seasonal fresh berries. If you're feeling daring, you can make different variations by adding flavored liqueurs like amaretto to the custard base before baking.

Directions:

- ✿ Preheat the oven to 325°F.
- ✿ To a medium saucepan, add the heavy cream. If using vanilla bean, scrape the pulp and add that with the vanilla bean to the heavy cream. Bring to a simmer and remove from the heat. Remove the vanilla bean before proceeding to the next step. If using vanilla extract, add it to the warmed heavy cream once you remove it from the heat.
- ✿ In a medium bowl, combine the sugar with egg yolks. Whisk until it is well blended, lighter in color, and thickened till the ribbon stage.
- ✿ Slowly add the warmed cream while whisking.
- ✿ Pour the liquid into 6 (7-8 ounce) ramekins. Place the ramekins into a large baking pan and pour enough hot water to come halfway up the sides of the ramekins. Bake until the crème brulee is set but still jiggle in the center, approximately 40 minutes.
- ✿ Remove the ramekins from the pan and refrigerate for at least 4 hours until it is firmly set. Crème brulee can also be made the night before and stored in the fridge until ready to serve.
- ✿ Remove the crème brulee from the fridge 30 minutes before service. Top with the remaining sugar, ensuring that the sugar is spread evenly. Torch until golden brown. *If a torch is not available, place the topped crème brulee for 1-2 minutes in the oven under the broil setting. Enjoy!

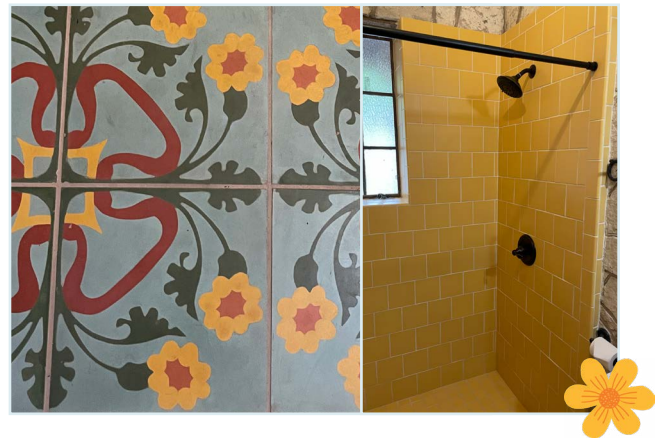
Your chef,
Sotear



Hammers & Nails

by Noel Quinones

The summer 2023 updates began with the Happy Haven bathroom tile renovation. The new tile is the perfect splash of color to match the “happy” campers who will live there this summer. It was completed just in time for Family Camp! Another building that underwent major updating was the Depot. It has been converted to an off-season lounge area equipped with a sink, refrigerator, microwave, couches, and even a coffee bar. Thank you, Meg, for the thoughtful gesture in providing a comfortable space for full time staff to enjoy a break. Joyce Jordan will be proud to hear she’ll have so much room to sort mail!



The maintenance crew has completed the transition to their new shop located near the tennis courts. Noel’s former wood shop has been cleared and will be used as a meeting space for both the summer and event seasons. The construction on the permanent staff housing is moving along quickly. In landscaping, we have been busy beautifying campgrounds. Chad has tackled seeding several areas around camp, and now all we need is a bit more rain to help this process move along. Gorgeous flowers have been purchased to replenish the flower beds all around camp including a few trees to keep the Sea of Woods plentiful (read more on page 10).

To prevent fires and keep everyone safe, a wildfire assessment was done on the premises. We received several compliments on our proactive approaches as well as helpful feedback on how to eliminate risks and what to do in case of a fire emergency. And to conclude our spring action list, the basketball courts will be resurfaced in early May just in time for camp!

Campers and counselors will be coming round the mountain before we know it! And Waldemar will be looking pristine and ready for a fun-filled summer.

Marsha's Corner: *Did You Know?*

Tribes and Field Days were introduced to Waldemar in the early days to promote healthy competition to the summer program. In our office, we have plaques which are inscribed with the winners from every summer. If you have a good memory, you may know the answer to this trivia question:

Do you know what tribe won the first plaque?



A. Aztec



B. Buzzard



C. Comanche



D. Tejas

See you soon,



Missing Home

by Susan Goodman

We are busily preparing for an exciting summer here at Camp Waldemar, and all the fun, fellowship, and discovery that our campers will experience. Amid all that revelry, however, some campers will experience occasional hesitation, anxiety, or sadness because they miss home. What we used to call “homesickness” may be an age-old rite of passage for campers, but our approach to overcoming it is far from old-fashioned. Camp Waldemar’s full-time staff recently attended a national conference which featured a workshop advocating a new term for homesickness, suggesting that we treat it as “Missing Home.” Talking about it that way not only removes the stigma that it’s some sort of illness or disorder, but it shapes the language of support around positive concepts and celebrates the great things about home and family.



Almost every camper (and counselor) will experience some feelings of missing home this summer, some more profoundly than others. While some might outwardly reveal their sadness, others might not give any indication of distress at all. Waldemar staff are prepared to work with counselors to observe and listen, because every camper will have her own unique way of expressing these feelings. Staff are trained to keep all campers engaged, of course, but will provide extra support to those missing home, and help them focus on the happy and fun times at camp.

In some cases, you might receive a letter from your camper that has elements of the following:

Dear Mom and/or Dad,



This camp stinks. Nobody in my kampong likes me. Most of the counselors are mean. Nothing here is fun. If you really love me you’ll come get me now!

P.S. I go to the health lodge every day!

Presuming that you’re able to resist the urge to jump into your car and race to the Waldemar gates to retrieve your camper, we’re happy to hear from you if you get such a letter. Odds are your daughter will have overcome those dire feelings by the time you receive the letter, even if she still misses home a little bit. Rest assured that we will keep track of those campers who express strong feelings of missing home and check in with them regularly to make sure that they’re engaged in their activities, feel part of a group, and are having fun.

It has been our experience that if the camp and parents work together, missing home doesn’t need to interrupt the fun and adventures at camp, both for your camper and for you, scrolling through pictures from home. As we work through any short-term sadness together, campers tend to develop a great feeling of accomplishment at overcoming it, something that we reinforce with them. In cases where the sadness persists, or they’ve successfully hidden it from well-meaning counselors and staff, please call us to share this information, and we’ll jump into action.

Missing Home Continued >>>



Helpful responses in writing to a child “missing home”:

- 🌸 Acknowledge her feelings (“Thanks for letting us know how you feel”)
- 🌸 Let her know that it is ok to miss mom and dad (and for mom and dad to miss her) AND still have fun at camp.
- 🌸 Tell her that missing home is normal and everyone feels that emotion from time to time.
- 🌸 Encourage her to concentrate on things she likes at camp. Mention activities that she was looking forward to – like horseback, tennis, gymnastics, crafts, etc.
- 🌸 Remind her that feeling uncomfortable in a new situation is normal. Learning to overcome these situations of being away is all part of growing as a person.
- 🌸 Counselors, Directors and Camp Moms are there to help you and talk with you about any problems you are having.
- 🌸 Fill your letters with questions “What are new things you have tried?” “Are you making new friends” “What is the most fun thing you have done so far?”

Things to avoid when responding to a camper “missing home”:

- 🌸 We are at the beach having a great time. Wish you were here with us.
- 🌸 The dog is sick and at the vet.
- 🌸 I’ll buy you a new bike if you make it.
- 🌸 If you can’t make it, we will come get you.

A child missing home is something that we take very seriously, because fostering campers’ physical and mental well-being is a sacred mission to the entire staff, and we don’t disregard ANYTHING that one of our campers is feeling. But we also know that missing home is a reflection of the love they feel for you and the home you’ve created for them, not a negative impression of Camp Waldemar. And we also know that it’s completely normal, because we live at camp for the entire summer ourselves, and we miss our homes as well. If a missing home situation comes up, we’ll overcome it together.

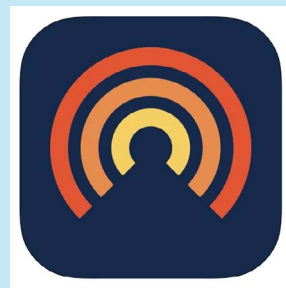
FOMO is Real- Download CAMPanion!

We are thrilled to be using the CAMPanion app once again this summer! Stay connected to your camper’s summer camp experience like never before.

One of the best reasons to download and use the app is the face finder feature. Simply upload a “training” photo of your daughter each summer before camp starts and let the app find your camper in daily photos throughout the term.

Stay in touch with your child by sending letters to your camper, watching videos and getting the latest news and updates. Just search for CAMPanion in your phone’s app store, login with your Camp-In-Touch account, and enable push notifications.

We know it’s important for parents to feel connected while campers are away at camp. The CAMPanion experience is included with your tuition, so there is no additional charge! We hope you enjoy following along this summer. Download the app today!





Staff Update: Returners and Newbies

by Frannie Leonard

We have been busy at Waldemar hiring some amazing staff for Summer 2023. We have hired counselors from all over the country and the world to help make this Summer the best summer yet.

John and Nancy will be back to head gymnastics this summer with help from another fantastic returner, Ramsey Ruffeno! Helena MacCrossan will be helping Jill Johnson run our archery department during short and first term! We have amazing returning staff all over camp! At Horseback, Liz will have a fantastic staff including Vivian Vickers and Pip Harland. Julia Kennedy will be returning for all 3 terms to teach Chorus and Badminton.

We have hired staff from so many different universities! A few are The University of Texas, Louisiana State University, Texas Tech University, and Texas A&M University.

Camp Waldemar is very lucky to have counselors who come back summer after summer! We are so excited to have Joyce Jordan return for her 65th summer! We are delighted to have both our new and returning staff at camp so soon! Summer 2023 Staff, get ready to make friendships and memories that will last a lifetime.



Angels Coming & Going

Stay connected with the Waldemar Alumnae and beyond! Send us news you would love for us to feature in our next Round Up issue at info@waldemar.com.

Coming

- ✿ **Frances Boyd Henson** born on August 4, 2022 to Catherine (Wilson), husband Gregory Henson, and proud big brother Leland Wolf Henson.
- ✿ **Walker Stanley Butcher** born on January 17, 2023 to proud parents Jacob Stanley and Millicent June Butcher (Muckleroy).
- ✿ **Mark Matthew Metcalfe** born on February 25, 2023 to parents Matt and Lily Metcalfe (Scroggin).

Going

- ✿ **Peggy Person (Rowland)**, Aztec, '47-'50, IWG second term, 1950. She died September 1, 2021.

- ✿ **Dorothy "Dot" Ashby (Mazur)** died February 16, 2023 in Houston, Texas. She attended Camp Waldemar from 1949 to 1955 and was part of the Aztec tribe.
- ✿ **Sally Hamlin McClure (Garrett)** passed away February 27, 2023. Sally spent 7 happy summers at Camp Waldemar from 1940-1946. "Her love for the outdoors was formed and continued for all of her life."
- ✿ **Rosemary Pearson** (Weezie Sharmon Johnston's mother-in-law), passed away March 24, 2023 at the age of 102. Rosemary was a Waldemar camper 1935-1936. Rosemary had a very full life from flying her own jet plane and becoming a champion skeet shooter to killing her last twelve point buck at the age of 95!



In Memory Of . . .

Waldemar patrons **Sarah Lew Link Grimes** (December 3, 2020) and **David Nelson Grimes** (April 7, 2023) went to their heavenly home. They leave a long line of Waldemar campers, daughter Ann Grimes and granddaughter Madeline Nelson Walker. Daughter Amy Grimes Ehrlick and granddaughter's Adelaide Ehrlick, Markley Ehrlick Ashley, Louisa Ehrlick Hinkle and many nieces- Judy Mathews Craig, Bonnie Mathews Welch and Susie Mathews Boyd. Two beautiful sycamore trees have been planted on the Waldemar grounds in their honor.

Waldemar Pavers- Help us continue our project of completing our "Waldemar Walkway" that lines the athletic field. Pavers can be purchased for patrons, current and former campers, and counselors. Please call Linda Pipkin at (830) 238-4821 to fill out a form and make a payment.



Budgeting at Camp

by Maribel Garcia Quinones

There are many valuable skills taught at Waldemar. We have the physical skills learned in archery, trick roping, horseback riding, and other activities. Campers also are well versed on their tribes' sportsmanship, leadership, and teamwork. Not to be left out, they are also taught table etiquette and kampong tidiness and cleanliness. One surprising life skill that is taught within the camp day-to-day is budgeting. It may seem challenging to teach something related to money when campers rarely pack their purses and may not even own a debit card at home; and yet, this is done daily at the Camp Store!

Every camper has a Camper Account that they may use to make purchases in the Camp Store. Short Termers have \$100 in their accounts while 1st & 2nd Termers have \$275. During long term, laundry is also charged to this account. Purchases are written on camper slips which are signed by the camper. We all know how easy it is to sign for purchases and worry about the damage done later! Money can be such an abstract idea for young children, which is why we ask that parents help us by doing the following:

- ✿ **Inform your campers of how much money is in their Camper Account.**
- ✿ **Let them know they will have an assigned store visit with their kampongmates.**
- ✿ **Ask that they keep an eye on their spending by asking for their balances at the counter.**
- ✿ **Discuss spending limits and how to make thoughtful purchases.**

Oftentimes, this may be the first time a camper has been given "free rein" in a store, and it can be tempting for them to grab as many stuffed animals and toys as they want! The camp store staff does their best to curb spending and will suggest that campers wait until the end of camp to make more expensive purchases with their parent's permission. Balance alerts will be emailed to parents if their camper's account falls below \$50, giving you the option of adding more funds. Together, we can make your camper's shopping experience a teaching moment as well!

The Benefits of Registration

by Caroline Key



At Waldemar, one of the many ways we empower our campers is by allowing them to choose their own activities. For our younger campers, we help them set their schedules with the preferences they choose. For First and Second Term, we take it a step further and our campers create their perfect schedules on registration day. We encourage each camper to create a well-rounded schedule by choosing Field Day activities such as archery, canoeing, trick roping, badminton, or tennis as well as Non-Field Day activities such as creative crafts, drama, dance, and cheerleading. Campers work the puzzle of when classes are offered based on which classes have availability, utilizing problem solving skills and sometimes a little flexibility. On occasion, due to availability campers have the opportunity to try a new class and it becomes their new favorite. Registration is another way that we help our campers become independent and learn to advocate for themselves.



New this year, we will have class registration on the first day of camp! How fun that we can jump right into classes on Day Two of the term!



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!
- 🌸 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 names!
- 🌸 The clothes your camper brings to camp should be appropriate and tasteful (no midriiffs showing, please)!

Summer 2023 Dates

Summer Sessions

- 🌸 **Staff Orientation Dates**
May 24th (Wednesday) - May 27th (Saturday)
- 🌸 **Short Term**
May 27th (Saturday) - June 1st (Thursday)
- 🌸 **First Term**
June 2nd (Friday) - June 30th (Friday)
- 🌸 **Second Term**
July 2nd (Sunday) - July 30th (Sunday)

Book Lodging Soon

Please visit the Kerrville Chamber of Commerce website for lodging in the hill country area: www.kerrvilletx.com. We recommend you book your accommodations for the closing weekends as soon as possible, they fill up fast. Check VRBO, AirBNB, and Vacasa for rentals near Hunt, Ingram, and Kerrville.

Hilltopper Parent Dates

- 🌸 **First Term**
Tuesday, June 27th beginning at 8 PM for Sr. Drama through Friday, June 30th ending with Final Program
- 🌸 **Second Term**
Thursday, July 27th beginning at 8 PM for Sr. Drama through Sunday, July 30th ending with Final Program

Camp Waldemar

1005 FM 1340 Hunt, TX 78024

(830) 238-4821 | info@waldemar.com | www.waldemar.com

