



Camp Riva-Lake, located on the 1st plateau of the Cumberland mountains, will provide a fun-filled, wholesome environment for girls. We are committed to fostering character development and leadership and building physical skills through age-appropriate camping activities.

April 2006

LOOKING AHEAD TO SUMMER 2006!

Greetings former campers!

We just returned from a glorious weekend in Nashville for our 3rd annual Board of Directors meeting. Milbrey Black and Lynne Farrar Robertson graciously hosted us in their lovely homes. Friday, Milbrey hosted a lively cocktail party where the board socialized with Missy Hill Pfeiffer, Ellen Sadler, Clara Wood, Beth Harwell, Joyce Armstrong, and Teddi & Wayne Chrisco. We know more of you wished to be with us, but were traveling with your families for spring break.

For those of you who waited to see if we could really get our dream off the ground, we did it! To all of you who have helped us financially, physically, and through moral support, a giant THANK YOU! 37 girls discovered the magic of camp Riva-Lake last summer, and we are well on the road to over 50 girls this summer! Check out the list below, and find out where your special talents and resources can assist us to the next level.

- * 1 communication specialist to facilitate alumni and recruiting publications
- * 1 creative fundraiser to help brain storm raffles, on-line auctions, and fun ways to raise money
- * 1 grant writer
- * 1 archery set
- * 1 small horsepower outboard motor
- * walkie-talkie sets/ 2 way radios
- * former camper alums for opening day to meet and greet (July 12th & 21st: 11am-4pm)
- * former Olympians and Marathons to lead first team meetings (July 13)
- * shepherd's crook, buoys, pool safety equipment

Contact DeSaix Brinkley if you can provide any of these items/services 858-452-9672.

Rah-Rahs

New Supporters (since last year's recognition)

- Cynthia Wegmann Babst- Elk
- Maynard Lanoux- Elk
- Scartlett Weakley Martin- Elk
- Patricia Nance- Elk
- Ashley Bright Simmons- Elk
- Mary Stuart Smallpage Bailey- Marolymp
- Betsy Bradley & Robert Langford- Marolymp
- Sally Brinkley- Marolymp
- Rivers Harlow Humber-Marolymp
- Corrine Ann Morrison- Marolymp
- Lara Garner Shane- Ravine
- Louise Hughart- Prep- Christmas gift in honor of Janie Hughart

Continuing Supporters

- DeSaix Brinkley & Holly Brinkley Lyons- Council Ring
- Sid Mackie- Laurel
- Wayne & Teddi Chrisco- Ravine
- Lu Johnston- Ravine
- Lawrie Canale Peyton- Ravine
- Ann Archer Davis- Elk
- Janie Entrekin Hughart- Elk
- Beth Rather- Elk
- Laura Leigh Finley Shore-Elk
- Suzanne Burns Childs- Marolymp
- Scott Canale Sellers- Marolymp- Christmas gift in honor of Lawrie Peyton
- Anonymous-Network for Good- Prep
- Mariette Canale Haaga- Prep- Christmas gift in honor of Lawrie Peyton

Thank you for your support in other ways:

- Emily Cate Tidwell and her daughter for help in opening camp last summer
- Hewlett-Packard for matching gift
- WalMart and Time Warner for grants
- Henley Supply for storage space

Recruitment

We had such an exciting recruitment season. Parties were held all over the southeast from October to March. Lawrie Peyton traveled tirelessly and Caroline Silva jumped into action this spring too. Our Directors do so much for us everyday, during the camp session AND off-season. We have a new video thanks to Andreas and Nonnie Preuss, and it has proven to be a fantastic marketing tool. In it, our 2005 campers have a “round table” conversation, and speak directly to the new prospects. We visited Atlanta, GA., Memphis, TN., Nashville, TN., Clarksdale MS., Jackson MS., Dallas, TX., and New Orleans, LA. We would love to add more stops this coming year, including Baton Rouge, LA., Knoxville, TN., and many towns in Tennessee, Georgia and Mississippi. Please contact Nonnie Preuss with any city lead prospects. You DO NOT have to be a former camper to be a Riva-Lake representative. Nonnie can be reached at 404-364-9409 or aapmat@mindspring.com.



Recruitment party with 2005 and prospective campers!

A huge thanks to our city representatives who hosted recruiting parties throughout the fall and spring. In addition to camper parents, this included alums: Kim Brown Mullins, Lynne Farrar Robertson, Becca Peay Etheridge, Rivers Harlow Humber, Merrimac Stevens Dillon, Nonnie Thompson Preuss, Lawrie Canale Peyton, Suzanne Burns Childs, and Coco Evans Judd.

Our New Orleans Sisters

Our New Orleans connections run deep. Hurricane Katrina impacted our former and current families tremendously. The alumni outreach was overwhelming, with Riva-Lake families hosting other Riva-Lake families for weeks and months on end. There simply is not enough space to write everyone who was in need or offered assistance. We did want to share the words of a 2005 New Orleans camper whose family lost both their home and livelihood in the aftermath of Katrina. First time camper Caroline Ponseti wrote this for the Racket last summer:

“Some say home is where your heart is, but who said you can only have just one? Some consider only relatives their family, but why? At Riva-Lake there is a new type of family that the campers and staff will cherish forever. With our counselors and our big and little sisters, we find ourselves going out of our way for each other and caring for each other. The sisterhood of Riva-Lake is rare and special.”

Caroline will be joining us for the second session this summer. She will be welcomed to her second home with open arms!

Campus Improvements

Two years ago, a long time Riva-Lake friend returned to the fold. Wayne Chrisco began working for Sis when he was a teenager, getting camp prepared to her stringent standards. He and Sid Mackie have spearheaded our master plan to return CRL to her former beauty. We acknowledged his efforts during the inaugural session with the coveted “Raymond James Memorial” award. This past fall he was promoted to year round Facilities Manager. Come by and see for yourself what a tremendous improvement his efforts have made to our campus.

Getting Connected

If you would prefer to receive these newsletters by email (and help us cut down on mailing costs), please send your email address to

camprivalake@hotmail.com

Check out the photo gallery from last summer on our updated website!

Summer Sessions 2006

We are mere weeks away from the opening of camp. At print time we are expecting a full first session, with some limited availability for the second session and have purposefully set aside spots for children still wishing to go for the full 3 weeks. Our dates are:

- 1st session July 12- July 21
- 2nd session Friday July 21- Friday Aug. 4

Do not hesitate to call Nonnie (404-364-9409) with interested campers. We have also hired an amazing group of young ladies as counselors and C.I.Ts. We simply cannot wait for July 12th!!!!

Roll on Elk River...

Help us put the fun in Riva-Lake fundraising. Join us for our first ever Camper/Former Camper canoe trip! The tentative date is Wednesday, July 26th. It will be a half-day Elk River trip, picnic lunch included. You will not want to miss this new Riva-Lake tradition. \$55 per person. Contact Suzanne Childs at skbchilds@cox.net or 504-723-4910 to register for this fun-filled trip!



Summer 2005: Canoeing on the Elk River

Looking to the future

Even though we are on the road to self-sufficiency, we still need your general cash contributions. Remember, as always, your donation is 100% tax deductible. Our needs are ongoing because each year we are purchasing new items to replace old or borrowed equipment. This year's big ticket item is new mattresses. Ironically, we have already exceeded our projected head count for this summer, and immediately need to buy 10 more! Please consider donating to our ongoing camper comforts!

Lastly, we are planning an *Open House* this fall for those of you who have not been able to get to camp yet. Please bring prospective campers to visit us on **Saturday September 30** to see Riva-Lake, sing songs and introduce CRL to its future campers.

Riva-Lake Love,
The Board of Directors



Camp Riva-Lake
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