



WINTER ISSUE... 2015

The Cheley **PACK RAT**

CHELEY COLORADO CAMPS
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Thank You for Your Support

As we celebrate the holiday season, I am so thankful for the support we have received over the last year. As you know, Cheley was devastated by the September 2013 floods. Our roads were washed out, our water systems were destroyed, some buildings were impacted, and we lost a few wagons at GTE. Throughout the experience, we were grateful that we didn't have the destruction that we witnessed in so many other families and businesses. We did not receive a single dollar from insurance, FEMA, or other organizations - not a single dollar. We were able to rebuild because of the hard work of our year-round staff and the help of some of our families.



I would like to thank a few different groups. First and foremost, our year-round staff. Our Estes Park crew had to wake up each day and live among the devastation. Their houses were damaged and their daily routines were impacted by the flood. They were the "boots on the ground" in repairing the roads, the water systems and had the daily responsibility of rebuilding Cheley for 2014. The Denver crew was busy answering questions about the damage, enrolling campers, hiring staff, and planning our volunteer weekend. It was a stressful year, but they did it. We are all grateful for their hard work.

Second, I would like to thank Mark Andregg and Jeff Ray. Mark is a camp parent and called the day after the flood. He said he was available to come to Estes Park from Texas to help us rebuild our property. Jeff Ray

Continued on page 2



Trigger Bill says...

*Best thing about the future
is that it comes only one day
at a time.*



CAMP DATES FOR 2015

Full Season:

Wed. June 17th – Mon. Aug. 10th

First Term:

Wed. June 17th – Mon. July 13th

Second Term:

Wed. July 15th – Mon. Aug. 10th

Family Camp:

Tues. Aug. 11th – Sun. Aug 16th

PACK RAT PUT TOGETHER BY

Around the Campfire: Cheley Staff

Staff Updates: Jeff Cheley

Camper Information: Jeff Cheley

Layout: Cheley Staff

Editor: Kim Betts

**Any news for the Pack Rat?
e-mail to: office@cheley.com**

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Thank You for Your Support

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lives in Summit County and joined Mark to spend over six weeks in the fall and six weeks in the spring moving dirt, repairing roads, reshaping GTE, repairing streams and much more. Without the help of Mark and Jeff, we may not have been able to open last summer.

Third, we appreciate the love and support of our camp families. The cards, emails, and phone calls gave us the strength to stay motivated. In addition, you believed in the Cheley Experience. You shared your passion



for youth development and exposed other families to Cheley Camps. Our enrollment was up 5% from the previous year and this increase allowed us to make the needed repairs to operate this summer. We feel so fortunate that this once-in-a-lifetime (I hope) experience has helped us build our resiliency, our character, and reminded us of the power of our camp families.

Finally, the campers and staff of 2014 deserve some credit. They arrived to a different landscape. Many of them witnessed the damage as they drove to camp. During the summer, activities were modified, trails were closed, and some units looked different than the previous year. However, they were committed to making it work. They realized that the real camp experience is about the

friendships, the challenges, and the connections that are made during a summer at camp.

Soon after the flood, I realized that we had to do what we know how to do - we had to fill camp and impact the lives of young people. We couldn't rely on government assistance or help from our insurance company. We had to re-dedicate ourselves to the Cheley mission that states "We build the lasting character and resiliency of young people, creating unique life experiences in a challenging and nurturing natural environment." And did we build some character and resiliency in a challenging and nurturing natural environment this past year. It wasn't easy at times (in fact, it was pretty scary, exhausting, and stressful). However, we are all stronger for experiencing it.

So thank you. Thank you for your belief in us. Thank you for your support of the Cheley Experience. Thank you for your dedication to youth development. We are excited to celebrate our 95th summer in 2015.

– Jeff Cheley

GTE Update

There is a new addition at Girls' Trail's End...check out the new rifle range!



CHELEY PACK RAT is published three times a year by Cheley Colorado Camps to keep the Camp Family informed – send us news and information about you and your friends. The PACK RAT is mailed free of charge to all current campers and staff, as well as to lifetime and annual members of "Cheley Friends." Others who are interested may get an annual subscription by sending their name and address with a check for \$15 to PACK RAT Editor, Cheley Colorado Camps, 601 Steele Street, P.O. Box 6525, Denver, CO 80206.

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2015 Slide Show and Camper Fairs

COLORADO

Denver: Tuesday, January 13, 7:00pm, First Plymouth Congregational Church. 3501 S. Colorado Blvd, Englewood, CO.

Boulder: Wednesday, January 21, 7:00pm, home of the Castro Family. 2910 17th St., Boulder, CO . RSVP 303-845-2391 or amy.castro@yahoo.com.

ILLINOIS

Winnetka: Sunday, January 25, 4:00pm, Winnetka Community House, East Garden Room. 620 Lincoln Ave., Winnetka, IL.

Naperville: Sunday, January 25, 7:00pm, home of the Ovens Family. 43 Sussex Ct., Naperville, IL. RSVP 630-527-8139 or gingerovens@gmail.com.

KANSAS

Kansas City: Friday, January 30, 6:00pm, home of the Cook Family. 3700 Shawnee Mission Pkwy, Fairway, KS. RSVP 913-269-8634 or lisacook@kc.rr.com

LOUISIANA

New Orleans: Tuesday, February 3, 5:00pm, home of the Frankowski Family. 1704 Robert St, New Orleans. RSVP 504-782-8276 or cwbjkf@yahoo.com.

MISSOURI

St. Louis: Saturday, January 31, 10:00am - 3:00pm, St. Louis Summer Opportunities Fair. Whitfield School, 175 S. Mason Road, St. Louis, MO. *Note: this is a camp fair. You can come meet our staff, but we will not do the slide show presentation.*

St. Louis: Saturday, January 31, 5:00pm, home of the Goldson Family. 801 Kent Road, St Louis, MO. RSVP 314-708-3387 or robertjgoldson@gmail.com.

NEW YORK

New York City: Monday January 26, 6:00pm, home of the Smith Family. 135 East 54th Street, Apt 5DE, New York, NY (between Park and Lexington). RSVP to 917-841-2175 or aimee.b.smith@gmail.com.

TEXAS

Houston: Thursday, January 8, 6:30pm, home of the Greer Family. 407

Tecumseh Lane, Houston, TX. RSVP to 713-254-0483 or marymargaret.greer@kinkaid.org.

Austin: Friday, January 9th, 6:00pm, home of the Young Family. 5504 Ravine Ridge Cove, Austin, TX. RSVP to zey.young@gmail.com for gate code.

Dallas: Saturday, January 10th, 5:00pm, home of the Lockhart Family. 5354 Waneta Drive, Dallas, TX. RSVP 214-704-0325 or michellelockhart@mac.com.

Ft. Worth: Sunday, January 11th, 6:00pm, home of the Alexander Family. 3717 Aviemore Drive, Fort Worth, TX. RSVP 817-528-5468 or lauraba@me.com.

WASHINGTON, DC

Sunday, January 25th, 4:00pm, home of the Truettner-Robison Family. 3406 Macomb Street NW, Washington DC. RSVP 202-537-5999 or hadleytr@me.com.

Carrying the Code

This is a shout out to Bodhi Kier and Sebastian Griffin for Carrying the Code. During this school year Bodhi was able to help his buddy and Cheley Camp friend while at school.

His best friend, Sebastian, whom he met 3 summers ago at Cheley, was super bummed by a big challenge he was dealing with and Bodhi was able to help him. Bodhi came up to Sebastian in the hall and put his hand on his back and started singing "Lean on Me" and made Sebastian smile. Bodhi reminded him of this one early breakfast hike where he was super tired and didn't want to get up for it and Sebastian had encouraged him and got him all pumped up to go and they had an awesome day. After Bodhi reminded Sebastian of this story, Sebastian perked up and said, "Yeah, ok Bo! I'm just dealing with a challenge and we can get through this challenge like we got through that EB hike! Thanks, bro!" Nice work, gentlemen, on using your Cheley experience and Code to help you during your school year!



Carrying the Code



Loose conduct is apt to get one in tight places.





*Defeat
never comes
until it's admitted.*



95th Reunion: Labor Day Weekend 2015

We are grateful to be celebrating our 95th season and we hope you can join us! The 95th Reunion will take place on Labor Day weekend: Friday, September 4th to Monday, September 7th, 2015. It will be a fun-packed weekend of singing, good food, camp activities, catching up with friends and reliving your camper days. The schedule and pricing is listed below to give you a better idea of what the weekend entails. Online registration for the weekend will start on February 1st, 2015 at <http://www.cheley.com/95-summers-reunion>. If you are unable to register online, please call our office to register. If you were at Cheley in the 1920s or 1930s, there is no cost to register.

Each Registration fee includes meals, activities on the chosen day(s), a poster and a t-shirt.

- Full Registration (staying at camp) for 13 and up - \$275
- Full Registration 12 and under - \$225
- Partial Registration (staying away from camp) for 13 and up - \$225
- Partial Registration 12 and under - \$175
- Saturday only Registration 13 and up - \$150
- Saturday only Registration 12 and under - \$100
- Sunday only Registration 13 and up - \$100
- Sunday only Registration 12 and under - \$65

Friday, September 4th, 2015

- 1:00pm Volunteer Meeting in Chipeta Lodge
- 3:00 - 5:45pm Registration in Chipeta Lodge
- 3:00 - 6:00pm Museum open
- 5:00 - 6:00pm Boy's Store open
- 6:00pm Dinner followed by singing in Ski Hi Dining Room
- 7:30pm Registration will continue in Chipeta Lodge
- 7:30pm Choir practice at the Chapel
- 8:00pm Square Dance in the Cheley Dome
- 9:30pm 2014 Slide Show, Unit Songs and Taps

Saturday, September 5th, 2015

- 6:00am Early Breakfast in Ski Hi Dining Room for those going on the advanced hike
- 8:00am Breakfast in Ski Hi Dining Room
- 9:00 - 11:30am Registration continues in Chipeta Lodge
- 8:45 - 11:00am Boy's Store open
- 9:00am - 5:00pm Museum open
- 9:00am - 5:00pm Old Cheley movies available in Chipeta Lodge
- 9:00am Hikes to Black Lake, Chasm Lake, Bridal Veil Falls, Lake Isabelle, and more. Climbing at Christmas Tree Rock, all day horseback ride to Pierson Meadow, half day horseback ride to Gypsy Grounds, two-hour ranch exploration rides throughout the day, fishing all day at the Cheley pond
- 12:00pm Bulk Lunch in the Pavilion
- 1:15pm Climbing meets in front of Senior Chipeta Lodge
- 1:30pm Half day horseback ride to Gypsy Grounds meet at the Barns
- 5:30pm Trigger Bill Barbecue on the Ranch
- 8:30pm After dinner gatherings in lodges

Sunday, September 6th, 2015

- 8:00am Buffet breakfast in Ski Hi Dining Room
- 9:00 - 10:45am Registration open in Chipeta Lodge
- 9:00 - 10:45am Boy's Store open
- 9:30am Choir practice in the Chapel
- 11:00am Chapel
- 12:30pm Lunch at Woods Kitchen
- 1:30 - 5:00pm Open afternoon, enjoy yourselves
- 1:30 - 3:00pm Climbing Wall open
- 1:30 - 3:00pm BTE and GTE tours meet in front of Ski Hi Lodge
- 6:00pm Dinner in Ski Hi Dining Room
- 7:30pm Vespers in the Chapel, Friendship candles, Unit Songs and Taps

Monday, September 7th, 2015

- 7:30am Continental breakfast in Ski Hi Dining Room and goodbye until we meet again.

95th Summer Logo

We asked for a little inspiration for our 95th summer logo on Facebook, and we received some wonderful ideas and designs. We are excited to present you with the 95th logo designed by Rebecca Cook Williams. Rebecca also designed this year's holiday card. Rebecca was a camper at GTE from 1996 to 1999 and was a counselor at GTE in 2002 and 2003. She lives in Washington, DC with her husband and one year-old son, and runs a design agency that specializes in information design. Rebecca, thank you for sharing your talent with Cheley!



2014 Unit Videos and All-Camp Campfire Skits

In case you didn't receive the email in December, we have posted all the unit videos from 2014. These are the videos that were played during the final campfire for each term and each unit. Some of them are very large files so we have provided a HD version and a smaller version. We will provide these videos with the 2014 DVD that is sent out in early March. We have also posted all of the 2014 All-Camp Campfire Skits on YouTube. To view them, go to www.cheley.com and click on the YouTube icon in the top right corner to view the skits and the rest of our videos.



Announcing CILTs for Summer 2015

We are excited to announce the CILTs for the summer of 2015. Last summer, we had 56 campers apply for the CILT program. We are excited that we have this many campers who are still dedicated to attending camp during their junior and senior years of high school. It is always a very challenging decision since we have watched many of the applicants grow up at camp. The CILTs will spend time in leadership orientations, consistent follow-up, a week of an exchange to a different unit, and support from **Smitty** and their assistant director. In addition, they are asked to do some work during the spring in preparation of their final summer at Cheley. The following individuals have been selected based on their past involvement at camp, the quality of their application, the vote of their peers and the staff in the unit, and the recommendation of their director.

Senior Chipeta 1st Term – Taylor Kerr, Hana Lindsey, Laura Street, Jessica Thompson, and Kate Wood.

Senior Chipeta 2nd Term – Isabelle Arnheim, Petie Boylan, Emily Carroll, Lanie Flint, Meg Miller, Ginger Resko, and Hannah Wineman.

GTE 1st Term – Alyssa Brookover, Georgia Marshall, Julia Nadler, and Allie Price.

GTE 2nd Term – Emma Fabert, Kendall Jones, Brooke Lummis, Meagan Moor, Annika Skigen, and Grace Slocum.

Haiyaha 1st Term – Josh Bennett, Russell Bowden, Jakubb Fahrenkrug, Connor Hill, Ian Stanford, SJ Durand, and Marcus Tweedy.

Haiyaha 2nd Term – Jeremy Francoeur, Peter Kubly, Zachary Mintz, Kieran Murphy, Spencer Niemann, Charlie Ovens, Peter Schmidt, and Reagor Wagnon.

BTE 1st Term – Alex Moulton, Porter Ludwig, McCarthy Fitch, and Will Gast.

BTE 2nd Term – Cameron Kozloff, Henry Woodward, Justin Henry, Kevin Brito, and Guillaume Van Der Straten Waillet.



Fortunate are those who borrow experience instead of buying it.





The highest form of service to others is to help them to help themselves.

Cheley in Community

We have had two Cheley in the Community events this fall in Denver. More than 55 Cheley campers, alumni, and friends gathered at Denver's City Park on October 4 to help "Put the Beds to Bed" for the winter. On November 8, we worked with Volunteers of America on their "Rake up Colorado" project, helping limited-income seniors with raking needs in the Denver metro area.



We had three hard-working teams working at eight homes. Thank you to our awesome volunteers! Our next project will be in the spring.



Welcome, Cara!

Cara Clarkson was on Barn Crew from 2010- 2012 and has returned to Cheley as the Assistant Ranch Manager. She grew up outside of Chicago and considers Emory, TX home. Cara spent most of her time riding horses and showing across the Midwest. She has a BS in agricultural business from Southern Arkansas University and a MS in animal science from the University of Wyoming. Outside of work, she loves spending time with her dogs (Rad and Nifty) and her horse (Squiggy), reading, being outdoors and traveling.





Around the Campfire

... with Cheley Friends

1990s

Kristin Pace Knight will be starting the Yukon Quest 1,000 Mile International Sled Dog Race on February 7 with a team of 14 dogs that she and her husband have trained since they were puppies. She credits Cheley for giving her the strong foundation of courage, sisterhood, strength and positivity that she will need to complete this amazing journey.

Emma Gilmore Kieran (camper 1990-1996, staff 1998-2000) lives in Saratoga Springs, NY with her husband, Dave. She is an independent fundraising consultant and is preparing for her 20th marathon and her third Ironman triathlon in Boulder, CO in 2015. Emma loves keeping in touch with her counselor and camper friends and can't wait to see her nieces and nephews be ready to become campers!

In Passing

Frances "Foohey" Kidwell passed away at age 93 in Phoenix, AZ in October 2014. Foohey, who was originally from Omaha, NE, was a camper and counselor in the 1940s. After her years at Cheley, she spent summers in Estes Park. Cheley held a very special place in her heart.

Ralph "Bob" McElvain, Jr. passed away at age 79 in Salt Lake City, UT in November 2014. Bob was originally from Morris, IL and was a camper in the 1940's. He loved Cheley and his attendance began many years of family legacy. He enjoyed the outdoors: skiing, mountain biking and fly fishing.

Jean A Jensen passed away at age 65 in Salina, KS. Jean was originally from Salina, KS and she moved to Denver in 1974. She was on summer staff from 1970 to 1973 before joining the year-round staff from 1973-1995. Jean was the enrollment and finance manager and made sure that the office ran smoothly and all paperwork was in order. Jean loved sports and followed all the K-State and Denver teams.

Patti (Pierce) Flint died in September at age 83. She was a GTE camper,

junior counselor, and counselor in the 40s and 50s. She enjoyed keeping up with camp friends through the years, hosting many of them at her cabin near the Cheley ranch. Pat shared her love of camp with her friends at home in Winfield, Kansas, and had many family members also attended Cheley- her sister Nancy (camper in the early 60s), sons Rich and Jonathan (campers in the 70s and 80s, counselors in the late 80s), and granddaughters Maggie, Lanie and Mandie (campers 2000-present). She is survived by her husband, Ben, of 51 years, who was not a Cheley camper, but feels like one after all the years of hearing camp stories and visiting Cheley.

Wedding Bells

Lindsay Moffitt (camper from 1999-2006) married **Rob Naughton** (camper 2000 – 2005) on August 30, 2014 in Denver, CO. **Katherine Naughton** (camper 2002-2008, staff 2013) was a bridesmaid and **Daniel Moffitt** (camper 1999-2007) was a groomsman.

Brianna Colbrunn (3rd generation GTE camper from 1997-1999 and staff in 2001) married Shane Nease on August 30 at her grandfather, **John Colbrunn's** (Cheley camper and staff), home.

Future Campers

Taylor Martin Schrader (staff 2009-2010) and **Chris Schrader** (staff 2008-2013) welcomed Sadie Lily Schrader on Nov. 13 in Arizona. Sadie joins big sister Hailey, 2



Emily Miller Masters (staff 2007-2010, 2012) and **Will Masters** welcomed Charlie Smith Masters on their anniversary, Oct. 6.



It isn't the load that breaks us down, it's the way we carry it.





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Cheley Surveys

Thank you to those parents who completed the parent/camper online survey regarding the summer of 2014. We received over 110 responses to the online survey. As with so many of our activities, we have to take time and evaluate where we are so we can move ahead. We felt that the summer of 2014 was a huge success but we also realize there are always areas for improvement. We spend much of our off-season evaluating our program and exploring improvements for the future. We held a drawing for three \$50 gift certificates to the Cheley store for those families who completed the survey. The winners were:

- Iniaki Cornejo
- Will Ericsson
- Kate Frankmore

If you didn't complete the survey and would like to, please email the office at office@cheley.com and we will reply with the link.



There are extraordinary possibilities in most ordinary people.

KEEPING IN TOUCH...

We'd like to be able to keep in touch – but we can only if you keep us up-to-date with your **address and other current information**. Please take a minute now to send us an update.

And – we also want to hear from you with your news for the next PACK RAT.

Just send an email to: office@cheley.com

