



CAMP OPENING ISSUE... 2018

The Cheley **PACK RAT**

CHELEY COLORADO CAMPS
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Camp is Vital to the Development of Children... Now More Than Ever

I have had multiple experiences over the past few months that continue to deepen my commitment to the mission of Cheley Camps. About a month ago, I had the chance to spend about 45 minutes with Chancellor Rebecca Chopp at the University of Denver. She is an amazing woman. We talked about the future of education and what she is observing about her students. One of her comments was that DU is finding that they need to teach new students how to belong. They need help learning how to join a new community. From other stories I have heard, this is not unique to DU. People can hang on to their comfortable communities through technology and social media, so they may not reach out in their new communities. I am going to urge our staff this summer to disconnect from their communities at home so they can dive into the wonderful relationships that are created at camp. In addition, campers have the opportunity each summer to build a new community and spend the term finding their place among this community. We often hear that our campers have more success integrating into college than their non-camp friends.



Rebecca also shared that students seem to be deficient in problem solving skills. As parents, many of us are too involved in solving problems for our children. Our overinvolvement is robbing them of learning how to take in the available information, explore options, and come to a decision. We want the best for our children and don't like to see them struggle, but these struggles are part of the growth process. Campers will be involved in many decisions this summer. They will decide what they want to do each week (without advice from parents or friends), they will deal with conflict in their cabin or their unit, they may have to decide if they continue or turn back on a hike (the decision is the counselors', but they can learn

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Trigger Bill says...

The most successful folks are those who do common things uncommonly well.





*We see things
not as they are,
but as we are.*



PACK RAT PUT TOGETHER BY

Around the Campfire: Cheley Staff
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Estes Park, CO 80517

Camp is Vital

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from this process), or if they decide to pursue a certain recognition patch. These opportunities allow them to practice decision-making in a nurturing environment.

I also had the opportunity to attend the Helping Boys Thrive Summit, hosted by Michael Gurian and Tim Wright. As the father of three boys and the leader of an organization that will foster the growth of over 500 boys this summer, this is an important subject for me. Michael and Tim shared some wonderful wisdom about boys and children in general. Tim presented a session titled "The Four Gifts Every Boy Needs." I don't think these suggestions just pertain to boys. Note: the rest of the article is focused on boys to keep the integrity of the presentation, but I believe you could substitute "girls" in every example).

Gift #1 – Boys need mentors.

Boys need men of integrity and character to help them find their purpose. When boys don't know their purpose, they make it up. He shared that there is a lot of feminine energy in a young man's life (mother, teachers, etc.), as they enter their teen years, they need men to pour masculine energy into them. On a side note, he shared that the most vulnerable time in a man's life is being a 13 year-old boy. Just something to keep in mind.

Gift #2 - Boys need a community that believes in them.

These communities need to instill values and meaning into their lives. Their leaders need to communicate that they are here for a reason. Camp provides a community that believes in them, and young adult staff members that instill these quality values. There are few places available today where these relationships exist, let alone are fostered.

Gift #3 - Boys need a quest that shapes them. Tim talked about the value of rites of passage. He defines

a rite of passage as a strategic, specific experience with one goal: To lead a boy into manhood. There are many movies that demonstrate this rite of passage (Star Wars, Lord of the Rings, etc.). As parents and fathers, we need to create or make available these experiences. The Bar Mitzvah experience in the Jewish religion is a wonderful example of a rite of passage. Other experiences could be camping with your children, an intentional trip with one child, etc. There are wonderful examples available online. We need to be having conversations with boys about "what kind of man do you want to be?" In our older units, minor rites of passage may be the 5-day backpack, the 3-day horsepack/ mountain bike, or conquering a fear at camp.

Gift #4 - Boys need words of affirmation. We need to learn how to recognize young men. Tim's equation for providing words of affirmation was "You are my son. I love you. I'm proud of you. You are really good at ____." This comment is followed by a meaningful touch. This will look a bit different from a friend or a counselor, but we can still shower children with words of affirmation. It may look like, "You are a valuable member of this unit. I enjoy our time together. I'm proud of you. You are really good at including others and encouraging campers on our hikes." Followed by a high five and direct eye contact.

As we prepare for this summer, I am re-committed to our mission as an organization. Our children are growing up in a crazy world. They need our commitment to their development. Whether it is teaching them to connect in a new community, improve their problem solving, or giving them words of affirmation to develop their confidence, the Cheley Experience is committed to the personal development of all of our campers, staff, and our camp families. It takes a village.

CHELEY PACK RAT is published four 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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Important 2018 Dates

May 14: Cheley office moves from Denver to Estes Park

June 12: First Term Begins

July 6-7: First Term, Recognition Campfires & Final Weekend

July 8: First Term Ends, Mid-Term Trip

July 10: Second Term Begins

August 3-4: Second Term, Recognition Campfires & Final Weekend

August 5: Second Term Ends

August 6-11: Family Camp

Getting Mail at Camp

All USPS Mail:

Cheley Colorado Camps
Name, Unit (Lower Ski Hi, Ski Hi, Haiyaha, BTE, Lower Chipeta, Chipeta, Senior Chipeta, GTE)
PO Box 1170
Estes Park, CO 80517

All Fed Ex/UPS Mail:

Cheley Colorado Camps
Name, Unit
3960 Fish Creek Road
Estes Park, CO 80517

Donate Your Used Items

If you have camp items that you can no longer use, please bring them to camp on Opening Day. We often have families that are looking for slightly used riding or hiking boots, rain jackets, and other camp items. We would love to pass them along to those families.

Cheley Centennial Call to Action

We are excited for our 98th summer with new campers and staff, exciting additions to our facility, and unwavering commitment to our mission. We strive to provide an amazing summer experience and put plans in place to preserve the future of camp. We also have some exciting things happening in honoring our history. The museum is slated to be completed this summer, work on the Centennial book continues to move toward completion for our 100th year, some vintage Cheley items will be featured in an upcoming Country Living piece, and the 100th year logo will be revealed soon.

Another call to action for the Centennial book and for the museum! We have so many amazing families that trust us to be their partners in developing healthy and happy children. We appreciate the new families that find us on the internet and the families that have been with us for generations. We would like to kick off our 100th celebration by making sure that we have good records on our generational families. If you are a multi-generational family please send us your family tree, listing who attended Cheley and which years. In addition, if you met your spouse at Cheley, it is not too late to submit your names, wedding date, and a quality photo. Please email submissions to office@cheley.com

Online Forms

Kudos to all of the parents who have completed their forms for this summer! We appreciate your help. Thank you to families who were among the first to finish their paperwork: **Ashodian, Bartel, Castledine, Dean, Forbes, Malkin, Phillips, Huang, Rosenblum and Young families.** Way to go! If you haven't completed your forms online in CampBrain for this summer, please complete them by May 1. If you need help with a login or password, or locating the forms, call our office or email office@cheley.com for assistance.



A person usually can do more than they think they can, but they usually do less than they think they do.





Past experience should be a guide post, not a hitching post.

Carrying the Code *By: Brooke Cheley-Klebe*

Colton Kirby was a camper in 2012 and 213, where he hiked 123 miles and earned the "Hiked Most Miles" award. He earned his rank of Eagle Scout in 2016. Colton has worked countless volunteer hours for six years to earn this rank, the highest rank in the Boy Scouts.



Carrying the Code

Colton's Eagle project was building a gravel nature pathway at his former school, Lakeway

Elementary in Austin, TX. The path connects the kindergarten wing to the natural habitat on the campus. He recruited five sponsors and 17 volunteers to complete the project.

Colton's parents are Ron and Kristin Kirby. Colton is getting ready to attend college. Nice work, Colton!



Check Out the Online Store

Go to www.cheley.com/store to purchase the latest items from the Cheley Camp Store. The online store is a great way to help you prepare for the summer packing list. You can choose to have items shipped to you or waiting for your camper at Cheley.



Boy Scout Merit Badges at Cheley

We are pleased to offer campers who are in Boy Scouts the opportunity to work on merit badges while at camp in six areas: hiking, horsemanship, leatherworking, wilderness survival, riflery, and wood carving. Interested campers need to attain approval from their Scoutmaster and bring the blue merit badge card to camp with them.



Enrollment Update

We have campers enrolled from 48 states and 17 countries. At the printing of this Pack Rat:

First term: Lower Chipeta and Senior Chipeta are full, and Lower Ski Hi, Chipeta and BTE are almost full.

Second Term: Lower Ski Hi, Ski Hi, Haiyaha, Lower Chipeta and GTE are full. Senior Chipeta and BTE are almost full.



Spring in the Rockies

The birds are returning, the grass is growing, and our facilities team is kicking it into high gear! This year we have taken on some pretty big and impressive projects. We are so proud to offer our campers a world class experience and our facility is a major part of that experience. This off season, our maintenance team of Mike Supinski, Brian Hawf, Nick Hawk, and Steve Enyeart, along with our ranch manager, Cara Clarkson, and assistant ranch manager, Joe Joyer, have taken on three major camp renovations, as well as many other projects that keep Cheley the beautiful and historic place that it is.

The first major project was to re-imagine and redesign our barns. We needed a healthier environment for our horses and staff. In September,



our well-loved, aging barns came down. Since then, the crew has been working on removing the debris, installing a massive new fencing system and reconstructing the existing tack barn into a walk through saddling and bridling area.

For many years we have dreamed of installing a high ropes course. After researching different courses and attending training sessions on

the program philosophy, we decided to work with Tom Leahy of Leahy and Associates to build our course. Tom is renowned in the industry and designed our course with the highest standards. We are excited to offer this

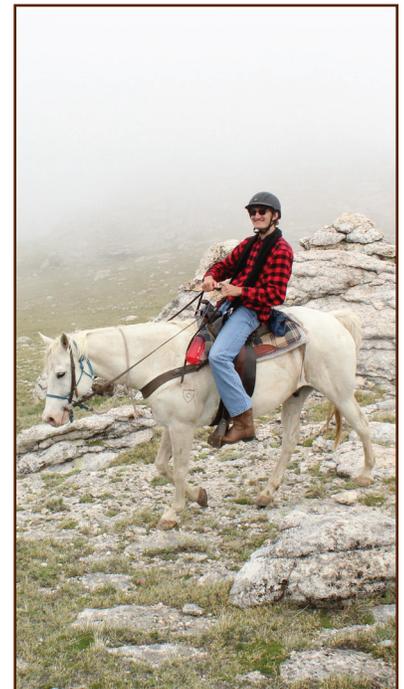


new program to our campers in all units and know that the experiences they will have on this course will be a fundamental addition to their camp experience.

The third major project was updating the Chapel Court. We are excited to have a sports field in Girls' Camp and a bigger welcoming area for families during Chapel. This area includes a gaga pit, picnic tables and a large grassy area for sports programs or picnic lunches on Sunday.



If only we could forget our troubles as easily as we forget our blessings.





If you think you haven't very much to be thankful for, be thankful for some of the things you don't have.



Around the Campfire ... with Cheley Friends

IN PASSING

David Engle (staff 1950s) passed away on August 1, 2017 in Estes Park, CO. He was born in Denver and was a hiking counselor at Cheley.

William "Bill" Goodwin (camper 1943 – 1953) passed away in January 2018 in Des Moines, IA. He was a businessman and manufacturer, served in the Navy and was active in the community serving on the boards for many businesses and non-profits. Bill was a John Austin Cheley Foundation trustee and a lifetime member of Friends of Cheley.

Janet Fletcher Graham (camper) passed away on February 13, 2018 in Overland Park, KS. Janet loved Rocky Mountain National Park beginning with her time as a camper at Cheley. Janet was a figure skating judge and a teacher. Her daughter Amanda Graham Dresie and her granddaughter Madalin Dresie were also campers at Cheley.

Catharine "Taddy" Corley Hurley (camper 1950s, staff 1956-59) passed away on November 19, 2017. Cheley was woven into much of the commemoration of Catharine's life: the recessional song was "On the Loose" and on the back of the program was a photo of Catharine in the rodeo parade in the 1950s. A photo was taken of all the

grandchildren who went to Cheley wearing their BKs.

Yvonne (Sarrailh) Ladegallerie (camper) passed away on April 12, 2018. She worked at Cheley many summers, along with her husband Andre.

Susan "Swifty" Swift Miller (camper and staff 1950s- early 1960s) passed away on January 14, 2016 in Colorado Springs. Her nephews Dan and David Fulkerson were campers in the 1960s and her son Matt Miller was a camper in the late 90s.

FUTURE CAMPERS

Nina Louise Naughton, was born on February 15, 2018 **Lindsay (Moffitt) Naughton** (camper 1999-2006) and **Robert Naughton** (camper 2000-2005, staff 2010). Nina will be a 4th generation Cheley camper, following her parents, and maternal grandmother **Martha (Dern) Moffitt** and great-grandfather **"Cowboy Bob" Dern**.



Forest Restoration Project

We have started a forest restoration project on 160 acres at Land O'Peaks. Using science-based forest restoration research and prescriptions, this project aims to reduce severe wildfire risk, mortality from insects and disease, as well as improve water quality. For the past 100-200 years, societal practices have modified the structure and composition of our forests through fire suppression, overgrazing, etc. These practices have led to

undesirable and uncharacteristic fuel conditions, poor wildlife habitat, and unhealthy trees. In turn, these undesirable conditions can lead to degradation of soil health and water quality. This project was designed to restore forests back to their true natural state, providing better resiliency to insects, disease, fire, and extreme weather events.

We are working with the Natural

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2018 Staff

Our 98th Season

*As of 5/10/18

Administrative and Support Staff

YEAR ROUND TEAM

Jeff Cheley
Brooke Cheley-Klebe
Don Cheley, *Dir. Emeritus*
Carole Cheley, *Dir. Emeritus*
Alyse Averdick
Kim Betts
Steve Enyeart
Kathryn Grove
Brian Hawf
Nick Hawf
Peggy Haynes
Joe Joyer
Shawn Ness
Clint Ouellette
Cara Schroeder
Mike Supinski

SUMMER SUPPORT STAFF

Dani Adams
Sam Aldeen
Maggie Arsenault
Erin Barham
Brett Blackmon
Barbara Betts
Itzel Borja
Ann Brandon
Blakelee Brownd
Roberto Campuzano
Coleen Carney
Ashley Carter
Ben Chiles
Elizabeth Clayton
Keaton Collins
Tori Collins
Matthew Cooper
Hannah Curtis
Anna Curry
Susan Darby
Jodee d'Avignon
Gabriel Darquea
Haily Dever
Vianey Diaz
Carolyn Echols
Nicole Ebel
Kelsa Ferguson
Daniel Fuentes
Ali Garcia
Ricardo Gomez

Tania Gonzalez
Dottie Gottshall
Linda Goubeaux
Dr. Vicky Gregg
Gabrielle Grund
Spencer Hamme
Izzy Haser
Kirsten Hass
Brian Heck
Lou Hopkins
Christine Huang
Finn Hunsaker
Jessica Hyde
AJ Jason
Sierra Kelley
Randi Kleffman
Vanessa Lara
Joann Leetmae
Kirstie Lower
Olivia Lowery
Johanna Marquez
Georgia Marshall
Brendan Martel
Haven Martin
Molly McCreight
Carlos Mera
Megan Nielander
Anna Parker
Chandler Pody
Kyle Posey
Liz Price
Devin Riggs
Enrique Roblero
Adeline Roeper
Austin Roeper
Kat Roll
Olivia Ross
Jaycie Sabala
Armando SantaMaria
Hanna Selman
Smitty Smith
Austin St. John
Andy Stutz
Corin Taylor
Meg Theobald
Carter Thomas
Celia Vaughn
Angela Wilson
Gracie Wilson

Trail's End Ranch For Girls

Ali Kittle, *Director*
Abby Mayo, *Asst. Dir.*
Edith Campuzano
Coleen Carney
Amy Castro
Sophie Frankel
Rachel Harvey
Imy Hayward
Julia Lackner
Sophie Lackner

Hana Lindsey
Shannon Maples
Kara Meehan
Tristan Morris
Abby Page
Meg Rash
Kathleen Riley
Ritzy Running
Amanda Sursely
Emily Trousil

Trail's End Ranch For Boys

Josh Morris, *Director*
Sam Norton, *Asst. Dir.*
Ash Krueger, *Asst. Dir.*
Lewis Chapman
Rob Farmer
Niall Goard
Paddy Harris
Grant Hull
Caleb Kramer

Spencer Kuchan
Grant Longden
Casey O'Neal
Carlos Padilla
Brett Pucetas
Gary Swetnam
Ruth Swetnam
Chase Vaillancourt

Land O' Peaks Ranch Girls' Camps

Girls' Camp Director — Gail Albers

SENIOR CHIPETA

Katie Clurman, *Director*
MaryEllen Hernandez, *Asst. Dir.*
LauRan Bass
Sara Ferguson
Allison Fitzgerald
Jodee d'Avignon
Lizzy Guido
Eve Hanlon Cole

Bri Hofmann
Taylor Kerr
Kelly Kossen
Annmarie Leahy
Amanda Markoe
Micheli Oliver
Ally Price
Gemma Sanders
Jess Savage

CHIPETA

Jordan Warmath, *Director*
Brittany Hecht, *Asst. Dir.*
Madison Schehl, *Asst. Dir.*
Katie Averdick
Dani Brown
Alyssa Daly
Annie Ellzey
Norah Jones

Jesse Gaughan
Maggie Lebor
Pam Mason
Laura Mengelkoch
Darby O'Connor
Maddie Steele
Macy Tush
Erika Zachman

LOWER CHIPETA

Emily Masters, *Director*
Rachel Moore, *Asst. Dir.*
Julie Bloomquist, *Asst. Dir.*
Abby Bean
Avery Bell
Ciara Brady
Taylor Champion

Shannon Dooley
Hana Durkee
Bel Edstrom
Hannah Golub
Annie Schwartz
Kiri Snell
Ariel Wagner-Randall
Renee Wright

Land O' Peaks Ranch Boys' Camps

HAIYAHA

Joe Joyer, *Director*
Luke Quibell, *Asst. Dir.*
Cole Rickard, *Asst. Dir.*
Bryce Dahl
Jodee d'Avignon
JJ John
Dylan Lederer

Jeb Kendrick
Paul Krause
Nick Russ
Joe Sharpe
Nicky Vatteroni
Troy Waites
Joe Walsh

SKI HI

Logan Waites, *Director*
Bilal Preston-Molvi, *Asst. Dir.*
Mitch Treleaven, *Asst. Dir.*
Connor Charpentier
Devon Crow
Chris Doucet
Sam Farrington

Ben Hankins
Damon Lewis
Zack Mintz
Reuben Hansen
Michael Trentel
Liam Wallace
Bailey Williams
Kaleb Wright

LOWER SKI HI

Alison Hix, *Director*
Jack Maud, *Asst. Dir.*
Jacob Fries, *Asst. Dir.*
Nick Bonofiglo
Justin Damon
Drake DiAngelo
TJ Dillon

Shelby Dougherty
Dolton Fell
Dan Hakan
Diego Huston
Emanuel Jones
Dan Rodden
Oliver Watkins
Jake Yates



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Forest Restoration Project

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Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District, and the Big Thompson Conservation District (BTCD) to implement forest restoration practices during late 2017 through August 2018. The project goals are to:

- Return trees densities to their historical state to reduce the risk of catastrophic disease/ pest infestation or wildfire
- Create openings for quaking aspen, native grasses, forbs, and shrubs to re-establish.
- Mimic historical disturbance regimes through mechanical treatment to boost healthy forest structure and improve wildlife habitat

To achieve these goals, this work will include a variety of practices to suit the forest types at varying elevations including: patch-cuts and traditional thinning. The project area will have improved age, size, and species diversity that will in turn provide habitat and forage for wildlife. Although it may appear to be destructive at first glance, forest ecosystems depend on disturbances to maintain their vital functions. The goals are to improve forest function for many years to come. This project will help to strengthen the forest in the Estes Valley and we are honored to be involved.

