



WINTER ISSUE... 2020

The Cheley **PACK RAT**

CHELEY COLORADO CAMPS
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"For the Arrow to Fly Straight, the Bow Must be Stable."

A fellow camp director made this comment the other day. It is his interpretation of a passage from one of his favorite authors, Kahlil Gibran. As soon as he shared this quote, I immediately went to the idea that for our children to succeed, we as parents need to be stable. But it can be interpreted many ways. (He was actually making the pitch that for our campers to succeed, our staff need to be stable.)

His comment stuck with me the rest of the day. How can I be a "stable bow" for my family, my organization, and my friends? There is so much conversation about the instability in our society. More depression, more anxiety, more stress. What if our goal as leaders in our community was to provide stability? Here are a few quick ideas to become more stable.

1. Spend one minute gathering your thoughts every time you arrive somewhere. I'm

probably like many of you. I'm often rushing to get home. I'm either planning, talking on the phone, or listening to a podcast or the radio on my way home. Rarely do I get home early. I come rushing in the door bringing my stress from the day with me. I am not a model of stability. I'm sure I would be a better father, husband, and leader if I would take just one minute to plan my entry into the family. The same is true with arriving to work, to the field to coach children, or any meeting.



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Trigger Bill says...

A person who is a good listener is not only popular, but is apt to learn something.



CAMP DATES FOR 2020

Summer Camp

FirstTerm:

Tues. June 16th – Sun. July 12th

SecondTerm:

Tues. July 14th – Sun. Aug. 9th

Full Summer:

Tues. June 16th – Sun. Aug. 9th

Family Camp

Mon. Aug. 10th – Sat. Aug. 15th

Quarter B-4 Camp

Mon. Aug. 10th – Sat. Aug. 15th



PACK RAT PUT TOGETHER BY

Around the Campfire: Cheley Staff

Staff Updates: Jeff Cheley

Camper Information: Jeff Cheley

Layout: Cheley Staff

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Any news for the Pack Rat?

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“For the Arrow to Fly Straight, the Bow Must be Stable.”

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2. Figure out how to create stability for yourself. What do you do to take care of yourself? I’m a much better person when I exercise. A thirty-minute workout has a major impact on my attitude throughout the day. On most mornings, I get up early to make sure I get in my workout (and I don’t look at my phone or read email- this is my time). My sister, Brooke, has a morning routine of making coffee and then going for a walk (without music) or meditating by herself. We talk about how this “me time” helps us prepare for the day.

3. Breathe. Taking time to be intentional about our breathing has a huge impact on our stress level. My wife, Erika, (Brooke also does this) often stops us before dinner to take

a few deep breaths. She has four guys at the dinner table ready to jump right into dinner. Taking a few minutes to slow down has a calming impact on our dinners.

I pride myself on my ability to get things done. Unfortunately, this strength means I’m always trying to be effective and efficient. As I get older (I’m almost 50- yikes!), I’m accepting that I need to focus more on my impact on others. I need to become a “stable bow” so those around me can be effective and less stressed. What can you implement in your daily life to be a stable force for those around you?

In closing, I guess it’s much easier to write about slowing down in November during our down time. Don’t hold me to this in June.

– Jeff Cheley

Submit a Video Testimonial!

We’re looking for current campers and alumni, parents, and staff to submit video testimonials about their Cheley experience and if your video is chosen, we’ll send you a free Cheley logoed Hydro Flask®!

It’s simple, all you need to do is film a video on your phone or camera, answer a few questions, and submit it online. We ask that you refrain from using your computer webcam. For guidelines, submissions, and more, visit <https://www.cheley.com/submit-a-video-testimonial>.



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. Do you know someone who would like to receive the Pack Rat and is not currently? Please email office@cheley.com or write to us at PO Box 6525, Denver, CO 80206.

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Texas Open House Dates

Hello Texas! Please stop by to see us if you live in the area. We will show the 2019 Promotional video, meet new families, and reconnect with camp friends to kick off our 100th summer.

**Thursday, January 9, 6:30 pm
Houston**

Home of the Greer Family,
407 Tecumseh Ln., Houston, TX 77057
RSVP: marymgreer@sbcglobal.net

**Friday, January 10, 5:30 pm
San Antonio**

Home of Davidson Family, 505 W.
El Prado, San Antonio, TX 78212
RSVP: kelifdavidson@gmail.com

**Saturday, January 11, 5:00 pm
Austin**

Home of the Shiflet Family, 65 Pascal
Ln., Austin, TX 78746, Gate code 48133
RSVP: anneshiflet@mac.com

**Sunday, January 12, 1:00 pm
Fort Worth**

Home of the Blumenfeld Family, 4205
Lone Oak Drive, Fort Worth, TX, 76107
RSVP: ashli.blumenfeld@gmail.com

**Sunday, January 12, 5:00 pm
Dallas**

Home of the Ratliff Family, 3725
Centenary Drive, Dallas, Texas 75225
RSVP: angieratliff@mac.com

Visit our Facebook page to see
more Open House dates.



*You are often sorry for
saying a harsh word,
but never regret saying
a kind one.*

Summer 2019 Recap

In 2019 we had campers from nine countries and 45 states, plus Washington, DC! Campers came from: the USA, Germany, France, Mexico, Spain, United Kingdom, Poland, Peru, Hong Kong, and Singapore. We had the most campers from the USA and Mexico. We had campers from every state except for Arkansas, Delaware, New Hampshire, South Dakota, and North Dakota. We had 201 campers from Colorado, 147 from Texas, 67 from California, and 55 from Illinois. Help us see if we can have all 50 states, plus Washington DC, and as many countries as possible represented for our 100th summer!



Welcome, Dylan Lederer

Welcome, Dylan Lederer, our 100th Celebration Coordinator! Dylan grew up near Chicago, Illinois, and has been a camper and summer staff member at Cheley since he was ten years old. Dylan has been a campfire counselor in



Ski Hi and Haiyaha and assistant director in Haiyaha. He is a recent graduate from the University of California: Santa Barbara with a degree in communication. Dylan also studied Spanish in Argentina for four months. When he's not in the office working on the 100th Celebration, he can be found with his camera and an iced vanilla latte in hand exploring Denver (his new hometown), and the outdoors. His favorite camp meal is jambalaya at Mardi Gras Night. Dylan is very excited to join the year-round team to help support Cheley's mission and ring in the Centennial!



**Check out our new
podcasts, available on
Spotify and Apple.**



You have to enjoy
doing something before
you can be successful
at it.



Cheley Videos Available Online

Check out the videos from 2019. We have uploaded all of the recognition night unit videos to Vimeo (www.vimeo.com/cheley). Our YouTube Channel has the All-Camp Campfire skits and other videos as well (www.youtube.com/CheleyColoCamps). Thanks to Alyssa Brookover, Nicole Ebel, Lindsay McNeish, and Molly Wear for their work on the Media Team.



Announcing CILTs for Summer 2020

We are excited to announce the CILTs for the summer of 2020! Last summer, we had over 70 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 the Boys'/Girls' Camp Directors, Smitty and their assistant directors. In addition, they are asked to do some work during the spring in preparation for their CILTs 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, First Term
Osha Ashcraft, Kylar Cronin, Laney Curnett, Rebecca Dunlap, Hannah Grove, Kate McKown, Maddie Schatzman, Frances Street, Sarah Street.

GTE, First Term

Emilee Arias, Emma Arias, Kendall Bartel, Lilah Cotton, Abigail Gruener, Bella Pitt, Avery Vogen.

Haiyaha, First Term

Jack Bonnell, Emil Chaia, Luke Gardiner, Carson Miller, Oliver Smith, Tanner Spreeuw, Hugh Toomey, Patrick Wood.

BTE, First Term

Hunter Ball, Harrison Bell, Stephen Ber, Caden Kalfin, John Mulvaney, Eli Sherman, Chance Zimmerman.

Senior Chipeta, Second Term

Paige Alcott, Ruby Brown, Mandie Flint, Vivienne Kaufman, Carolyn Lobb, Phoebe Schneider, Maya Winifield.

GTE, Second Term

Ava DiAngelo, Izzy Dunn, Emma Hadley, Isabella Holtze, Bella Hughes, Taylor Lewis.

Haiyaha, Second Term

August Bryan, Sam Holder, Jake Madtson, Gabriel Narvaez, Ethan Street.

BTE, Second Term

Riley Bartuska, Boone Brackett, Liam Deitrich, Duke Levenberg, Alex Sharpe, Charlie Weil.

Carrying the Code: Diana Kapp

Diana Kapp believes she learned what it means to be a powerful girl as a camper in Chipeta in 1979 and 1980. She credits Cheley with allowing her daughters, Elliot and Emma Singer, to find their bravest, most confident selves.



Carrying the Code

The problem is, too few girls get the chance to go to Cheley, and far too few girls today view themselves as leaders. It's not surprising, since females today are still rarely making it into leadership positions, particularly in the business world. Did you know that just 6% of the CEOs in the Fortune 500 are female?

This is what prompted Diana to write *Girls Who Run the World: 31 CEOs Who Mean Business*, published in October by Random House. She profiles 31 extraordinary gal entrepreneurs disrupting industries from construction to genetics, apparel to technology apps – the founders behind 23andMe, Stitch Fix, Rent the

Runway, Sword & Plough, Soul Cycle, Birchbox, and more. The premise is girls and young women can't be what they can't see, so here are 31 role models for them who don't take no for an answer, take big risks, follow their passions, make plenty of mistakes but just keep stepping forward. That is what Cheley girls do, and that is where Diana learned that this is an idea that needs spreading.



*People may doubt
what you say,
but they will always
believe what you do.*

Centennial Celebration Information

If for some reason you are just waking up from a really long nap or this is the first time you have decided to take the clear sticky circle off the end of your Pack Rat newsletter to open it up. I want to be the first to tell you that 2020 brings a very significant and historic summer season. We are celebrating 100 years of youth development! And if you are still receiving this newsletter, hopefully you are excited about this news.

Here are some things you need to know.

We have set aside a weekend for alumni, family, and friends to

gather to celebrate. You may have noticed that we have not been calling it a reunion, the very word makes you want to yawn, I know. This is a celebration! A celebration of the families that have taken a leap of faith and decided to spend their summers with us, the staff that have poured their heart and soul into creating a magical summer for the campers, the year-round staff that have dedicated their careers to providing the playground where youth development happens, and of Frank Cheley for having the vision and the courage to fulfill his dream of starting a summer camp. We celebrate a century of having provided a summer experience for tens of thousands of children through wars, economic depressions, floods, fires, and terrorist attacks, and for keeping a family business thriving through four generations.

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Centennial Celebration Weekend Schedule

FRIDAY

4 PM
to
9 PM

Decade Gatherings
in Town!

6 PM
to
10 PM

Registration in
Chipeta Lodge!

SATURDAY

6 AM

Early Breakfast for hikers in Ski Hi
Dining Hall – Bus departs at 6:45 AM

7 AM

Buffet Breakfast at Trail's End Ranches

7:30 AM
to 9 AM

Buffet Breakfast in respective Dining Halls

8 AM to
11:30 AM

Registration continues in Chipeta Lodge
& Museum / Store open

8 AM to
12 PM

Open House Activities:
Cathedral Hike, Crafts, Archery, Riflery,
Climbing at the Climbing Wall, Christmas
Tree, & the Via Ferrata, Fishing, High Ropes,
Mountain Biking, and Horseback Riding in
the Ring

11:30 AM
to 1:30 PM

Buffet Lunch in respective Dining Halls

TBD

Square Dance!

12:30 PM
to 2:30 PM

Open House Activities continue

2:30 PM
to 4 PM

Retreat Practice in the Western Ring

3:00 PM

Choir Practice at the Chapel

5:30 PM to
11:00 PM

the Centennial Celebration Banquet
at the Estes Park Event Center

SUNDAY

7:30 AM
to 9 AM

Buffet Breakfast in respective Dining Halls

9 AM to
10:45 AM

Store Open &
Registration in Chipeta Lodge

10:00 AM

Chapel

11:30 AM
to 1 PM

Buffet Lunch in respective Dining Rooms

1 PM
to 5 PM

Store Open

1:30 PM
to 5 PM

Open House Activities

5:00 PM

Cookout at Woods Kitchen

6:30 PM

Retreat at the Chapel

7:00 PM

All Camp Campfire!

9:00 PM

Optional Singing in Ski Hi Lodge

MONDAY

8:00 AM

Continental Breakfast in respective
Dining Halls

9:00 AM

Happy Trails
until we meet again!



We have planned an amazingly fun weekend. We were thrilled to have the registrations for the weekend come quickly pouring in, resulting in the weekend filling in just a couple of days. We will have a 4 four-month-old to a 97-year-old attending! How cool is that? Attendees will have the opportunity to try out our new high ropes course, traverse our new Via Ferrata, sleep in a cabin or covered wagon, technical climb, get back on a Cheley horse, create a craft, shoot a rifle or a bow, browse through our newly renovated museum, belly laugh with old camp friends, dance like no one is watching, sing like no one is listening or sit quietly and take

in the view. Our hope is to provide a weekend celebration that will stick with you long after you have driven out of the Cheley gates.

The celebration will be ever present throughout our truly special 100th summer leading up to the Celebration Weekend.

We are excited and grateful to have your friendship and support as we launch into the next 100 years. We feel that the camp experience is more important now than ever. We treasure being the successors in an organization that gets to partner with parents to raise resilient, compassionate, independent children who become flourishing adults.



Around the Campfire ... with Cheley Friends

In Passing

Barbara Porter Prey (staff 1950 - 1953) passed away on October 31, 2019 at age 89 in Naperville, IL.

Cheley was formative and integral to Barb who became a cheerful, witty, can-do, adventurous woman.

Bettye Sue Rieger Lewis (staff 1950s) passed away on October 28,

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Around the Campfire...with Cheley Friends

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2019, at age of 84 in Texas. She worked in the Cheley office during the 50s and sent her son John Lewis to camp in the 80s.

Marjorie Ingold Denniston (staff 1940s) passed away on May 31, 2019, at age 93 in Durham, NC. Marge met her husband, Bryant, at Cheley and they sent their three children to Cheley.

Eugene Proud Zachman (camper 1940s) passed away on May 7, 2019, at age 86 in Prairie Village, KS. He sent his grandchildren to Cheley.

Marshall Hesler (camper 1945-1950) passed away on February 24,

2019 at age 82, in Estes Park, CO. He fell in love with Estes Park as a camper and later retired there.

Bernadetta "Bubbles" Pfeifferberger passed away on October 9, 2019, at age 89, in Denver, CO. As a camper she met her husband, Andy, at Chapel and sent her children and grandchildren to Cheley.

Robert Bradbury (staff 2017, 2018) passed away on April 4, 2019, at age 30 in Madison, Wisconsin.

Roger Braugh (camper 1955-59) passed away March 29, 2019. Many of his family members attended Cheley.



Success is seldom achieved by those who contemplate possibilities of failure.

Cheley in the Community

On November 2, 2019 we had an amazing crew of 50 people join us at The Action Center in Lakewood, CO. We packed 180 Thanksgiving boxes and 480 grocery boxes. Giving back is such a fun way to start your weekend. Let us know if you are interested in hosting a Cheley in the Community event in your area.



**Cheley Colorado Camps**

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Summer Survey

Thank you to all the 2019 parents who completed the online survey. We received over 175 responses to the survey this year. We compile this information and use it in our strategic planning. We appreciate your positive comments as well as the constructive criticism. It all helps us improve. The three winners for completing the survey were:

Hunter and Kate Haney

Nima Fulance

Francesca Pezza

Congrats! Each of you will receive a Cheley prize pack soon by mail.



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