



· HOMESTEAD "EPITAPH"

· SILVER SADDLE "HORN"

· SILVER SPRUCE "COMPASS"

· OUTPOST "ELEMENT"

· PATHFINDER "PRINTS"

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF COLVIG SILVER CAMPS

SEPTEMBER 1999

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Summer '99 Full of Fun and Adventure!

Peaceful sunsets, crisp mountain breezes, close friends gathered around a campfire, big smiles at the top of a lofty peak - these are just a few of the precious memories from a spectacular summer that our campers will carry with them for the rest of their lives.

The enthusiasm, compassion and hard work of our staff combined with the traditions and experience of twenty-nine years of camping adventure provided everyone who came to the Red Creek Valley this summer with an unforgettable experience. Read on to relive the highlights of the season and to find out what is happening in the upcoming year.

From the Director's Chair

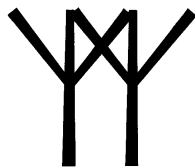
What a summer!!! As one of our coordinators kept saying, "I can't even believe how much fun we had!" We sang old songs like "Topnotcher" and new songs like the much requested "'Colorado' Stars". We played old games like Capture the Flag, and new games like Statue. We met with old friends and made new friends. But, like all summers at camp, it passed too quickly and we are left here in September with an empty camp and only our friends, the memories we made with them, and plans for next year to fill the void.

We witness so many acts of friendship during the summer as we strive to provide an environment that is ideal for learning how to make and be friends. Just as the human capacity for anger and hate sometimes astounds us, so to does our capacity for love and kindness. If we can just reinforce the latter during a child's formative years, then we will have gone a long way towards achieving the goals of our camp.

As I was passing out mail one evening, I came to a cabin in which every camper received mail except one. Everyone had a few letters, having just returned from a trip, including the camper who slept in the bunk above the one without any mail. The camper above had been going through some family difficulties in the previous year and, I'm sure, would have liked to read his mail to see what was happening at home. But, somehow, amid the chaos that is mail time, he noticed that his bunkmate had not received anything. As I talked to the rest of the cabin I watched as he leaned over the edge of his bunk and shared a postcard with his bunkmate, reading it to him and showing him the picture on the card. As everyone else read their mail these two talked about traveling to the place on the card until lights out. He had plenty of time to read his mail. He had this one moment to make his friend feel better.

When a person has a real friend, he learns not only to appreciate another human being, but he also learns to understand himself better.

Susan Polis Schultz



Ancient Friendship Symbol

Remember the friends you made this summer. How did you first meet? What is your favorite memory of them? What would you like to tell them right now? Do it. Keep in touch with them. Send them an e-mail or card or favorite picture of camp. It will be worth it.

On that note: Tavia and I would like to thank all of our friends from this summer, old and new, whose hard work and support convinced us beyond any doubt that this is where we need to be. We both had a great summer, and if you think that was fun just wait until next year!!!

- Clay and Tavia Colvig

"'Colorado' Stars"

G
I'd like to rest my heavy head tonight

D
On a bed of Colorado stars

C
I'd like to lay my weary bones tonight

G
On a bed of Colorado stars

I'd love to feel your hand touching mine
And tell me why I must keep working on
Yes, I'd give my life to lay my head tonight
On a bed of Colorado stars

I'd like to dream my troubles all away
On a bed of Colorado stars
Jump up from my starbed and make another
day
Underneath my Colorado stars

They hang like grapes on vines that shine
And warm the lovers glass like friendly wine
So, I'd give this world just to
dream a dream with you
On our bed of Colorado stars

Words adapted from "'California Stars'" by
Woody Guthrie

Music by Jay Bennett/ Jeff Tweedy 1997

Performed at CSC by Andrew Notbohm and
Clay Colvig



Summer 99 Highlights

Summer 1999 was filled to the brim with friendship, fun and adventure. Record numbers of children experienced the magic of CSC this year. This can be credited to our staff who consistently give their hearts to their campers year after year and a solid program devoted to providing every child with a meaningful summer in an atmosphere of fun and personal attention.

Whether backpacking along the continental divide, playing on the "monkey bridge" over Main Lake, or relishing Diane and Nancy's great cooking, our campers and staff enjoyed themselves thoroughly while exploring the wonders of the natural world and camp life.

Thanks to the enthusiasm and creativity of our counselors and coordinators, the all-camp special days were as zany and fun as ever. The "World Party" featured events such as bamboo dancing, face painting, an incredibly messy obstacle course and a costume parade full of colorful flags. At the "Wild West" special day Mr. Homestead gave campers a shave, campers lassoed their counselors, and everyone enjoyed the hayride with watermelon seed spitting. The finale focused on a lip synch contest, a pig roast and roasted corn on the cob. The alien special day was definitely out of this world! After spending hours sculpting space ships, the final creations were launched over the tennis courts, usually crashing safely back on earth. Summer ended with a Gong Show on CSC-TV that had us all laughing as we enjoyed all of the crazy performances our campers and staff created.

The tripping program this summer featured spectacular alpine backpacking and peak climbing trips, desert canyon explorations, visits to ghost towns and Anasazi Indian ruins, and canoe trips. Our technical rock climbing trips explored new areas, and the new rafting program was extremely successful, featuring floats down both the Dolores and Gunnison rivers.

While in camp our campers had lots of fun activities to choose from. The "art barn" was definitely a hot spot with lots of sculpture, jewelry, candle and mask making, and even a wacky time machine. More campers learned the ropes of western riding thanks to our wranglers and the recent expansion of the in-camp horse program. The new climbing wall is now an excellent addition to the natural rocks we scale near camp. There were also plenty of opportunities for mountain biking, hiking, target sports, and field games to name a few.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make our summer fun and exciting.

Amie P. Returns!

We are happy to announce the return of long-time camper Amie Podolsky to the Red Creek Valley. She will bring lots of energy, enthusiasm, and experience to her new role as a Program Director and key player in the CSC administrative wonder team when she arrives in December.

Amie's camp experience includes five years as a CSC camper in Silver Saddle and Path-finding, followed by two outstanding summers in '95 and '96 as an assistant counselor and counselor. She has also been an instructor at a day camp in Massachusetts and is currently an administrator at an outdoor science school and camp in California.

Her formal education was focused on outdoor leadership and education. Amie graduated from Ithica College in '97 with a major in psychology and a minor in outdoor recreation. During that time she also completed the Outdoor Semester in the Rockies program through the Colorado Mountain College.

Amie is excited to share the magic of camp she experienced as a child with the next generation. She is eagerly anticipating her administrative role at the camp she grew up in. And we are looking forward to the new ideas and educational focus Amie will bring to CSC. Welcome aboard!

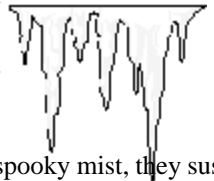
Gray's Cafe

So when does the next session start? Where did everyone go? Why is it so quiet around here? It has been hard for me to accept that summer is really gone and we have to wait another nine months for the valley to come alive again. However, with all of the new things happening at camp I am sure that the coming year will fly by. I'm as excited as ever to get started again. Over the past few months I feel that I have lived the charmed life. I have been in the hot sunshine and cool rain, exploring the meaning of happiness and community all the while surrounded by beautiful people. Highlights include meeting the Pathfinders out on the trail, hanging out at the "A.C. parties" and the crazy special days. The energy and enthusiasm that our staff poured into their campers' lives was an inspiration for me every day.



Polar Bears Remembered

They were a hardy and brave group of souls, dedicated to meaningless and pointless fun. Rising before the dawn, journeying through the spooky mist, they suspended themselves silently over the cold, dark waters of Main Lake. Then they jumped in! It was really *cool*. Allison, Justin, Adam, Russ, Eagle 1, Gray, Dave, Chris, Clive, Noah, Luis, Margo, Sabrina, ABL.



Homestead

The earth is flat!!!!? When Mr. Homestead is around you had better believe it is. Our 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders had a blast laughing and learning the basics of camp life. Highlights include taking care of the sheep and pigs, cooking breakfast over an open fire, canoeing and camping at Lemon Lake, counselor hunts, hoedowns!, and visits from the infamous Dukee Monster. Special thanks to coordinator Dave Berg, counselors Russ Bartlett, Amoonda Frazer, Barre Gonzalez, Janna Kruchten, Paul Noshow, Brendan Quinn and assistant counselors Aaron Deutsch and Robyn Lamar.



Spruce

Whether they were rolling tractor tires for the "American Gladiators" Spruce day, or singing together around the campfire, the 5th, 6th and 7th grade men of Spruce had a spirited good time this summer. While living in the tree houses nestled in the heart of camp, they enjoyed games of capture the flag and midnight football, several powerful vespers ceremonies, a wacky tea party, and riflery among many other activities. This year campers made Spruce a nicer place to live by constructing a new welcome sign and a set of benches for "Spruce Gardens." Thanks, guys. A special thanks to the Staff: coordinator Justin Matera, counselors Luis Avila, Will Channell, Aaron Deutsch, Brendan Hayes, Doug Sears, and assistant counselors Mark Azar and Noah Badillo.

Saddle

The 5th, 6th and 7th grade women of Saddle made the most of their summer in the Red Creek Valley. The "Wet and Wild" and "Renaissance" Saddle Days were a blast. Saddle spent more time riding horses this year than ever before. Other highlights include hilarious skits at the campfires, natural makeovers, a scavenger hunt, archery and riflery bulls eyes, and many creative projects at the art barn. Special thanks to coordinator Jen Dingman, counselors Katie Bradley, Kelly Creedon, Kit Klepinger, Sabrina Motta, Julietta St. John, Allison Yeary, and assistant counselors Lauren Gardner, Suzanne Karlqvist, and Briony Schnee.



Grizzly's Den

Big news this time around... after nine incredible summers in the Red Creek Valley, I have decided that it is time for me to move on. Being a summer camp program director has been a wonderful experience for me and I have grown in many, many ways. It has helped me to avoid the "real world" for a while (kind of an inside joke with us summer camp administrators – "what do you do the rest of the year?"). Honestly, though, there is a lot more of the "real world" (probably too much) involved in running a summer camp than most would suspect.

My goal now is to actually put my Masters degree to use. Way back when, while I was still a summer staff member here, I completed a graduate program in Elementary Education. At the time, it was very difficult to find a teaching position. Cameron's offer to work here year round couldn't have come along at a better time. Now, though, I find myself being pulled toward education once again. One of the drawbacks to camp administration is that it is difficult to spend much quality time with the campers. I have always made a point to get to know them through meals at the lodge and through running the Trading Post, but I miss the direct interaction of leading activities.

I will miss working here – Colvig Silver Camps has been a major part of my life for the past nine years (holy cow! That's almost a decade!) It is this place and this program which allowed me to make the move to Colorado and to explore new facets of my own life and personality. What I will miss the most, though, is being a part of a program based on the dream of changing children's lives for the better. I've witnessed and been a part of many magical moments in this valley. I've seen incredible growth in both campers and staff. Colvig Silver Camps has had a deeply resounding impact on more lives than I can count, including my own. This year I feel that in one way at least, my experience here has come full circle – I have hired many former campers over the past five years, but this is the first year that I hired one of my former Homesteaders.

At the risk of babbling on for much too long, I will end Grizzly's Den here. I wish camp and all of the camp family the best of luck in the years to come. The program is in great hands and there is an exciting new energy here. Camp is truly going places! Thanks to all of you for helping to make the past nine summers an incredible journey for me.

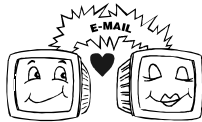


CSC Plans 30th Anniversary Summer Reunion

CSC folks across the country are getting excited for next summer's reunion of friends old and new here in the Red Creek Valley. We would like to see as many as possible, and we are beginning to track down alumni campers and staff who have drifted out of the loop over the last few years. If you know of anyone who would be interested in attending, please send us their address or have them call us so that we can send them an invitation and more information when the time comes. The festivities are tentatively scheduled for the middle of August, 2000. There will be camp songs, camp activities and camp food for all ages. We hope to see you here!

New Brochure

Now that summer is over we are excited to have a chance to sort through all of the incredible photos from the summer and begin planning the look of the new brochure. If you have any written comments about your family's experience at CSC, or if you are interested in being included on our reference list, please let us know soon.



Campers and Staff: Send us your **email addresses** and we will email back an updated list of other cyber-savvy camp folks so that we can all keep in touch. Our address is colvigsilvercamps@compuserve.com. Please type "email address" in the subject line. We hope to hear from you soon!

Photos

If you have a great photograph from your summer here in the Red Creek Valley, please make a copy and share it with us. We will be expanding our web site this fall to include a photo album from the summer and would love to have your favorite memories included.



With Tavia Colvig moving into her role as Financial Director and shifting her focus to legal and financial issues this fall, we are currently looking for someone to fill her position as **office manager**. Please call us if you know of anyone interested in a full time position here at CSC.



Outpost

The 1999 Outpost crew of 8th and 9th graders experienced the joys of overnight rafting, rock climbing and backpacking trips while out of camp, as well as the luxuries of in-camp life. This year's both terms were especially close thanks to the friendly nature of the campers and the positive leadership of the staff. Highlights include making didgeridoos, skeet shooting, spirited campfires, braiding stylish bracelets and necklaces, windsurfing at Lemon Lake, hangin' on the Outpost deck, the Flatbed Dance and several games of nighttime cops and robbers. Special thanks to coordinator Mandy Aaberg and counselors Danny DeSurra, Chris Owens, Megan Spender, Frankie Winn, and Adam Wolfenberg.

Pathfinding

The Pathfinders trekked far and wide through some of the most incredible wilderness areas in the country this summer. The 9th, 10th and 11th graders all enjoyed hiking through Dark Canyon in Utah for the first time. Canyon walls soared up to 1500 feet overhead as the groups navigated through the sandstone, lounged during midday siestas and relaxed in crystal clear pools. Wilson Peak, Sunlight and Windom were 14,000 foot high points for some of the groups. The solo experiences on the continental divide and Bear Creek were enlightening for all. Jason, the CSC rock climbing stud showed everyone the ropes at Grapi Wall and Naturita. Special thanks to coordinators Clive Briggs, Megan Irwin, Andrea Lane, Andrew Notbohm, and Allison Yeary.

It takes many people in a variety of positions to make summer camp a success. This year we were blessed with a fantastic specialty staff as well as our great counseling staff. These people not only did a great job ensuring that their specialties were attended to, they also added much to the spirit of our camp community. Special thanks to Margo Johnson, our witch doctor, Jen Raimondi, our art barn coordinator, Jason Williams, our rock climbing coordinator, Kristen Krueger and Daniel Gonzalez, our wranglers, Ivana Lhota and Cindy Murphy, our expedition experts, Diane Bean and Nancy Hushek, our chefs, Douglas Morrisson, our tractor driving man about camp, Zane Hallock, our assistant party director, and Jen Quinn, our nanny.



Evaluations

Thanks to all of you who have returned your summer evaluation forms. These evaluations are an important part of our ongoing process of program improvement. We read each one carefully and appreciate the thought and time that is spent preparing your responses.

If you haven't sent yours in yet, please do so soon. If you need another form or you would prefer to talk to us in person, please don't hesitate to call. Thank you again for helping us to make future summers even better for our campers.

The AC Corner

Our assistant counselors did an outstanding job of keeping camp running smoothly this summer and they deserve a special thanks. Whether they were working hard to keep the lodge clean despite muddy shoes, busily washing towering stacks of dishes or delivering heavy loads of laundry, they had smiles on their faces. On top of all of that, they did an excellent job in helping every camper to have a great time in activities and on the trail. This may have been the last summer for the cherished A.C. truck, affectionately known as the "Vuck." Next year's A.C.s can look forward to a shiny new work vehicle. Clay has also mentioned adding a hammock to the dishroom to provide more seating when the couch is full. We will keep you posted.

Slide Show 2000

Although it seems like summer just ended, the leaves are already changing and we are beginning to look forward to seeing camp families across the country in the coming months. In January, February, and March Tavia and I will be visiting families near and far to promote the growth and fun we offer children every summer. The slideshow provides a great opportunity to see friends from last summer, learn more about our programs, talk with other camp families about their camp experiences, and to see last year's campers in action on the big screen. This year we have so many great pictures to choose from we are sure that this will be one of the best presentations in CSC history. We thoroughly enjoy the trip because it gives us a chance to catch up with old friends and meet new ones.

If you are interested in hosting a slideshow or you know of some families who may be interested in our program, please indicate that on the evaluation form. Don't hesitate to call either - I am always happy to discuss slideshow options or any other camp issues with you. -Clay



Summer 2000 Dates

Spruce, Saddle, Outpost & Pathfinding:

1st session: June 12th - July 8th
2nd session: July 13th - August 8th

Homestead:

1st session: June 12th - June 24th
2nd session: June 26th - July 8th
3rd session: July 13th - July 25th
4th session: July 27th - August 8th

CSC Scholarship Fund

This summer seven scholarship children were able to experience the beauty of Colorado's wilderness and the benefits of being a part of our positive community dedicated to their personal growth and development. Thank you to everyone who helped make their summer so meaningful this year by donating to the CSC Scholarship Fund.

It is comforting to know that every day we are in contact with people who put such confidence in us that we strive to do our best. These are the ones that strive to build people and there is no job more fragile or creative than giving others confidence. No two people ever respond the same way, and since there can be very little trial and error in handling individuals, sensitivity to hurt and fear must be considered. Where one person can be challenged, another may need to be told how to rise above emotions and imagined shortcomings. The Cherokee, like so many others, appears *u wo we la nv*, composed or stoic, but his nature is sensitive to criticism in any form. We all need approval and attention, and when someone cares, it makes an important difference.

Standing Bear