



Camp Akeela Circular

A Letter from Debbie and Eric *Change Is Good!*



Dear Campers,

We've had big changes in our lives since the end of the last camp season. Most significant was the arrival of our daughter, Julia, in September. Having a new baby presents challenges of course: being up in the middle of the night, planning grocery store trips around nap times, trying to stay healthy! It also has its amazing side: Margo ADORES being a big sister and is clearly Julia's favorite person to be with. Julia makes us all laugh and is a very cuddly and happy baby. Change is always hard – even when it's fun. It's hard to adjust to new experiences but we usually find that after a short time, we can't imagine the way life used to be. We think that's exactly the way first-time campers feel about Akeela!

We had the chance to meet a prospective camper last week on the internet. When we asked him how he felt about coming to camp for the first time, he said, "Well, I'm worried – I don't do well with change." It's an honest answer we hear very often. We think most people are comfortable sticking with what they know. It is far less complicated to lead a life that is very predictable. Routines make us feel safe and secure. When we know what to expect, we don't have to worry that we will do the wrong thing, or that we won't be able to cope if things are hard. This is all very true. And while we agree that feeling comfortable and safe is really important, we also believe that it can be life-changing to push yourself to step beyond that comfort zone.

Camp is a chance for you to try new things, to meet new people and to prove to yourself that it's okay to take a chance. When we can embrace the change, the transition, the newness of the experience, we grow so much more. One of the reasons we feel so lucky to have the jobs that we do is because we get to watch our campers grow and become more independent right before our eyes! Helping you do that this summer is what we're most looking forward to.

So, while we really believe that change is necessary and important, we want you to know that we understand it's really hard. We'll do everything we can to help you through the transition – the first 5 days of camp are when you'll spend a lot of time just getting used to being in a new place and meeting new people. Before that, here are some things that might help:

- ✓ Before camp starts, we'll introduce you to someone in your cabin via email. You'll have an opportunity to make a friend before you even get to camp!
- ✓ Our open house in early June is a great way for you to see your cabin, meet some campers and counselors and sample Chef Grant's great food. Seeing camp in person really helps campers visualize what camp will be like!
- ✓ Read the next section of this newsletter for suggestions about getting ready for camp – starting now!

Most importantly, don't hesitate to email or call us if you have questions – we're here to help!

Debbie Eric

It's Not Too Soon to Start Planning for Camp!

We know it's still winter; for those on the East Coast, it's cold and snowy and summer seems very far away. But the next few months will pass quickly and before we know it, we'll be back together with our friends on Miller Pond! As we gear up for camp here in the office, we thought that it might be helpful for you to start preparing at home, too. Here are some suggestions of things you might do between now and summer to get ready for an amazing experience at Akeela:



4 Months Before Camp:

- If you are a returning camper, email or call an old Akeela friend. Get back in touch and see how he/she's doing. Talk about what you're looking forward to doing this summer at camp. Maybe set up a time to get together (if not in person, then online!)
- If you are a new camper, explore the Akeela website to see a daily schedule, photos of camp and more details about the community that you'll be joining. Make a list of any questions you'd like to ask us or your pen-pal (whose contact information you'll get in May).
- Talk to other people you know who have been to camp and find out what they loved about their experience.

3 Months Before Camp:

- Make a list of all of the things you're excited to try at Akeela this summer.
- Review the camp video so you can really try to picture what camp might be like.
- Plan a sleepover outside of your home to get used to sleeping in a different bed.
- Order any Camp Akeela "gear" you want for camp.

2 Months Before Camp:

- Start gathering a list of family and friends you might want to write to while you're at camp.
- Address envelopes to those people with your parents and put stamps on now ... It's one less thing to do when you're busy at camp!
- Practice doing more things on your own like making your bed, picking out your clothes, etc.
- Make sure your parents sent all of your camp forms in!

In the Month Before Camp:

- Get in touch with your pen-pal. Ask him/her questions about him/herself. Talk about the things you're excited about trying at camp!
- Make sure you and your parents have everything you'll need to pack – look at the list and check things off.
- Practice the camp daily schedule (wake-up, meal times, showering every day, bedtime routines)
- Start limiting your "screen time" (TV, video games, etc.) so that you're feeling ready to jump right into your fun-filled, electronics-free camp life!

We'll see you soon!

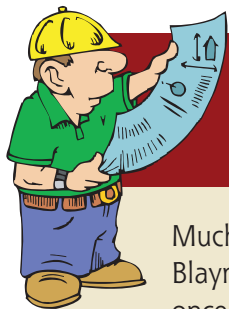
AKEELA REUNIONS

This winter, for the first time, we will be hosting TWO camp reunions. The first will be in Natick, MA, on Saturday, March 1st. The next day, Sunday, March 2nd, we look forward to seeing our New York area friends at our White Plains reunion.

If you can't make it to a reunion, we certainly understand. We know how many of you live outside of the Northeastern US. (As a community, we do represent approximately 30 US states and several countries, after all!)

If you haven't had a chance to RSVP yet, please do so by going to the "Current Families" section of our (new) website: www.campakeela.com/current-families/





BLAYNE'S BULLETIN

Much like the rest of the country, Thetford VT has experienced an extremely cold winter. Luckily, we have Blayne Hill, the greatest site manager in the camp world. Cold weather doesn't slow him down – particularly once he grows his winter beard! Here are some of the things he's working on for Summer 2014:

- **A BRAND-NEW GAGA COURT:** By adding this permanent structure to our facilities, we will make gaga available to more campers at more times. (No longer will gaga be reserved for rainy days!)
- **NEW JUMPING PILLOW:** Same location, same size, same jumpy fun. But all new materials!
- **EXPANDED BLEACHERS:** We loved using the bleachers in the softball/soccer area for evening activities and special events last summer. Now they'll be twice the size, so we can all fit on them at once!
- **MORE PORCHES:** Hanging out on your cabin porch with friends is one of the best parts of camp. Now more of our white cabins (previously known as "boys' side") will have covered porches.
- **DEDICATED CERAMICS STUDIO:** Blayne is renovating the rocketry shed to accommodate our amazing ceramics program, which will free up lots of space in the art studio.



Staff Update

Eric and Kevin are working hard on putting together another great staff for 2014. We are thrilled with the new staff members we have hired and quite proud of the number of veterans returning to our staff team. Particularly exciting this year is a big group of "home-grown" staff members who started as counselors with us in the past and are now stepping into Senior Staff positions at camp.

Here is a list of the staff we know are returning so far:

CABIN COUNSELORS & SPECIALISTS

Amanda M. (2013) – Counselor
David C. (2012) – Counselor
Katie D. (2012-2013) – Counselor
Scott M. (2010-2013) – Counselor
Michael G. ("Galdo") (2012-2013) – Counselor
Michael H. (2013) – Counselor
Luke C. (2013) – Counselor
Hannah A. (2012-2013) – Ropes Course
Nancy C. (2013) – Boating
David L. (2012-2013) – Waterfront
Michael F. ("Woody") (2012-2013) – Woodshop
Julia S. (2013) – Arts
Keith H. (2013) – Archery
Celia O. (2013) – Photography

SENIOR STAFF & SUPPORT STAFF

Preston G. (2013) – Arts Director
Greg W. (2012-2013) – Assistant Program Director
Christine B. (2010-2013) – Head Counselor
Katie F. (2009-2012) – Head Counselor
Mike D. (2010-2012) – Head Counselor
Rob G-J. (2010-2013) – Head Counselor
Amanda R. (2009-2010) – Assistant Head Counselor
Katie O. (2011-2013) – Assistant Head Counselor
Mark Y. (2011-2013) – Assistant Head Counselor
Dave B. (2010-2013) – Assistant Head Counselor
Terry H. (2011-2013) – Office Manager
Grant S. (2010, 2012-2013) – Head Chef
Stefan L-C. (2012-2013) – Assistant Chef
Alberto Armenta (2013) – Maintenance Team
Naomi D. (2010-2012) – Head Nurse
Andie C. (2013) – Beyond Akeela Nurse

Senior Staff Profiles

Our senior staff is composed of highly trained and experienced professionals in the fields of psychology, education, special needs, and therapeutic interventions. These "go-to" people train and provide on-going support to our counselors and activity specialists. They also work directly with campers as part of our regular program and on an as-needed basis.

Rob Glyn-Jones Head Counselor

Rob Glyn-Jones lives in the north of England, although for the last seventeen years he has spent his summers in the US working at camps. Rob started his camp career in 1996 as a counselor at Summit Camp in Pennsylvania. He rose through the ranks at Summit and for eight years was a Unit Leader there, working with boys aged between fourteen and eighteen. In 2010 he joined Camp Akeela as a Head Counselor and had an immediate and profound impact on the Akeela campers and staff. He has always been drawn to working with children and believes that camp is a fantastic environment for encouraging growth and development - as well as having a great time!

During the rest of the year, Rob works as an actor and workshop leader. A lot of this work takes him into schools and colleges to facilitate issue-based presentations on a wide variety of topics such as anti-social behavior, bullying, community cohesion and drug issues. In his spare time he enjoys cooking, reading, swimming and watching Doctor Who!

Favorite Book: The Box of Delights by John Masefield
Place I'd Like To Visit: Nepal and Tibet
Favorite Camp Food: Hot Dogs



Katie started working at Akeela in 2009 as a Cabin Counselor and continued at camp as the Ropes Director, Assistant Head Counselor and Head Counselor in the following years. She'll be returning to Akeela as the girl's head counselor this summer!

Favorite Book: Oh the Places You'll Go by Dr. Suess
Place I'd Like To Visit: Italy
Favorite Camp Food: S'mores

Michael Deutschman Head Counselor

Michael Deutschman currently lives in Wakefield, Rhode Island and works as the Assistant to the Dean's Office at Middlebridge School. This is Mike's 4th summer at Camp Akeela, coming back after a year off to enjoy the birth of his son. Mike is thrilled to return to the head counseling team and looks forward to seeing old and new friends. Coming to camp along with Mike will be his wife Naomi (the camp nurse), his son Noah, and their dog Dexter.

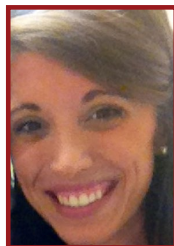
Mike grew up in Southeast Minnesota where he attended the University of Minnesota and graduated with a degree in Child Psychology. He has spent the last 8 years working with children on the autism spectrum in various therapeutic and academic settings. In the fall Mike enjoys coaching the Middlebridge School basketball team, teaching students the values of teamwork and friendship beyond the court. When he's not working Mike likes to play any type of game, whether it be sports, cards or video games.

Favorite Book: The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien
Place I'd Like To Visit: New Zealand to walk the trail of Mordor
Favorite Camp Food: Chicken Patties



Katie Farrish Head Counselor

Katie Farrish currently lives in Narragansett, Rhode Island, where she works as an academic tutor and residential staff member at the Middlebridge School. After graduating from Ball State University with a BA in Speech Language Pathology, Katie worked as Behavior Specialist in Cincinnati, OH. She greatly enjoys working with kids and helping them feel like part of a community.



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Senior Staff Profiles *Continued*

Christine Babcock Head Counselor



Christine will be returning for her fifth summer at Akeela! Her first two summers, she was a cabin counselor on girls' side and has worked with the head counseling team the past two summers. She is looking forward to seeing returning campers from past summers as well as meeting new campers!

Christine currently lives in Burlington, VT, where she is a behavior interventionist in a local school, where she's been working the past two years. She works one-on-one with students in different classrooms during the school day. She absolutely loves living in Vermont! In her free time she enjoys skiing, hiking and spending time on the lake!

Favorite Book: Harry Potter: Goblet of Fire by J.K.

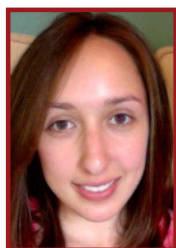
Rowling

Place I'd Like To Visit: National Parks of West Coast

Favorite Camp Food: Turkey Dinner with Challah

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Amanda Rodriguez Assistant Head Counselor



Amanda Rodriguez is originally from Ann Arbor, Michigan. After graduating from the University of Michigan in 2010, Amanda moved to southeast England. She lived there for three-and-a-half years and worked in London as a Support Worker for the National Autistic Society. She also earned a master's degree from King's College London.

Growing up, Amanda was an active member of several drama groups. In 2009 she joined Camp Akeela as the Drama Specialist, and immediately fell in love with camp. She returned for a second summer in 2010, but has been unable to return since. Amanda is so excited to be back at Akeela and is looking forward to another great summer!

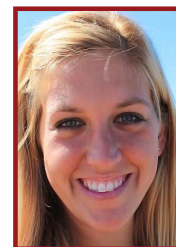
Favorite Book: The Giver by Lois Lowry

Place I'd Like To Visit: South America

Favorite Camp Food: Tacos

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Katie Obrycki Assistant Head Counselor



Katie Obrycki is originally from Akron, Ohio, and is currently living in Narragansett, Rhode Island where she works as a Residential Instructor at Middlebridge School. Although she hails from the Midwest, Katie fell in love with New England during her first year at camp and cannot wait to spend another summer in the woods of Vermont. She is eager to be part of the head counseling team and looks forward to helping make every campers' summer the most memorable that it can be.

Katie is a 2011 graduate of Miami University in Oxford, OH, with a degree in Family Studies and a minor in Special Education. She joined the staff at Akeela in the summer of 2011 as a cabin counselor and has worked with both the youngest female campers as well as spending a session as a Beyond Akeela advisor last summer. She is currently pursuing a Master's of Education in Behavior Analysis. She loves hike day, the waterfront, and campfires (especially when there are s'mores!)

Favorite Book: The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein

Place I'd Like To Visit: Ireland

Favorite Camp Food: S'Mores

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David Baker Assistant Head Counselor



David Baker currently lives in Narragansett, Rhode Island, where he works at Middlebridge School. He first came to Akeela in the summer of 2010 and was a cabin counselor through the summer of 2012. In 2013 he was Akeela's first ever golf specialist. When he was nine-years-old he went to his first sleep-away camp and went back every summer until he was 16; he attributes his time as a "camp kid" to his current love for all things summer camp!

David is a native of Vermont, growing up in St. Johnsbury. He graduated from St. Johnsbury Academy and went on to spend his freshman year in college at the University of New Hampshire before transferring

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Senior Staff Profiles *Continued*

to Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio. He graduated from Franciscan in December of 2013 with a bachelor's degree in Middle Childhood Education. He is an avid sports fan and that led him to discover his other passion, sports journalism. His other hobbies include playing golf, traveling, playing the guitar and supporting Boston sports teams (Go Sox)!

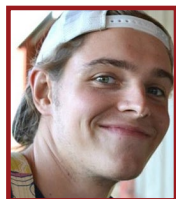
Favorite Book: Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison

Place I'd Like To Visit: Augusta, Georgia (to go to The Masters)

Favorite Camp Food: Challah or Cookout

Mark Yorke

Assistant Head Counselor



Mark Yorke has been a cabin counselor for at Akeela for three summers, working with both the youngest and early-teen boys. He has also dabbled in specialty areas such as disc golf, LARP, and martial arts. As Assistant Head Counselor, he will work closely with the Head Counselors to ensure campers are nourished in cabin life and that staff members are supported in meeting the needs of campers.

Mark grew up outside of Portland, Oregon. In high school, Mark was a Student Body Officer and a captain of the track team. He also earned his black belt in Taekwondo. Mark is a recent graduate of the University of Oregon where he studied Sociology and Psychology. He studied abroad in India focusing on community development, gender issues, and Buddhist studies. In addition, he was a captain of the club frisbee team and spent four years as an academic mentor to freshman students. Mark is energized by engaging with children and young people and plans to teaching social sciences to middle and high school students. In his free time, he enjoys playing ultimate frisbee and board games with friends.

Favorite Book: The Prophet by Kalil Gibran

Place I'd Like To Visit: Turkey

Favorite Camp Food: Fajitas

Naomi Deutschman, RN

Camp Nurse



Naomi Deutschman is originally from Blue Hill, Maine. Growing up, she enjoyed hiking and being outdoors so it was no surprise when she fell in love with the camp lifestyle during her first summer at Akeela. She is returning for her 4th summer as one of the camp nurses and is thrilled to see how much everyone has grown in the past few years.

Naomi graduated in 2010 from Northeastern University with a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. She has worked in many different areas of health care, both in the United States and abroad in the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Most recently, Naomi has spent the last 2 years working as a nurse at Middlebridge School in Rhode Island where she currently lives with her family. In her free time, Naomi enjoys exploring the world with her amazing new son, Noah. Noah is thrilled to be coming for his first summer at Akeela this year!

Favorite Book: To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

Place I'd Like To Visit: Greece

Favorite Camp Food: Grilled Cheese and Tomato Soup

Gillian Graham, RN

Camp Nurse



Gillian Graham is originally from Wilton, New Hampshire but is currently living in New Haven, Connecticut with her fiancé and two-year old pup, Cassie. Growing up, she spent most of her free time outdoors, hiking, canoeing and riding horses, and she is so excited to spend her first summer at Akeela as a Camp Nurse!

She studied English Literature at the University of New Hampshire before getting her nursing degree, and has spent time working to incorporate the humanities into medical and nursing schools in the northeast. She's currently studying to be a nurse practitioner with a specialty in child psychiatry at Yale University. She loves to read, travel, run, and spend as much time outdoors as possible!

Favorite Book: The English Patient by Michael Ondaatje

Place I'd Like to Visit: Patagonia, Chile

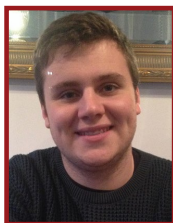
Favorite Camp Food: Chocolate

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Senior Staff Profiles *Continued*

Greg Walker Assistant Program Director

Greg Walker is currently studying Childhood Studies in Birmingham, United Kingdom. As part of his curriculum, he has been working with a special education classroom this school year and is loving it. He first came to Akeela in 2012 as the Drama Specialist and fell in love with Vermont and the community of Akeela. This will be Greg's third summer at Akeela, and first as Assistant Program Director.



Following a childhood in acting, Greg learned about using drama to promote social skills which is now a goal for his future. After graduating from university, Greg intends to spend more time extending his knowledge in teaching special education in a creative environment and to offer guidance counseling for children within a school system. When Greg has free time, he loves to ski, play online video games and enjoys socializing with friends.

Favorite Book: Danny the Champion of the World by Roald Dahl

Place I'd Like To Visit: San Francisco, CA

Favorite Camp Food: Pizza

Helen Lamming Outdoor Adventure Director

Helen Lamming has lived in the Isle of Man in the British Isles with her husband and two children since 2006. She holds a BA in English Literature, a Teaching Diploma, an Honors in Psychology and a Master's Degree in the Psychology of Education, specializing in Behavior Management and Attachment Theory. She worked as a Teacher of English in secondary schools for many years before switching to teach children with Social, Emotional & Behavioral Difficulties. She ran a Nurture Group for primary-aged children from 2009-2013. Since 2008, she has worked on and directed a summer holiday trip program for children with physical and learning difficulties.



Born in South Africa, Helen loves the Great Outdoors, especially the mountains. She has climbed many famous mountain ranges, including Kilimanjaro and has reached

the Everest Base Camp. She in fact met her husband halfway up a cliff face while rock-climbing in South Africa. She also enjoys diving and reading basically any kind of novel, as well as mountaineers' biographies and tales of polar triumph and tragedy. She loves exotic foreign food which is handy thanks to her having lived in three continents, seven cities and countless different time zones since leaving South Africa in 1994.

Favorite Book: The White Spider by Heinrich Harrer

Place I'd Like To Visit: Aconcagua

Favorite Camp Food: Chicken

Preston Gilchrist Arts Director

Preston Gilchrist lives in Alexandria, Louisiana, which is the geographic center of the state and referred to locally as "Cenla". Preston received his BA in Fine Arts at the University of New Orleans, and finished his Master of Fine Arts at Louisiana Tech. He has over 20 years experience working with children, including 4 years as an art therapist at Central Louisiana State Hospital, and directed day camps and educational programming for various arts organizations in Central Louisiana. Preston revels in the creative energy and unlimited potential for success that accompanies working with children in an artistic environment, and looks forward to sharing his enthusiasm for art in his second summer Camp Akeela!



Preston, his wife Karen and their extremely energetic Vizsla puppy, Iggy were recently given an acre of land as a gift from Karen's parents. They plan to spend the next two years personally building a home and art studio on the property. Preston is now working as a Talented Art Instructor for schools in his county in which he gives art lessons to any students referred to the Talented Art Program.

Favorite Book: A Confederacy of Dunces by John Kennedy Toole

Place I'd Like To Visit: Bruges, Belgium

Favorite Camp Food: Pizza

WELCOME BACK CAMPERS!

Returning campers are the heart and soul of the Akeela community. They represent the bonds of friendship that are forged between campers and the connection we all feel to the greater community. What makes us most proud of them is the way in which they enthusiastically and openly welcome new campers into Akeela.

We hope you use this list of returning campers to reach out to old friends and bunkmates as the summer months approach...

2014 BEYOND AKEELA (WITH 2013 BUNK)

FIRST SESSION:

Josh E (Bunk 8)
Andrew K (Bunk 8)
Matthew B (Bunk 8)
Nicholas M (Bunk 8)
Walter M (Bunk 8)
Ethan S (Bunk 8)
Emma B (Bunk 18)

SECOND SESSION:

Andrew S (Beyond Akeela)
James F (Returning from 2011)
Kevin K (First Session Beyond Akeela)
Jared L (Bunk 1)
Matthew S (Bunk 1)
Daniel S (Bunk 1)
Abe G (Bunk 5)
Tyler K (Bunk 5)
Jeffrey M (Bunk 5)
Emily B (Bunk 15)

2014 FIRST SESSION (WITH 2013 BUNK)

Bess L (2nd Session, Bunk 11)
Gavin C (2nd Session, Bunk 7)
Kevin C (2nd Session, Bunk 16)
Luke B (2nd Session, Bunk 4)
Charlie W (Bunk 1)
David F (Bunk 1)
Ethan G (Bunk 1)
Matthew M (Bunk 1)
Riley D (Bunk 1)
Harrison J (Bunk 2)

Richard G (Bunk 2)
Daniel W (Bunk 3)
Ezra P (Bunk 3)
Jordan G (Bunk 3)
Connor S (Bunk 4)
Jake N (Bunk 4)
Jonah K (Bunk 4)
Matthew G (Bunk 4)
Max L (Bunk 4)
Sergio P (Bunk 4)
Austin G (Bunk 5)
Bradley M (Bunk 5)
Jacob G-E (Bunk 5)
Kamron P (Bunk 5)
Matthew S (Bunk 5)
Samuel C (Bunk 5)
Aiden S (Bunk 6)
Eitan R (Bunk 6)
John R (Bunk 6)
Jonah S (Bunk 6)
Matthew D (Bunk 6)
Harrison L (Bunk 7)
Henry W (Bunk 7)
Noah K (Bunk 7)
Zach D (Bunk 7)
Carter D (Bunk 11)
Sam I (Bunk 11)
Michael F (Bunk 12)
Spencer K (Bunk 12)
Spencer M (Bunk 12)
Tochukwu U (Bunk 12)
Haley G (Bunk 13)
Ariana M (Bunk 16)
Baila G (Bunk 16)
Lauren H (Bunk 16)
Olivia R (Bunk 16)
Allegra C (Bunk 17)
Gabby S (Bunk 17)
Hannah S (Bunk 17)

2014 SECOND SESSION (WITH 2013 BUNK)

Chase S (1st Session, Bunk 3)
Emma T (1st Session, Bunk 17)
Grace T (1st Session, Bunk 13)
Harrison L (1st Session, Bunk 7)
Helene L (1st Session, Bunk 17)
Otis F (1st Session, Bunk 11)
Joshua O (Bunk 2)
Joshua S (Bunk 2)
Leo E (Bunk 2)
Max B (Bunk 2)
Noah F (Bunk 2)
Philip C (Bunk 2)
Daniel H (Bunk 3)
Jordan G (Bunk 3)
Nicholas L (Bunk 3)
Noah K (Bunk 3)
Ross P (Bunk 3)
Evan G (Bunk 4)
Liam T (Bunk 4)
Max T (Bunk 4)
Michael L (Bunk 4)
Spencer S (Bunk 4)
Caleb K (Bunk 5)
Gregory C (Bunk 5)
Eric C (Bunk 6)
Evan B (Bunk 6)
Neil M (Bunk 6)
Spencer F (Bunk 6)
Alex W (Bunk 7)
Drew B (Bunk 7)
Henry L (Bunk 7)
Aviva S (Bunk 11)
Lydia D (Bunk 11)
Madelyn M (Bunk 11)
Marley M (Bunk 11)
Samantha R (Bunk 11)
Chloe B (Bunk 12)
Mia J (Bunk 12)

Amelia A (Bunk 13)
Cara W (Bunk 13)
Claire H (Bunk 13 & Family Camp)
Emily W (Bunk 13)
Lydia K (Bunk 13)
Brooke M (Bunk 14)
Emma B (Bunk 14)
Kate G (Bunk 14)
Madison W (Bunk 15)
Alec S (Bunk 16)
Jack B (Bunk 16)
Jake H (Bunk 16)
Joshua K (Bunk 16)
Spencer K (Bunk 16)
Ethan B (Bunk 17)
Ezra H (Bunk 17)
Gideon L (Bunk 17)
Henry V (Bunk 17)
Joseph T (Bunk 17)
Justin R (Bunk 17)
Matthew L (Bunk 17)
Ben N (Bunk 18)
Ben S (Bunk 18)
Ezra S-F (Bunk 18)
Gavin M (Bunk 18)
Jacob G (Bunk 18)
Yonatan F-N (Bunk 18 & Family Camp)

2014 FAMILY CAMP

The Call Family
The Freedman-Naditch Family
The Gerwe Family
The Huetz Family
The Jacoby-Twigg Family
The Milgrim Family
The Muzila Family
The Rausch Family

TRI-STATE CAMP CONFERENCE



Each year in March, more than 3000 camp professionals gather in Atlantic City for the American Camp Association's (ACA) Tri-State Camp Conference. It's the largest gathering of camp professionals in the world and a community in which Debbie, Eric and Kevin are very involved. In fact, Debbie serves on the Tri-State program committee, helping to plan a number of the conference workshops. She and Eric have presented many times in past years, although this year they look forward to attending as participants only! In addition to Tri-State, Kevin has attended a number of ACA professional development events this year, including a camp management conference and a workshop for EPIC (Emerging Professionals in Camping). Kevin is also working to become an ACA Accreditation Visitor;

this will allow him to visit camps during the summer to verify that they are conforming with the ACA's high standards for camper health and safety, program quality, and organizational excellence.



FAMILY CAMP

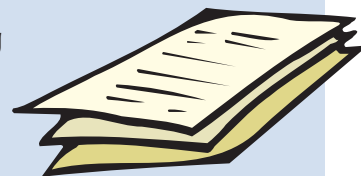
Parents ask us all the time: "Can I come to camp, too?" Well, now you can! Join us August 18 – 24 for Akeela Family Camp. It promises to be a one-of-a-kind, unforgettable (and affordable!) family vacation. Imagine a week of fun & excitement, rest & relaxation – all in the same warm and supportive camp community that makes Akeela so special.



For more information, go to
www.campakeela.com/programs/family-camp/

CAMP FORMS 2014

We will be mailing families the Parent Handbook and forms packet next month, so please keep an eye out



for those important documents. They are due back to us at our winter office by May 1. In the meantime, the online camp forms are available now for your convenience. In particular, we encourage you to make your camper's doctor's appointment as soon as possible. When you do see your physician, please be sure to bring the required medical forms with you.

Here's how to access the forms:

1. Go to the camp home page, www.campakeela.com
2. Near the top right corner, click on "Parent Log In"
3. Click on "Retrieve Password" and enter your email address
4. You will receive an email from CampMinder with instructions for setting your password and logging on
5. Once logged in, look for the Forms Dashboard and click on "Forms and Documents"

The forms that you should bring with you to your camper's doctor's appointment are the Medication Information Form, the Physician's Examination Form, and the "As Needed" Medication Form. The "Health History Form" asks for general medical history and can be completed online by parents.

Recent and Upcoming Birthdays

CAMPER BIRTHDAYS

Spencer M February 2
 Graham C February 4
 Ezra P February 9
 Michael L February 9
 Daniel S February 10
 Sophie P February 11
 David R February 13
 Baila G February 15
 Hugo S February 15
 Jack P February 16
 Harrison L February 17
 Alexander H ... February 19
 Emily B February 19
 Caleb K February 23
 Lukas M February 23
 Elias G February 24
 Jordan G February 24
 Victoria H February 24
 Jacob C February 25
 Tatum U February 27
 Alexis N February 28
 Daniel W February 28
 Allegra C March 1
 Ross V March 1

Ben S March 2
 Matthew B March 3
 Matthew L March 3
 Mia M March 4
 Polly P March 12
 Jacob P March 16
 Ethan L March 17
 David F March 18
 Alex W March 20
 Gabriel R March 20
 Matthew S March 20
 Julia S March 22
 Tochukwu U March 22
 Helene L March 23
 Leo E March 24
 Connor C March 27
 Joshua O March 28
 Jesse W March 29
 Ezra S-F March 30
 Max L March 30
 Zeke C March 30
 Mitchell C March 31
 Charles C April 1
 Evan B April 4
 Jonah W April 4
 Noah K April 4
 Noah K April 6
 Jack C April 9
 Grace S April 10
 Zachary T April 10
 Rachael R April 11
 Caroline M April 12



Hailey S April 13
 Harrison S April 13
 Ben N April 14
 Stuart L April 14
 Toby P-G April 14
 David B-G April 17
 Zach S April 17
 Abigail M-C April 19
 Justin R April 20
 Zach D April 20
 Brendan C April 21
 Henry L April 21
 Benjamin S April 22
 Yonatan F-N April 23
 Joshua S April 25
 Maddie M April 27
 Nathan K April 28
 Otis F April 29
 Ally N-P April 30



STAFF BIRTHDAYS

Jack B February 22
 Naomi D March 2
 Julia R April 1
 Helen L April 9
 Mike D April 22
 Chef Grant S April 30

OPEN HOUSE

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, June 8, 2014 • 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

We hope you will join us for the seventh annual Open House at Camp Akeela:

- ➔ Take a tour of camp: See your bunk and get the "lay of the land"
- ➔ Participate in "work projects" to help get camp ready for opening day!
- ➔ Enjoy a picnic lunch overlooking Miller Pond
- ➔ Meet bunkmates and other Akeela campers & families



IMPORTANT 2014 DATES TO REMEMBER

Camper Forms & Parent Handbook Mailing	March 15 (approx.)
Final Tuition Payment Due	April 30
Camper Forms Due to our PA Office	May 1
Open House at Camp.....	June 8
First Session.....	June 28 - July 21
Second Session	July 24 - August 16
Visiting Days.....	July 21 & August 16
Family Camp	August 18 - 24