



Homestead "Epitaph"
Silver Saddle "Horn"
Silver Spruce "Compass"
Outpost "Express"
Pathfinding "Prints"

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF COLVIG SILVER CAMPS

MARCH 2008

Reporting from the beautiful Red Creek Valley...and beyond!

From the Director's Chair...

Hello all and welcome to the Thunderdome!! In this corner we have Conor Colvig, primed, ready, and well-trained in a self-developed style that combines the energy of a Power Ranger, the mind of a Jedi, the tenacity of Indiana Jones, and the craziness of a Ghostbuster. In the other corner we have any camper or counselor ready to take him on. And boy are there a lot of both already signed up for camp this year. Looking back through our records we have more enrollment at this stage of the year than we have had since 1981, my father's last year as the director. We received 10 enrollments just yesterday, the hiring process is rolling towards completion, and the slideshow tour was a blast! One show had twenty return campers and another 17 potential new campers. Between five camp fairs and twenty shows of all sizes it was so much fun to see all of you, new friends and old, reliving the magic of last summer and preparing for the immense possibilities of this summer.

And yet, amazingly, there are still people out there, mostly new to CSC, talking themselves out of camp. They do this from different angles and all of them have merit because we're talking about a significant commitment in many ways. Most CSC parents and campers have a deep understanding of the answers to these doubts or questions. The challenge is how to put them into words when talking to others about camp because, as you probably know, over 80% of our camp community finds us through word of mouth, one of the things that makes the CSC community so strong. Some return campers are unsure about talking about camp with friends or acquaintances because camp is their place away from home and they may not want it to become trendy in their area. To that we say, "Wouldn't that be a great trend – for your neighborhood and those friends to be more like camp and camp friends!" Well, you've got to share the experience and get them here for that to happen. So here are just a few of the most common doubts that new people have about coming to camp and our approach to them.



Spruce and Saddle Rob's Ridge All-Day

"4 weeks or even 2 weeks is too long to be away from home." Our first response to this is that the fun, the friends, and the fantastic variety of our program make the time at camp go so quickly. Though I'm a few years from experiencing it first hand, I hear that there is value in the opportunity for parents to focus on their lives while their campers are doing the same at camp, and that makes the time apart go quickly for parents as well. Then we explain the reasoning behind the length of our program through our conviction that the best camp experiences happen over time. 38 CSC summers and more than a century of organized camping that we encounter through our camp associations, publications, and conferences inform this conviction. Longer terms let campers settle into rhythms that alleviate separation anxiety and allow exponential increases in value in the areas of personal growth, diversity of experience, self-discovery, and positive relationship building.

"It's too far away and we don't know what it will be like." It's natural to be apprehensive about leaving home to try something new or encouraging a child to be away from home in a program
continued on page 7

Summer 2008 Dates

Silver Saddle, Silver Spruce, Outpost, and Pathfinding:

First Term: June 14 ~ July 10

Second Term: July 15 ~ August 10

Homestead:

First Term: June 14 ~ June 26

Second Term: June 28 ~ July 10

Third Term: July 15 ~ July 27

Fourth Term: July 29 ~ August 10

Spaces are limited--enroll now!

You can obtain an enrollment form from our website (www.colvigsilvercamps.com) or by contacting the office (800.858.2850) to have one mailed to you.

Chatting With The Office Crew...

Please join us in welcoming our new office manager, Alexis Harrell! We expect that you will like her as much as we do and that you will be as excited as we are about the impact she will have on CSC.

Gorilla Gossip with Lexie

Hi everyone, Alexis Harrell here and I will kick off my first article of many by stating that what I am about to write has nothing to do with either gorillas or gossip! In fact, I am not particularly keen about either. But for some strange and mysterious reason “someone” in the office started calling me gorilla and as I was searching for a clever title to my article “Gorilla Gossip” just kind of stuck.

Here I am at CSC having arrived in December and since I have only met some of you during the slideshow tour let me introduce myself. I grew up in Burlington, North Carolina, but my search for the perfect career has taken me to many places and on many adventures over the past few years. When I first started school at Appalachian State University I knew that I wanted to work with kids. I had spent my childhood days going to and working for an after school program and summer day camp. Who says the perfect career doesn't involve getting paid to play? This led me to broaden my horizons by selecting the study of elementary education. Who knew learning multiplication for the second time at the college level could be so intriguing? Through my studies I developed a passion for speech pathology and was headed in that direction until reality set in. If you have met me or talked to me on the phone you might understand the geographic limitations of the southern drawl in the field of speech pathology. I could have stayed towards the southern end of the country but I wouldn't expect a parent in Colorado to be that excited to pay me to teach their child how to speak in the relaxed tones of the home state. So after many sleepless nights trying to figure out what to do with my life, I fell back on something I knew well and have always loved. **CAMP!**

Four summers and two full years in the camping industry elsewhere in Colorado finally brings me to December and the beginning of my first year at Colvig Silver Camps! I am extremely excited as we approach my first summer in the Red Creek Valley and I can't wait to learn all the details of camp, like what exactly Kangaroo Kourt is all about. I am especially looking forward to meeting all of you that I didn't get to meet on the slideshow tour. So once you are here, unpacking your duffels and exploring the valley, if you happen to see a gorilla walking around with a nalgene full of sweet tea, introduce yourself, have a chat, and discover that she has found her place.

Lexie



Afloat on an expanse of snow.

Gus in the Dishroom

Ah, memories ...

“Where are your shoes?” asked my mother. “I lost them in the creek,” I hesitantly answered.

When I was 6 years old my parents sent me, along with a neighbor friend, to Camp Shakota, somewhere in the middle of America. I came back covered in mud and shoeless. One of my first memories of Camp was getting hosed off in the backyard after I arrived home. Every year since then I have attended or worked at various Camps in my home state of Iowa, the foothills of Mount Laramie in Wyoming, and at Colvig Silver Camps; that would be twenty-four consecutive years at Camp.

Sure, being covered head to toe in mud wasn't what my mother expected or wanted my experience at Camp to be. But the time I spent at Camp Shakota was a building block for my life. To me Camp will always be the people I met, the things I did, the lives I saw change, the feelings I had, and the places themselves. One of the great things about Camp is that when you leave at the end of the summer you can take it with you. Every August I have done just that. This summer will be my ninth at Colvig Silver Camps and the experiences and memories from the previous eight will move over a bit to let the new ones take their place.

The snow is quickly leaving and the Red Creek is raging. If you came to visit today you would understand why the creek is called Red. Those of us who live and work at Camp year-round are anxious for these next three months to melt away so we can begin our favorite season. I am giddy with the anticipation of greeting new staff and campers and reminiscing with old friends. Come on over. Maybe we can lose our shoes together. As always, I will be awaiting your arrival ...

In the dishroom, **Gus**

Jack Once Caught a Phish This Big...

Spring has sprung, the summer is rapidly approaching, and there is only one thing that comes to mind in times like these and that's Motown. That's right Hitsville U.S.A. Detroit Michigan's own unique musical voice - Marvin, The Vandells, The Temptations, The Four Tops, and Junior Walker and the All-Stars. Really anything from 1959 - 1971, before Barry Gordy stole Detroit's soul in the middle of the night and moved it to L.A. I hope I'm not giving the impression that I'm some sort of Motown connoisseur. I'm more of a casual fan. But I have seen *Standing in the Shadows of Motown*. Alright, I'm going to reel this thing in and start talking about camp. (But if you want to feel good ... really good, don't just look to the daily multi-vitamin. Sprinkle a little Motown on your Cheerios and the day will never seem so bright. Seriously, ask a scientist.) To really enjoy the rest of this “article”, this would be the appropriate time to turn on some Smokey Robinson.

The thing about Motown is that it makes me feel nostalgic for a time that I have never known. With three months until the opening day of camp, I get that same feeling for this summer. I have no idea what the summer has in store for all of us in the Red Creek Valley, but it's probably something like hearing Marvin Gaye's “Hitch Hike” coming through the Hi-Fi for the first time. Both bring that exciting feeling that is quickly followed by the notion that anything that comes next will be good and ultimately make us happy. If you let it, Motown and Camp can change who you are for a moment or a lifetime, as well as put a funky groove in your step. So, put on your dancing shoes and get ready for the soulful summer of '08. See you on opening day!

Do me a favor ... keep it real, **Jack**

“Use what talent you possess: the woods would be silent if no birds sang except those that sang best.”
-John Muir



Alumination

Keeping up on
the lives of former
staff and campers of
Colvig Silver Camps

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF COLVIG SILVER CAMPS

MARCH 2008

Hello CSC Alumni!

Here is your opportunity to scout out your old camp friends and bring back those camp memories from so long ago. Thanks to everyone who took the time to call, write, email, or visit us and tell us what and whom you recall from your favorite summers. It is heartwarming to read these messages and see what an impact CSC has made on so many lives. Inevitably, someone's information will be incorrect or outdated, or maybe we forgot to include you in this issue. But there is a simple solution for that: CALL US! EMAIL US! STOP BY! WRITE US A LETTER! VISIT THE ALUMNI SECTION OF OUR WEBSITE! Believe it or not, we do get a little lonely up at the compound during the winter and each time we hear from our camp friends our days are brightened!

The 70's

Chris Bovard (cmp '74-'80, '82) and his wife Allison hosted the Dallas Slideshow...what a great reunion! Their three children (Charlie, Sam, and Jack) and two dogs kept everyone entertained.

Diana Kokernot (cmp '72-'74 stf '79) has been reminiscing with long time friend & fellow AC **Nancy Hushek (cmp '69-'71, stf '72-'73, '75, '79, '92-'07)** who is now and forever will be one of our camp cooks. Diana's favorite memories of CSC include vespers, climbing mountains, the monkey bridge, leading the desert backpacking trip, and backpacking to Silverton along the railroad track.

Barb Hudson (stf '73-'79, '82) showed up at the San Diego slideshow to catch us up on the Hudson family. She is looking forward to the prospect of having grandchildren in camp soon.

Sarah (Alley) Manges (cmp '71-'73 stf '75-'76, '79-'80) is ecstatic that her daughter Hayley will be following her footsteps as a first time camper in Silver Saddle. The Manges family was able to attend the Santa Fe Slideshow and relive some CSC memories.



Sarah (Alley) Manges, bottom row/second from right,
with her Silver Saddle Cabin

Anne & Eric Weidmann (stf '71-'73, '75) are busy with plans for their new Colorado vacation home in Carbondale. It will be a great retreat away from their boot company, the humidity, and St. Louis traffic.

The 80's

Carrie (Cusanovich) Allard (stf '88) has been busy keeping up with all of her children and husband of

13 yrs. She has been involved with Foster Care for the past 7 yrs. through which she has adopted a 19 yr. old son, 16 yr. old twin boys, and a 21 yr. old daughter. On top of that she has 3 biological sons who are 11, 9, & 4. The Allards could start their own summer camp!

Scott Caton's (cmp '81-'83 stf '90-'91, '95) life highlights have been marrying a wrangler **Shari Gifford (stf '95, '98)** and preparing their sons for Homestead. Scott also wishes he could have another go at Mt. Sneffels. He remembers bad weather pinning them down at the base, but on the last day they woke up to clear skies. Scott went in to wake the campers and **Andy Montgomery (stf '91)** appeared before him. All he asked was "Can we climb?" Maybe in the near future Scott will have a second chance to reach the peak and maybe this time with his son.

Brian Cohen (cmp '81) is married, has 3 kids, and is the official #1 Soccer Dad. Brian remembers catching his first trout at camp and taking care of the chickens.

Lisa (McCreary) Coy (stf '80-'81) and husband **Andy Coy (stf '77)** are living in San Diego. They are planning to send their daughter Bettie to camp this summer.

Kendra (Sutton) Hodapp (cmp '82-'86) and husband Heath will be sending their son Matthew to his second year at camp. She remembers writing her parents a long letter to convince them to let her go to camp, begging for them to come get her during the first two weeks, and begging them not to during the last two weeks. 4 more fondly remembered CSC summers ensued.

Ramzi Kort (stf '86) misses the trips to the mountains, canoeing at Navajo Lake, and horseback riding. Life since CSC has included a wife and two daughters. He splits time between them and his job as an engineer at Ford Motor Company.

Amie Podolsky (cmp '87-'92 stf '95-'96 '00-'03) is back in Durango and enjoys spending her recent afternoons in the warm weather, sitting on her porch.

She organized a White Rim mountain bike ride for her birthday.

June Reineke (stf '82-'90) grad student, full-time mom, wife, co-worker, friend, & former CSC assistant director. What more could a person want?! June has had an incredibly busy year with a return to school, supporting her husband **Jim's (stf '82-'90)** bluegrass band, raising two very independent daughters, and wishing she could be back in the Red Creek Valley.

Katherine (Schoettler) Thornburgh (cmp '80-'87 stf '92-'93) is expecting her first child and future CSC camper in July. She has recently moved back to CA after living in Mexico for 4 years. While in Mexico she used all of her mountaineering skills that she gained from CSC in her personal goal of climbing a volcano.

Andy Weidmann (cmp '88-'96 stf '98-'00) finds that he prefers teaching in the long, dark hours of Alaska. He is planning on working for NOLS this summer.

The 90's

Mark Azar (cmp '89-'95, stf '99) is living the big life in downtown Chicago.

Matt Barton (cmp '96-'00 stf '03) the "Poker King of CSC" has won several poker titles around the US and UK. His secret? Reminiscing about sitting on top of a mountain singing songs with **Jason Williams (stf '99-'00)**.

Luchino Castagno (cmp '92-'95) has been living and working in NYC and traveling through Canada & Europe. He is currently attending UCLA and is very proud to have completed Pathfinding two years in a row!

Dan Frostman (stf '95-'97) is expecting a future CSC Camper 2015 with his wife Amy & son Samuel.

Terry Leija's (stf '91-'94, '96) cat, Poncho, sent us a holiday card this year to catch us up on all of the Leija family happenings. Sounds like the Leija family
continued on page 4...

is getting into the spirit of camp by taking their two children, Alex and Lucy, hiking.

Lindsay Weidmann (cmp '90-'97 stf '00-'02) is living, writing, & singing songs in Colorado Springs.

Megan(Weidmann) Sustar (cmp'85-'92 stf '96, '00-'05) and husband Joey have been busy planning their return to Belleville, IL. The purchase of a new house, a new career in nursing for Megan, and the promise of being closer to family brings the excitement of a new marriage into year two.

The 00's

Lindsay James (stf '00-'07) has chosen to continue her path of advising youth, but this time on the college level. She is currently working at Fort Lewis College in the Academic Testing Center and continues to develop her graphic design business.

Courtney Page (stf '02) is getting married this fall and wants to spend a month in Durango this summer before that happens.

Phil Peters (stf '01) graduated from Fort Lewis in December and is headed to NYC to study music in the fall.

Reunion 2010!

40 years of adventure! 40 years of fun! 40 years of friends! 40 years of personal development! 40 years of changing the world! 40 years of significance! It's getting closer my friends and it's never too early to begin planning to celebrate 40 years of CSC! We had over 100 people at our last reunion and we're looking to break that record for this one. Many of you have been to previous reunions so you know what it's like to live the dream. We hope you will return to your youth again. Others have been waiting for the right moment and it is here. You get to be at camp again! You get to sleep in a tree house, play on the monkey bridge, slosh up the creek, enjoy the view from vespers, ride a horse, make a bracelet, hike up to Balls Falls, sing a favorite campfire song, make a new friend, meet someone you were in camp with 25 years ago, introduce your family to the reality behind your legends, and generally let it all hang out like you used to. Plan on bringing everyone because it has turned into a family camp with anyone welcome to join us for a weekend. We'll be working on the exact date

but you can plan on August 2010 or Labor Day weekend. Let's go back to camp!



Obituaries

It is with a great and terrible sadness that we officially announce the final passing of Hobart, our loyal friend and trusty dish machine these past 38 years. Hobart's long and distinguished career at CSC began in 1970 having already washed many a dish in other locales. Upon arriving in the Red Creek Valley Hobart set himself a goal that many thought was unachievable. Hobart audaciously determined that he would clean the plate of every person who entered his grand new palace, known simply... as the Lodge. And that he did, through mac & cheese and taco bar, through sloppy joe and turkey dinner, he washed those dishes - those bowls, those pots, those coffee stained mugs - until he just couldn't wash another thing. Through one of the hardest decisions we have ever had to make, a decision that took two years and involved discussions of efficiencies, cleaning processes, and amounts of soap, it was finally determined that Hobart had washed his final dish. Before the summer of 2007, Hobart was retired from the dish room with honor to be eligible for the Hall of Fame in five years. And it was decreed that in tribute to a long and illustrious career, all future machines, whatever their brand, would be referred to as Hobart. And so we announce Hobart's last act of generosity. Like the fabled Giving Tree, Hobart has given so much to the little boy that is CSC. But he has one thing left to give. In August of 2010, at the time of our 40th reunion, and by a process yet to be determined, pieces and parts of Hobart will be auctioned off to all those who spent countless hours in his company, swapping tales of dry-rinsing and over-filling, and working together, hand in spritzer, to accomplish his monumental goal. At that time donations can be made in his honor through the auction process. All proceeds

will benefit subsequent generations of dishwasher, human and machine, in the form of improvements to the kitchen and dish room.



Letter to the Editor...

My Special Place

"I don't want to leave", were the only words I could spew out through my heavy sobs as the tires kicked up the dust on that dreaded, mile-long dirt road ripping me away from my home away from home.

Colvig Silver Camps. This is a place unlike any other. Sitting in the low, luscious Red Creek Valley of Durango, Colorado, its beauty is blinding. The cotton breaking free from the cotton wood trees drifts through the air like a butterfly in the springtime. Across the way, Rob's Ridge stares back at you, making you feel so small compared to this immense nirvana. The clear blue skies and beaming sun stretch on forever into the distance, extending over mountain peaks and warming your heart. At night the playful sun goes to rest and starry skies come alive. The stars in the Durango sky resemble a piece of art, a pointillism painting, filling up every last inch of the dark universe that surrounds you. Through showing



Korey Bednarz & Mackenzie Cash

scars from the tragic fire that challenged Colvig, it's beauty and importance grows through the charred trees and brittle branches that guard this haven. The strength of Colvig blossoms along with new life and new memories.

Beauty isn't the only thing Colvig has to offer. Achieved goals, fulfilled dreams, beautiful friendships, and high self-confidence are all a part of the package. Climbing your first mountain, spending your first night under the stars, riding your first horse, and finding out who you really are for the first time leaves you engulfed in a feeling of self-pride and accomplishment.

Colvig reaches deep within you and forces out your inner beauty, confidence, and love for the world around you. Colvig is blind to race, blind to appearance, blind to social status, and blind to insecurities. No matter where you are in this fairy tale land, you are accepted. The leaders of Colvig strive to find the leader in you and let it shine, changing your outlook on life forever. Calling it a "camp" seems unfit for this wonderland; Colvig is a place of self-growth, beauty, and a turning point in your life.

I have grown within myself. I have learned who I am. I have become a leader. I have overcome challenges. I have a new view of life. I thank this dreamland. Colvig is my special place, my home away from home.

Mackenzie Cash (cmp '01-'06)

Where's Waldo? (we mean the Administrative Staff)

Try to find all 5 CSC administrators. Circle their beautiful faces, cut the picture out, send it back, and you will receive a Coronet!

If you don't know what our beautiful faces look like you can refer to Jack, Lexie, & Gus on page 2, Clay on page 7, and Eagle in the picture below (third row from bottom, second from the right).
Best of Luck!



Where Are They Now?

A retrospective of our incredible 2007 staff.

An asterisk next to a name indicates staff returning for 2008.



Seattle...**Lauren Schoeffler*** by no means prefers Tar Heels to Owls; in fact she prefers Owls...**Brenda Voloshin** is cheering on the Badgers in the Tourney...**Joy Campbell** is in an Ivy League by herself...**Will Thompson*** is going to be jealous of our bullhorns while teaching in the Roaring Fork Valley...**Drew Hoch** is Denver crafting fine portals...**Ben Taylor*** is eating bugs in the North Country...**Andrew Harris** still dreams of the sweat lodge...**Andrew Hood** is going to grad school...**Phillip Fair** has sent his dinosaur costume to the cleaners so it is ready for the first dance...**Wyatt Hosmer*** is getting close to the ground studying plant science...**Jeff Crozier** found New York South (Florida) to be more to his liking than New York...**Sean Moon*** recently went to Hueco Tanks on a climbing trip...**Grant Bryans** is in the third year of his Ski-Liftology degree. **Pat Flemming*** may or may not be opening a small maple syrup conglomeration in Seattle...**Janelle Sununtnasuk** still runs...somewhere, every morning...**Suzanne Moreau*** is in Maine cod fishing...**Logan Walsh** is teaching snowboarding in NH...**Matthew Reitemeir*** is on the mound and throwing heat...**Kevin Martin** is teaching children, er..college students, about video production...**Aaron Smock** sailed away on two tortoises... **Anne Schoellerman*** walks around Seattle with her backpack .getting ready for Pathfinding...**Nancy Hushek*** wants to have Special Day Everyday...**Cindy Murphy*** is ready for her 10th summer in the kitchen...**Sarah Deutsch** still dreams of snicker-doodles...**Caroline Miller*** is ready to ride...**Audrey Reynolds** is howling/singing her way across the country with the wolfpack...**Dani Mazzotta** is bonding with a Great Horned Owl while teaching Outdoor Education in California...**Kevin Hadfield*** has a plan for a slack line that would stretch across the entire RCV...**Eric Nyquist** is working 9 to 5, "no way to make a living"...**Billy McCall** is in the desert...somewhere...**Mary Donnelly*** has packed her first aid kits...**Cason Latimer** misses hauling brush around Camp, but not that much...**Richard Thomas*** skied icy hills in New Mexico on his Spring break..and last, but not least... **Jesse Kornblum** found time to make the excellent slideshows that everyone got as a Holiday Gift from CSC!

Cheri Buxman is becoming a Master of the Universe and by Universe we mean Education...**John Alley** is parallel parking cars in Santa Fe... **Alex Hughes** traded the mountains of Montana for the plains of Texas...**Molly Jones** is exploring the canon of literature...**Eli Dibner-Dunlap*** rhymes with Feli Snibner-Toestrap in Saratoga Springs...**Anna Kordysh*** is hard at work studying the elementaries of education and planning a move into the Parsonage...**Rachel Zakrasek** is waiting for mud season in Vermont...**Katy Ellison*** loves the big sky ... of Montana...**Evan Suiter*** says "the air in Durango tastes just like Cherry cola, my fav"...**Sarah Finney*** has a whole palette of ideas for the Art Barn this summer... **Steph Carter** is a working at a children's museum in Houston...**Elsa Anderson*** is a true Patriot; she is attending AMERICAN University...**Nora Schuchat*** is across the pond in Espana...**Emily McMillan*** is nearing the finish line and will soon become a Bachelor, of Arts...**Brittany Clark*** was unaffected by Day Lights Savings, she lives in

CSC'S SLIDESHOW ADVENTURE

Thanks to everyone who participated in another fantastic year of the slideshow tour- all of you that hosted a show, invited us into your homes, advertised a show, brought some friends, or showed up to see your faces on the big screen and get excited about another summer of significance. We couldn't do it without each and every one of you! Our CSC community seems to self-perpetuate as families invite other families that have the same vision and mission as we do. Keep sharing knowledge of CSC with others whom you think would be interested and let us know if we should get in touch with people at your schools, athletic clubs, churches, etc. We love traveling to see everyone in their "native" environments, knowing that we'll all be sharing the RCV environment in just a few short months! Thanks especially to our hosts in cities across the country:



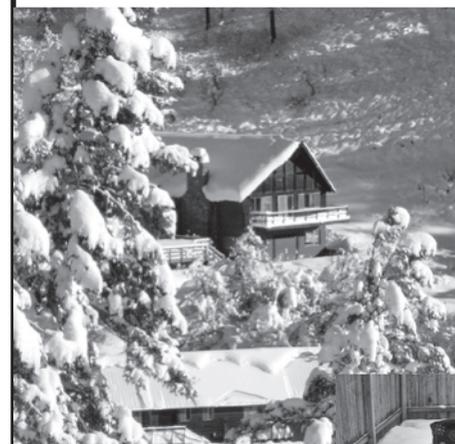
Belleville, IL: Anne and Eric Weidmann; **St. Louis, MO:** Chip, Katie, Sarah, and Will Lerwick; **Chicago, IL:** Cameron, Nicole, Cooper, and Caden Colvig; Dave and Lucia Thoensen; Jim and Corinne Mirabile; Cynthia, Chris, and Kelly Thrall; Erin Frank; **Denver, CO:** Mike and Dana Hutchins, Dottie Wagner; Alan, Jill, and Matthew Ater; Louisa, Chris, Ian, and Michael Padget; **Boulder, CO:** David, Sam, and Hank White, Patti Smith; **Aspen, CO:** Jim, Carmen, Kate, Libby, and Maddie Dowley; Mike, Amy, and Megan Doherty; **Dal-**

las, TX: Chris, Allison, Charlie, Sam, and Jack Bovard; **Houston, TX:** Harold, Riki, Gena, Adam, Rachel, and Noah Miller; Travis, Korey, and Klaire Bednarz; **Austin, TX:** Rob, Cindy, and Trish Murphy; **Durango, CO:** Mick, Linda, Brendan, and Betsy Ward; **Phoenix, AZ:** Phil, Barbara, Robert, and Christina McCreary; **Albuquerque, NM:** Lee, Elizabeth, and Sebastian Ward; **Santa Fe, NM:** Michael, Julie, and Josh Zimmer; **Cortez, CO:** William, Mical, and Orion Rainer; **San Diego, CA:** Newman, Kathleen, and Newman Porter; and last but not least...**Las Vegas, NV:** Marc, Ann, and Naomi Winard; Heath, Kendra and Matthew Hodapp!



Tales of Winter in the Red Creek Valley!

To paraphrase the Nike commercial, "My snow is bigger than your snow. My shovel breaks harder than your shovel. I've got bulldozer all day. My icicle hydrates better than your icicle. My power outage lasts longer than your power outage. Thank you for coming." It was a record year for snow in our area which led to a lot of winter fun. We were climbing on buildings like the Lodge and Upper Saddle and sledding off of them. We were snowshoeing in the valley and skiing to work. We were building igloos and snow caves and snowmen and having all kinds of winter games. However, with record snow fall comes record snow removal and we (and by we I mean Eagle to a large degree) spent most of the winter clearing the roofs so the buildings didn't collapse, clearing the roads so we could get to the office and our houses, and clearing an area for the horses to even eat. We wanted to get Eagle a bumper sticker that said, "My company car is a John Deere." The snow was 15 feet deep coming off of Outpost. You couldn't even see the new garden in the field. At one point it covered all the fences around camp. And the first three feet of snow in January was so heavy that it knocked out our power for 5 days. We were living the Homestead life, firing up the wood stoves, cooking with the barbeque, melting water for the toilets, and living by lamplight. It was fun, it was work, and it will all be great in the end (if we don't get washed away in the snow melt) because we'll have plenty of snow up in the mountains to play in this summer and plenty of water at lower elevations. "Your slickerslide is faster than my slickerslide!"



Ultimate Volunteer Week 2008!

Are you ready? No, really? Are you ready for the most fun that you can possibly have on planet earth? It's that time of the year! That's right, Volunteer Week two thousand eight! Tell the boss you won't be working from May 30th through June 3rd, call the schools, 'cause everyone wants to come down to the Red Creek Valley and volunteer their hearts out. We will kick Volunteer Week off with dinner at the Big House on May 30th. Of course, you can come for any amount of time, but those of you who choose to join us for the whole shebang will be immortalized in the mythology of Volunteer Week lore, kind of a big deal. What's not to like? Housing, meals, and any and all tools will be provided. All you need to bring is some good ol' work clothes and an attitude that says, "bring it on" to the ultimate challenges that lay before you. The challenges range from administrative office work, green thumbing the flower beds around camp, excavating trails, possibly snow removal (hopefully not), or taking a machete to the invasive flora around Main Lake.

Volunteer Week is a great time to reminisce and give something back to the CSC community. You are always free to take time for yourselves to explore. This year we will also be having a fun camp sponsored event at the end of the week maybe a peak climb, mountain bike ride, or some other great four corner adventure. Also, Jack is putting it all on the table. Whoever thinks they are up for the challenge, Jack and his semi-pro team are ready to take on any motley crew in a no holds barred game of Ultimate Frisbee, oh yea ... it's Ultimate time! Please give us a call at the office if you would like to join us in getting camp ready for the summer!



Wanna
get dirty at
camp?!

Craig I. Colvig Scholarship Fund



Last summer, six deserving campers came to camp through the CIC fund and the John Austin Cheley Foundation with which it is associated. This summer we are expecting 10 campers and it is all possible through your generosity. Campers that attend as a result of these efforts report very positive experiences and they have been wonderful additions to our summer family. We are so excited to be a part of a community willing to provide this opportunity to those who would not otherwise be able to afford it.

We invite you to become involved in this effort in recognition of how critical life-affirming and defining experiences are to a child's development. Your donation will be used directly towards a future "campership" at CSC. If you have questions regarding how you can help change a life by donating to the CIC fund, or becoming a sponsor to help campers apply, please contact the office.

From the Director's Chair, continued from page 1...

or place with which parents may have no experience. But there is no better place than camp to develop independence, because it is a caring and supportive culture designed to successfully help campers through their separation anxiety. While we can't do this directly with parents we address parental anxiety indirectly by having counselors write comprehensive weekly letters home and by providing parents a one-way window into camp through our website where pictures and news about camp are posted daily. There remains no better analogy than the baby bird learning to fly, except that in this case parents are encouraging campers to fly out toward success in the world and ensuring that success with the safe and gentle intermediate step of camp instead of the abrupt boot out of the nest. Our goal is to work together with parents to make sure each camper has the best experience possible!

"They have to participate in summer sports to keep up athletically or academic programs to catch up academically." Athletic and academic programs can be valuable and positive if a child is committed to a particular sport and finding a specific competitive edge is important to them or they have a defined academic need. What CSC provides is the opportunity to stay fit in a multitude of ways while taking a break from the rigorous competition and structure they typically find in school and sports. In addition to the summer fun found in most programs of any type, camp is about exploring and developing a broad range of life skills, and becoming centered and comfortable with who they are, who they might want to become, and what it might take to get there so that they can focus on academic or athletic specifics during the school year. The CSC program and culture provide campers opportunities to think critically, make informed decisions, and ground themselves, all of which prepare them to handle the physical, social, and emotional challenges that can get in the way of academic success. We have heard positive support for this approach from coaches, teachers, and parents, and recent research by the American Camping Association supports it as well.

Most parents want their children to get both growth value and fun/relaxation out of their summer opportunities. That is a fundamental and realized goal

of our program. Given current societal and educational trends, a camp experience is a necessary component in the positive development of any person. At some point in their lives, everyone needs to discover their personal identity by challenging themselves with new roles, interactions, and activities in a supportive environment under the guidance of adults outside the family. Everyone needs to learn coping skills when things get less comfortable or familiar and to develop the ability to think and act in positive ways on their own. Everyone needs to be able to make decisions and experience and evaluate the consequences of those decisions. Everyone needs to discover how to be responsible for themselves and to a group and to develop positive communication skills in all the varied social settings that group living provides. Everyone needs to get outside and learn to be connected physically, socially, and emotionally to their physical, social, and emotional settings and explore the boundaries of those settings in managed ways. In short, everyone needs to develop the skills that it takes to be a productive, positive, well-balanced, "caring, thoughtful, and responsible human being."

Our goal is to provide a summer experience that consistently addresses those needs for every camper. The groundwork is being laid for this summer's adventure and it's approaching quickly. Enrollment forms are coming in at a record pace and we may even reach waiting lists in some cases. But we want to share this summer with you so send yours in soon, or get in touch with us if you have questions about a CSC summer of significance. We wish you all the best during your winter thaw or at least ours (see our snow article on page 6) and we can't wait to see you this summer.

Clay Colvig



COL: Colvig Outdoor Leadership

What happens after Pathfinding? How long do you have to wait to become a staff member? Well, these are good questions and we have one answer for you: COL. That's right, COL: our new Colvig Outdoor Leadership team. Much like a *col* in mountain lingo provides a high mountain transition between landscapes, so will the COL program provide the transition from youth camper to leader and staff member.

At CSC, we strive to develop programs designed to enhance self esteem, self reliance, personal responsibility, cooperation, leadership, trust, and a whole lot of fun. Out of our desire to fill the gap between Pathfinding and staff with something significant came the development of COL, a program that will be available to anyone who has completed a summer of Pathfinding and their junior or senior year of high school. It will be an opportunity to further explore the skills necessary to both in-camp counseling and expedition leadership in an organized and supportive environment. It is a stepping stone to becoming a staff member at Colvig Silver Camps.

The program will begin with an in-camp component during which the team will explore issues similar to those of the first few days of staff week. Then the team of ten (eight members and two leaders) will hit the trail, going places that CSC has never been before and participating in service projects along the way. Returning to camp, the team will spend the second half of the term living in their own cabins in Homestead and working directly with Homestead campers discovering, developing, and applying their leadership skills. On alternate days, the team will leave their mark at CSC in some significant way through participation in a service project around camp. Every evening after dinner the team will gather and debrief the day's activities, have some fun, and relax.

We are aiming high with this program and expect that it will be a very fun and valuable - and vigorous and demanding - experience for those in transition from camper to staff. We also have high expectations for those who participate. The program will be more curriculum-based than those for younger campers and throughout the program they will be evaluated by the leaders and the counselors with whom they work according to the same criteria with which we assess our summer staff.

There is more fun and adventure to be had at CSC if you take advantage of this new and exciting program that will expand your leadership development both in and out of camp and prepare you for leadership responsibilities throughout your life.

The Magic of CSC...



For 37 years, CSC has been committed to providing the best summer camp experience possible for you and your child. The magic of CSC lies in our limited program size, our incredible staff, and our dedication to the CSC ideals and goals that have put such large smiles on so many faces...providing a personal approach to camping with a focus on individual growth...offering a non-competitive educational experience that consistently combines responsibility, fun, learning, and adventure...developing positive relationships with others, within ourselves,

and with our environment...offering expeditions that require a cooperative yet individual effort, fostering both self-reliance and group awareness...providing inspired and dedicated leadership that encourages positive life skills...We always enjoy hearing from our friends and families across the country. Please feel free to give us a call or drop us an email with any questions, comments, or concerns you may have. Working together is the best way to make the CSC experience as unforgettable as it is valuable.

2008 CAMPERS

(In order of enrollment)

Girls: Betsy Ward, Zoe Antoniou, Alix Reveilhac, Marie Reveilhac, Rica Fulton, Devon Brown, Maria Ashkin, Francesca Sable, Sabrina Fresta, Whisper Bissonette, Avra Saslow, Sarah Lerwick, Claire Jones, Georgia Carroll, Natalie Ford, Martina Summers, Vanessa Moyle, Natalie Kletts, Bonne Matheson, Sara Witz, Shawna Bateson, Mary Moore, Veronica Nichols, Rachel Bennetts, Zoe Kuhn, Rachel Miller, Berit Hogan, Kyra Fuqua, Emily Burcham, Klaire Bednarz, Biz Dolci, Kelly Thrall, Sydney Hardy, Grace Leonnig, Devin Mahoney, Callista Mincks, Nicole Indovino, Lauren Indovino, Erin Lazarus, Paige Basting, Lillian Remler, Sophie Evans, Diana Durnford, Jackie Durnford, Elizabeth Padon, Catherine Padon, Dana Hutchins, Jane Leighton, Zoe Hawthorne-Loizeaux, McKenna Crabb, Logan Crabb, Hayley Manges, Elaine Campbell, Reid Belanger, Anissa Riviere, Abbey Marchand, Amy Campbell, Pearl Hesselnden, Bettie Coy, Michelle Galetti, Hannah Behrehdt, Sarah Blog, Ella Skinner, Meredith Marshall, Shylie Miller, Talia Miller, Piper Olivas, Anna Schimel...

Boys: Samuel Haden, Sammy Nelson, Edward Kehoe, Brendan Ward, Scott Hipwell, Max Kaplan, Nico Antoniou, Matthew Ater, David Ater, Jimmy Carroll, Ben Pope, Harris Lynch, Sebastian Ward, Jeff Crocker, Isaac Korce, Orion Rainer, Jordan Morrison, Andy Martin, Danny Martin, Haakon Sigursslid, Elliott Saslow, William Lerwick, David Loveless, Jordan Rudman, Devon Bone, Phillip Shumway, Jamie McNamee, Sam Linda, Jeffrey Ford, Hank White, Sam White, Sean Moyle, Roman Moyle, Boyd Matheson, Samuel Connan, Robbie

News, Notes, and Reminders

If you're already enrolled for 2008, keep an eye on your mailbox for your upcoming Preparing for Adventure Packet. This envelope will contain all of your paperwork you'll need to make your CSC summer safe and fun!

Check our website for more winter pictures

Too old for Pathfinding but too young for staff? Find out about COL, a new CSC opportunity on page 7

We know you are coming. Don't forget to send in your enrollment form!

Gardner, Mark Barbaro, Scott Barbaro, Grant Fessler, Forrest Eagle, Leo Eagle, Miguel Arias, Sam Bennetts, Jake Iliohan, Teo Iliohan, James Fulton, Taz Steyskal, Bram Lowenstein, Coby Lowenstein, Spencer Williams, Parker Bucowich, Noah Miller, Ben Weinstock, Austin Hearne, Sixten Jordan, Elliott Hartman, Warren Hartman, Peter Indovino, Jonah Hutchinson, Rafa Bernardez, William Barney, Connor Whitesell, Max McCumber, Jeremy Johnson, Ice Campbell, Brett Steinberg, Drake Scully, Garrett Marshall, Ian Miller, Ogden Olivas, Sam Martens, Jack Martens, Seth Feldman...

ENROLL NOW TO JOIN IN ON ALL OF THE FUN!

Contact Us!

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Durango, CO 81301

970.247.2564

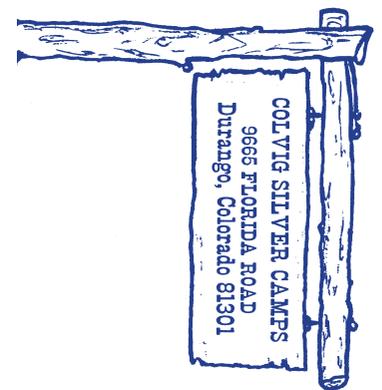
800.858.2850

970.247.2547 (fax)

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office@colvigsilvercamps.com



Please remember to keep us updated by phone or email regarding any changes in contact information for you or your camper so we can keep you informed about Colvig Silver Camps.



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