

PINE FOREST

FOR PARENTS ONLY

2002

Summer Newsletter

Dear Parents,

It's the final countdown to camp and we are ready to go. We can't wait until June 26 when buses, cars, and planes deliver your precious cargo to Greeley, PA. This is the moment we work towards and look forward to all year long. And our 72nd consecutive season promises to be the best.



Mickey and Barbara Black

This "Parents Only" newsletter is a chance to highlight some of the issues that you may be addressing at home as you prepare for camp. All of the topics discussed in these pages are meant to preserve camp as a "special" place – keeping it at a healthy distance from home.

My father and mother always said that sending children off to camp is as rewarding for parents as it is for their children. Hopefully, you will know that they are in good hands, having fun and, in the process, building character. Enjoy their absence. Relax! Travel! Read! Hike! Take time for yourselves so that when your children return home you have stories too!

Finally, let me take this opportunity to express our gratitude for the confidence you have placed in us. There were a lot of choices for this summer and you picked Pine Forest. Thank you. It's going to be a great summer. Warmest regards from "up where the sky begins".

Sincerely,

Important Phone Numbers

Camp Phone 570.685.7141

Other Numbers

Mountain Baggage phone
570.226.4653

fax 570.685.3660

e-mail: mountainbaggage@aol.com

Bunkline phone 856.768.1129

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Important Information

Wednesday, June 26 *Camp Begins*

Thursday, August 15 *Camp Ends'*

Sunday, July 21 *Visiting Day*

Visiting Day begins at 11:30 am. (No sneaking in ahead of time!) If you arrive early, we ask that parents remain in the picnic grove until 11:30 am. Visiting Day ends at 3:00 pm. Campers are not allowed to leave camp. Enjoy "camp in action" with activities in progress from 1:00 – 2:00 pm. Remember: Grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins are all welcome (but no pets)!

Tips for Camp

- If your child is flying to camp leave one camp shirt out of the trunk and have them wear their "Camp Official" on the plane.
- Write a letter to your child before camp starts so it is there for the first mail call.
- Baggage cannot be put on the buses. Trunks, duffles, and suitcases should be shipped to and from camp.
- Remember to pack bug spray and sunscreen.
- Pre-addressed, stamped envelopes are helpful to young campers.
- Pack cameras and film to capture the moments!
- Bunk information will not be given out before camp.



The Art of Letter Writing

We encourage good, old-fashioned letter-writing. At mail-call each day, there is no better feeling for a camper than receiving a real, hand-stamped, hand-written letter or card. Some are treasures that are kept through adulthood. Camp is a low-tech place for children (and adults) to take a break from the hustle-bustle of daily life during the rest of the year. No TV's, no Nintendo, no fax machines, no cellular phones, no running to check e-mail. In their place - friends, campfires, teamwork, and, hopefully, personal growth, independence, and self-esteem.

Telephone Calls

It's not easy, but part of sending children off to camp is "letting go." We ask that you refrain from calling your child during the first 10 days of camp or the last week. Try to limit calls to 1 in July and 1 in August. Frankly, most parents do not call at all. The office will schedule as many calls as possible, for after dinner between 6:30 and 7:30 pm EST. Please be reassured that there is always a counselor at the telephone. Hearing your parents' voice for the first time can be upsetting and we will be there to comfort your child. Tears only last milli-seconds after the call - until the first friend walks by, a basketball is dribbled, or a frisbee whizzes by. Don't worry, but if you have a real concern - call us. The boys' Head Counselor is David Thursz and the girls' Head Counselor is Bonnie Liedman.



Health Center

No need to send over - the - counter medicine to camp.

We have a fully stocked beautiful new Health Center with plenty of non-prescription medicine. Campers are not allowed to keep ANY medication in their cabins, so please do not send up Tylenol, Advil, Pepto Bismol, laxatives, calamine lotion, cough syrup, etc. We've got plenty. Of course, please do send up any special prescription medication.

E-Mail

Although we will deliver your e-mail, as a general rule, campers will not be e-mailing out. Please don't over do it - letters are better. In the same way that campers are not free to use the telephones whenever they would like, we think that there should be restrictions on use of e-mail and the internet. There will be some exceptions such as campers who choose computers as a choice activity working on our website. Please encourage your children to e-mail their friends on June 26 and tell them that they will be back on August 15. After about one day at Pine Forest Camp, they won't miss it!

Fax

We are one camp with one fax machine in a remote area serviced by a very small rural telephone company. There are no more phone lines! Please refrain from unnecessary faxes to camp - only emergencies or important camp matters such as transportation or medical forms. In other words, please don't fax your child the sports pages or xeroxes of their pet's paws!



Pine Forest Package Policy

Please, no packages.

This year we are asking you not to send packages to camp. Last year we were delighted by parents' response to our request to eliminate packages. Very few parents sent packages and almost all were relieved not to have the burden of finding and packaging gifts from home. It's all there at camp - games, activities, snacks...!

Of course there are exceptions, such as:

- 1 • Birthday packages*
- 2 • Necessities from home-glasses, medication, a book for school... These should be addressed to your child "c/o Boys or Girls Head Counselor"*
- 3 • Large envelopes (9X12) are fine, too.*

And please no food. Remember, all packages are opened in the presence of staff.

Please share this policy with family (including grandparents) and friends. All packages will be returned unopened.

Thank you for your cooperation and support. Remember, the best things that you can send are love, support and encouragement.

On Visiting Day it is permissible to bring food for a family picnic (although Barbara is planning another delicious buffet of camp home cookin'), but please do not bring food for more than the day. This year no food will be allowed to remain in the cabins after Visiting Day ends.

New For 2002

- Our own Weather Station
- Chadwin "Stadium" – grandstand-surrounded Main Basketball court
- Redevelopment of Upper Camp (Lauri Field area)
- Grandstand viewing stands*
- New modern restrooms*
- Paved road to Lauri Field
- New Woodworking shop
- New Nature Center
- New Counselor Lounge
- CA Clubhouse for 11th graders
- Expanded Cooking Room
- Expanded, remodeled & modernized Health Center
- Completion of bathroom renovation project in all cabins
- New Maintenance/Garage center
- New Adventure Base Camp Tripping Center (more outdoor adventure treks!)

Behind the Scenes - Pine Forest Professionalism

There are a lot of improvements for 2002 that you can see – the new basketball stadium, the modern new Health Center, the exciting new Nature/Outdoor center, a hands-on Woodworking Shop, and all of the great things listed above.

But as parents, you should also know about the new initiatives we are taking this summer that are not tangible but just as important. For example, our staff orientation will include the following experts so that each and every counselor is better prepared to guide and support your child.

Coach Glenn Noto,
expert on teaching
fundamentals in sports

Neil Ehrlich,
PIAA Basketball Official,
Referee Instructor

Dr. Jim Kochalka, PhD.
Clinical Psychologist

Bruce Muchnick, Ed.D.
Child Psychologist

Dr. Victor Fornari,
Associate Chairman for Education
& Associate Professor of Clinical
Psychiatry at NYU School of Medicine

Jay Frankel,
Founder, True To Life Training –
expert in interpersonal skill
development. Consultant to GAP,
MTV, Nickelodeon and Viacom.

Dr. Norman Freidman, M.Ed
Dean of Gene Ezersky Camp
Safety College

Juli Savettiere,
"No More Bullying", lecturer/educator

We are also having a special camper
clinic with US Olympic Gymnastics
coach for 2000 & 2004 – *Kelli Hill!*
And Head Soccer coach at Georgetown
University, *Keith Tabatchnik.*

A Message to Pine Forest Parents

A lot has happened in the world since last summer. Being part of a community like camp takes on special meaning at times like these. It gives us joy and strength at a time when children need it.

Campers and counselors have enjoyed summers at PineForest Camp for 72 years- through both World Wars, the Great Depression, and many difficult times since. They have also watched a man walk on the moon and witnessed other great achievements of humanity.

Pine Forest is a safe place for children. Four generations of campers have had fun there. We give children love, confidence, and courage. Camp fosters independence and decision-making. Children learn how to get along with others, how to tell the difference between right and wrong. They can talk about feelings in a positive environment with caring counselors and other professional staff members.

Finally, camp gives our children a break from the drone of bad news. At camp there are no TV's, no newspapers, no internet. In their place the sound of crickets at night, the warmth of a campfire and the sheer joy of being with friends. Finding a place where there is that kind of peace seems more important now than ever.

This has been an extraordinary year. For each and every camper, we feel a special sense of purpose to make 2002 the best season ever. 🌲

CAMPER'S ADDRESS

Camper's Name
Bunk Name
185 Pine Forest Road
Greeley, PA 18425

E-Mail
pinetree@pond.com

Web site
www.pineforestcamp.com

PFC Online Store at
www.pineforestcamp.com

shirts... shorts... sweatshirts... p.j.'s...hats... camp gear... plus more!

Two New Programs

– College Prep Program –

Pine Forest Camp has joined forces with The Princeton Review, one of America's top - ranked SAT Prep authorities to offer a special SAT Prep course. 11th graders will also tour colleges and universities in Washington, D.C., Boston, and New York. In addition, these campers can volunteer for community service at a neighbor camp that services children with special needs.

– Adventure Base Camp –

An expert team of adventure leaders and wilderness rescue guides has been assembled to lead kayaking, canoe, caving, climbing and hiking trips throughout the lakes, rivers and mountains of the Northeast. Campers will be able to join expeditions each week at camp, culminating in "The Quest" – a 4 day adventure trip after camp, August 15 - 18.

Alumni / Visiting Day

During Visiting Day, July 21, alumni are invited back to Pine Forest to celebrate PFC's 72nd summer. We're one of the oldest camps in America! From 12:00-3:00 p.m. former campers and counselors will be reuniting in the Hughie Hall/Leslee Field area. Bring camp memorabilia and old photos to share.

Entrance and Parking for Parents is Mitchell Field
11:30 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Entrance and Parking for Alumni is Lauri Field (Top Field)
12:00–3:00 p.m.



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PINE FOREST CAMP