

CAMP MERRIE-WOODE

Situated, Celebrated on Fairfield Lake

Fall 2014

Continuing a History of Conservation



Merrie-Woode has purchased the 35 acres of conservation easement outlined in blue.

Over the past two decades, the Merrie-Woode Foundation has worked hard to acquire property surrounding camp with the goal of preserving the land around Merrie-Woode from future development. In December of 2002, The Maidenhair V, LLC purchased a 38.85 acre tract of land from the neighboring Bald Rock Housing Development. This wedge of land is located above Merrie-Woode's waterfall, below Maidenhair Falls, and between Bald Rock and Witch's Kitchen.

In December of 2003, the property was split into two sections. Parcel one (outlined in red above) allowed for development while the 35 acres of parcel two (outlined in blue) was placed in a conservation easement. In December of 2009, both parcels were sold to a private buyer who planned to build a home while enjoying the undeveloped easement. However, after holding the property for a while without building on it, the owners approached Merrie-Woode about buying the land. In April of 2014, the Merrie-Woode Foundation purchased the 35 acre easement, protecting it from development

and pushing Merrie-Woode's land holdings over 400 acres.

Merrie-Woode continues to monitor neighboring properties in an effort to preserve as much of the land around camp as possible. With the purchases of the old Fairfield Inn site, the 100 acres across the lake, the Round Hill lots lining the camp road near Route 64, and the newly acquired Maidenhair land, we can be confident that Merrie-Woode's pristine beauty will be preserved in perpetuity.

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At Wit's End...



Jim and Denice at Tyler's wedding, with the happy couple and parents of the bride: LeeLee and Gregg Goodson, Kelsey and Tyler, and Denice and Jim

We hope this newsletter finds you doing well and that you are enjoying the beautiful fall foliage. It has been an eventful fall for us at camp this year. Shortly after camp ended this summer, our oldest son, Tyler, married Kelsey Goodson in camp's Chapel. It was a beautiful September weekend filled with joy for the happy couple. We were happy to host our family and friends for this special occasion, and we are thrilled to welcome Kelsey into the Dunn family. Shortly after the wedding, we headed to an alumnae gathering in Birmingham, and we will head to San Francisco this November for a gathering there. In the spring, we plan to be in Atlanta for an alumnae gathering.

We just finished the 2015 camper enrollment process, and camp is full for the 97th summer. We were pleased with our online registration process. It made applying much easier for parents and the processing in the office is smoother as well. With camp full, we are already busy thinking about the 2015 staff. Counselor Assistant interviews are underway and their excitement for camp and their

new roles as staff members is infectious. Betsy and Vivian are planning the calendar of college visits, and we will be on the road starting in January. The dates for our college tour can be found on our website.

We have also been busy compiling our 2014 camper, staff, and parent surveys. We would like to thank those of you who participated in one of these surveys. Your feedback ensures that we continue to offer the best possible camp experience for each camper.

It's hard to believe our 96th CMW summer has come and gone. There were many highlights around camp this past summer. Campers and staff enjoyed our newly renovated Arts and Craft building, the Main session play, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and the improvements to the August session Riding Program. This was also an ACA (American Camp Association) accreditation summer and overall the visitors were impressed by our camp operations. Our riding program and facility were certified by the CHA (Certified Horsemanship Association), which is very impressive and rare in the summer camp world. Overall, the campers, counselors, and senior staff enjoyed a healthy and safe summer.

We look forward to our off-season projects and travels. We hope everyone has a happy holiday season, and we hope to see many of you while we are on the road.

Chug a Wump!

Denice and Jim

Staff News

Thanks to many of our staff members for being in touch since camp ended. We love hearing what you all are doing this off-season! **Stuart Bowers** reports that she serves as the Vice President of the Outdoors Club at College of Charleston. The club leads backpacking trips, climbing



Claire Sussman, Caroline Johnson, and Katie Ryan in the Ceramics Studio

trips, and other outdoor adventures. Stuart gets to see **Carter Rice** on occasion because Carter is a member of the Outdoors Club! When Stuart is not busy with class and the Outdoors Club, she is leading sea kayaking trips with Charleston Collegiate School. Camp recently



Ivory Sparks, Katie Martinez, and Maddie Smith on the docks

had a visitor when **Tee Bowers** stopped by for a few days before making his way to West Virginia for Gauley Fest. Tee enjoyed spending the summer in Colorado and plans to return to the area for the winter ski season. After spending the summer here at Merrie-Woode, **Mary Hill Brooks** is having a grand adventure during her gap year between high school and college. This semester, she is traveling to South Asia to study and work on farms in Thailand to learn more about sustainable farming in developing countries. Additionally, she will be busy teaching English to children in India! Good luck and have fun, Mary Hill! It's only been a few weeks since camp closed, but we already miss **Janie Cole** here in the office. Janie is back out in Colorado where she is working for Sanborn Western Camps. She recently emailed to report that she is leading team building activities and teaching children about the history of the Earth while impersonating an alien. Ha! We only wish we could be there to witness Janie's lesson! At UNC-Chapel Hill, **MacKinsey Cole** is keeping busy with class, Honor Court, her sorority, a campus rec job, and the comedy troupe she recently

joined (someone's ready for *Whose Line* this summer). Even with all of that, MacKinsey still finds time to meet up with **Laura Gill** to climb regularly at the wall on campus. We are hoping to see MacKinsey when she comes through Cashiers to hike on the Appalachian Trail during her Fall Break! We are thrilled to announce that after a summer away from camp, **Ashlee Collins** will be returning to Merrie-Woode for the summer of 2015. The drama staff missed having Ashlee around this summer and will certainly be glad to see her back at camp! **Melanie Crittenden** is enjoying her freshman year at UVA. She recently got in touch to let us know that she was going to Gauley Fest to raft with some friends from Richmond and hoped to run into JP while she was there. It's hard to believe, but **Maddie Davis** is already starting her senior year at Samford University in Birmingham. Maddie is studying Journalism and Mass Communication, as well as Art. She recently made a short video about camp that you may have seen floating through social media; the video highlights the small, special moments found during a summer. Unfortunately **Laura Dorris** will not be back at camp in 2015 after she graduates from Rhodes College. Laura has been offered an internship with a Big 4 accounting firm that will hopefully lead to a full-time job! It's a great opportunity for Laura, but we will miss her terribly! **Lawson Drew** says she is

enjoying her first year at Auburn University where she loves seeing **Catherine Christian** in "the real world." Lawson's older sister, **Stuart Drew**, is a senior at Auburn and is headed to London after graduation in May to intern for a PR firm that focuses on social media management. **Sarah Ellison** is enjoying her new job at Charlotte Latin School in Charlotte, NC. Sarah works with the extended day program at Latin that provides childcare and homework time for students whose parents need childcare after the school day is over. Sarah came to camp in mid-September to spend the weekend with Owen Helms while Betsy and Josh attended Tyler Dunn's wedding! In Virginia, **Alex Ervin** is happy in her sophomore year at College of William and Mary, where she is busy with her a cappella group. Alex reports that writing all of those camper letters this summer improved her handwriting so much that even her professors have commented on it! After graduating from UNC-Chapel Hill in May, **Rachel Garrett** joined Teach For America and now lives/works in Kinston, NC. Rachel is teaching Math at Kinston High School while also coaching the girls' tennis team. Although life is very different from college, she is enjoying



Katie Bisbee, Sarah Hagenbuch, Laura Gill, and Elizabeth Davis

Staff News (cont.)

teaching and appreciates camp for showing her the importance of good teaching. The news from **Kendall Gibson** is that she is working for alumna Gwen Graham's congressional campaign in Florida this fall. **Margaret Greene** is in her sophomore year at UVA where she was recently accepted into the Engineering program. Margaret sees **Selina Horsley** around school regularly, which is always fun! **Anna Hamilton** reports that Indiana University is a whole new experience, but it's going great and she is learning a lot. Over at Vanderbilt University, **Mary Nobles Hancock** is enjoying her junior year. She is studying Human and Organizational Development with a concentration in Education Policy and Child Studies. Mary Nobles recently visited with **Elliott Hornsby** who was on her way back to Chicago to begin her junior year at Northwestern University. After camp ended,



Elise Crosswhite stands atop Old Bald

Kelli Hewitt and **Lucy Wood** took a month long road trip to see other parts of the country. Some highlights included New Orleans, Austin, Las Vegas, and Los Angeles. It sounds like **Ella Janvier** is doing well in her freshman year at NC State. **Kennedy Krieg** is a sophomore at University of Missouri. She also recently got a new job, which she loves, at the Methodist Church where she works in the nursery on Sunday mornings with children 18 months to 3 years old. Kennedy's younger sister, **Sydney Krieg**, is busy preparing college applications, for which she wrote her essay about camp! We heard from **Mollye Lent**, who is looking forward to her freshman year at Northwestern University, where she plans to study pre-med. After a busy summer at Merrie-Woode, **Kate Manos** transferred to Georgia Southern University. Kate sounds like she is enjoying her new school, and she is looking forward to another summer at camp in 2015. At the University of North Florida, **Anna Mans** is working hard with her opera group who will perform in Europe during the summer of 2015. Anna was recently cast as Cherubino in Mozart's opera "Le Nozze di Figaro," which the group will be performing in the Czech Republic this July. We will miss having Anna at camp, but hopefully she will be able to spend August Session with us! **Maddie Marion** is enjoying her

last year in graduate school at Converse College. While in school, Maddie is working at WestGate Family Therapy, the Spartanburg County Jail (doing talk therapy with inmates), and acting as graduate assistant to the director of student activities. Maddie hopes to spend plenty of time at camp this summer! We had a great time visiting with **Callie McCraney** at our recent Merrie-Woode alum party in Birmingham. Callie told us that she is taking classes at University of Alabama—Birmingham toward a graduate degree in secondary education, and she plans to teach high school Science when she finishes school. We think, after all of her practice with campers, Callie will make an extraordinary teacher! **Layne Nalty** is busy in her senior year with college applications and the opening of her cross country season at Louise S. McGehee School in New Orleans. **Caroline Nevin** is keeping busy in her senior year at Auburn University by applying to graduate Psychology programs and waiting to hear where she will be accepted. After spending the summer at Merrie-Woode, **Bridget Oliver** jumped right back into camp life as an Outdoor Educator at Camp Joy in Ohio. At Joy, Bridget gets to interact and work with children from schools in Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio as they join the Joy team for experience-based learning in natural history, wildlife, conservation, living

history, survival, and team-building lessons. Bridget is excited for this new chapter in her life but looks forward to returning to Merrie-Woode in 2015! **Margaret Page** is enjoying her senior year at UVA. After some time away from camp, she is planning to spend the summer of 2015 at Merrie-Woode. Welcome back, Margaret! **Florence Poynor** is a lucky girl because she is spending the semester studying Renaissance Art in Florence, Italy! Florence has an internship at the Basilica of Santa Croce where she is doing tours for visitors who come to see the church. Florence told us that **Grace Murray** is studying in Prague this semester, so they plan to get together a number of times while they are both studying abroad. After graduating from Clemson University's Master's program in Education in May and a busy summer teaching sailing and wrangling Owen Helms, **Kara Leigh Pulley** is loving her new job teaching 6th grade Math at Dr. Phinnize J. Fisher Middle School. The school is a project-based STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) school in Greenville, SC. Recently **Holly Querin** had an article posted on the Davidson page of the college website *Her Campus* called "In Defense of Camp Counselors." The article addresses why working at summer camp during your college years is such a worthy endeavor. It is written beautifully, and we love what Holly says about the power of camp. Well

done, Holly! In her senior year at University of Alabama, **Adrienne Rich** launched a fashion blog! Check her out at www.witsotherend.com. Hmm, I wonder where she got her blog title! Adrienne's older sister, **Emily Rich**, is busy applying for MFA Theater programs for next fall. However, she is currently taking a break from applications to travel to the Grand Canyon, Yosemite, and the Redwood forests of California for a month. While out West, Emily plans to camp, hike, and take pictures. In her sophomore year at Sarah Lawrence College, **Palmer Smith** recently landed a radio show called "Opal Sound" that will air on the campus radio station. We look forward to getting more specifics from Palmer so that we can listen to the show online! Although she attends Georgetown University, **Elly Straske** is spending the semester studying in Dublin, Ireland. She is attending Trinity College Dublin, which is the oldest university in Ireland. While at Trinity, Elly is involved in the theatre troupe on campus and is traveling extensively. Some of her upcoming trips include Munich, Germany and Oslo, Norway. In her senior year at Florida State, **Tara Tecce** is keeping busy and is looking forward to going back to the Association of Outdoor Recreation and Education (AORE) in November. This year's conference will be held in Portland, OR! Still teaching high school Math and coaching varsity swimming, **Amanda von Thron** is busy in her 5th year teaching at



Boating counselor, Tara Tecce, enjoying a day on the river

Butler High School in Charlotte, NC. She also enjoys serving as the lead teacher for the Math II team in her department. Although Amanda loves living in Charlotte, she is looking forward to weekends in the mountains with friends and family during the off-season! With more news from Auburn University, **Natalie Wertymer** reports that her British Literature professor told the class that King Arthur was not actually a king. Can you imagine, Merrie-Woode girls?! We are thrilled that **Eliza Williams** recently moved back to her favorite place in the world: the North Carolina mountains! Eliza is working for Moondance Adventures at their headquarters in Asheville. She coordinates student admissions and plans on visiting camp as frequently as possible! Welcome back to Western NC, Eliza. We can't wait to see you! Back in London, **Claire Woodall** is busy with the start of her second year at the Royal Veterinary College. She is hoping, if her schedule works, to return to camp for at least part of the summer in 2015! Keep the news coming, Staff. We always love hearing from you!

Alumnae News

We love hearing from our alumnae during the year to hear what they are up to. **Lauren Norton Andrews (97-09)** has big news. She recently started her own Interior Design business in Tampa, FL. She is currently working towards acquiring her Interior Design license and specializes in residential design. She works on projects ranging from decorating and renovations, to new construction. Check out her new website: laurenandrewsdesign.com.



Lauren Norton Andrews (97-09) recently started her own Interior Design business

Chloe Cunningham (02-05) graduated from Dickinson College in PA with a Bachelors of Arts degree in Art History. She is now working for a corporate art consulting firm with a roster of international hotel clientele. **Ashley Garner Dringo (95-07)** moved with her husband, Joe, to New Hampshire this summer where she continues to run her photography business, Ashley Helen Photography. Joe works as an air traffic controller for the Boston TRACON. As this newsletter goes to print, Ashley and Joe are expecting their first child, a baby girl, any day! They look forward to sending a baby photo of little Amelia

June for the spring newsletter. **Audrey Dyer (95-09)** traveled this summer to Scotland. While there, she visited Arthur's Seat where Camelot is rumored to have been located. She reported no luck in finding it this time. Keep fighting the good fight, Audrey! **Madeline Edwards (05-12)** is doing her fair share of traveling as well, spending the year studying Arabic and Middle East Studies in Amman, Jordan. She recently travelled with a friend to Palestine and Israel for Eid al Adha break where they enjoyed travelling around Jerusalem and the West Bank. After spending her summer in Paris, **Kelly Friedlander (02-08)** is back at Tulane University for her senior year. The Galey sisters have quite a lot going on. **Becca Galey (93-03)** is graduating from Macalester College in St. Paul, MN and has accepted a Fulbright Teaching Fellowship in Germany next year. **Hannah Galey (95-99)** graduated from Georgetown Medical School in May and has accepted a residency in Cincinnati, OH. And **Sarah Galey (93-98)** is in a PhD Education Policy program at Michigan State University. **Kaley Garner (02-12)**, CMW Horsemaster of 2008, is busy at University of Florida where she is part of the UF Horse Judging Team. Named as the Spring 2014 champions, the team is traveling this fall to the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) Congress in Ohio and the AQHA Worlds Show in Oklahoma. Good luck, Kaley!



Chloe Cunningham (02-05) graduated this year from Dickinson College

Annie Langford (01-12) and **Connor Williams (01-11)** are roommates in the West Village in New York City. Connor is an account manager for House Account, a shopping app for boutiques, and Annie works in marketing at Tito Pedrini Jewelry & Gemstones. Whitney Dunlap **McLeod (89-04)** enjoyed a visit to camp in July. She and her husband, Kent, are busy keeping up with their little guy, Graham, who is walking and on the move now! After recently moving to New York City, **Anna Katherine Moore (00-04)** has been busy working as a stage manager on plays including *Becket* and *Jeremy And*. Her most recent project was stage managing *Sea Legs: A Nautical New Musical* which just enjoyed a sold out run Off-Broadway. She is now in rehearsals for a production of *Out of the Basement* before it opens this fall. Break a leg, Anna Kat!



Anna Katherine Moore (00-08) on the set of Sea Legs

Jessica Harkness Nehrbass (96-08) recently returned home to New Orleans with her husband, Gabriel, after finishing her M.A. in Social Enterprise from American University. Although she's missing Costa Rica where she spent her last semester, she's enjoying working for a sustainability startup, LifeCity. She hopes to pass by camp when she heads up to North Carolina for long-time camp friend **Doris Kroiss' (05-08)** upcoming wedding to Griffin Davis. In Mt. Pleasant, SC, **Claire Vernon O'Bryan (94-01)** is working as a nurse practitioner. **Brittney Olinger (05-11)** graduated from Oak Hall School in May as the Co-Valedictorian of her class. In her junior year of high school, Brittney founded ReRun Sneakers, a non-profit organization. Their mission is to send lightly used running shoes to runners in underprivileged areas. Way to take the Spirit of Merrie-Woode back out into the



Audrey Dyer (95-09) kneels at Arthur's Seat, Scotland where Camelot is rumored to have been

world with you, Brittney! We're proud of you! Brittney is now off to Hertford College at the University of Oxford in England. **Alison Chatel Paris (97-08)**



The team at Parisleaf, Alison Chatel Paris' (97-08) company, in their new office space

has moved! Her team that is... She took herself, her husband, and her whole team at Parisleaf to a new studio in the heart of downtown Gainesville, Florida. If you hadn't heard, Alison co-founded the creative studio Parisleaf in 2010 with her husband, Chad, from their apartment during graduate school. It quickly took off and has since grown from the husband-wife duo to an eclectic team of 10 artists, designers, web developers, storytellers, and marketers. Going into its fifth year, the studio has worked on projects with friends and partners in the U.K., San Francisco, Maine, and even us here at Camp Merrie-Woode! Including the newsletter, Parisleaf creates many of Merrie-Woode's printing materials. Alison, Chad, and their team have been honored with a slew of awards from the creative industry and Florida community, including a 2014 AdFed ADDY Best in Show and a 2011 Business of the Year Award from the Gainesville Chamber. Most rewarding of all, she's been able to build a company with her husband and grow a team into a family. The group took over a restored home

in downtown Gainesville and, together, transitioned the 100-year old home from a run-down property into a vibrant, collaborative creative studio. As co-founder, COO, and CFO of the collective, she loves working with her husband, pushing her team to fulfill their creative potential, and cultivating a culture of love and beauty. And, occasionally, they plant some trees to give back. Former counselor, **Allison Press (12)** had an exciting summer in Washington DC. She worked as an Exhibit and Graphic Design Intern at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery. During her summer, she visited every single one of the 18 Smithsonian museums in DC, and the Smithsonian Institution did a short video piece about her story! Vocal artist, **Amber Skye (97-08)** is still doing well in New York City and was excited to release her latest song, "Rivers," this fall. Look it up on SoundCloud and have a listen! **Frances Symes (95-99)** graduated this year with distinction from the Yale School of Management with an MBA. **Lauren "LT" Thomas (96-11)** is making plans to move to Tasmania, Australia where her boyfriend, Marlow, is studying sustainable architecture. LT is looking forward to getting her yoga teacher certification. She is particularly excited about paddling the Franklin River, which is rated one of the best multi day whitewater trips in the world! We bet we know some CMW Captains that would love to join her!

CMW Weddings and Engagements



Tyler Dunn (06-12) married Kelsey Goodson (12) in the Merrie-Woode Chapel

Love is in the air as we welcome new spouses and fiancées to the extended Merrie-Woode family!

Tyler Dunn (06-12), son of Executive Directors Jim and Denice Dunn, married **Kelsey Goodson (12)** at the Camp Merrie-Woode Chapel on September 13, 2014. Former counselor, **Doris Kroiss (05-08)** is engaged to marry photographer



Doris Kroiss (05-08) and her fiancée, Griffin Davis

Griffin Davis. Riding counselor, **Maddie Marion (08-present)** is engaged to marry Dakota Rathbone on September 19, 2015 at the Historic Balsam Mountain Inn. Dakota and Maddie met at camp several years ago. Dakota was a frequent visitor to Merrie-Woode as an assistant to the



Meredith Kronn (98-11) marries 2nd Lt. Foster Veazey

local veterinarian who cares for our horses in the summer. The two quickly became friends and started dating the year Maddie worked at camp as our off-season Intern. Congratulations, Maddie and Dakota! We are so happy for you both! **Meredith Kronn (98-11)** married marine aviator 2nd Lt. Foster Veazey on December 21, 2013 in Birmingham, AL. **Calene Wertymer Chambers (00-09)**, **Natalie Wertymer (02-present)**, **Lillie Cochran (01-11)**, and **Taylor Kronn Walker (98-08)** were all part of the wedding party. **Mary Peterkin (94-06)** married Clayton Worthington on May 3, 2014 at High Hampton Inn in Cashiers, NC. And what a huge Merrie-Woode reunion it ended up being! A host of



Maddie Marion (08-present) and her fiancée, Dakota Rathbone



*At Mary Peterkin's wedding
Back Row: Vivian Weatherby (97-present), Mary Peterkin Worthington (94-06), and Molly Smith (95-02)
Front Row: Ingrid Weatherby (96-present), Hayes Jernigan (95-06), and Carter Coker (92-08)*

Merrie-Woode women and men were in attendance including **Jim and Denice Dunn, Ingrid (96-present) and Vivian (97-present) Weatherby, Molly Smith (95-02), Carter Coker (92-08), Hayes Jernigan (95-06), Gordon (90-02) and Laurie Turner Strayhorn (76-02)**...not to mention Mary's grandparents, **Fritz and Dottie Orr (60-78)**, her parents, **Brien and Sallie Orr Peterkin (69-10), Fritz Orr III (94-05)** and his wife, **Missy, Polly Orr Bates (52-59), Tinsley Orr Northen (47-57), Lucillie Orr Morrison (54-61), Laura Northen Manos (70-74), and Mimi Morrison Harrison (84-95)**. A Merrie-Woode affair indeed! Mary and Clayton are living in Washington DC. **Mary Coleman Rogers (94-07)** married Charlie Clark on June 21, 2014. **Katie Bee Rogers Marshall (92-96)** was matron of honor. Sisters of the groom are **Lee Dicks Clark (88-92)** and **Ginger Ann Clark Hughes (90-00)**. Congratulations to all of our Merrie-Woode brides and grooms!

CMW Births

The Merrie-Woode family continues to grow each year. We are excited to announce so many new births and anticipated arrivals this fall!

Sarah Haman Collette (96-08) and her husband, Lee, are expecting a baby girl in December. This will be their first child. **Mary Kent Harrison Ellis (83-90)** and her husband, Jeremy, have welcomed a new baby girl to their growing family. Kathleen Julia Ellis was born May 12, 2014, weighing 7 lbs., 9 1/2 oz., and measuring 20 inches. She joins siblings, Augusta and Mary Kent. Former counselor,



Tatia MacMillan Gibson's (07-08) second girl, Elizabeth

Tatia MacMillan Gibson (07-08) and her husband, Jason, are excited to announce the birth of their second daughter. Elizabeth Ann Gibson was born June 8, 2014 at 8:38pm. Big sister Abby Ruth is thrilled! **Susan Edwards Lewis (90-99)**, along with husband Dan and six-year-old daughter Elizabeth, welcomed Jeffrey Edwards Lewis into the



Susan Edwards Lewis' (90-99) son, Jeffrey Edwards Lewis

family on April 11, 2014. So far they report he loves to smile, sleep, and eat! The Lewis family is now in Statesboro, GA where Dan serves as the pastor of First Presbyterian Church, and Susan has a private practice in counseling as an MDiv/LCSW. Eddie and **Betty Jane Magidson Mackay (91-03)** welcomed their daughter, Caroline Eileen, on May 24, 2014. She was 6 lbs. 2 oz. and 20 inches. She will be a fourth generation Merrie-Woode girl! Betty Jane came by camp for a visit this summer, and



Betty Jane Magidson Mackay (91-03) and Caroline on a visit to camp this summer

we all enjoyed getting to meet little Caroline! **Elissa McCarty Oliver (95-03)** and her husband, Jackson, are expecting a baby girl February 7, 2015. They can't wait to send her to Merrie-Woode when she's ready! Elissa is teaching culinary arts to high school students at Riverwood International Charter School in Sandy Springs, GA. **Ashley Sauer Oswald (89-00)** and her husband, Guy, welcomed a future Merrie-Woode girl, Grace Sauer Oswald, on January 13, 2014. Robert and **Logan Carpenter**



Logan Carpenter Senior's (92-06) son, John Patrick Senior

Senior (92-06) announce the arrival of a second son. John Patrick Senior was born April 13, 2014. Jeremy and **Liz Moore Uecker (90-99)** have added another future Merrie-Woode girl to their clan! Virginia Spencer Uecker was born May 28, 2014 joining big sisters Annie and Sally. **Catherine Avery Warfield (94-06)** and her husband, Patrick, are thrilled to announce the

CMW Births (cont.)



The Uecker sisters: Sally, Virginia, and Annie, daughters of Liz Moore Uecker (90-99)

birth of their son. James Patrick Warfield was born on September 26, 2014 at 6:57pm, weighing 6 lbs. 7 oz. and measuring 19 inches long. **Courtney Dial Whitmore (95-05)** and her husband, Christopher, have welcomed a new baby girl to their family. Future Merrie-Woode girl, Blakely McPherson Whitmore was born on April 13, 2014 in Nashville, TN.



Courtney Dial Whitmore (95-05) and her daughter, Blakely

Summer Camp: In Search of Gender Equality

By JP Bevilaqua



JP Bevilaqua, CMW Adventure Program Coordinator

Over the years, I have been asked repeatedly, “Why do you work at a girls’ camp?” I understand the question. My areas of professional expertise are not those typically associated with an all-female work environment. In the eyes of some, it may make more sense for me to work with boys

where things like adventures in the outdoors, getting dirty, and taking risks are more commonly associated. While on some level this may be true, I also think it is nonsense. The whole answer as to why I focus my work with youth on girls is somewhat complicated. However, the core of it can be summed up quite simply in a single word: Equality.

The idea or notion of gender equality can be a tricky one. If you were to ask the average guy on the street if he self-identified as a ‘feminist’, I would wager that he would reply in the negative. This may be because the term has somehow been associated with extremism or radicalism in our collective social consciousness. Does feminist ideology exist in the form of extremist activism? Of course it does. I would argue, however, that all one need believe in order to be considered a feminist, is that men

and women should be treated equally. That’s it. Equal rights. Equal pay. Equal opportunity. Sadly, these ideas still fall in the category of goals rather than reality. According to a 2013 report by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, women still make only 79% of what men are paid. So to anyone who would say they believe those things should be true, I would say, congratulations, you’re a feminist.

Where the goal of gender equality has a tendency to go awry is that it is often confused with equivalency. While men and women are equal, we are by no means equivalent. Men and women have different natural tendencies, different ways of relating to one another, different ways of understanding themselves, different strengths and weaknesses. So while gender equality is what we are after, that is not to say that men

and women are the same. Nor, of course, should young men and women be treated as such.

I would encourage you to walk through the magazine aisle of your local grocery store and ask the question, what are young men and women intended to interpret from a glance at the covers? Some exceptions notwithstanding, by and large it is that men are supposed to have a fancy car, be extraordinarily macho, and fabulously wealthy. Women, it would seem, are intended to take a lesson in fashion, interior home design, cooking, and an unattainable body type. While awareness of this challenge is nothing new, it is nevertheless a poignant reminder that young people are, from a very young age, shown what they should become through mediums largely outside our control.

At this point, you may be asking, "How does this have anything to do with adventure programming at a summer camp?" Well, here goes. The outdoor industry has, since its inception, been rather homogenous. An overwhelming majority of its recreational participants and its industry professionals are men. Part of my motivation for working with young women is with the hope of changing the dynamic within the very industry in which they are participating. Personally, I would like very much to see more women out climbing, paddling, biking, and working as guides and instructors. Because of the fact that women bring



different talents and ideas to the table, the experience of co-recreating in the outdoors with a broader audience becomes inherently more enriching for us all. Additionally, I reject the idea that boys should go play outside to win glorious triumphs while girls should stay inside and play with dolls. This is an obvious oversimplification to be sure, but not a far cry from what the litany of magazine covers in our neighborhood grocery store might suggest. I believe that girls are entitled to choice and to be empowered in the same way as boys. They are entitled to learn the same lessons, to grow, to discover what they are capable of, and to take risks that yield the same impactful rewards as when boys have that opportunity.

I have seen our campers undergo a transformation in the way they request or respond to an offer of assistance from a staff member. Initially, while loading a canoe onto a trailer for a river trip, a camper might say in a moment of frustration, "I can't do this, can you help me?" The

look on their face when I might reply, "You don't need my help, you can figure it out," closely resembles that of dismay and perhaps betrayal. As an adult male, surely it is my job to lift heavy things, they might think. And over the course of a summer, or perhaps two, I have seen those very same campers realize that they are in fact capable. They no longer ask for my assistance, but also actively reject my help



when I do attempt to offer it, stating, "No, let me do it!" While seemingly small in the moment, it is those paradigm shifts in young people's perspectives that I believe is what empowers them to gain independence, achieve in the face of adversity, and ultimately live a less fearful and

Summer Camp: In Search of Gender Equality (cont.)

marginalized life.

Girls have a right to grow up thinking that they are not a magazine cover and that they don't have to care what Martha Stewart has to say about this year's perfect Thanksgiving table setting, unless they want to. So to that end, I believe in summer camp because I believe

that as a learning environment, it has the ability to allow for just those lessons to be learned. I do this job because I believe that summer camp may just be a secret weapon in fighting for gender equality in the years to come. I hope all you feminists, new or old, will join me in the fight.



CMW Accredited by the Certified Horsemanship Association



The CMW Riding and Horsemaster Program has been thriving for many years, with scores of girls learning valuable ground, barn, and riding skills at a wide variety of levels. This year added another mile-stone to its list of accolades. We are very pleased to announce that the CMW Barn and Riding Program are now accredited by the Certified Horsemanship Association (CHA).

The CHA is the nationally recognized supervising body of horsemanship instructor

training and barn management. Camp has been a member of the CHA for many years and has employed numerous CHA accredited instructors. And this year, under the leadership of Riding Director, Corinne Driver, camp decided to take the next step and become an official CHA Accredited Site. This involved a day-long site visit by two evaluators from the CHA who did a top-to-bottom review of the CMW program, including but not limited to animal health, stable management, instructor training, curriculum, emergency and

safety procedures, and program administration.

In addition to receiving our CHA accreditation, we were also approved as a CHA host site. Now, as an accredited site, CMW will be able to host CHA clinics to train CHA certified instructors right here at our own facility. This will significantly help to increase the level of training among our riding staff in the years to come. Currently, Corinne holds the highest level possible in English Seat instruction. CMW Barn Manager, Jody Pressley, is also a certified Stable Manager by the CHA.

We are also very excited to announce that camp was asked by the CHA to submit photos of campus along with an article to be featured in the CHA's own national newsletter. The deepening of camp's relationship with the CHA is a continuation of the program's dedication to excellence in horsemanship and instruction. We plan to host our first ever CHA clinic

in May of 2015 with a focus on training our summer staff for the coming summer season. In the future, it may be possible to host clinics that are available to other industry professionals and other camps,



solidifying Merrie-Woode's influence in both the riding and summer camp communities.

Riding Director, Corinne Driver with the June Session Drill Team

Reaching the 2014 Annual Fund Goal!

It's not too late to contribute to this year's Annual Fund! Our 2014 goal is **\$150,000**, and currently, we are just over **\$121,000** in gifts to the Merrie-Woode Foundation. Your support helps to provide excellence in the camping experience; from staffing and programming, to facility improvements and camperships.

Camperships assist families in making the Merrie-Woode experience a reality for their girls each summer. Merrie-Woode also works with a number of nonprofit scholarship foundations and leadership programs in North Carolina to provide full camperships to girls who would not otherwise be afforded this opportunity. Girls in these programs are nominated by school counselors, teachers, and principals who feel candidates display a strong work ethic, positive attitude, and

leadership abilities. Such programs have created extremely successful experiences, and we look forward to continuing to foster these partnerships as we move into the 2015 camping season.

All Annual Fund participants and a full report for the 2014 Annual Fund Campaign will be published in the 2015 Spring Newsletter.

Gifts to the Merrie-Woode Foundation are tax deductible for individuals, corporations, and foundations within the limits of section 501(c) (3) of the IRS code. 2014 Annual Fund gifts can be mailed to **Camp Merrie-Woode, 100 Merrie-Woode Road, Sapphire, NC 28774** or given online. To make an online gift, visit www.merriewoode.com/alumnae/annual-fund/ and click "Make a Gift."

The Magic Spell We Cast

By Lindsay Hostetler

I have been heading up Merrie-Woode's theatre program

for twelve years now. It is the piece of my job I self-identify with most. When people ask me what I do, I usually try to

give a very grown up answer. "I'm the Performing Arts and Alumnae Relations Director at a traditional summer camp for

The Magic Spell We Cast (cont.)



girls in North Carolina.” What I’m actually thinking is, “I’m a camp counselor and a theatre teacher. I make magic every day each summer.” Perhaps I’ll start giving them the second answer. It may not sound as professional, but it’s closer to my heart and the truth.

There are two environments in my life where I have witnessed a sense of magic perpetuated. The first was in the theatre; perhaps more specifically, in the creation of the art of theatre. When a troupe of players and technicians can create a world others will accept as reality, and in the process learn more about themselves and humanity, and pass that understanding on...that is magic. The second was as a young counselor at summer camp. When a community empowers young adults to facilitate an environment of learning, personal growth, and character building for both children and themselves...that is magic. Blending these two worlds together has been the work I am most proud of in my life thus far.

Summer camp is the ideal space for great theatre to thrive.

Almost everything that is challenging or scary about creating good theatre comes from the necessity to take risks. I have told my students time and again, the ability to create a piece of art always exists outside your comfort zone.

The challenge then is moving to that new place where we feel like the safety net falls away. Good directors, I feel, acknowledge the absurdity of what we ask our actors to do. We ask them to take something fake and make it real, to take something untrue and make it true. That is difficult and a tad ridiculous. In order for an actor to make this work, they have to go pretty far out on a limb. Unless you can assure them that if they fall off that limb, it is not going to hurt, they’ll never go as far as you ask them.

As camp counselors, we facilitate a space where it is safe to take risks. You see this at camp every day. Mountaineering staff members allow campers to climb up the rock face of a mountain while safely belaying them from the ground. River staff members guide campers down whitewater rapids safely and with confidence. We do this in the theatre as well. But when we are talking about performing, we are talking about an altogether different type of inherent risk. It’s an emotional risk. It’s the fear of exposing a piece of yourself, perhaps the

piece with which you are most insecure, in front of an audience to judge and measure its worth. That’s scary every time you attempt it. Overcoming it is a skill. The brilliance of teaching this skill at summer camp is that our actors are already in a place where it has been proven to them that it is safe to be who they are. We are camp counselors. We are in the business of facilitating safe environments, both physically and emotionally. We are in the business of listening more than we speak and valuing who a person is and not simply what they do. And because it is a proven fact that campers think their camp counselors are the coolest people to walk the planet, they model their behavior after ours. Which means, if we are doing our jobs right, we’ve created an entire cast of actors who value each other, support each other, and provide the perfect safety net as, one by one, they climb out on that limb.

I watch magic happen through the rehearsal process of every show we produce here. I wish all of you could see what I see every day. An experienced dancer giving up her free time to help a cast mate with a challenging dance routine, over



and over again...that is magic. Witnessing an act of true courage as an actor lays everything she has got into a scene or a song with reckless abandon, just trusting that if it doesn't work, she has people around her that will help her find something that does...that is magic. Watching the faces of a cast that has worked for literally hours on a harmony in the moment when it comes together for the first time...that is magic. That one is fun, too, because through the excitement they can't stop singing or it will all be ruined. You should hear how different a sustained note sounds when they're smiling like that. Magic, I tell you, pure magic.

I will let you in on a secret. There is a magic moment that happens at the end of a performance that I treasure more than any other. After the final bow of a curtain call, just before the lights dim entirely, the actors have a moment before they are rushed with well wishes and congratulations. They instinctively embrace the cast

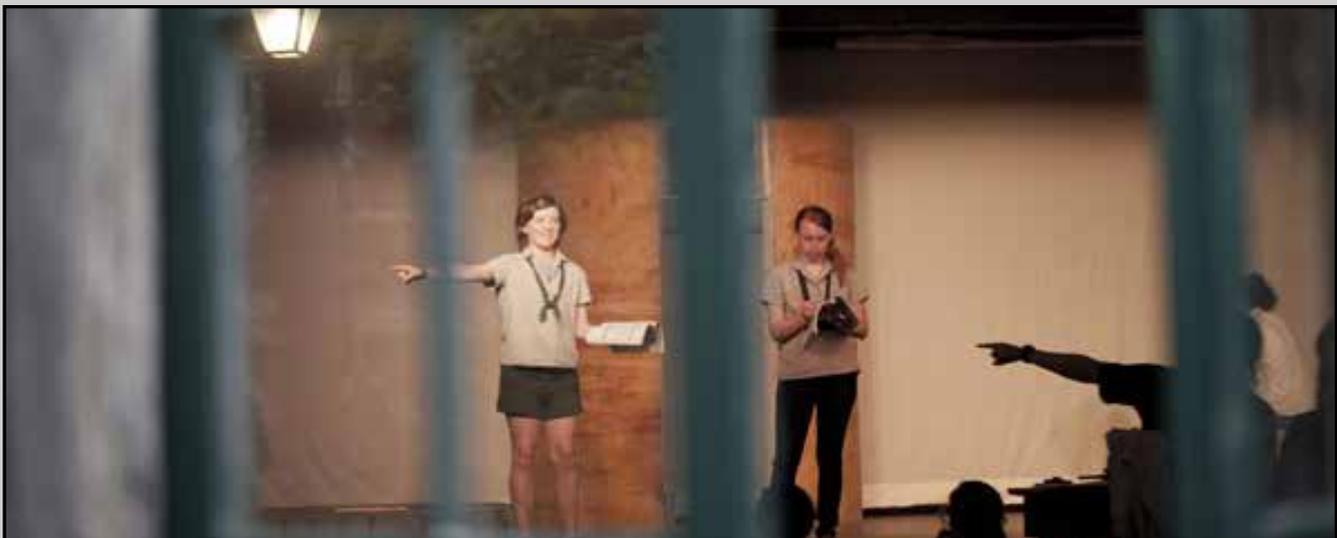


mate nearest to them as pure joy and relief and pride radiate from their faces. They think the moment is theirs alone because the lights have gone out. But if you are ready for it, you can catch it before the stage reaches total darkness. I wait for this moment, usually standing on a chair in the back of the house to see over a standing ovation. It is my moment of validation that these kids understand everything they just accomplished. Once the house lights come up and the audience rushes the stage, the

spell is broken. It's never as pure again after that.

I suspect other activity instructors and cabin counselors treasure other moments, unseen by most, when the magic spell of summer camp is at its strongest. For me, those moments are most often found in the theatre. For others, it may be at the docks or the barn, in the ceramics studio or in the cabin. But what I know to be true is that this place is filled with moments of pure magic. So much so that if you took a string and could physically connect them all together, you'd have an unbroken cord of magic zig-zagging from person to person, place to place, through a whole camp and a whole summer in a tangled heap; an unbroken timeline of magic.

So counselors, when parents and professors, friends and employers ask you what you did this summer, I encourage you to change your answer with me. "I'm a camp counselor. I make magic every day."



CMW's First Mother & Daughter Weekend a Success!

What a fantastic time we had here at camp last spring! Our very first annual CMW Mother & Daughter Weekend was a huge success!

It was exciting to watch moms and daughters experiencing camp together for the first time. Some mothers were veteran Merrie-Woode girls themselves, while others were learning the ropes from their daughters. The whole weekend was a whirlwind of activity, from campfire and s'mores on Friday night to our closing Chapel service on Sunday.

After a Castle devotional led by Senior Staff on Saturday morning, our day got started with an invigorating hike up to the top of Old Bald! We made good time, and the midday, spring view from the ledge was simply breathtaking. It was a clear, perfect day with a cool, gentle breeze. We even saw a hawk flying almost at eye level as we sat on the rock face. After enjoying a terrific lunch at the top of the mountain, we all started back down again. Three generations hiked Old Bald that day: daughter, mother, and grandmother! Pretty impressive! After our hike, everyone headed to their afternoon activities.

Folks enjoyed boating on Lake Fairfield, shooting archery, and making some pretty awesome birdhouses in Arts & Crafts. The Bull's Eye Club officially inducted its youngest member during the weekend when 5-year-old Mabel, hit a

perfect bull's eye!

Evening Program that night was a riot! Moms and daughters teamed up in small groups for an evening of "Bag Skits!" Each team grabbed a big bag filled with random props and costume pieces. They worked together to create a skit that featured every single item in the bag, no matter how weird or ridiculous! Chaos and hilarity ensued! After Bag Skits, we enjoyed a treat of milk and cookies in the Dining Hall, complete with a fireside reading of a Tajar Tale. All in all, a pretty good camp night.

Denice and Jim led a

beautiful Chapel service Sunday morning before it was time to depart, filled with some of the best camp readings and songs. Several of us got a little tear-eyed at the tranquility of the place, the beauty of the moment, and thankfulness of such a meaningful weekend together. We can't wait for next year's Mother & Daughter Weekend! We hope to see returning faces and lots of new ones with many, many camp generations represented! In truth, we can't think of a better way to spend quality time with your mom and relive the carefree camper days of summer.



Calling all Merrie-Woode girls, ages 8 to 82!

**Join us for our 2015 CMW Mother & Daughter Weekend!
May 1 – 3, 2015**

\$550 per Mother/Daughter pair, \$110 per additional daughter
Fees include all meals and cabin lodging.

This event is designed for Merrie-Woode girls of all camp generations and their moms or daughters. The only requirement is that one person in your party must be a CMW alumna or current camper.

Sign up early! Space is limited to 100 people. Reserve your spot today on the CMW website!

www.merriewoode.com/camp-programs/off-season-programming/



Honoring Our Board Chair: Elizabeth Counce Irwin

Camp Merrie-Woode honored Elizabeth Counce Irwin at this year's Annual Meeting of the Merrie-Woode Foundation. Many of you who know Liz, know she has been involved with Merrie-Woode for over forty years. She is an alumna (72-79) who served two separate terms on the Merrie-Woode Board of Trustees, and for the last five years she served as the Board's Chairperson.

Liz is originally from New Orleans and now makes her home in Essex Fells, NJ with her husband Jimmy, son Oliver, and daughters Adele (02-11) and Grace (08 – Present). Liz came to camp for eight summers, became a Captain in 1976 and was a JC the first summer that camp was operated by the MW Foundation. Her passion for this camp is unwavering. Her love of this special place has been inherited by her two daughters, and thankfully her husband and son appreciate her deep commitment to Merrie-Woode.

Liz originally served on the Board from 1996 to 2001 and chaired the "Place of Rarest Beauty" campaign – the first of a series of campaigns to acquire and protect the land surrounding camp. During that time, Liz served on the Executive Committee under the Board leadership of the late William L. Pippin. When Pippin



retired in 1998, Nancy Conkle Swann became Chair and Liz continued as Vice Chair until 2001. Nancy Swann stated that Liz's outstanding leadership as Development Committee Chair brought significant progress in raising funds for land preservation, growth to the Annual Fund, and development of a stronger alumnae base.

Liz returned to the Board in 2005, and again served as Vice Chair under Mary Jane Scott Trimble before becoming the Foundation's Chairperson in the fall of 2009. As Chairman, Liz has worked to ensure sound financial management, successful fundraising, comprehensive long range planning, and enhancement of good governance practices as we approach our 100th Anniversary celebration in 2018. Among her many accomplishments, Liz oversaw

the renovations of Merrie-Woode's Chapel. This project was particularly challenging due to the strong connection campers and alumnae have with this inspirational and spiritual place in camp. Her work with the Facilities Committee ensured that the newly renovated structure was in keeping with the Chapel we all remember. Her attention to detail helped to guide the Facilities Committee on many of the camp renovations throughout her time on the Board.

Perhaps the Board's most notable accomplishment under Liz's direction was converting the Working Vision established by the Board in 2007 into a Strategic Plan adopted in 2012. This five-year Plan, completed by many forward-thinking boards, established our organizational priorities, goals, and objectives to achieve our Working Vision "to be the premier camp in America for girls and young women by providing the nurturing setting for each girl to discover and achieve her own excellence."

Liz is excited to pass the torch to camp's new Board Chairperson, Elizabeth Keenan Thompson (76-81). The entire Board of Trustees appreciates Liz's involvement over the years. It is clear that Camp Merrie-Woode is better because of her. Thank you, Liz. We miss you already, but we know how to find you!

Meet Our Interns!

Meet this off-season's Merrie-Woode interns: Vivian Weatherby and Emily Rich! We are excited to work with these talented, young women as we prepare for the summer of 2015.

You may remember Vivian Weatherby, as she started her internship during the 2013-2014 off-season. Vivian spent much of last off-season learning the ins-and-outs of staff recruiting and hiring. Last spring, she visited colleges and universities all over the southeast spreading the Merrie-Word about working at summer camp. Vivian says the internship program has taught her innumerable lessons, including the ability to "accept outcomes... and move forward in a positive, productive way," as well as the understanding that accountability is a "valuable characteristic of a good team player."

After a busy off-season, Vivian jumped right into summer as a Head Counselor. She worked closely with cabin staff members of the Squire and Knight lines, providing support on cabin concerns and staff issues while also facilitating the Junior Counselor program. When asked about her Head Counselor work, Vivian indicated that camp is a place where she always learns a lot about herself. She reflected on the lesson



Vivian Weatherby

of learning "how to better give not just [her] time but [her] attention." She handled the large demands of the job well, and we enjoyed working with her throughout the summer. Vivian will finish up her internship in December 2014 and plans to enroll in a Master's program in school psychology within the year. We wish Vivian well as she moves on to new and exciting opportunities!

Like Vivian, Emily Rich has spent many summers at



Emily Rich

Merrie-Woode, starting in 2000. Emily was a camper through 2007 and a Junior Counselor in 2009. Since then, Emily has spent every summer working diligently on the Drama staff, working her way up to Assistant Director and Co-Head of Theater. In speaking to Emily recently, it is evident how proud she is of what we do in Castle, noting that she "is starting to see that the quality of our productions is getting better than some I have seen in College." Emily loves working in Castle because the theater program "provides a safe space to make mistakes," helping foster campers' courage and confidence.

Emily graduated from New College of Florida in May 2014 with degrees in English and Theater. In her final semester of school, Emily completed her monologue-based play called *Post No Bills*, which served as her senior thesis. *Post No Bills* takes the audience on a journalist's

journey as she writes an article about various fliers that are being hung throughout her city. Each monologue explores the subject and nature of an individual flier, highlighting the stories and lives of the fliers' creators. As a companion piece to *Post No Bills*, Emily also wrote an

academic paper that offers her take on identity in contemporary monologues as it is addressed by language, audience, and staging. Emily will join us for her internship in early January, working in the office through May. She will finish her internship by returning to Castle for the summer of 2015. Emily is looking forward to being here in the off-season because she has always been curious about what happens when camp is not in session. She says, "I love

camp and want to continue to contribute." Emily reports that she is most looking forward to helping with the archives because she has always been interested in camp's history and getting to know the people who helped shape Merrie-Woode, understanding "the way the camp became the camp [she] "knows."

Thank you, Vivian, for all of your hard work and steadfast commitment to Merrie-Woode, and welcome to the team, Emily! The Merrie-Woode Internship

program is designed to help promote and support camp's Mission and Strategic Plan moving forward. This program is mutually beneficial to the camp community and the intern as she learns more about the off-season workings of the camp. If you are in college or if you have recently graduated and are interested in learning more about the Merrie-Woode Internship program, please contact Denice Dunn at denice@merriewood.com.

CMW Holiday Gift Ideas



CMW mug collection

Don't forget about the Stock Shop as you begin your holiday shopping! Alongside attractive apparel, the Stock Shop carries unique Merrie-Woode accessories that make excellent stocking stuffers and cherished gifts.

For java lovers on the go: try a ceramic travel mug with the traditional Camp Merrie-Woode logo (travel mug with lid \$16). Marbled tin mess kit mugs with the green vintage CMW logo make excellent treat holders and stylish, sturdy cups for sipping

a warm or cold beverage (\$17). Or, cozy up by the fire this holiday season with a hot cup of cocoa brewed in your Merrie-Woode etched mug (\$18).

Limited edition short sleeve Spirit Jerseys are new this year and only

available while current supplies last! These white cotton tees are a hugely popular way to show off the Merrie-Woode spirit. Need something a bit warmer? Plush hunter green hoodies are now on sale (retail \$55, now only \$35)!

All three mugs, Spirit Jerseys, and featured green sweatshirts are only available from our original store on campus, so place your orders by contacting Joni in our main office at joni@merriewood.com or (828) 743-3300. Many



Hunter green CMW hoodies are now on sale! Only \$35!

old Stock Shop favorites can be found online through EverythingSummerCamp, which you can access from the bottom of our homepage at www.merriewood.com.

CMW Visits Birmingham

Denice, Jim, and Lindsay traveled to Birmingham, AL in September for an awesome alumnae gathering! Penny and Ruffner Page graciously opened their home to host an exceptional evening, planned by CMW Board Member Elizabeth Poynor, where generations of Merrie-Woode

alumnae enjoyed reminiscing about their camper days. Camp friends of all ages enjoyed good food and good company as they laughed well into the night. After such a wonderful evening of camp fellowship, we are looking forward to planning more alumnae gatherings in other

cities soon. We are headed off to San Francisco in November and Atlanta in the spring! Keep an eye on the Merrie-Woode website and social media platforms to find out when we might be coming to a town near you!



Denice and Jim with our Birmingham hosts, Ruffner and Penny Page and Elizabeth and Wilmer Poynor



Denice and Jim visit with Meredith Kronn Veazey (left) and Callie McCraney (right)



Larkin Martin, Margie Harbert Gray, and Elizabeth Poynor



Forsyth Crommelin Adams and Mary Simmons Evans

ACA Accreditation 2014

The American Camp Association (ACA) is a private, nonprofit educational organization, which promotes standards and practices followed within the camp industry. It is the only nationally recognized body, which accredits all types of camps throughout the United States. Camp Merrie-Woode was originally accredited in 1999 and is reviewed every three years, during an in-depth review and observation of our entire operation.

This accreditation process involves much preparation by the Directors and staff and culminates in a summer site visit by two camping professionals. The standards for accreditation include criteria for



camp's facilities, food service, transportation practices, health care, operational management, emergency preparedness, human resources, and all aspects of program design and management. In order to achieve accreditation, the camp must demonstrate its compliance with each of the applicable mandatory standards.

The accreditation process helps to insure that Merrie-Woode's camp programs and

facility are of the highest level of excellence. Being part of the American Camp Association supports Camp Merrie-Woode's mission of nurturing the physical, intellectual, and spiritual growth of girls and young

women through traditional camp activities and outdoor adventures. This summer our site visitors came for a day during the June session. They walked around to various activities, asked questions of our staff, and poured through our accreditation paperwork. Congratulations to our 2014 staff for a job well done! The two ACA visitors were impressed with the whole camp operation, especially our counselors and campers.

Around Camp



The Captains of 2014



Campers enjoy a river trip on a beautiful summer day



A camper works on her jumping skills during August Session



Getting ready to climb the Wall



Lots of glitter in Arts & Crafts



Independence Day fireworks over Lake Fairfield



Hangin' out in the Campfire Ring

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Get Connected!

Are you connected with CMW online yet? We have over 1,700 followers through our Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Vimeo and YouTube pages, but we know there are more Merrie-Woode girls out there! Keep in touch with your camp family and relive your summer memories all year long with our updates! You can:

- Receive important camp news and reminders
- Find camp-related links from the national media
- Keep up with what's new on Lake Fairfield
- Comment on surveys, photos, and games to stay involved
- Reconnect with old camp friends

There are new posts and surprises every week! Join our conversation and follow us today!



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