

▼ CAMP CHIEF OURAY ▼



SADDLEBAG

Volume XIV, Issue I

SPRING 2009

Upcoming Events:

May 16 CCO Volunteer Day

June 14—Aug 14

Summer Camp!

August

16-18 Mini-Camp

21 -26 Women's Fitness Camp

28- Sept. 2 Active Older Adult Camp

September

4-7 Family Camp

26 National Public Lands Day

Volunteer Day

On May 16th Camp Chief Ouray will host our 2nd Annual CCO Volunteer Day to help us prepare for another amazing summer of Camp Magic! We are excited for another incredible year at CCO, but have lots to do to get ready for the summer and **would LOVE your help!** We will have projects for people of all ages and skill levels so feel free to bring the whole family! Projects will include: painting cabins, spring cleaning of buildings, slash pile removal, trail maintenance, rebuilding a campfire archway, landscaping, and much more!

For your generosity and help you will receive **two free nights stay at Snow Mountain Ranch** on Friday, May 15th and Saturday, May 16th, free meals, and a 2008 CCO

Centennial t-shirt! Stick around on Saturday night for a CCO campfire complete with S'mores and camp songs!

For all of you high school campers, this is a great way to get some required volunteer hours while hanging out at camp!

If you are interested in volunteering your time and energy please contact the camp office at 970-887-2648. We greatly appreciate your help and hope to see you in May!



Making Camp Affordable

Our mission is to make Camp possible for every child and to allow them to experience the magic Camp has to offer. We are very aware that most everyone is feeling the crunch of the current economy. That is why we have created ways to help make camp a reality this year for your child.

"The Camp Magic Guarantee" - Should you or your spouse lose their job prior to your child attending Camp, Camp Chief Ouray will extend to you a scholarship to ensure that your child will still be able to enjoy their week of Camp Magic. (See website for details.)

Flexible Payment Plans- For many families it is easier to pay monthly than to

pay the entire balance at one time. Let us work with you to create a payment plan that is right for your family.

Tax Time- It's tax time again. If you're getting a tax refund, what better way to use that money than to invest it in your children? Sign up today and pay the balance when you get your tax refund.

Camper Scholarships- Scholarships to attend Camp are available on the basis of financial need. You can download the application from our website.

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See our website for the Top 10 Ways to Make Camp Affordable.
www.campchiefouray.org

2009 Theme Weeks

Each week at Camp Chief Ouray is centered around a theme. We will have activities and events that focus on the themes and the staff often dress up to play related characters. The themes for 2009 have been set! Find your session below and feel free to bring an outfit to fit the theme if you wish. *(Note: This isn't required, but it makes camp a lot more fun!)*

Session 1: Rock On -- What is Rock & Roll to you? There will be plenty of rockin' this week with hair bands, bubblegum pop stars, and everything in between. Don't forget your hairspray, bandanas and Hannah Montana wigs this week!

Session 2: A Pirate's Life for Me -- Argh Matey! Come join Blackbeard and Captain Jack Sparrow on a 6-day journey in the uncharted waters of CCO! We'll search for treasure, perfect the pirates life and keep out a keen eye for seafaring friends and foes! Be careful or you might end up walking the plank!

Session 3: Back to the Oregon Trail -- Yee-Haw! Saddle up those ponies, throw on some chaps, lace up those boots, and grab that cowboy hat. This week will include rodeos, stage coaches, bandits, and some cowboy music that would bring tears to Daniel Boone's eyes.

Meet Melisa-- The New Camp Registrar!

We are proud to introduce our new Camp Registrar! Melisa LaFon has lived in Grand County for 15 years. She is married and has two beautiful little girls, Shayne who is 6 years old and Amber, who is 3. She is originally from Orlando, Florida but when her family visited Colorado when she was 12 years old, they fell in love, and relocated to Grand County.

Melisa comes to Camp Chief Ouray with a ton of office experience. For the past 8 years she worked with a property management company in Winter Park. Melisa started as a front desk attendant, and worked her way up to head the Reservation, Guest Service and Homeowners Division. After many happy

Session 4: Animal Week -- Lions and Tigers and Bears, OH MY! Choose your favorite animal and help create a new species that will live only at camp. Help defend camp from the illegal game hunters and real estate developers that are trying to turn camp into a concrete jungle in the mountains!

Session 5: Fractured Fairy Tales - Rapunzel is trying on a glass slipper, the Three Little Pigs have come to take Cinderella to the Ball, and Peter Pan is about to eat a poison apple and fall into a deep sleep. Help! Your favorite fairytale/nursery rhyme characters are lost at camp and need your help to find their way back to their stories.

Session 6: The CCO Big Top -- Welcome to the Greatest Show on Earth! Camp is always crazy, but this week there will be three rings of fun with bearded ladies, strong men, carnival games, and other acts to thrill and delight! If you have a goofy talent, this is the week to show it off under the CCO Big Top!

Session 7: Space Invaders -- Aliens are invading CCO and it's time to save camp and the rest of Earth from these space invaders! There will be monsters and robots and more flying saucers than you can count. CCO needs your help to

years with that company, Melisa did some soul searching about what was most important in her life and discovered that it was to spend more time with her husband, Matt and her amazing little girls.

Melisa applied for the Camp Registrar position. She got a message from a fortune cookie that said "Call them, they will appreciate it." (True story!) She called us and the rest is history & we couldn't be more pleased. In the short time Melisa has been with us, she has already greatly improved the productivity of the office and streamlined several of our processes. Melisa looks forward to meeting many of you this summer and for many summers to come!

Space is still available in most Camp Sessions! Call Camp Chief Ouray TODAY to register your camper!

save the universe!

Session 8: Forgotten Superheroes -- Everyone has heard of Super Man, Spider Man and Wonder Woman, but what about the not so well known superheroes with wacky powers like speed eating and backward walking? Many heroic (but not as famous) characters will be stopping by to save camp from the evil villains. Will you be here to help?

Session 9 & Mini Camp: Fantasy Freak Out -- There will be tons of crazy fun this week as camp is taken over by fairies, gnomes, knights, leprechauns, men in tights, wizards, dragons, unicorns, princes and princesses! You never know what will happen when the creatures of the enchanted forest take over Camp Chief Ouray!



Melisa LaFon

Letter from the Director

As summer approaches all of our thoughts turn towards Camp. In so doing, we think of the one constant that binds us together as a Camp Family: the relationships with our Camp friends.

Mary Joan Schroer was a fixture at Camp Chief Ouray during the late '60s and into the '70s as a camper and staff member. She was certainly one person that was considered friend and family by many of her contemporaries. This past January 5th, Mary passed away, but Mary's spirit is

very much alive for those that knew her.

I have received numerous stories about her life from her Camp Family. At the request of her friends, we have created the **Mary Joan Schroer Memorial Scholarship Endowment** in memory of all that Mary gave to CCO. This memorial will endow scholarships for families in financial need to send their kids to CCO.

Please mail contributions to the

Camp Chief Ouray office, or call for more details. And as CCO approaches its 101st summer, let us know how we can help you get in touch with any long-lost camp friends. After all, the friendships are what camp is all about! Happy spring and we hope to see you at Camp this summer.

In the Spirit of Camp,

Marty Ferguson

"Let us know how we can help you get in touch with any long-lost camp friends."

Alumni Updates

Phillip Kepner ('44, '45, '47) is a retired physicist. He loved learning about photography at CCO. Phillip's father **Harold Raymond Kepner** and his friend **Leslie Eichelberger** worked at CCO in **1919 and 1920**. Wow!

Peter Nottage ('42) celebrated his 81st Birthday. He was sent to CCO for a fee of \$17.50 for 2 weeks. His favorite memories of camp were horseback trips, the horsemanship show, and overnight camping trips. He was swimmer of the year which appeared on a wooden plaque, one of many that surrounded the dining hall. Peter is enjoying retirement in Hawaii with his wife of 57 years, his 4 married children and grandchildren.

Steve Chollar ('59-'62) found CCO on the internet and is planning a road trip West from his home in Minnesota to visit his childhood roots and the old CCO site. Steve's sister **Carol Chollar ('60-'62)** was in the first group of girls to attend CCO when it went co-ed. These days she's busy trying to beat the recession and raising teenagers.

Matthew Ehrenberg ('63-'67) checked in with us from California. He's a Veterinarian and his favorite memory of camp is hearing Barry

Novy tell *The Ruby Eye* story. **Brett Bender**, a camper from '68, is now a lawyer living in Oregon with his wife and 2 sons. **Kay Branine ('68-'69)** has retired after years of being a school principal and now enjoys traveling to visit family in Costa Rica.

A wonderful family of friends is what **Carol Gamm ('76-'77)** remembers most about CCO. She is living in Oregon and is *almost* retired. **Deb (Sievers) Guillan ('70's)** has spent the last 30 years raising three amazing kids. She just sent her third son off to college. Congratulations Deb!

Carlos Huertas ('87) was an international counselor from Columbia. He is back in the U.S. and working in New York. **Ronald Monahan ('96-'98)** is working as a graphic designer and computer animator in Florida.

Congratulations to **Molly Imber ('97-'98, '00)** and her husband Michael welcomed Alice Jane Pulsinelli to the world on March 31st.

Wedding bells are ringing this summer for **Chris "Guru" McCallum ('97-'98)** and Aylene Quale. **Rob Ferguson ('99-'00, '04, '07)** proposed to Sara Stahlman, and she said YES! **Portia Bridges ('03)** also got engaged to her long-time boyfriend, Rob Levasseur. **Gina Inzana ('97-**

'01) is engaged to Brian Avery and they just bought a house. **Matt Long ('04-'06)** is engaged to Traci Reiserer. **Meryl Cooper ('01)** is engaged to Nick Tolsma. **Jen Ebel ('04-'06)** is working to improve bike/pedestrian programming in Naperville, IL outside Chicago.

Congratulations to **Rae Karl Bruce ('03-'05, '07-'08)** on her new job in the medical industry. Thank you for your dedication to CCO over the years. A big thank you to **Cindy Silk ('85-'05)** for stepping in to help around the office during our search for a new registrar.

Do you remember The Ruby Eye?

We have had several campers from the '60's contact us asking for a copy of this story. If you remember it, or could help us piece it together, please contact the CCO Office. 970-887-2648

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Camp Chief Ouray

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.CAMPCHIEFOURAY.ORG

I want to support Camp Chief Ouray!

Camp Chief Ouray has been providing quality camping experiences for 100 years.
Please help us give the memories of camp to the next generation of children.



I am a:

- Camper Alumni
- Staff Alumni
- Friend of CCO

I would like my donation to support:

- Camper Scholarships
- Fire Ring Project
- Area of Greatest Need

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Signature _____