

Fall 2017

Grow & Behold

A Publication of Falling Creek Camp



FALLING
CREEK
CAMP

Behold

how good and how
pleasant it is for brothers
to dwell together in unity!

—Psalm 133:1

Grow & Behold

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FALLING CREEK CAMP

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The tradition of
excellence in paddling
is as strong today as it
was back in the early
years.



Then & Now



yates'yak

What a summer we had in Tuxedo! A huge thanks to our full-time staff, amazing counselors, and faithful Falling Creek families. We have enjoyed putting together this yearly magazine and “yearbook” recapping our terrific summer.



L to R: Annie (21), Jasmine (8), Marisa, Yates, Mary (17), Danielle (9), Lucy (19)

Welcome to a New Issue of Grow & Behold!

We are blessed to be a part of the Falling Creek Camp community. You'll read several stories about the important and beneficial role the outdoors play in boys' lives, and about the lifelong lessons we teach about respecting God's creation, limiting waste, and land and wildlife conservation.

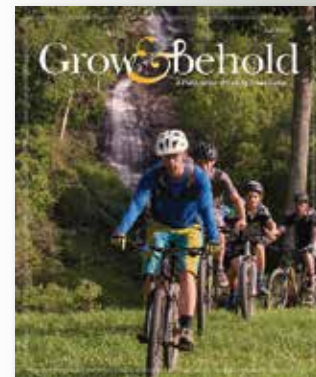
It's difficult to believe a decade has passed since 9-year-old Hayden Futch appeared on the cover of *TIME* magazine. In this issue of *Grow & Behold*, we take a look back at "The Myth About Boys" article, how times have changed, and how boys' needs have not. You'll also enjoy our story, EquippED Gentlemen, where we delve deep into the topic of boys, the pressures they face, their needs, and the fact that rearing good boys into good men cannot be left to chance.

If you Google the term, "Boys 1950," or similar, you will find a multitude of images of groups of young men

mentors, we educate ourselves about the youth of today. We greatly benefitted by hosting FCC alumni Jamie King and Stephanie Ouyoumjian from "Camp + King," who led a fascinating workshop on boys, "Now & Then."

For our alumni spotlight, we interviewed the star of the History Channel's popular Mountain Men reality TV show, Eustace Conway, who once built an Indian lodge made completely from tree bark on the property of Falling Creek Camp. We also have excerpts from our Servant's Heart Essay Contest with Falling Creek counselors; the insights are enjoyable and enlightening.

Our whole team extends its profound thanks to you for sharing your sons with us and for letting us partner with you to equip these boys as they become fine gentlemen. We feel fortunate and blessed to work with you on giving the boys a competitive edge on



in work or play clothes, smiling, interacting politely, often with their arms around each other. When you Google, "Boys 2017," on the other hand, you'll find mostly solitary headshots of boys posing with perfectly coiffed hair and all the "right" clothing. But, is this a true representation of boys through the years, or is it society's perception? Regardless – it is what is inside that counts. We want you to know, we will continue to focus on character alongside fun and skills at Falling Creek. That will always define the person — no matter what year it is.

During the school year when camp is not in operation, we spend a lot of time and energy focusing on how we can best meet boys' needs. Along with enhancing our programming and interviewing skilled

their respective journeys, and to help them become the men God intends for them to be.

Finally, are you ready for a party? Falling Creek Camp will be celebrating our 50th summer in 2018! We are hosting a festive alumni reunion atop the mountain the weekend of Sept. 7-9, 2018. We're even creating a classic 50th anniversary coffee table book and video featuring many FCC legends to commemorate the milestone. For more details and to reserve your spot, email alumni@fallingcreek.com, and check out the 50th anniversary website at www.fallingcreek.com/alumni.

Thank you again for your friendship and trust.
Yates

E

Fall 2017

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Grow & Behold
THE MAGAZINE



mailcall

We get a lot of mail around here and like to share some in each issue of *Grow & Behold*. Feel free to send your correspondence to the address on the back, or to paige@fallingcreek.com.



W

I am so happy to have found Falling Creek Camp! This was Connor's 5th year at camp, but his first year at Main Camp. He loved the backpacking trips to Cold Mountain and Linville Gorge. He is already talking about which trips he wants to go on next year. The counselors are great role models and I love the wonderful variety of activities he can choose from. He talks about camp throughout the year and really looks forward to the upcoming year. Keep being awesome at what you do!

*Jill Jimmyer
Timonium, MD*

The maturity, growth, and independence we have experienced with James has been remarkable. FCC gives James the structured freedom to grow each summer in so many ways. Each summer when he comes home we can see the change and we are so grateful for FCC.

*Mary Beth and KB McIntyre
Charlotte, NC*

Thank you for encouraging, challenging, centering, and inspiring our boys. You are incredible. Everybody we encounter from North Carolina, Texas, Alabama, and far beyond, all comment how amazed they are by the enormous, positive, formative impact FCC has had on their sons. We are deeply grateful. Thank you!

*Beverly and Chip Edens
Charlotte, NC*

Dear Yates and Marisa,

You likely have noticed that there are no Nixon's (Henry & Hill) signed up to attend Falling Creek this year. This will be the first time in 10 years or so and I find myself reflecting on the camp experience as this year's camp gets under way. Our neighbor, Austin Porubsky is going to FCC for the first time and I remember still the nervous excitement around the house as my boys got ready to attend camp.

My reflection on camp leads me to again thank you and your staff for all the wonderful lessons and memories. Your vision for the camp in particular, is meaningful and terribly important in today's world. I am convinced my boys would not have grown into the men they have without the fun, the lessons, the environment that you have created and fostered at Falling Creek. I know you see it daily, but the perspective of this family, away from the daily goings-on, is that real and balanced growth occurs each year. We've seen it and continue to enjoy our boy's growth into adulthood.

Thank you again for your contribution to our family –

Cameron Nixon, Augusta, GA.

I had to share this...

Happiness is getting this in your mail!



*Betsy Farmer
Charlotte, NC*

Hey Yates! I just wanted to say how impressed Mark and I were with all the counselors yesterday. Specifically, Hayden in Walker's cabin; he was so polite, encouraging, and helpful. And Matt in Cabin 1 was also the sweetest. I overheard him consoling one of Marshall's homesick bunkmates as I was making Marshall's bed. He was talking to the little guy on his level and said, "Buddy, I love you as much as your family." My heart melted and I am so happy to know my boys are with such great role models. We were so happy to be back at Falling Creek!

*Emily Eustis Liggitt
Bronxville, NY*

Yates,
I wanted to let you know how much we love Falling Creek. It is a place where Robert can learn about all sorts of activities he enjoys that fall outside the typical Charlotte box of soccer and little league. For example, I am so proud he chose theater as an activity and could participate in a skit in front of the entire camp.

Admittedly, we were a little nervous this year on the way up. Again, we sent him without a friend so he could meet new people and enjoy new experiences, but had no idea what we would encounter on pick-up day. Robert had so much fun and is already setting goals for next year. Falling Creek Camp is a Godsend for us. It is a place where Robert can be himself and grow his confidence.

By no means are we camp experts, but the facilities at many camps are comparable. What separates the many choices is leadership and culture. Simply setting foot on the grounds one feels the spirit of FCC. You and your staff create the spirit. It is more than cabins and zip-lines. Please know how much we look forward to sharing more of our summers with you.

*Kenny Smith
Charlotte, NC*

I can't begin to tell you what an effect you and your staff have had on RJ. His confidence is high, his social skills are better, his faith is stronger, and he's a mature young man for his 11 years of age. None of this would be at the level it is without Falling Creek.

*Bill M. Poffenberger (FCC alumni)
Cincinnati, OH*

Yates & Marisa –

This summer will be the first since you became the owners and operators of Falling Creek, that one or both of my boys won't be at camp. Joel and Robert spent a combined 16 summers as campers (nine for Joel and seven for Robert) and Joel finished up last year as a CIT [Man of STEEL].

As you know, I went to Camp Deerwoode, which was a great boys camp run by Bill and Liz Mayes. My 13 summers at Deerwoode as a camper, junior counselor, counselor, and program director made me the man I am.

When it was time to choose a summer camp for the boys, Deerwoode was no longer a camp. I wasn't sure I would be able to find another exceptional camp like Deerwoode for the boys. When I discovered that Frank Tindall, my old Deerwoode friend, was a partner with you at Falling Creek, that convinced me to give Falling Creek a try. The boys and I liked Yates very much when we met him for the first time at a camp movie showing at our house during the winter before Joel's first camp session as a 7-year-old camper in 2006. Yates impressed me as having many of the same qualities I saw in Bill Mayes, who was a truly great leader of young men at Deerwoode.

Your team at Falling Creek did not disappoint us in any way over the next 11 summers. Falling Creek is an exceptional camp for boys. Joel and Robert both had tremendous experiences at camp and made many lifelong friendships.

The boys' summers at Falling Creek were the most important part of their formative years, in my opinion. Joel and Robert both learned to be independent at an early age, thanks in large part to their Falling Creek experiences. They also gained a sense of adventure and love of the outdoors, traits that will serve them well throughout their lives.

*Robert Adams
Columbia, SC*

A misty mountain landscape with a dense forest in the foreground and large white text overlaid. The text is split into two lines: 'MOUNTAIN' on top and 'MAN' below it. A vertical line of small horizontal dashes runs down the left side of the text.

MOUNTAIN MAN



The star of the History Channel's popular **Mountain Men** reality TV show, **Eustace Conway**, once built an Indian lodge made completely from tree bark on the property of Falling Creek Camp — to the amazement of campers and staffers. The building was an exact replica of a Native American lodge from 400 years earlier, and one of few like it built in the South for hundreds of years.

Eustace estimates he was about 20 back then. He's now 56 and spends most of his time on the 500 acres of property he's systematically purchased in the forests in and around Boone, North Carolina. The land is known as Turtle Island Preserve, a place where boys and their fathers can go to enrich their lives by learning skills to live off the land, appreciate nature, and enjoy genuine freedom.

The Falling Creek Connection

In addition to working on the bark lodge at Falling Creek, Eustace had a positive influence on the Indian Lore program, periodically sharing how the Cherokee people lived in the area hundreds of years earlier. He worked with long-time staff member Jim Kurtts to locate and start the Indian Village up the creek holler from the Iroquois tribal area.

Jim, a retired social worker, has served at Falling Creek for 45 years and oversaw the Indian Lore program much of that time. Eustace worked side-by-side with Jim when they were teens at Camp Sequoyah. "Jim made a big impression on me," Eustace recalls. "I really respect him and I respect what he was able to share with me when I was a young person."

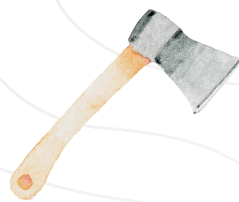
Eustace's brothers, Walton and Judson, attended Falling Creek Camp both as campers and staff members. Judson was in the CIT Program (now called STEEL) with current owner/director Yates Pharr in 1985, and brother Walton served on the paddling staff alongside Yates another year.

When Eustace built the lodge at Falling Creek he took tree bark, peeled it off in huge slabs, rolled it out flat, and covered a bent wooden frame with it. "It was extremely authentic," he says. "Basically I was building an authentic museum piece. Some campers helped, but mostly staff members. It was sort of like me teaching the staff, then the staff would later teach more with the campers. That was my passion at that time in life."

The Camp Sequoyah Connection

Eustace's grandfather, C. Walton "Chief" Johnson, founded Camp Sequoyah in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains near Asheville, North Carolina, in 1924. "I grew up in the tradition of camp," Eustace says. "It became the light and direction of my life. As a camper and later as a staff member, I soaked up all camp could offer and infused it into my life vision. When the camp closed in 1978, I cried, but didn't stop living in the Sequoyah program and values."

Indeed, virtually all of those who attended Camp Sequoyah cherish it with feverish admiration. Chief Johnson is remembered as a man whose life goal was to develop character in young men.



Since Eustace left his boyhood home in Gastonia, North Carolina, at age 17 to live in a teepee, he has accomplished some remarkable feats that have garnered worldwide attention.

Eustace hiked 2,000 miles from Maine to Georgia on the Appalachian Trail, surviving mainly on what he hunted.

Hiked across the German Alps in sneakers.

Lived with the Navajo of New Mexico.

Kayaked across Alaska.

Scaled the cliffs of New Zealand.

Lived with Mayan Indians in the jungles of Guatemala.

Rode horseback across America in 103 days, a world record.

In *A Camp With a Purpose*, writer Mike Miller describes Camp Sequoyah, which well reflects what Falling Creek attempts to achieve in the lives of boys today.

Meaningful Purpose

"I'm very familiar with the Camp Sequoyah purpose. The only reason we exist is for a purpose," Eustace says. "It's all about a vision and a mission that goes way beyond what normally drives people in our culture today. It's not about money. My grandfather and I never made any money on these ventures, to the fact that both of us largely lived a life of poverty because of it. Our belief in what we were doing so far surpasses and trumps anything else that we both just gave up a lot of what most people would not give up in life, like finances. And I even have never married or had children, largely because I just gave my whole self to the project."

When Chief Johnson passed away of a heart attack at age 80, Eustace had a big dream. "I wanted to run Camp Sequoyah, I really wanted to. That's what my life was moving toward," he recalls. "But my family, who owned Camp Sequoyah, didn't realize that this kid saying that he wanted to run Camp Sequoyah, could do it. Of course, those were big shoes to fill. But I was young and innocent and naive and, actually, I'd have to say I would have been able to do it, because I did it here [Turtle Island Preserve] with less support than if I'd started it there."

Interestingly, Eustace's father, Eustace Conway III, a chemical engineer with a doctoral degree from MIT, also wanted to become the director of Camp Sequoyah, but Eustace says his father didn't have the personality for the job. When neither were chosen, the camp struggled for a decade without a firm succession plan and in 1978 it closed its gates, with many of its staff members heading to Falling Creek.



Melding Mindsets to Enrich Lives

Many of Camp Sequoyah's programs, traditions, beliefs and tenants have been engrained in the make-up of Falling Creek Camp. That's because, before Jimdaddy Miller founded Falling Creek in 1969, he spent several summers under the tutelage of Chief Johnson at Camp Sequoyah. In addition, Falling Creek's third owner, Chuck McGrady, spent his entire youth at Camp Sequoyah, so he reinforced many of the programs and traditions from Camp Sequoyah that Jimdaddy had begun at Falling Creek.

"Chuck McGrady's grandfather and my grandfather [Chief Johnson] were friends," Eustace said. "My grandfather was the visionary for Camp Sequoyah and Chuck's grandfather helped finance the project."

Another long-time staff member and part of the leadership at Camp Sequoyah, Steve Longenecker, also played an integral part in keeping Sequoyah's roots alive at Falling Creek — and still does today.

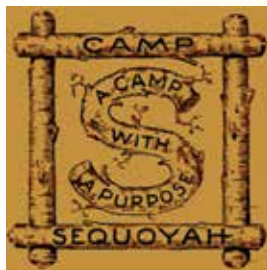
A Camp of His Own

Eustace has been wandering around at camps since he was in diapers. Of Camp Sequoyah, he recalls, "It was full of life, full of meaning." He says of its director, his grandfather, Chief Johnson: "He was a serious man, quite focused on what he was doing. He had high standards. He told me to do something with my life that would make the world a better place for my being here, and I took him seriously. And that's what I've done is to follow his lead and keep going with his legacy."

Eustace's mom, Karen Johnson Conway, taught him extensively about the outdoors and his father was also an extraordinarily gifted naturalist. "They both were just outstanding, extremely knowledgeable and passionate about nature," says Eustace, who insists he did not end up at college for all the traditional reasons. "I had decided as a child that I was going to run an education center. I knew as part of my plan that a figurehead leading an education center could not be degree-less. So I went to college to get a piece of paper that said I had a degree!"

Within seven days of earning that bachelor's degree in anthropology and English from Appalachian State University, Eustace had purchased land and hosted an educational group on the property. That was the start of Turtle Island Preserve. "I didn't need any infrastructure whatsoever," Eustace recalls. "It was all based on nature so, in a lot of ways, the less infrastructure the better!"

Today at Turtle Island Preserve, Eustace hosts thousands of boys and fathers each year, enriching their lives and making them more meaningful. "Largely, that has to do with showing them the paths of nature, how



Falling Creek and Sequoyah share a similar purpose of helping to guide boys on a journey to manhood

- Small cabin groups foster closeness.
- No threat of failure or rejection.
- Taking care of and taking pride in our space and ourselves and our environment.
- Practicing personal faith. Living personal faith. Seeing others do it, too. Being unashamed of our faith. Chief made it clear where he stood and that principles of camp came from where he stood, but he did not proselytize.

REAL MEN:

- Steel and velvet were both needed
- Manners
- Cleanliness
- Trustworthy
- Daring yet safe
- Personal involvement and interpersonal relationships between boys and counselors
- Believe in themselves. Failure is simply an opportunity to do something better
- Respect for women, parents, diversity, ourselves

AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE QUIET AND STILL AND JUST LISTEN...

- Morning watch
- Cabin Devotions
- Chapel
- Free time to just roam and think
- Learning the difference between commitment and preference.
- Learning the value of each other and seeing ourselves in others
- Providing a free childhood, safe, comfortable, full of fun, with people who like you
- Trusting and enjoying male adults with values
- Growth as a person: Body – Soul – Spirit



they can relate to the natural world,” Eustace says. “In many ways I’m doing the exact same thing that my grandfather did. We do all kinds of exciting things that capture attention, like blacksmithing, rubbing sticks together to start a fire. The real basis of it is personal enrichment, so each child can learn and grow to be more of a person, and to learn things that are transferable to every day of their lives; things as simple as respect and honor and courage and dedication, skills, social dynamics — things they use every hour of every day. That’s what it’s all about, enriching that child.”

Not a year has gone by in the past 30 that Eustace hasn’t purchased land to expand Turtle Island Preserve. “Sometimes it’s one acre, four acres, ten acres, 200 acres. I keep on buying it,” he says. “I have over 500 acres in my name now. There’s a few little satellites out here and there, but by and large it’s connected. Sometimes I took leaps of faith and leaps of space and I would buy pieces that weren’t connected, then I’d fill in the blanks, so it’s a pretty amazing story really. I know the trees, I know every holler, I probably know my 500 acres better than anybody knows any 500 acres.”

Although Turtle Island Preserve conducts some winter camping trips with people who convince Eustace they are capable, he discourages it because road conditions are often treacherous. The rest of the year the camp is wide open for school groups, father-son outings, and more. Among all of the feats, journeys, and adventures Eustace has undertaken in life, he considers Turtle Island Preserve his most

Just Be You.

Eustace’s Best Advice for Young People?

“Believe in yourself and don’t worry about trying to catch up with all the models that are held up in front of you, like the cover of TEEN magazine, but just be yourself, and find a way to be comfortable with that. Go forward in the face of challenge. Don’t let your fears stop you from anything.”

rewarding accomplishment.

“A lot of my journeys, in many ways, have been for myself,” Eustace says. “But doing Turtle Island Preserve is the opposite side of the spectrum; it’s for the people.” Eustace has designed the camp to allow people to spend time in nature, to learn, to test themselves. “You don’t learn if you keep doing the same old thing you’re familiar with,” he says. “The more you jump out of your comfort zone and push your limits, the more you learn.”

At 56, Eustace still assumes many of the responsibilities at Turtle Island Preserve, and he is hoping to find some new blood to take the reigns. “I can’t keep going forever,” he says. “I’ve been pulling more weight than anyone ever should and there’s an unhealthy level of responsibility on my back with Turtle Island. My greatest hope would be that I can find and train a young person or a team of people to take over and keep it going. That’s what I would like to see on the horizon. I really sort of have the little fantasy that this article will somehow help me find the next director of Turtle Island Preserve.”

Fighting for Freedom Outdoors

When the state of North Carolina formed laws making it illegal to have primitive, open-air cabins and structures out in nature, Eustace challenged the new laws — and won. “I spent a year and a half in legal battles and ended up literally writing a new law, House Bill 774, and Chuck McGrady supported it,” Eustace says. “Chuck, who’s in the legislature in the House of Representatives, immediately understood the importance of it because he had worked with camps for years. So we worked together to create the new law that’s now in use and it helps Falling Creek and every other camp in North Carolina to give people the freedom to be closer to nature using natural shelter, housing, and cabins — without running water, without plumbing, without screens, without electricity; more like pioneer living; more primitive.”

A Trip Down the Mountain

In the book about Eustace entitled *The Last American Man* by best-selling author Elizabeth Gilbert (*Eat, Pray, Love*), Eustace and Elizabeth travel down the mountain from Boone to one of Eustace’s many speaking engagements — which is how he made money to purchase more and more land for Turtle Island Preserve.



This excerpt describes Eustace's encounter with some young people that, in many ways, sums up his personality and many of his beliefs about nature, life, the world, mankind, and man's purpose for living.

We drove across North Carolina to a small summer camp that specialized in environmental education. A group of teenagers skulked into the camp's dining room for the evening's event, and to me they all looked like jerks — loud, disrespectful, shoving, shrieking, laughing. Eustace was supposed to get these kids excited about nature.

I thought, This is not gonna end well.

Eustace, wearing jeans and a plaid shirt, not buckskin, walked across the stage toward the microphone. Around his neck hung two large coyote teeth. On his belt, the knife.

The shoving and shrieking and laughing continued.

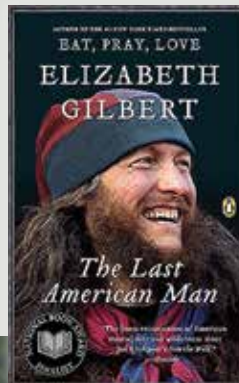
Eustace, thin and serious, stood at the microphone

with his hands in his pockets. After a long moment, he said, "I am a quiet-spoken man, so I am going to have to speak quietly tonight."

The shoving and shrieking and laughing stopped. The jerky teenagers stared at Eustace Conway, riveted. Just like that — dead silence . . .

"I moved into the woods when I was 17 years old," Eustace began. "Not much older than you are today . . ." And he talked about his life. Those kids were so transfixed, you could have operated on them and they wouldn't have noticed. Eustace told them about wilderness survival and his adventures, but he also gave his speech about the difference between the world of boxes and the world of circles.

"I live," Eustace said, "in nature, where everything is connected, circular. The seasons are circular. The planet is circular, and so is its passage around the sun. The course of water over the earth is circular, coming down from the sky and circulating through the world to spread life and then evaporating up again. I live in a circular teepee and I build my fire in a circle, and



when my loved ones visit me, we sit in a circle and talk. The life cycles of plants and animals are circular. I live outside where I can see this. The ancient people understood that our world is a circle, but we modern people have lost sight of that. I don't live inside buildings, because buildings are dead places where nothing grows, where water doesn't flow, and where life stops. I don't want to live in a dead place. People say I don't live in the real world, but it's modern Americans who live in a fake world, because they've stepped outside the natural circle of life . . .

"Do people live in circles today? No. They live in boxes. They wake up every morning in the box of their bedroom because a box next to them started making beeping noises to tell them it was time to get up. They eat their breakfast out of a box and then they throw that box away into another box. Then they leave the box where they live and get into a box with wheels and drive to work, which is just another big box broken up into lots of little cubicle boxes where a bunch of people spend their days sitting and staring at the computer boxes in front of them. When the day is over, everyone gets into the box with wheels again and goes home to their house boxes and spends the evening staring at television boxes for entertainment. They get their music from a box, they get their food from a box, they keep their clothing in a box, they live their lives in a box! Does that sound like anybody you know?"

By now the kids were laughing and applauding.

"Break out of the box!" Eustace said. "You don't have to live like this because people tell you it's the only way. You're not handcuffed to your culture! This is not the way humanity lived for thousands and thousands of years, and it is not the only way you can live today!"

Another hour of this, then uncontained applause, like at a revival meeting. After the talk, Eustace sat on the edge of the stage . . . The teenagers approached reverently . . . lined up to shake his hand and then detonated with questions.

"Could you make fire right now if you had to?"

"Yes."

"If someone dropped you naked into the middle of Alaska, could you survive?"

"I suppose so. But it'd be a lot easier if I had a knife."

"Were you scared when you first moved into the woods?"

"No. The civilized world is much scarier than the woods."

Be Hands-On.

Eustace's Best Advice for Parents:

"Don't follow the norm. Realize that the formative years of childhood are precious and that they can never be regained. Realize children need to have hands-on experiences and the freedom to make mistakes, and to learn from those mistakes. They don't need to be watching television and screens, and pushing buttons."



"Were your parents mad at you when you moved into the woods?"

"My father didn't know why I'd want to leave a comfortable modern house, but my mother understood."

"Do you ever get sick?"

"Rarely."

"Do you ever go to the doctor?"

"Never."

"Do you know how to drive a car?"

"How do you think I got here tonight?"

"Do you use any modern tools?"

"I use chainsaws all the time to take care of my land. I use telephones. And plastic buckets. My God, but plastic buckets are great! I've made plenty of my own baskets and containers out of tree bark and grasses . . . but I tell you, there's nothing like a plastic bucket to get the job done faster . . ."



“Do you have a toothbrush?”
“Not at the moment.”
“Do you have a hairbrush?”
“I used to have a porcupine hairbrush. I don’t have it anymore, though.”
“What’s a porcupine hairbrush?”
“A hairbrush made out of porcupine bristles.”
“Where’d you get that?”
“A porcupine saved my life once when I was hiking on the Appalachian Trail, so I made the hairbrush out of its bristles, to honor it.”
“How could a porcupine save your life?”
“By giving me something to eat when I was starving to death.”
Here, there was an extended silence, as the kids tried to figure that one out. Then they all kind of said, “Ohhh . . .” at the same time, and the questioning continued.

“Eustace evolves before your eyes. He improves and expands and improves and expands because he is so clever and so resourceful ... He is not compelled to rest in the enjoyment of what he already knows how to do; he must keepin moving on. He is unstoppable.”

—Elizabeth Gilbert,
bestselling author of
The Last American Man

“Why were you starving to death?”
“Because there wasn’t any food.”
“Why wasn’t there any food?”
“Because it was winter.”
“What’s the longest you’ve ever gone without eating?”
“Probably the two weeks before I ate the porcupine.”
“Can you show us your porcupine hairbrush?”
“I don’t have it anymore. I brought it to a demonstration like this one, to show it to some kids your age, and somebody stole it. Can you imagine how sad that made me feel?”
“Do you have a gun?”
“I have several guns.”
“Have you ever killed a person?”
“No.”
“Are you married?”
“No.”
“Why not?”
“I guess I haven’t found the right woman yet.”
“Do you wish you were married?”
“More than anything in the world.”
“Do you ever get lonely out there in the woods?”
Eustace hesitated, smiled wistfully. “Only in the evenings.”
Later that night, when we were alone, Eustace told me how heartbroken he gets whenever he spends time around modern American teenagers. Yes, he can communicate with them, but . . . it rips him up inside to see how ignorant the kids are, how undisciplined in their personal interactions and how disrespectful of their elders, how consumed they are by material desire and how helplessly incompetent in a way that you would never see with, say, Amish children.
“About what happened there tonight. Do you get that kind of response everywhere you speak?”
“Yes.”
“From all age groups; from all backgrounds?”
“Yes.”
I thought this over. “So tell me specifically. Why do you think these particular teenagers were so hypnotized by you tonight?”
Eustace’s reply was so immediate, so uncompromising, and so coldly delivered that it sent a quick little chill right through me.
“Because,” he said, “they recognized right away that I was a real person. And they’ve probably never met one before.” 🦦



TIME

CHANGES EVERYTHING

[CHANGES NOTHING]

Ten years ago, Falling Creek camper Hayden Futch was featured on the cover of *TIME* magazine with mud splattered on his cheeks and bare chest, and a confident grin on his 9-year-old face. The story was entitled, “The Myth About Boys: Experts say boys are in trouble. Here’s why they’ve got it wrong.”



SLEEP YOU'VE BEEN DREAMING OF.

Betrayal in Iraq
How U.S. soldiers abandoned
Marine they were to stay behind
after 4 years in Iraq

**Islands of
Lies: Why
Washington
is in a bind**



**No More
Mr. Nice Guy:
TV's New
Antiheroes**

TIME

**The
Myth
About
Boys**

Report on the
new wave of
boyhood
research
by David Shields



LIBRARY

Fast forward 10 years and it seems uncanny that Apple mastermind Steve Jobs was just introducing the first iPhone that summer of 2007. How times, technology, and culture have changed in 10 years — at warp speed. With the advancements of the last decade, one must ponder how technology, screen-time, the Internet, culture, and social media have impacted boys.

When “the *TIME* story,” as it is known around Falling Creek, ran a decade ago, much of the article posed the question, “Are boys in trouble?” It debated whether we were in the midst of a “boy crisis,” and examined reports that stated boys were “scared and disconnected,” and severely lagging behind girls in academics, confidence, and achievement. Some of the research for the *TIME* article contended, “Families, schools, and popular culture are failing our boys, leaving them restless bundles of anxiety — misfits in the classroom and video games junkies at home.”

Failure to Launch?

As depicted in the motion picture *Failure to Launch*, starring Matthew McConaughey, an unusual number of today’s men in their twenties and thirties are still living at home with their parents, lacking motivation and not assuming traditional independent adult roles.

In his book, *Boys Adrift*, Dr. Leonard Sax writes, “I was struck by how accurately the movie captured a phenomenon I’d been tracking in my office for seven years. Two days after I saw the movie, I wrote an op-ed for the Washington Post entitled ‘What’s Happening to Boys?’ I began by pointing out how the movie captured key features of the phenomenon I’d been seeing in my practice; in particular, the fact that the main character was intelligent. He is perfectly capable of success and achievement, but he simply has no motivation to accomplish anything real.”

Dr. Tim Elmore, founder of Growing Leaders — a global non-profit that encourages and equips young adults to take on real-life opportunities and challenges — says a paradox exists among young people today. In his blog entitled, *The Marks of Maturity*, Dr. Elmore points out:

“Although there are exceptions to the rule, this generation of kids is advanced intellectually, but behind emotionally. They are missing many of the marks of maturity they should possess. From an intellectual perspective, students today have been exposed to so much more than I was growing up — and far sooner, too . . . Everything is coming at them earlier. Sociology professor Tony Campolo said, ‘I am convinced we don’t live in a generation of bad kids. We live in a generation of kids who know too much too soon.’

“On the other hand, students have been stunted in their emotional maturity,” Elmore continues. “They seem to require more time to actually ‘grow up’ and prepare for the responsibility that comes with adulthood. This is a result of many factors, not the least of which is well-intentioned parents who hover over their kids not allowing them to experience the pain of maturation. It’s like the child who tries to help the new butterfly break out of the cocoon, and realizes later that they have done a disservice to that butterfly. The butterfly is not strong enough to fly once it is free.”

Images, Pressure & Information Overload

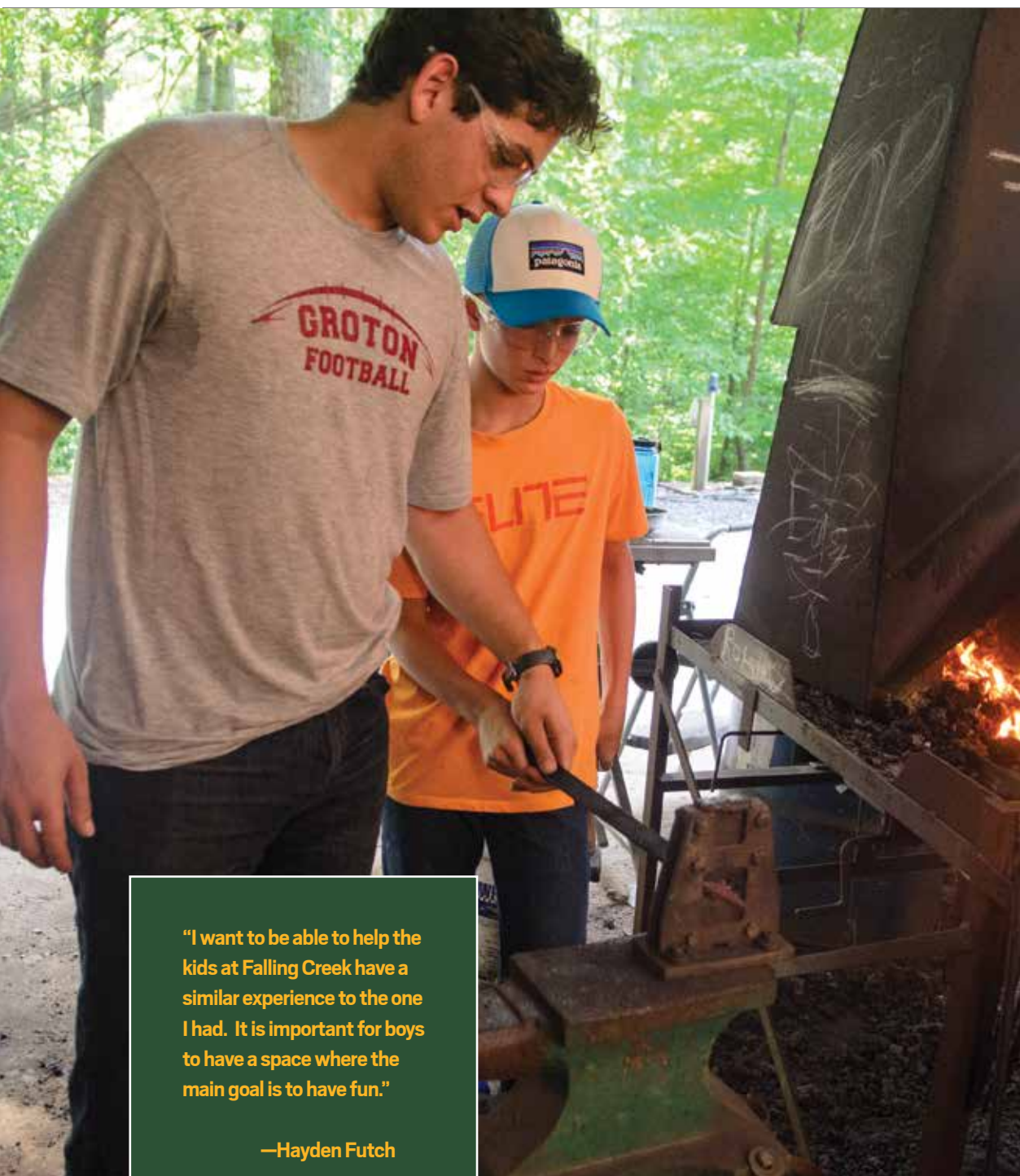
Compared to 10 years ago, younger and younger children are being handed cell phones, in part, parents say, for safety, security, and convenience. But the problem is, kids are becoming tethered to those phones from a young age — for selfies, Snapchats, text messages, Instagram feeds, Facebook friends, Youtube videos, movies, games, and who knows what else?

“Kids are viewing screens so often, there can be a disconnect with face-to-face relationships; kids are spending a lot of time alone,” says Falling Creek Associate Director Frank Tindall. “Young people are under a great deal of pressure to succeed, to participate in travel sports, to build resumes, to get in the right colleges. Often, everything is scheduled for them from music lessons to athletic practices, and their calendars are so full there is a lack of free play. Parents often try too hard to protect their children from failing; they make decisions for their kids. The focus becomes so much on self, rather than the Christian perspective of serving others and glorifying God.”

A Decade Later, Camp Even More Critical

One of the main problems today is that most schools do not encourage active play for boys, which research shows is key to their development, according to Judith Kleinfeld, Professor of Psychology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. In fact, many schools discourage and punish boys for what was once simply considered





"I want to be able to help the kids at Falling Creek have a similar experience to the one I had. It is important for boys to have a space where the main goal is to have fun."

—Hayden Futch

"rough and tumble" play, something research shows is essential in the development of boys' motor and social interaction skills, according to Kleinfeld.

Hayden Futch, our nine-year camper who graced the cover of *TIME* 10 years ago, was back at Falling Creek this past summer as a 19-year-old counselor who taught blacksmithing and fitness. Hailing from Greenwich, Connecticut, Hayden is double-majoring in computer science and mathematics at Vanderbilt University.

"I want to be able to help the kids at Falling Creek have a similar experience to the one I had," Hayden

says. "It is important for boys to have a space where the main goal is to have fun. Camp promotes an atmosphere of freedom and community. It provides an outlet for boys to be boys, while at the same time, instilling the important values of honesty and integrity."

On the rapid saturation of technology in the past decade, Hayden says, "There are so many interesting and engaging things to do online that it seems like people are spending less time just fooling around outside. A big pro about camp for me is the lack of

Other top stories from 2007

Steve Jobs introduces first iPhone

The mortgage crisis/great recession begins

Virginia Tech tragedy

Barry Bonds surpasses Hank Aaron's home run record with his 756th dinger, but the news is tempered by the steroid scandal swirling around Bonds

Seventh and final Harry Potter book released, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*

technology. Spending a month in the mountains with a bunch of boys and no Internet is a valuable experience.”

Boys thrive in the camp environment because they have freedom to explore, to be active, to get dirty and sweaty, to make new friends, and to get out of their comfort zones to try new things. Life at camp is simple, structured, and uplifting. The strong role models, backed by the Falling Creek Code (Warrior Spirit, Servant’s Heart, Positive Attitude, Moral Compass), make camp a place where boys learn to think about others’ needs, grow spiritually, embrace teamwork, overcome challenges, and get unplugged from the routines of home and school.

“Falling Creek has had a very large impact on my life,” Hayden says. “At home, I have three sisters and no brothers, so growing up I didn’t spend that much time with boys. I had friends at school, but there is a difference when you are living with them. Falling Creek became my home away from home where I could live with brothers. It has always been a place where I could be myself.”

The Benefits of “Boy Heaven”

Margaret Anderson, a physician’s assistant from Nashville, has served in the infirmary at Falling Creek for the past 12 summers; her son, Gage, was a camper for seven years, and just completed his second summer as a counselor. In “the *TIME* story,” Margaret said of Falling Creek, “I call this place Boy Heaven.” On the debated “boy crisis,” her words from 10 years ago ring true today: “I’m worried that boys have lost the chance to play and to explore. When no one’s looming over them, they begin making choices of their own. They discover consequences and learn to take responsibility for themselves and their emotions. They start learning self-discipline, self-confidence, team building. If we don’t let kids work through their own problems, we get a generation of whiners.”

World-renowned photographer, David Burnett, who shot the photos for “the *TIME* story,” recalls the few days he spent at Falling Creek with a gleam in his eye. “I felt that what you were doing with the kids was wonderful, and obviously something which would help them become better big kids,” says David, who

W



snapped some 15 *TIME* covers in his career, dating back to the Vietnam War. “The independent quality of the living, the kids having things provided, but not at all coddled, and that last giant ‘pick sides and challenge each other’ game where everyone marauded over the whole property — it was all wonderful. I loved the self-confidence the kids built from diving off the tower, the zip-line into the water, handling snakes, and other outdoor goodies — great stuff all around. More kids should have that opportunity and we’d have a better populace.”

For cover boy Hayden Futch, Falling Creek has instilled in him confidence, determination, and courage. “Backpacking at camp is where I discovered the pleasure that can come with grueling physical exercise,” Hayden says. “It helped me develop the grit and resilience I needed for rowing crew. To be able to row a race or climb a mountain and look back and get satisfaction simply from having accomplished something is an important part of the mindset to excel in any physical activity.”



So, have the advancements in technology and screen-time, social pressures, and the titanic shifts in culture made life more difficult and challenging for boys over the past decade? It is difficult to say. Probably so. But, then again, some would argue, “It’s all relative.” We believe one thing is for sure in the end, boys will always be boys — and those boys need a place where they have the freedom and guidance to be boys — and to become men. 🔥

Hayden Futch on being featured on the cover of *TIME*, August 6, 2007:

“

At the time, I didn’t realize what it meant to be on the cover of *TIME* . . . I didn’t understand the significance of it. Most of my friends at college do know about it. It is my go to “fun fact” for ice breakers.

”

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TIME





Boys and nature.
There's something
genuinely right about
that combination,
isn't there? In the old days,
grandpa might say, "Boys are meant to be
outside," or mom might yell, "Go outside
and get the stink blown off, son." It
seemed to do everyone good for the boy
to be outside for a spell, whether he was
riding bikes on dusty trails, sweating it
out in a local pickup game, swimming or
fishing at the local pond with buddies.

THE

UPSIDE TO OUTSIDE

Today, however, in part due to TV, smartphones, malls, and video games, boys simply don't spend as much time outdoors as they used to. According to an article by the National Wildlife Federation, childhood has moved indoors in the last 20 years. "The average American boy or girl spends as few as 30 minutes in unstructured outdoor play each day, and more than six hours each day in front of an electronic screen," according to the story. So, is that bad? The article

suggests, "Our kids are out of shape, tuned out, and stressed out, because they're missing something essential to their health and development: connection to the natural world."

Are there actual, factual benefits for children spending time outside — like at camp? A field known as ecotherapy suggests that the well-being of humans is directly connected to the amount of time they spend in nature. A treatment modality called outdoor behavioral



"Our kids are out of shape, tuned out, and stressed out, because they're missing something essential to their health and development: connection to the natural world."

healthcare — or wilderness therapy — actually uses expeditions in the wilderness to address behavioral and mental health issues, especially in young people.

And that article from the National Wildlife Federation . . . it suggests outdoor play increases fitness levels and builds active and healthy bodies; raises levels of vitamin D to help protect children from bone problems, heart disease, and diabetes; increases student performance on tests of critical thinking skills; makes them nicer and enhances social interactions, value for community, and close relationships.

The Nature Fix

In her book, *The Nature Fix: Why Nature Makes Us Happier, Healthier and More Creative*, author Florence Williams points out a myriad of nature's restorative benefits. A review of that book by Danny Heitman in the *Wall Street Journal*, pointed out: "*The Nature Fix* demonstrates that our connection to nature is much more important to our cognition than we think and that even small amounts of exposure to the living world can improve our creativity and enhance our mood . . . Williams shows how time in nature is not a luxury but is in fact essential to our humanity."

Philosophers, musicians, and poets have long touted the benefits of spending time in nature. As Williams pointed out in *The Nature Fix*: "Beethoven drew inspiration from rocks and trees; Wordsworth composed while tromping over the heath; Nikola Tesla conceived the electric motor while visiting a park...Ludwig van Beethoven was a tree-hugger. 'The woods, the trees, and the rocks give man the resonance he needs,' wrote the composer."

In *The Nature Fix*, the author attempts to discover the science behind nature's positive effect on the brain. In doing so, she travels to the cypress forests of Korea, where rangers lead 'forest healing programs,' to a trip down a river in Idaho, designed to help veterans of the Iraqi war who suffer from PTSD; to the mountains of West Virginia where she finds children with ADHD benefit greatly from being outside.

The Science of the Forest

Researchers at the University of Essex studied groups of people suffering from depression and found that 90% felt a higher level of self-esteem after a walk in a country park, about 75% felt less depressed, and 94% of those with mental illnesses believed contact with nature put them in a more positive mood.

In 1984, Edward O. Wilson penned the book *Biophilia*, which suggested that the affiliation people have with

nature is rooted in biology and genetics. In a study on the relationship between exposure to green spaces and mortality rates by Peter James and a team at Harvard University, they studied 100,000 female nurses living across the U.S. over an eight-year period and found that those living in the greenest areas had a 12% lower mortality rate compared with those living in the most built-up areas. "We weren't expecting the magnitude [of the results]. That there's a direct cognitive benefit and restorative quality of being in nature," said James.

Various other reliable forms of scientific research have found that spending time in nature and taking part in nature-based activities can:

- Lead to a lower risk of depression
- Have a positive effect on mood and aspects of cognitive function
- Improve mental health
- Reduce levels of anxiety and stress
- Improve short-term memory
- Restore mental energy
- Improve concentration
- Reduce the risk of developing nearsightedness (myopia)
- Lead to sharper thinking and more creativity
- Boost the immune system
- Reduce chances for the brain to be over stimulated
- Increase virus- and tumor-fighting white blood cells in the body
- Help people recall happy memories

Ask any parent of a Falling Creek camper at the conclusion of camp if they agree with these scientific findings, and they will most assuredly respond with a resounding "Yes!" In a recent survey of camper parents, one couple commented how amazing it was for their son to, "Experience independence and growth in a safe and non-academic environment, which teaches 21st century skills and character education within the backdrop of nature." They went on to say they believe their son was "calmer and wiser," thanks to his experience at Falling Creek.

And that makes us happy, because hearing comments like that helps us know we are fulfilling our mission to maximize the opportunities boys have for personal growth and fun as they develop an understanding of their relationship with nature. After all, our goal is to give boys the space they need to unplug from technology and "just be boys." 🏕️





morningwatch



Iron Sharpens Iron

By Chaplain Dusty Davis

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Like the race here at Falling Creek today, camp pushes boys into the community God designed for them. The Proverbs say: "Iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."

—Dusty Davis, Chaplain

Dozens of shirtless boys wiggle nervously in a pack on the lower lake dam. Black numbers tattoo their smooth skin. Six-foot boys down to four-footers still sporting baby fat, stand clutching their arms, teeth chattering, waiting for the gun to fire. They stare across the seemingly endless gulfs of water, which serve only as the initiation for the rooty trails ahead.

The FCC "Ironman" competition has dominated the third Sunday of Main Camp each summer since 1982. This annual rite of passage is open for any boy at camp who has the passion to don goggles and compete for qualifying times. Neither age nor stature can "DQ" you from lining up on the dam. The most daunting "qualifier" is the Warrior-Spirit needed to put it all on the line in front of your peers.

The Struggle

As in real life, few boys escape the camp triathlon unscathed. Scraped knees, blisters, and black greasy fingers from derailed chains abound in the pit zone. Still competing in my mid-fifties, I know these stories all too well. Pre-race butterflies still come to me as a harbinger of misfires and micro-dramas that unfold with each mile.

My oldest son, thinking he had to "pre-load," gorged himself on Sunday's camp fried chicken and ice cream, only to suffer "down-load" gastro dysfunctions mid-race. My youngest son was leading the race with a decent margin until he took the wrong trail near the end. Both character building and positive attitude required, right? Hands-on lessons for real life. Perhaps the Ironman struggle prepared them for perseverance when they don't pass that driving test the first time, or are shot down by that cute girl, or never get that first job or college acceptance letter they really want.

The Tribe

Individually, racing is a grueling struggle. Ah, herein lies the sharp distinction between other races and the Falling

Creek event. At FCC, every racer has a "pit-crew," a team that helps with transitions, the bike, water — and mainly, encouragement. If a boy signs up for a local tri, 5K or 10K, he'll be a minority in a sea of 30- to 50-year-old self-validating weekend warriors. But at camp, he knows his buddies, his cabin, his tribe, are all stoking him forward. He is a valuable part of something much bigger than himself.

In our society, which increasingly condones isolation on phones and computers, camp pushes you to live openly with your 300 brothers. When one of our boys feels like throwing in the towel, he knows the dominant camp-culture is to grab the towel and lay it out for his brothers. This precedent wasn't set by anyone here at FCC, but by Someone long before who humbly grabbed a towel and showed His love by washing his brothers' feet.

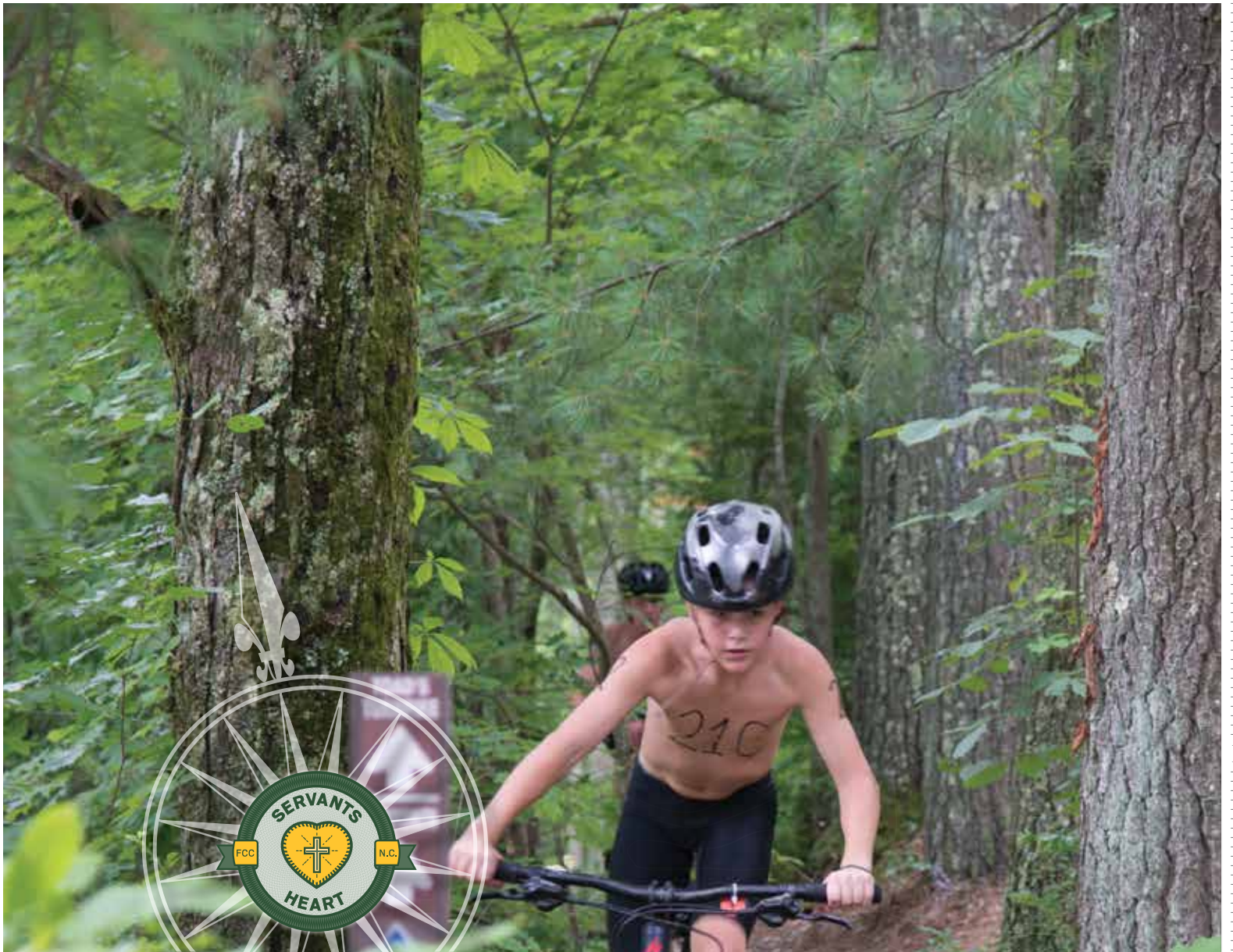
The Edge

Like the race here at FCC today, camp pushes boys into the community God designed for them. The Proverb says: "Iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." I'm sure the guys up at blacksmithing would bang their hammers in agreement. You gotta take some hits to get stronger and sharper. Camp provides a myriad of testosterone-laced scenarios in which boys do just that. God infuses us with the desire to serve and encourage, and camp provides the ideal environment to put it into practice.

The Celebration

Each year, I get to run "sweep" to make sure no Iron Boy is left behind to slog alone on the camp trails. Scuff and slip marks on Heart Break Hill reveal the dirty drama of the dash. My shoes slap the path through the Iroquois cabins and then I pop out onto the land sports field, bright and bustling with activity. Portable speakers pump out the Rocky theme and a counselor calls each boy's name as if he's gunning for a gold. The last several Iron Boys round the orange cones and are swarmed by their pit crew and cabin mates. From 11-year-olds to 16-year-olds, they all collapse on the field in sweaty celebration.


The camp Ironman is not in every boy's wheelhouse, and that's fine. There are numerous challenges and progressions to be found up here on the mountain — each to be celebrated in the cabin during Evening Embers. But for this Sunday afternoon, Warrior Team spirit wins the day, and I'm grateful that once upon a summer, my shirtless boys stood nervous in that pack on the lower lake dam, waiting for the gun to fire. 🔥



Follow the Golden Rule | Treat everyone with respect | Make friendship a fine art | Take initiative to help others







WE HAVE A STORY TO TELL



Falling Creek's inaugural Servant's Heart Essay Contest kicked off last spring for counselors who were encouraged to write pieces that conveyed their perspective on camp, campers, staff, activities, and how people grow and change because of the Falling Creek experience.

Counselors who submitted entries received a journal and pen.



To follow are excerpts from some of the entries.

W “As a counselor, Falling Creek changed my life in a totally different way than it did as a camper. The memories I made no longer came from achieving a goal in a specific activity or receiving an award at the end of camp, but from helping campers achieve their goals and watching them grow as individuals . . .

“Being a camp counselor is not the easiest job I have ever had, but it is certainly the most rewarding. . . . Whether it is helping a camper achieve a Warrior progression that he has spent years on, or a simple round of disc golf during free time, the memories that I have made through those relationships have impacted me in ways that no other job can do.

“When a camper is having a rough day or is struggling in an activity, having the opportunity to help him overcome his challenges and turn the bad situations into good creates an everlasting value that shapes my passion for working at Falling Creek. I want campers to know that there is someone they can talk to, someone who will listen to them, and someone who can help them in camp or in life . . .

“We as counselors are the pillar of the spirit of Falling Creek. We promote selflessness, perseverance, and morality that require high levels of energy and character in everything we do. While responsibilities can sometimes be taxing and laborious, counselors learn to love every task that confronts them. Whether it is taking

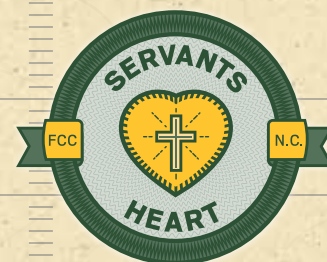
a camper to the infirmary at three in the morning or squeegieing tennis courts — knowing we are impacting others is the strength that empowers us to carry on. Each one of us came to Falling Creek not just to live our own lives, but to make a difference. Serving others and having a positive influence is a mission that keeps me coming back summer after summer . . .

“Falling Creek has broken me down and built me up into who I am today . . . I have wondered every offseason how I could ever spend a summer away from camp. As Kyle Jeffries once said, ‘The things you are going to do at Falling Creek are things that matter far, far beyond the one day that you’re here or the summer that you’re here. They are going to impact you and the kids for years and years to come.’ The lessons I have learned, the friendships I have made, and the values that have stuck with me . . . will continue to follow me through the rest of my life.”

— Breaux Tubbs

“We come silently into the place known as campfire, take our seats as a cabin, and wait for the traditional ceremony that involves speakers, skits, and music. Campfire is a place where everyone can feel completely free to say whatever they want without fear of judgment or condemnation . . .

“I learned that being a camp counselor is a lot more than teaching basketball and guiding a cabin of boys



around all day. It is the largest commitment I've ever experienced . . . It's an experience that will get into your heart and stay there. I put my whole self into this role, in every interaction with every camper, as well as with fellow counselors . . . I'm infinitely thankful for all of the people, from the age of six and up, who I may not have ever met if it weren't for my summer at camp. As so many people will tell you, it's the people who make the place what it is. Regardless of where life takes me, I'll always cherish my summer spent as a counselor at Falling Creek Camp."

— Hayden Vick

"I kept a journal this past summer and in it were words and phrases I thought stood out: life changing, welcoming, brotherly-bond, blessed, and rewarding . . . It was not the paycheck that kept me there. It was not the free food and the days off, it was the smile kids gave when completing something they had never tried before. I worked the climbing wall the entire summer and, let me tell you from personal experience, when you see a kid finally succeed after failing so many times then you know you did your job correctly. Seeing the youngest kids achieve things they never dreamed of is something I would work for every day."

— Zachery Gay

"I was anxiously positioned on the front porch of Cabin 2 as a new counselor awaiting my very first camper. The week prior about 90 other college-aged counselors and I completed rigorous orientation. We learned all about camp life, developed a cohesive team, and quickly bonded as family . . . I came to know all my campers' names and what activities they loved, and I shared their exuberance in having fun every day . . . I had the astounding pleasure to see most of my campers have first-time experiences that matured and developed them into fine young men."

"Counselors must model leadership, fine tune the art of forming friendships, generate enthusiasm, and live with integrity. We have the responsibility of nurturing the FCC code with these young men in an effort to spark some new interest, life principle, or passion within them. It's a profound expectation, but what keeps us encouraged and coming back for more is the personal, life-changing fulfillment we experience as counselors from our peers and the camp leadership who support us — but primarily from the very campers we strive to mentor . . . After all the activities, skits, songs, laughter, and adventure, my knowing that I positively impacted others' lives and, in turn, grew myself, is the recipe that keeps me coming back to FCC every summer." 🕯️

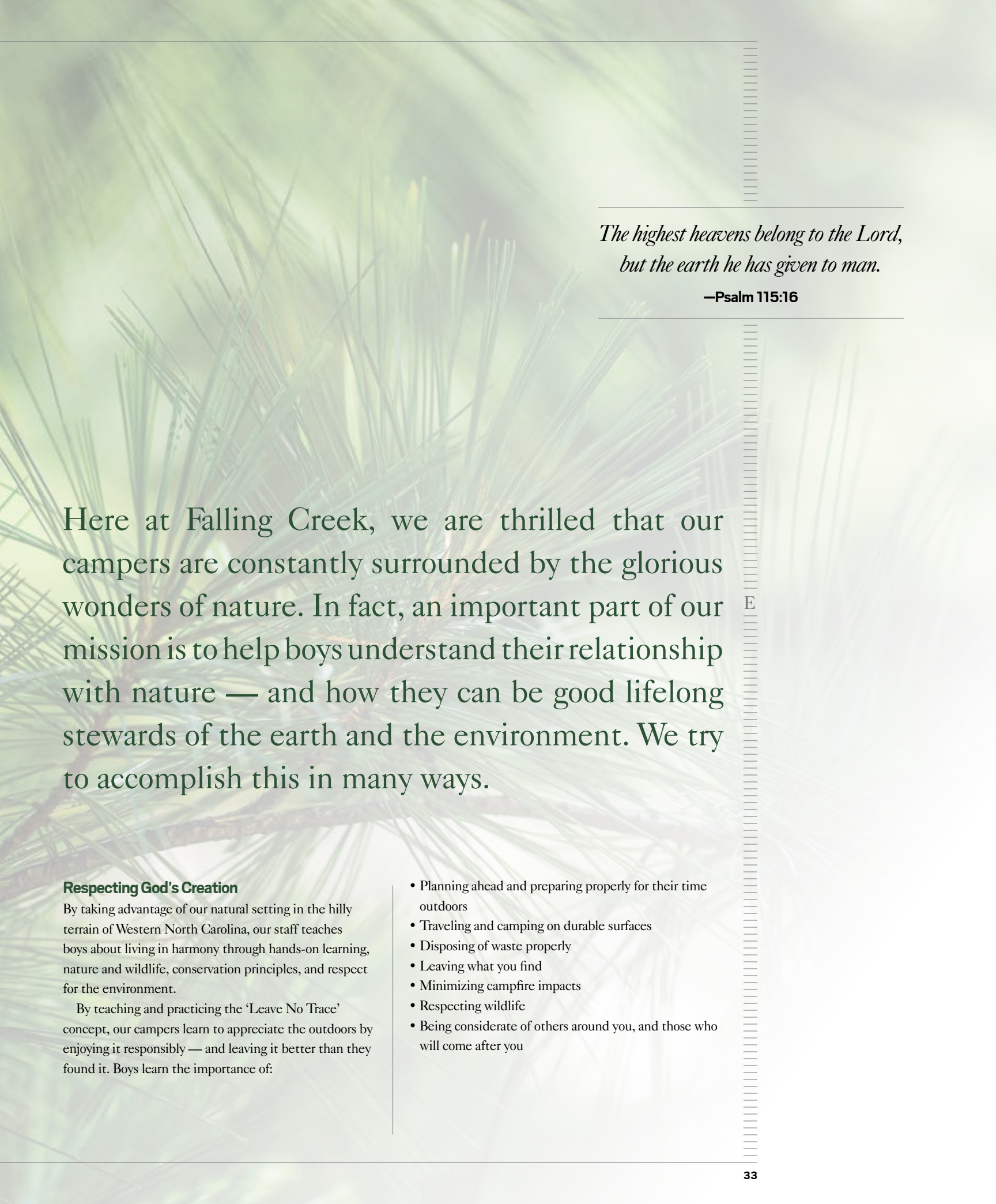
— Zachary Rivera

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A photograph of three young boys standing on a wooden ramp or staircase. A large brown chicken is standing in the middle of the ramp, facing the camera. Another brown chicken is visible in the lower left foreground. The background is a wooden wall with vertical planks. The boys are wearing casual clothing: a grey t-shirt and dark shorts, an orange t-shirt with 'OLD ENOUGH TO DRIVE' text and blue pants, and a grey t-shirt with a graphic and camouflage shorts. The text '[TALK the TALK]' is overlaid in a yellow, serif font.

[TALK the TALK]

WALK the WALK



*The highest heavens belong to the Lord,
but the earth he has given to man.*

—Psalm 115:16

Here at Falling Creek, we are thrilled that our campers are constantly surrounded by the glorious wonders of nature. In fact, an important part of our mission is to help boys understand their relationship with nature — and how they can be good lifelong stewards of the earth and the environment. We try to accomplish this in many ways.

Respecting God's Creation

By taking advantage of our natural setting in the hilly terrain of Western North Carolina, our staff teaches boys about living in harmony through hands-on learning, nature and wildlife, conservation principles, and respect for the environment.

By teaching and practicing the 'Leave No Trace' concept, our campers learn to appreciate the outdoors by enjoying it responsibly — and leaving it better than they found it. Boys learn the importance of:

- Planning ahead and preparing properly for their time outdoors
- Traveling and camping on durable surfaces
- Disposing of waste properly
- Leaving what you find
- Minimizing campfire impacts
- Respecting wildlife
- Being considerate of others around you, and those who will come after you

F.A.R.M. Program

Our F.A.R.M. program — which stands for “food, animals, repurposing, and manpower” — is designed to allow campers of all ages opportunities to get their hands dirty and their minds enlightened as they focus on tasks that engage them with work in and around our raised garden beds. Campers plant and harvest vegetables, grow herbs and flowers, and tend to chickens and egg collections. They also construct habitats and learn the value of repurposing and composting materials, including black soldier flies, farming worms, and in-vessel tumblers.

The F.A.R.M. program teaches boys transferable skills they can use daily, as they gain a clear understanding about the importance of their influence on the footprint of the environment. The program gives boys the chance to strengthen the connection they have with food and nature, and it gives them a new appreciation for sustainable living. For example, they learn how to compost through several types of small-scale composting

projects, and they see us being good stewards by having our dining hall compost picked up by a local large-scale composting company.

The Limited Waste Mindset

Our campers eat off of real plates, so no waste there! And, we have waste bins all across camp for recycling, composting, and trash, so boys begin to make a habit of recycling and disposing of waste, napkins, and milk cartons properly. In the dining hall, campers quickly learn to, “Take what you want, but eat what you take.” Boys

and staff are asked to be mindful about what they choose to put on their plates in order to reduce what is put into the compost bin. At camp cookouts we are always sure to use compostable plates, flatware, and cups; even the Cheerwine! cans are recycled after use.

As a camp, we try to practice what we preach year-round by recycling items generated from our normal operations, including paper, cardboard, glass, plastics, batteries, toner, electronics, and scrap metal. Kitchen oils are stored and picked up by a local biofuel company to be repurposed. And, when trees fall at camp, we use them to make lumber for projects, firewood for campfires, or leave them to complete their life cycle.

Our web-based camp administration system has increased our operational efficiency and reduced paper waste by tracking attendance and camper progressions electronically, rather than using paper. The system has allowed our infirmary to go almost paper-free through

electronic medication administration records, medical records, and electronic log and treatment charting.

More Bright Ideas

We partner with a local produce distributor for our produce each summer in order to support local businesses and to cut down on the impact associated with food traveling long distances. We donate food at the end of each summer; last summer totaling 444 pounds. We also donated old wool blankets to an animal shelter and replaced them with new blankets for each bed at camp.

Being mindful of the use of electricity, we encourage the camp community to turn off lights, fans, and other utilities in cabins and following activities, when not needed. To help in that endeavor, occupancy sensor light switches and smart power strips have been installed in key areas around camp. We also include “turning off lights” on our daily inspection checklist. About 10 years ago, we converted the majority of our lights around camp to compact fluorescent lamps, and when those burn out we are replacing them with LED bulbs. We also use rechargeable batteries in the camera’s we send on all camp trips.

Even in our programming — such as during Morning Watch, campfire programs, or church services — we often emphasize the importance of being good stewards of the earth and the environment. Our Indian Lore program, which gets its roots from nearby historic Camp Sequoyah, teaches the outdoor skills native peoples implemented to interact with nature, as well as Native American culture and history.

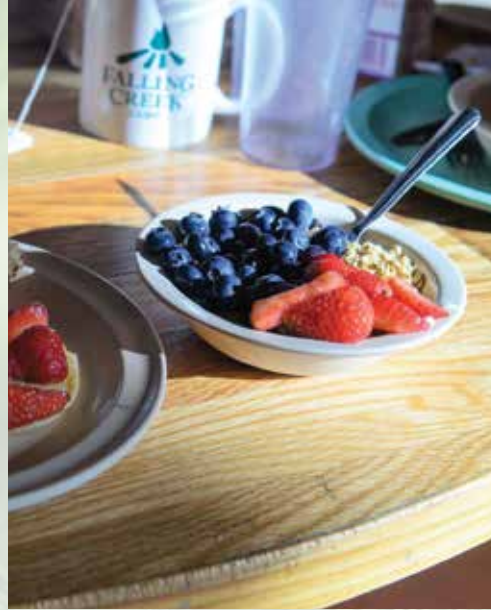
Land and Wildlife Conservation

Our land here at Falling Creek is blessed with several endangered species, including Green Salamanders and Pitcher Plants. Our fishing program practices catch and release fishing on our lakes and section of the Green River. We do not allow any hunting on our 645 acres of camp land, and we use conservation easements to permanently protect more than 150 acres of forest land from being developed. A conservation easement is a voluntary legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust or government agency that permanently limits uses of the land in order to protect its conservation values.

Throughout the camp experience, we urge our campers and staff members to remember their place in nature, and to understand that, for most of the year the camp it not occupied by hundreds of campers; it is, in effect, a natural habitat — and we expect them to keep it that way so nature thrives. In addition, we encourage them to “live green” in every aspect of their lives, in order to help sustain healthy and vibrant natural lands for other people to enjoy for centuries to come. 🌱



Part of being a good steward means recycling and reusing when possible.



A photograph of three hikers with large backpacks walking away on a grassy trail. The hiker in the foreground is wearing a blue shirt and shorts, using trekking poles. The middle hiker is wearing a dark shirt and shorts, also using poles. The hiker in the background is wearing a red shirt and shorts. The trail is covered in tall green grass, and the background is shrouded in a thick fog. On the left side of the frame, there is a weathered wooden post with a white, irregularly shaped mark on it.

EQUIPPED

Can raising good boys into good men be left to chance? We live in an era and culture where there is pressure to “normalize” boys, to let them be swept along with the rapidly changing, and often troubling, tide of status quo. Before we know it, we are asking ourselves, “What is happening to boys? Where has that strong sense of male discovery and morality gone? What happened to brotherhood and values, exploration, pride, leadership, courage, and being a gentleman?”

GE^NTLEMEN

“There are things that, as a parent, you cannot do for your children, as much as you might wish to. You cannot make them happy (if you try too hard they become whiners); you cannot give them self-esteem and confidence (those come from their own accomplishments); you cannot pick friends for them and micro-manage their social lives, and finally, you cannot give them independence. The only way children can grow into independence is to have their parents open the door and let them walk out. That’s what makes camp such a life-changing experience for children.”

—Michael G. Thompson, Ph.D., Clinical Psychologist, Consultant

Often, with all good intentions, parents make a majority of decisions for their children. They want to protect them from failing by picking their sports, choosing their friends, helping them with projects, pointing them toward ‘the right’ career — all in hopes of giving them that coveted inside edge. But we believe the real edge comes from the people they meet, the challenges they face, and the experiences they encounter at camp.

Good Boys, Great Men

Sit down with Yates and Marisa Pharr, owners of Falling Creek Camp since 2005, and they will tell you their camp is very carefully designed for the needs of today’s growing boys — and their parents. “Our desire is to equip boys for the future, and to change the way they see themselves, in a positive way,” Marisa says. “Here at Falling Creek, we complement what the parents are doing at home, so we work together to have a positive impact in boys’ lives, to help them become happy, strong, effective, contributing members of society.”

Yates adds, “We try to meet the boys where they are, because everyone is in different places. One of our goals is to help young men discover who God intended them to be. Part of the beauty of the Falling Creek experience is that boys make decisions for themselves here. They are also given the opportunity to try new things and to fail in a supportive environment. And if they do fail, we encourage them to pick themselves up and try again — and succeed.”

“Camp can be a trajectory changer for a boy. If he’s having a difficult time at home, academically, or socially — he can come to Falling Creek and have a fresh start.”
—Frank Tindall, Associate Director, Falling Creek Camp

Unplug: That’s When the Magic Begins

The brain trust at Falling Creek believe boys need a place where they can unplug from screens and technology for literally weeks — and just “be boys.”
 “Unplugging from electronics enables the boys to

focus on deep and lasting face-to-face relationships,” Frank says. “For me, growing up with three sisters and no bothers, camp was a place to find my bothers and some of my best friends 40 years later are my camp friends. Unplugging gives the boys a chance to relax. At home, they have extremely busy schedules, with school, sports practices, travel ball, art and music lessons. That is why we are intentional about creating a positive, supportive community where boys can experience genuine quality time; I’m convinced there is no environment better suited to prepare them with the life skills to thrive than camp.”

At Falling Creek, time is intentionally built into the daily agenda for relaxation, with “free choice” twice a day before lunch and dinner, and freedom to choose their activities and trips. The daily Morning Watch sees campers entering the chapel silently, sitting quietly, and pausing to reflect on their day. “They have time to observe the sounds and smells of nature,” Frank says. “Then a counselor or director will give a short talk relating to one of the aspects of the Falling Creek Code. Then we stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance together.”

“Our son started with a shorter session and now attends Main Camp. We do miss him, but being in the camp environment for four weeks is so important for his growth. Tommy comes home from camp more confident, independent, and considerate of others.”
—Parent of Falling Creek Camper

Code of Character

The folks at Falling Creek believe that, in today’s fast-paced, digital world, the summer camp experience is more important, relevant, character building, and potentially life-changing than ever. The benefit of living in a natural setting for one to four weeks cannot be understated; and Yates and Marisa encourage campers to stay for longer sessions, because, by the end of weeks one and two the boys are just getting acclimated, comfortable, less homesick, and ready to really experience true brotherhood, service, and genuine independence.

One of the flagship aspects of Falling Creek is the strong and positive male role models the camp hires for its counselor staff each summer. It takes nine months to visit with hundreds of applicants and narrow down the selection to 140 young men who join the Falling Creek staff. The counselors are outgoing, trustworthy, mature, confident, and responsible, which inspires campers to



"In a new place, in a community setting, something different and magical happens that allows campers to become something new, something more, and something different. Confidence, respect, empathy — something about the setting and physicality of it — makes it a completely different kind of growing environment."

—Nathan Newquist, Operations Director, Falling Creek Camp

do things they never thought possible.

"The level of intention we give to character development is unique," Yates says. "The Falling Creek Code [Warrior Spirit, Servant's Heart, Positive Attitude, and Moral Compass] is not just a sign on a wall or a slogan on the website, it is a set of enduring Christian values that we live out, and that provide the framework for the camp culture. Camp offers a chance for the boys to gain and grow self-esteem, independence, leadership, friendship skills, social comfort, peer relationships, adventure and exploration, environmental awareness, values, decision-making, and spirituality."

Unity, Brotherhood, Faith

Falling Creek is a community of friends bonded together by The Code and by the spirit and unity described in Psalm 133: 1, which has been the camp's motto for 50 years: *Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!* That scripture has been recited to open each Sunday night campfire for decades. Longstanding traditions such as Morning Watch, family style meals, Evening Embers, Honor Council, and others reinforce the camp's commitment to help young men develop an understanding and clarity of their relationship with nature, their fellow man, and God.

"The setting at camp and the age of campers creates a unique environment for spiritual growth," Frank says. "Part of the culture at Falling Creek is humility. It's difficult to describe, but it permeates camp — putting others first, willingness to pitch in without getting the credit. Christian character is lived out by our community rather and preached."

Try, Fail, Succeed — Be Boys

Nobody wants to fail, but they especially do not want to fail in front of their parents, or female peers. A single-gender camp is one of the few places where a child has the freedom to try things they do not expect to be successful in; the result is that they often discover new interests and talents they love, share, and enjoy the rest of their lives.

A single gender camp gives campers a much needed break from the pressures of interacting with girls. As boys realize there are no girls around to impress, they visibly relax and their selfconsciousness melts away. At camp, they see their true worth, for once not reflected in the eyes of the opposite sex. The boys of Falling Creek often say, "Camp is a place I can just be me," and, "Everyone make you feel like you belong. It's like one big family."

Toughin' It

Most boys love a challenge. They like to push themselves; see what they can do. What better place to test the limits than on a secluded mountain top with lakes, rocks, rivers, trails, vast acreage, and dozens of outdoor educational experiences at their fingertips. Falling Creek offers 28 purpose-driven activities that test and improve boys' skills. And, although the activities are designed to meet the boys where they are, the camp's Waypoints progression level system encourages boys to pursue and achieve technical proficiency.

"Each boy will try new things and fail regularly, setting him up for the true feeling of success as he follows his own personal journey, pushing the



boundaries of boyhood,” Yates says. “Our activity progressions are intentionally structured to give boys an opportunity to build leadership skills. By the time they are working on their last two ranks, they are actually teaching portions of the lesson.”

Taking Care of Yourself and Helping Others

At Falling Creek, boys grow up. They learn to take care of themselves and their surroundings. They are taught respect. Yates and Marisa believe the experiences boys have at Falling Creek improve their self confidence, independence, and resilience.

Boys at Falling Creek make their beds neatly each day, keep up with personal hygiene, and do cabin chores, like sweeping, emptying trash, and keeping their trunks organized. Teamwork, encouragement, sharing, and support are encouraged. Indeed, the folks at Falling Creek hope their campers leave the mountain with a newfound initiative to help and serve others.

“At the end of an evening program or special event everyone pitches in to clean up,” Frank says. “If someone spills something in the dining hall, five guys jump up to help, rather than making fun of someone. The boys work together in activities — tandem canoeing a river, sharing tools at woodworking and crafts, and doing chores at the barn.”

According to the largest research study of camper outcomes ever conducted in the U.S., a respected independent research firm (Philliber Research Associates) collected data at 92 randomly selected camps, with more than 5,000 families from across the country participating. They found that:

- **Camps build skills necessary to prepare campers to assume roles as successful adults.**
- **Campers grow in areas such as self-confidence, independence, making friends, exploring, learning new activities, and spirituality.**
- **High percentages of campers said camp helped them make new friends, feel good about themselves, and do things they were afraid to do.**
- **High percentages of parents said camp helped their children gain self-confidence, and that their children remain in touch with the new friends they made, and continue doing many of the activities they learned at camp.**

When asked in recent surveys the greatest values their sons gained at camp, Falling Creek parents mentioned things like independence, social skills, sense of achievement, spiritual nourishment, moral compass, God, confidence, maturity, servant’s heart, perseverance, determination, warrior spirit, belief in himself, leadership, helpfulness, respect, and self awareness.

So, can raising good boys into good men be left to chance? The team at Falling Creek would answer with a resounding, “No!” In fact, they would tend to agree with the thoughts of a column written by Carolyn Butler in the health and science section of *The Washington Post* (June 18, 2012):

“At some point, all children are going to have to be independent, and a safe place to practice is at camp . . . When you face challenges away from your parents, you know the victory belongs to you alone . . . Okay, so you got stung by a bee: It was scary and painful, but you got over it and you recovered, which means that you can deal with all the bees in the world without your mom — the bees being a metaphor, of course, for all of the challenges in life . . .

“I think camp is the best emotional preparation for a successful college experience, because you practice being on your own, keeping track of your clothes; you practice living in a community and getting along with roommates you don’t love . . . One of the things that troubles me about this generation is that we want our children endlessly challenged academically, but we don’t seem to want their resilience challenged in other ways. You can’t know you’re resilient until your resilience is challenged. When you are in college, discouraged and overwhelmed, does your mother get you through? No. But the experience of being out in a thunderstorm on a hiking trip and knowing you survived — that just might.” 🕯

EQUIPP^{ED} GENTLEMEN



“The Falling Creek Code reinforces what we’re trying to teach our boys at home and our sons have really embraced it. They want to do the right thing and when the culture of camp focuses on character development it really has a lasting impact on our boys. There’s just so much a parent can say to a child, but when cool, college-aged counselors says to my son, ‘Way to go, that shows Servant’s Heart.’ He perks up and pays attention.”

—Parent of Falling Creek Camper



PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE 50 YEARS



FALL 2018
50TH ANNIVERSARY
ALUMNI WEEKEND

**FALLING
CREEK**
CAMP

Save the Date:

Friday, Sept. 7 - Sunday, Sept. 9, 2018

Registration date:

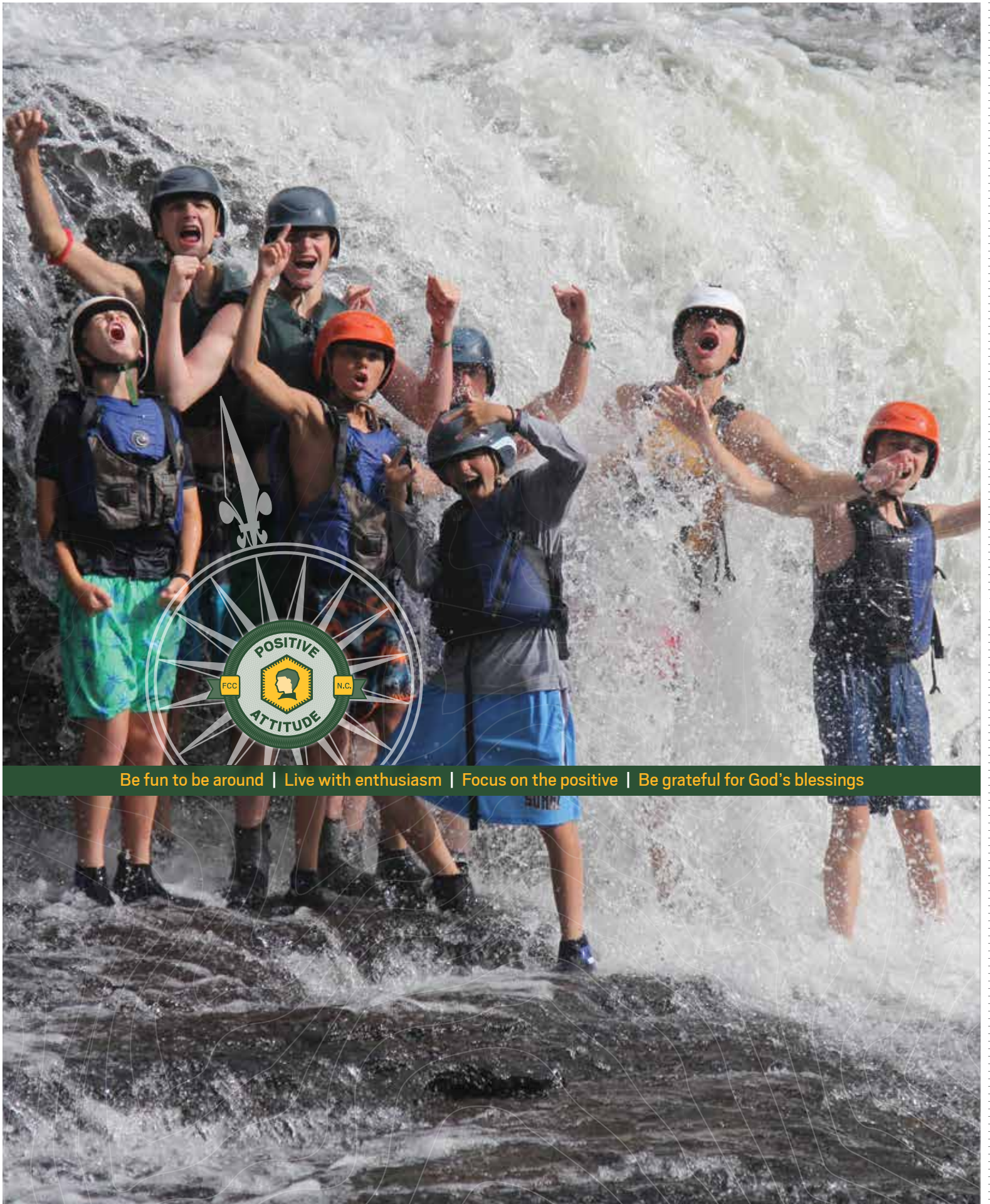
January 15, 2018

Reserve Your Spot:

www.fallingcreek.com/alumni

PACK YOUR TRUNK...

**YOU WILL WANT TO BE HERE
WHEN THE BELL RINGS!**





fantheflame



Nestled in a peaceful mountaintop cove, Falling Creek provides a unique opportunity for physical, spiritual, and social growth. We believe boys need a place where they can unplug from technology and just “be boys.”

Making Friendship A Fine Art
- A sense of brotherhood and traditional Christian values permeates the Falling Creek community and each of its programs. Our alumni often speak of the special bond they have with their camp friends.



Making Choices - “Falling Creek offers a different kind of education than boys get during the rest of the year. Boys make decisions for themselves, gain self-confidence, learn how to live with a group, and how to see opportunities for growth and seize them.”

- Donnie Bain (Former FCC Director)

Morning Assembly - After a hearty breakfast, get ready for the world famous Morning Assembly where anything can happen — and it usually does. The entire camp community assembles on the front porch of the Dining Hall overlooking the upper lake. Whether it’s one of our crazy staff skits or joining in an all-camp sing-along, nothing beats this upbeat way to start a great camp day.





Under experienced leadership, campers are able to choose from a variety of out-of-camp adventure trips ranging in skill levels from introductory to advanced, and from one-day trips to five-day trips.



A dedicated and enthusiastic staff is the heart of the camp experience.



Community with Purpose

Falling Creek is an experience a boy carries with him for a lifetime. It's an opportunity to make choices, and a chance to make friends. Backpacking trips into the mountains, sleeping under the stars, kayaking on the Green River, sailing, tennis, and basketball; all help build friendships and character that last a lifetime.



"Camp offers a chance for the boys to grow their self-esteem, independence, leadership skills, peer relationships, sense of adventure, environmental awareness, values, and spirituality." – Yates Pharr, Director





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Awards-All Sessions

Archery

Happy Camper Award: Finn Young
 Happy Camper Award:
 Sebastian Tate
 Perseverance Award: Samay Bafana
 Persistence Award: Hudson Tinch
 Sharpshooter Award: Hayden Breal
 Sharpshooter Award: Jack Adams

Arts & Crafts

Doodle Dude Award: Lawton Jordan
 Head in the Clouds Award:
 Wesley Forster
 Outside the Box Award: David Axon
 Outside the Box Award:
 Rodrigo Esteve
 Warrior Spirit Award: James Singhal

Backpacking

Pack Rat Award: Javi Lopez
 Pack Rat Award: Johnny Russell
 Trailblazer Award: Ben Kirbo
 Trailblazer Award: Will Cameron

Basketball

Arm & Hammer Award
 (Servant's Heart): Raines Knight
 Braveheart Award (Warrior Spirit):
 Taishi Liu
 Mr. Brightside Award
 (Positive Attitude): Bruce Lanier
 Mr. Brightside Award
 (Positive Attitude): Mac Mandell
 Servant Leader Award
 (Servant's Heart): Rex Bowen
 Servant Leader Award
 (Servant's Heart): Steven Lilly

Blacksmithing

Cat Cremator Award: Ham Mandell
 Hephaestus' Hammer Award:
 Scott Busey
 Snake Charmer Award:
 Ramsay Brewer

Climbing Wall

Good Vibes Award: Jack Shelton
 Slothtastic Award: Andy Pleiman
 Steve Longenecker Award:
 Preece Smith

Cross Country

Fast & Furious Award: RJ
 Poffenberger
 Mind Over Matter Award:
 Davis Minnehan
 MVP Award: James McGregor
 Pedal to the Medal Award:
 Cameron Sumners

Disc Golf

Basket Case Award: Steele Darnall
 Dragon Award: Will Young

Eagle Award: Will Skipper
 Hydra Award: Declan Doyle

F.A.R.M.

Einstein Award (Most Creative):
 Henry Gatto
 Farmer of the Year Award:
 Darby McMillan
 Farmer of the Year Award:
 James Frushone
 Farmer of the Year Award:
 Spencer Mermans
 Perseverance Award:
 Patrick Minnehan
 Three Musketeer Award (Most
 Dedicated): Charlie Durham,
 Durham Blair, Mac Durham

Fishing & Fly Fishing

First Fish Award: Graham Stilwell
 Fish Prophet Award: David Efird
 Most Dedicated Award: Wells White
 Spirit of the Fisherman Award:
 James Lilly

Flag Football

Defensive Player of the Session
 Award: Soham Bafana
 Heisman Award: CD St.Hilaire
 Heisman Award: Jacob Spafford
 Manning Brothers Leadership
 Award: Robert Riser & Sam Evins
 Peyton Manning Award
 (Positive Attitude/Leadership):
 Beckett Holmes
 Team Before Self Award:
 MacLean Delchanty
 Warrior Spirit Award: Jake Rhine

Horseback Riding

Junior Horseman Award:
 Camden Nalley
 Life of the Barn Award:
 Graeme Kirkpatrick
 Razz Award: Pete Curtis

Razz Award: Thomas Brumback
 Wilbur Whisperer Award:
 Carson Pleiman
 You've Got This Award: Jack Preston

Indian Lore

Great Spirit of Indian Lore Award:
 Avery Kessler Jr.
 Great Spirit of Indian Lore Award:
 Eduardo Altamirano
 Great Spirit of Indian Lore Award:
 Graham Webb
 Great Spirit of Indian Lore Award:
 Henry O'Hagan
 Great Spirit of Indian Lore Award:
 Ryan Murray

Infirmary

Servant's Heart Award:
 Cameron Sumners
 Servant's Heart Award: Evans Collier
 Servant's Heart Award:
 Grant Greeley
 Servant's Heart Award: Jack Sprinkle
 Servant's Heart Award: Len Wallace
 Servant's Heart Award:
 Liam Stephens
 Servant's Heart Award: Sam Phillis
 Servant's Heart Award:
 Spencer Greeley

Lacrosse

Captain Award: Andrew Gardner
 Lax Bro Award: Nick Dossin
 Lax Bro Award: Turner Brooks
 Most Improved Player Award:
 Blaize Schuhmacher
 Most Improved Player Award:
 Carleton Riser



Mountain Biking

Colin Barrett Award:
 Hampton Templeton
 Colin Barrett Award: Luke Sedgwick
 Frequent Rider Card Award:
 William Fenstermacher
 Frequent Rider Card Award:
 Winston Smith
 Most Improved Rider Award:
 Reece Rudd
 Most Improved Rider Award:
 Robert Riser

Music

Most Improved Musician Award:
 Grant Greeley
 MVM Award (Most Valuable
 Musician): Connor Talley
 MVM Award (Most Valuable
 Musician): Ian Meredith
 Positive Attitude & Perseverance
 Award: Michael Mullen
 Servant's Heart in Music Award:
 Spencer Mermans
 Warrior Spirit of Service Award:
 Jay Bland III

Nature

Don't Kiss the Snakes Award:
 Gunnar Davidson
 Good Sir Award: Ben Farmer
 Good Sir Award: Graham Webb
 Nat Geo Award: James Singhal
 Steve Irwin Memorial Award:
 Darby McMillan
 Steve Irwin Memorial Award:
 Kemp Woodard



Paddling

Hike Up and Do It Again & Again &
 Again Award: Noah Prior &
 Will DeLoach
 Made the Most of Everyday Award:
 Ward Lilly
 Most Improved Boofer Award:
 Charlie Gatto
 Staff Helper in Training Award:
 John Allen

Photography

Best Trip Photo Award: Backpacking
 Best Trip Photo Award: Rock
 Climbing (Tanya Devereaux)
 Most Photogenic Award:
 Austin Miller
 Most Photogenic Award:
 Caleb McDonough
 Most Photographed Award:
 James McIntyre
 Most Photographed Award:
 Ned Hull

Pottery

Glaze of Glory Award:
 Ryan McNamara
 Harry Potter Award: Davis Brown
 Harry Potter Award: William Burton
 Kiln It Award: Graham Stilwell
 Kiln It Award: Jim Sorensen
 License to Kiln Award: Sam Drody

Riflery

Deadeye Award: Miller Vargas
 Grey Matters Award: Gunnar
 Davidson
 Hardest Worker Award: Miller Vargas
 Man with the Golden Gun Award:
 Mace Hood

Rock Climbing

Sherpa Sloth Award: Jackson Davis
 Spirit of the Sloth Award:
 Ryland Marley
 Spirit of the Sloth Award:
 Thomas Hunter
 Super Stoked Sloth Award:
 John Ervin

Sailing

Boat Stuff Award: Aidan Murphy
 BYOB (Bring Your Own Boat) Award:
 Palmer Lykes
 Natural Sailor Award: Aidan
 Stefanides, Ford Rachels Jr.
 Scott T. Hilderbran Memorial
 Award: Ben Harris
 Servant's Heart Award:
 Henk Warrick IV
 Top Tusken Award: Preece Smith



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Soccer

All-Rounder Award: Afton Putney
 All-Rounder Award: Julian Madrazo
 Ballon d'Or Award: Wesley Bruner
 Kick It! Award: Hoge Reynolds
 Kick It! Award: James McIntyre

Swimming

Just Keep Swimmin' Award:
 Tyler Phillips
 Just Keep Swimmin' Award:
 William Darragh
 Progression Chaser Award:
 Austin Brotemarkle
 Splash Brothers Award:
 George Pipes & Mac Riser

Tennis

Heart of the Court Award:
 Sam Evins
 Most Progressed Award:
 Soham Bafana
 MVP Award: Brown Turner
 MVP Award: RJ Poffenberger
 Rising Star Award: Ford Rachels Jr.
 Second Serve Award: Patrick Nagy

The HEAT

Arnold Schwarzenegger Award:
 CD St.Hilaire
 The HEAT Hot Award:
 Connor Talley

Theater

All the World's a Stage Award:
 Luke Dodson
 Backstage Pass Award: Yates Bass
 Spirit of the Stage Award:
 Jack Anders
 Spirit of the Stage Award:
 Russell Wyatt

Ultimate Frisbee

Best Fundamentals Award:
 Cal Gosslee
 Callahan Award: Bennett Brosnan
 Librarian Award: Whitman Flickinger
 Most Determination Award:
 Patton Jaynes
 Most Fearless Award:
 MacLean Delehanty
 Too Big To Fail Award: Carleton Riser

Woodworking

Craftsman Award: Austin Mermans
 Craftsman Award: Mac Durham
 Hands-On Award: Gus Faris
 Hands-On Award: James Singhal
 Willing Woodchuck Award:
 Coleson Quesinberry
 Wood Wood 'Ward: Miles Jernigan

June Camp Cleanest Cabin Awards

CHEROKEE TRIBE
 Cabin 4
 Reed Mattison, Worth Gentry
 Blaize Schuhmacher, Colin Caughran,
 Liam Fanning, Noah Orme,
 Robert Proutt, Scotty Poole,
 Tommy Sutherland, Will Haller

CATAWBA TRIBE

Cabin Comanche
 Daniel West, Hayden Futch
 Aiden Mithwani, Carson Streaker,
 Harrison Keys, Hudson Thomas,
 Hudson Tinch, Lars Thomas,
 Luke Baugher, Patrick Minnehan

TUSCARORA TRIBE

Cabin Little Raven
 Breau Tubbs, Kyle Corbin
 Diego Gianni, Henry Bryan,
 Henry Smith, Jack Halverson,
 Jonathan Dunham, Mason Barfield,
 Sam Neff, Zack Steenbergh

Cabin Washakie

Gage Anderson, William Walters
 David Jones, Edwin Ossont, Gabe
 Herrera, Gavin Banks, Jack Sullivan,
 Landon Kalish, Parker McCollum,
 Spencer Ritchie

IROQUOIS TRIBE

Cabin Rolling Thunder
 Len Wallace, Mo Blackwell
 CD St.Hilaire, Charlie Fridge,
 Edward Desloge, Evan Mansur,
 Mead Seay, Thomas Brumback,
 Wells Kamerschen, Will McKinnie V



CREEK TRIBE

Cabin Nantahala

Abby McCarthy, Ally Croll,
Ally Hibbitts, Austin Killebrew,
Carol Walsh, Savannah Paterson

Main Camp Cleanest Cabin Awards

CHEROKEE TRIBE

Cabin 8

Matt Ambrose, Sam Phillis
Benjamin Kampine, Eduardo
Altamirano, Ford Anderson Jr.,
Hyatt Hicks, Jack Hamel, JP Hasley,
Quinn Kelliher, Ryan McNamara

CATAWBA TRIBE

Cabin Crazy Horse

Gresh Ganning, Johnny Moremen
Carter Siegel, Charlie May III,
Hampton Templeton,
Henry Peacock, Jackson Skelly,
Powell Cummings, Thomas Earl,
West Burge

TUSCARORA TRIBE

Cabin Washakie

William Walters
Bradley Tarbutton, Charlie Oliver,
Jack Currence, Jacob Spafford,
Luca Dowdall, Noah Glasgow,
Owen Kelly, William Pearce

IROQUOIS TRIBE

Cabin Deganawidah

Hayden Vick

Austin Mermans, Charles Brooks,
Eli Kampine, Graham Carroll,
Liam Stephens, Quinn Novick,
William Newton

CREEK TRIBE

Cabin Cheoah

Eric Smith, James Hendershott,
Jim Parham, Jose Brazoban,
Josh Trammell, Len Wallace

2-Week Camp Cleanest Cabin Awards

CHEROKEE TRIBE

Cabin 8

Matt Ambrose, Sam Phillis
George Smith, Griffin Allen,
Henry Whited, Park Holley,
Robert Smith, Spence Perry,
TJ Alfonso, Wilson Rutherford V

CATAWBA TRIBE

Cabin Blackfoot

Daniel West, Gresh Ganning
Ford Diffley, Jack Adams,
Judd Collins, Max Albright,
Nick Pritchard, Reed Orben,
Sellers Lynn, Tucker Piper

TUSCARORA TRIBE

Cabin Watauga

John-Luke Giroux, Zach Rivera
Ben Harker, Everett Hair,
Jack McCoy, Lance Reid,
Owen Landers, Prescott Miller,
Teddy Chong, Walker Dean

IROQUOIS TRIBE

Cabin Rising Warrior

Daniel Han, James Crockett
Collins Lee, Connor Evans,
Jacob Kaylor, Joe McGirt,
Mac Holley, Teddy Hanson,
Tucker Davis III, Will Putman

Cabin Deganawidah

Drew Milner, Hayden Vick
Carter Leidy, Charlie Greiner,
Gray Webber, Holden Pharr,
Powell Brickman, Quinn Knight,
Walker Liggitt, Walker Ritchey

CREEK TRIBE

Cabin Nantahala

Abby McCarthy, Ally Croll,
Ally Hibbitts, Carol Walsh,
Savannah Paterson

Junior Camp Cleanest Cabin Awards

CHEROKEE TRIBE

Cabin 3

Duncan Jones, High Garst
Benjamin Podurgiel, Bo O'Connor,
Carter Freno, Connor McElroy,
Guy Tate, James Albright,
James Crawford, Whaley Nichols

CATAWBA TRIBE

Cabin Satank

Alex Paris, Colin Bryan
Henry Sumner, Hudson Pratt,
Jack Anderton, James Brown,
Nico Hellinger, Ryan Von Wyl,
Taj Majors, West Cejudo



keeperoftheflameaward



James McGregor

A hearty Falling Creek congratulations to 10-year camper James McGregor, from Rock Hill, South Carolina, for accomplishing the rank of Keeper Of The Flame! James is only the third camper in Falling Creek history to earn this prestigious title.

Keeper of the Flame is the highest rank attainable at Falling Creek. To become a candidate, a camper must achieve Warrior in three activities and consistently demonstrate the FCC Code. At that point, he becomes a Journeyman and must successfully complete his Journey to earn the rank of Keeper of the Flame. When a camper is designated as a Journeyman, he chooses a staff member as his mentor to help him prepare.

The Journey consists of venturing out on an overnight solo experience; building and tending a campfire with limited supplies; composing an essay about his time at Falling Creek and how he can share his light with others; cutting and splitting wood to be used at future Sunday night campfires; and completing a difficult orienteering challenge. Congratulations, James, your camp family is proud of you. 🔥



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Junior Camp Cleanest Cabin Awards (continued)

TUSCARORA TRIBE

Cabin Honeymoon
Ian Cormack, Will Young
Ford Daniels, Grayson Giovanoli,
Gregory Hefner, Jon Luca Brady,
Kimble Pender, Kristian Baum,
Oliver Clary, Sam Dewey

IROQUOIS TRIBE

Cabin Mohawk
James Hendershott, Len Wallace
Davis Dominik, Fin Brackett,
Henry Gardner, Michael Ryan
Bourne, Noah Snyder,
Oliver Losinski, Owen Holbrook,
Simon Ikenberg

Progressions- All Sessions

Archery Ranger

Finn Young
Hudson Tinch
James Lilly

Archery Warrior

Jack Adams

Arts & Crafts Ranger

James Singhal

Backpacking Ranger

Ben Kirbo
Will Cameron

Backpacking Warrior

Will Cameron

Basketball Ranger

David Axon
Diego Gianni
Heath Seawright
James McGregor

Jeremy Rosenbluth
Kemp Woodard
Sam Tepper
William Zelnak

Basketball Warrior

David Efird
James McGregor
Steven Lilly
Zach Jackson

Blacksmithing Ranger

Caleb McDonough
Charlie May
Cole Atherton
Gabe Jones
Harry Marvin
John Stanfill
Ramsay Brewer
Will Young

Blacksmithing Warrior

Austin Mermans
John Stanfill
Julian Leidy
William Pearce

Climbing Wall Ranger

Jackson Singhal
Jimmy Dugan
Luke Atherton
Rodrigo Esteve
Zell Godbold

Climbing Wall Warrior

Jackson Singhal
Jimmy Dugan
Luke Atherton
Rodrigo Esteve
Zell Godbold

Cross Country Ranger

Cameron Sumners

Disc Golf Ranger

Bennett Brosnan
Charlie May
Davis Ottinger
Declan Doyle
Evan Fuertes
Harrison Cutler
Henry Langston
Jack Adams
Jack Fry
Jackson Garlick
James McGregor
Mark Van Kirk
Pete Curtis
Sam Alexander
Will Skipper
Will Thomas

Disc Golf Warrior

Evan Fuertes
Harrison Cutler
Henry Langston
Jack Adams
Jack Fry
James McGregor
Mark Van Kirk
Pete Curtis
Sam Alexander

F.A.R.M. Ranger

James Frushone

Fishing Ranger

Ben King
Bo Crutcher
Wells White

Fishing Warrior

Blake Rowland

Flag Football Ranger

Campbell Miller
Jacob Spafford
Mark Van Kirk



Flag Football Warrior

Meade Seay

Fly Fishing Ranger

August Brown

Ben King

Bo Crutcher

Fly Fishing Warrior

August Brown

Ben King

Bo Crutcher

Henry Langston

Horseback Riding Ranger

Alfredo Lelo De Larrea

Ari Chen

Ben King

Brennan Lummus

Everett Norton

Jack Gallivan

Jack Preston

Luca Dowdall

Nico Dowdall

Pete Curtis

Ryland Marley

Scott Busey

Thomas Brumback

Wiley Kessler

Horseback Riding Warrior

Pete Curtis

Thomas Brumback

Thomas Kallen

Lacrosse Ranger

Cannon Ridinger

Harry Deane

Jack Hiller

Nick Dossin

Lacrosse Warrior

Cannon Ridinger

Nick Dossin



guts&glory

Mountain Biking Ranger

Cooper Williamson
Jack Hollingsworth
Richie Jackson
Will Broughman
William Fenstermacher

Mountain Biking Warrior

Cooper Williamson
Winston Smith

Music Ranger

Charlie Earl
Will Skipper

Music Warrior

Charlie Earl
Cooper Bryan

Nature Ranger

Ben Farmer
James Singhal
Will Skipper

Nature Warrior

Harrison Little
Henry Osborn
James Singhal
Wells White

Paddling Ranger

Benjamin Giersch
Bright Crosswell
Charles Brooks
Graham Carroll
John Briggs
Max Feild
Noah Glasgow
Owen Kelly
Spencer Hurst
Walker Lauth
Whit Tiller

Paddling Warrior

John Allen

Pottery Ranger

Bruce Lanier
Hill Jenkins

Pottery Warrior

Rodrigo Esteve

Riflery Ranger

Boss Oberlin
Danny Gletner
Henry Osborne
Jordan Bennett
Mace Hood
Miller Vargas

Rock Climbing Ranger

Luke Atherton
Sam Culp

Rock Climbing Warrior

John Ervin
Luke Atherton
Thomas Hunter

Sailing Ranger

Aidan Murphy
Palmer Lykes
Parker Schneidau
Preece Smith

Sailing Warrior

Ben Harris

Soccer Ranger

Henry Tabb

Soccer Warrior

Jordan Bennett

Swimming Warrior

George Goins

Tennis Ranger

Christopher Williams

Tennis Warrior

RJ Poffenberger

Theater Ranger

Thomas Stamoulis

Ultimate Ranger

Patton Jaynes

Woodworking Ranger

Austin Mermans
Durham Blair
Jake Good
Mac Durham
Mark Van Kirk
Owen Lowery
Owen Weber

Woodworking Warrior

Mark Van Kirk



Staff Honors

Green & Gold Award

Smat Sutton

5th Year Staff

Adrian Barnes
Doug Koziol
Eva Kinnear
Gina Mallay
Jon Cabrera
Mary Lobianco
Sam Lyons
Steven Feingold

10th Year Staff

Brian Dugan
James Hale
Jim Parham

15th Year Staff

Drew Boggan
Dusty Davis

20th Year Staff

Ben Williams

35th Year Staff

Jerry Metcalf
Steve Longenecker

Activity Leaders

ARCHERY: Emerson Prager

ARTS & CRAFTS:

Isabel Newberry

BACKPACKING: Alex Paris,
High Garst

BASKETBALL: Hayden Vick,
Brooks Davis

BLACKSMITHING:
Tommy Carroll, Cooper Flickinger

CLIMBING WALL: Zac Gay

CROSS COUNTRY: Rob Howe,
Worth Gentry

DISC GOLF: Daniel West

F.A.R.M.: Doug Koziol

FISHING & FLY FISHING:
Josh Cooley

FLAG FOOTBALL: Mo Blackwell

HORSEBACK RIDING:
Austin Killebrew, Josie Thompson

INDIAN LORE: Tania Battista

IT: Sam Lyons, Kyle Corbin,
Daniel Han

LACROSSE: Sam Long

MOUNTAIN BIKING:
Len Wallace, James Hendershott,
Drew Milner

MUSIC: Tania Battista

NATURE: Joshua Dilling

PADDLING: Jez, Jacob Montoya

PHOTOGRAPHY: Josh Trammell

POTTERY: Tess Bracher

RIFLERY: Dougie Burns

ROCK CLIMBING: Brayden Ferguson

SAILING: Gresh Ganning

SOCCER: Patrick McGrady

SWIMMING: Jules Jeffries

TENNIS: Breaux Tubbs

THE HEAT: Rob Howe,
Matthew Sebesta

THEATER: Tania Battista

ULTIMATE FRISBEE:
Daniel Han

WOODWORKING: John Bates

WRITER: Hayden Vick

greenandgoldaward



Matthew "Smat" Sutton

In August, Matthew "Smat" Sutton was awarded the camp's prestigious Green & Gold honor. This award is given annually to the staff member who best exemplifies The Falling Creek Code — Positive Attitude, Warrior Spirit, Servant's Heart, Moral Compass — and who is known for carrying the Falling Creek spirit of unselfishness in his heart.

Smat, who hails from Locust Grove, Georgia, is a senior marketing and non-profit management major at the University of West Georgia. 2017 was his third summer on staff and he served as Cherokee Tribal Leader. We at Falling Creek salute Smat as an exceptional role model. 🙌





announcementsforthe**day**

News from the FCC community. Where they are and what they're doing.

Send us your news and follow us here.

Let us know what you've been up to! We'd love to feature you in announcements for the day. Send your updates to Yates@fallingcreek.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/fallingcreek

Instagram: [instagram.com/fallingcreek/](https://www.instagram.com/fallingcreek/)

Pinterest: www.pinterest.com/fallingcreek/

Linkedin: www.linkedin.com/company/falling-creek-camp



W



Above: Wyck Godfrey

Above right: Wyck Godfrey on the FCC roller coaster at Main camp in 1977.



Wyck Godfrey (Camper 1975-81) is an award-winning Hollywood producer who has amassed a long list of impressive work, from the upcoming TV series, *Mr. Mercedes*, to the popular films, *The Fault in Our Stars*, the *Twilight* movies, *I, Robot*, and *The Maze Runner*. Originally from Piney Flats, Tennessee, Wyck is a partner at Temple Hill Entertainment and recently became group president at Paramount Motion Pictures.



Jamie King (Camper 1978-84)

Congratulations are in order for Jamie, whose hot San Francisco ad agency, Camp + King, is setting up a Midwestern outpost in Chicago. Jamie told the *Chicago Business Journal*, "We intend to run a one-office, two-location model that gives clients access to the totality of Camp + King in San Francisco and Chicago. Our intent is to create a long corridor between the Presidio of San Francisco and State Street in Chicago." Co-Founder and CEO Roger Camp, says the agency wants to, "Many West Coast dreaming with Chicago work ethic." Camp + King was Advertising Age's 2017 Gold Small Agency of the Year.

Climb of a Lifetime

Hats off to 35-year veteran **FCC staffer Steve Longenecker** who, along with old climbing friends Robert John Gillespie and Bob Watts, were the first to climb the famous “Nose” route of Looking Glass Rock in Pisgah National Forest 50 years ago. Though they didn’t know it at the time, their landmark ascent in November of 1966, set the stage for western North Carolina’s bold climbing scene and reputation. Last November, the trio met at the base of Looking Glass for the first time in over a decade.

Bob “RAM” Miller, who was a mountaineering counselor at FCC in the 80’s, surprised Steve when he traveled all the way from his home in Vermont for a celebration commemorating the climbing feat, which was hosted by Black Dome Outfitters in Asheville, North Carolina. “It was great to reconnect,” Bob said. “The celebration was quite an event, and I definitely enjoyed surprising Steve and getting to spend some time with him. I will stay in touch and look forward to hearing more about Falling Creek’s 50th Anniversary.”

Previous camper, counselor, and program director Phil Hoffman, and his wife Jessica, and Yates Pharr, also came to congratulate Steve and crew. Several magazines covered the event, and *Blue Ridge Outdoors* Magazine created an outstanding video to celebrate the 50th anniversary, which you can view online at Vimeo by searching “Anniversary of the Nose.”



Bryan Mangum (Camper 1997-2002, Staff 2009, 2011, 2016)

Originally from Raleigh, North Carolina, Bryan is living in New Jersey and working at Access Information Protected, a company that stores medical records, law files, and other data for companies that need external storage space. Bryan manages incoming and outgoing files for the firm and hopes to transition to sales. He is the proud owner of a new Subaru Impreza, is working hard and enjoying life.

Alex Nunner (Camper 2006-10, Staff 2015-16)

Alex is working in the office and retail division with HFF in Houston. Originally from Naples, Florida, he was recently accepted into the masters in commercial real estate program at the University of Florida, and hopes to graduate in the spring of 2018. Alex is grateful for his time at Falling Creek and adds, “I look forward to your camp updates and living out the Falling Creek honor creed in my daily life.”

Sidney Parham (Camper 2006-12, Staff 2014-16)

After spending 10 great years at Falling Creek, Sidney landed a full-time position at Epic Systems, a healthcare software company based in Madison, Wisconsin. As a technical problem solver, Sidney partners with healthcare organizations to work through difficulties and improve the way they use their software. “Along with what I learned through my mathematics and philosophy degree from Bates College, I am using the leadership and people skills I gained at Falling Creek — and so appreciate your support.” Sidney is from Almond, North Carolina.

Gaston Quantz (Camper 2006-2011, Staff 2014)

Originally from Atlanta, Georgia, Gaston began working as a data analyst this past summer for Booz Allen Hamilton, a federal consulting firm in Washington, D.C. He helps clients establish data-driven solutions to problems they face through various software platforms; and he hopes to gain experience in the firm’s emerging sports analytics department.

Above left: Bob Miller and Steve Longenecker at the 50th celebration for the first ascent of the Nose route on Looking Glass Rock.

Above right: Steve Longenecker hand drilling possibly the first bolt on Looking Glass Rock in 1965.



Above: Skeet Keyes congratulates 1987 Ironman Champion Beau Bethea.

Right: Skeet Keyes congratulates 2017 Ironman Champion Cooper Williamson.



Right: Zach Jackson stands between Terry Tyree and Skeet Keyes. Zach is the son of 12-year camper/CIT/counselor Frank Jackson from Charlotte, NC, who was at FCC in the 70's and 80's.



Falling Creek legends **Terry Tyree**, **Skeet Keyes**, and **Garrett Randolph** returned to camp on Ironman Sunday during main camp, 35 years after they helped to create the iconic Ironman tradition at FCC. What an honor it was to have them back at camp to cheer on the many boys who were competing and helping their friends by serving on their transition crews.



A "Good" One Gets Away



Jim "Goody" Goodrum

(Camper 1980-87, CIT 1988-89, Staff 1990-2002, 2008-17)

After being a camper at Falling Creek for eight years, Goody became a CIT, then a cabin counselor and the head of waterfront activity in the early 90s. He served as associate program director for 10 years, and finished out his last 10 years at FCC as the staffing director, in his words: "Recruiting and retaining the best camp staff in the world!" Goody has recently become the Director of After-School Programs and Summer Activity Programs for the middle and upper schools at the Carolina Day School in Asheville, North Carolina. He will oversee all after school activities, and all summer and academic programs for the middle and upper schools, and he is working with the CFO to come up with creative ways to generate non-tuition based revenue for the school. **Be sure to read Goody's farewell column, Call to Quarters, on page 80.**

Meade Whitaker (Camper 1986-1992, Staff 1994-1997)

Meade resides in Charlottesville, Virginia, where he is a captain and paramedic with Albemarle County Fire Rescue. He and his wife Natalie have a 6-year-old daughter, Ellie, and together, the family enjoys hiking, fishing, and occasional camping trips. Meade spends his spare time in the outdoors hunting and fly fishing. He formerly worked in student affairs at Hampden-Sydney College and cherishes his memories at the Falling Creek swim docks and rock climbing. "I smile every time I think about FCC and remember all the great times with my cabin and trip-mates," Meade says.





cabintime

juncamp



Cabin 1: Back: Harry Branch-Shaw, Bobby Welker, Robert Ryan, John Cannon Wessel, Matt Torak. Front: George Thomas, Stephens Rabb, Zac LeBlanc, Davis Minnehan, Bagley Sgro



Cabin 2: Back: Kevin Bonilla, Peyton Puckett, William Swann, Carson Pleiman, Brooks Davis. Front: Patrick Donworth, Miller Rhine, Patton Vargas, Graham Stilwell, Braxton Richardson



Cabin 3: Back: Duncan Jones, Ledger Israel, Wood Watson, Thomas Gosslee, Patrick Wolf. Front: Cristian Duarte, Tripp Schoellkopf, Bobby Briggs, Walker Beatty, William Jones



Cabin 4: Back: Reed Mattison, Colin Caughran, Tommy Sutherland, Robert Proutt, Worth Gentry. Front: Will Haller, Scotty Poole, Noah Orme, Blaize Schuhmacher, Liam Fanning



Cabin 5: Back: Jack Allan, Miles Stilwell, Philip Coleman, Tate Barganier, James Hale. Front: Graeme McNeish, Thomas Fanning, Matthew Spears, Derek Lamar, Hoge Reynolds



Cabin 6: Back: Jake Rhine, Hewes Lance, Jay Holly, Lachlan McFarland, Sam Cole. Front: Mac Mandell, Wyatt Davis, Henry Knox, Rusty Kelley, Maxwell Liles



Cabin 7: Back: High Garst, Charles Lichty, Coleson Quesinberry, William McCollum, Ryland Wheliss. Front: Aiken Bond, Wills Hutchinson, Noah Joiner, Watts Humphrey IV, Henry Jones



Cabin 8: Back: Matt Ambrose, Bellamy Falatko, Benton Welker, Eli Morse, Jackson Negus. Front: Vincent Gory, JJ Hawley, Luke Sedgwick, Thompson Haddock III, Anson Jorgensen



Cabin 9: Back: Rocs Spafford, Harrison Finney, Luke Meinhardt, Ocean Gorecki, Joe Walters. Front: Camden Nalley, Quinn Carroll, Patrick Dunn, Sawyer Sketch, Johnny Chamoun



Comanche: Back: Daniel West, Patrick Minnehan, Lars Thomas, Luke Baugher, Hayden Futch. Front: Aiden Mithwani, Carson Streaker, Hudson Tinch, Harrison Keys, Hudson Thomas



Blackfoot: Back: Erik Sorenson, Steele Darnall, Stewart Favero, Javi Lopez, Alex Paris. Front: Hartt Daniel, Charlie Guy, Lukas Marmorek, Brandon Favrot, Douglas Johnson



Crazy Horse: Back: Eli Heard, Henry Gatto, Julian Balestri, Collier Lilly, Gresh Ganninger. Front: Gray Hendricks, Bobby Suggs, Charles Moser, Charlie Puckett, Wiley Kessler



Geronimo: Back: Cooper Flickinger, Daniel Fanning, Thompson White, Kemp Woodard, Wilson Booth. Front: Cooper Burke, Logan Hope, Dane Thomas, Sebastian Guaqueta, William Harrison Jr.



Satank: Back: Brayden Ferguson, Andy Pleiman, Will Axon, Durham Blair, Patrick McGrady. Front: Graham Webb, Charlie Durham, Carter Fridge, Worth Denison, Aidan Stinson



Ishi: Back: Charles Miller, Daviss Coble, Campbell Gosslee, Galen Kilburn, Johnny Moremen. Front: Davis Brown, Yates Bass, Jonah Disch, Parks Kilburn, Patrick Gosslee



Keokuk: Back: Josh Cooley, William MacLeod, Jack Valentino, Charlie Briggs, Brooks Mischel. Front: Nathaniel Rubin, Garrett Spears, Adrian Gonzalez, Max Manna, Patrick Sullivan



Honeymoon: Back: Kevin Tipton, Walker Smith, Aidan Stefanides, Cole Pennington, Brian Dugan. Front: Will McKinzie, Cole Jackson, Colin Carroll, Cannon Ridinger, William Zelnak



Gall: Back: Will Ehrhardt, Richard Nichols, Spicer Edmonds, John William Puckett, Dougie Burns. Front: Gus Faris, Jordan Gonzalez, Michael Sullivan, Logan Schwartz, Jack Stamoulis



Sequoyah: Back: David Gillespie, Mason Quigley, Russell Beard, Raines Knight, Matthew Sebesta. Front: Ford Rachels Jr., Beckett Holmes, Hayden Breal, Miller Vargas, Erik Soelberg



Little Raven: Back: Kyle Corbin, Henry Bryan, Jack Halverson, Jonathan Dunham, Breau Tubbs. Front: Henry Smith, Sam Neff, Diego Gianni, Zack Steenbergh, Mason Barfield



Sitting Bull: Back: Lew Wylie, Ryland Marley, Charlie Brumback, Miller King, Zac Gay. Front: MacLean Delehanty, RJ Poffenberger, Walker Lauth, Park Steinhour, Wylly Molten



Watauga: Back: Colin Bryan, Jack McKinnie, Henry Boehme, William Darragh, Caleb Griffith. Front: Christian Fridge, Nick Klein, Watson Adams, Henry Tabb, Jack Laurent



Junaluska: Back: Cricket Davis, Jack Stivers, Andrew Horvick, Noah Prior, Blake Wilkinson. Front: Ham Mandell, Anders Holly, Will DeLoach, JP Lowe, Gabe Cullens



Tsali: Back: Jacob Montoya, Michael Mullen, Riley Standish, Quentin Balestri, Rob Howe. Front: Grant McKinney, Gabe Vila, Lewis Rand, Jack Morrow, Russell Wyatt



Standing Bear: Back: Lewis Kirwan, David Axon, Jay Bland III, Gavin Byrd. Front: Bennett Egge, Richie Jackson, Lawton Jordan, Rodrigo Amare, Jack Hollingsworth



Black Elk: Back: Garrett McKee, Cole Thomas, Everett Norton, Max Wolfe, Jed Henrichsen. Front: Jim Kay V, Sam Drody, Jacob Musselman, Will Boys, Mac Durham



Washakie: Back: William Walters, Spencer Ritchie, Jack Sullivan, Gavin Banks, Gage Anderson. Front: Edwin Ossont, Gabe Herrera, Parker McCollum, Landon Kalish, David Jones



Rising Warrior: Back: Daniel Han, Turner Brooks, Parker Schneidau, Ward Peterson, James Crockett. Front: Jackson Behmer, Jack Hiller, Avery Kessler Jr., Bud Gidiere Jr., Zane Israel



Canoni: Back: Patrick Maher, Charlie Gory, Steven Lilly, Reid Perkins. Front: Scott Busey, G Simmons, Maddox Israel, Griffin Eubanks, Sam Culp



Tecumseh: Back: Joshua Dilling, Harrison Wallace, Henk Warrick IV, Will Doster, Glen Frank. Front: Wesley Forster, Gunner Davidson, Thomas Bond, Bennett Coker, George Smith



Deganawidah: Back: Rob Yardley, James Nieset, Tyler Hendley, Randolph Smith. Front: Ben Thomas, Charlie Gatto, Bryce Howard, Kearney Nieset, Jackson Adams



Red Cloud: Back: Drew Milner, Philip Billings, Ramsay Good, Thomas Stamoulis, Emerson Prager. Front: Mark Tabet, Mateo Massoni, Jimmy Dugan, Miller Kunz, Jack Shelton



Osceola: Back: Ian Cormack, Alfredo Lelo De Larrea, Ben Kirbo.
Front: North Goodwin, Wilder Breckenridge, August Brown,
Austin Brotemarkle, Patrick Nagy



Mohawk: Back: James Hendershott, Grant Johnson, William
Fenstermacher, Patrick Fanning, Matty McHugh. Front: Charles
Knox, Patton Jaynes, Thomas Killeen, Anthony Pires, Finn Young



Anasazi: Back: Wells White, Harper Kissell, Reece Rudd,
Anthony McLeod. Front: Isaac Lawn, Ben King, Ramsay Brewer,
Michael Drendel, Cal Gosslee



Black Hawk: Back: Liam Cunningham, Bo Crutcher, Matt
Chaffin, Gordy Watt. Front: Joseph Smith, Ned Hull, Caleb
McDonough, Will Broughman, John Penry



Hiawatha: Back: Chase Adams, Jack Valentine, Andrew Gardner,
Abbott Wright. Front: Jon Coleman, Brian Jarosz, Ian Meredith,
Henderson Reynolds, Afton Putney



Abiding Rock: Back: Hayden Vick, Nicholas Johns, Tyler Park,
Christopher Williams, Adrian Barnes. Front: Ben Simmons, Taylor
Dawson, John Briggs, Sam Coleman, George McDonald



Rolling Thunder: Back: Mo Blackwell, Will McKinnie V, Thomas
Brumback, Wells Kammerschen, Len Wallace. Front: Charlie Fridge,
Evan Mansur, Meade Seay, CD St.Hilaire, Edward Desloge



Cabin 1: Back: Harry Branch-Shaw, Lance Weimer, Ransom
Albertson, Gideon Koehring, Matt Torak. Front: Duncan Wallace,
Grayson Andrews, Beau Hurst, Jim Lanier, Carleton Riser



Cabin 2: Back: Kevin Bonilla, Boone Phelps, Heuer Erdle, Zach
Plyler, Brooks Davis. Front: Manuel Junco Madrazo, Tal Turner,
Walker Moore, William Marsh, Van Turner



Cabin 3: Back: Patrick Wolf, Bobby Jackson, Ian Smith, Holland
Deane, Duncan Jones. Front: George Pipes, Sloan Dossin, Mac
Riser, Harrison Fuller, Chris Watters



Cabin 4: Back: Reed Mattison, Bobby Barrett, Graeme Kirkpatrick,
Jack Preston, Worth Gentry. Front: Ryder Bond, Teal Collins, Henry
Donohue, Walker Edens, Charlie Hurst



Cabin 5: Back: Cricket Davis, Miles Jernigan, John H. McCoy, Jack Langston, James Hale. Front: Ryan Murray, Kaito Kanazawa, Booker Melton, Taishi Liu, William Hasley



Cabin 6: Back: Sam Cole, Henry O'Hagan, Colin Moffett, Jack Clinton, Rocs Spafford. Front: Griff Cooper, Grey Edens, Blake Rowland, Austin Miller, Ford Berry



Cabin 7: Back: High Garst, Eshaan Kothari, Soham Bafana, Charlie Friedrich, Ryland Wheliss. Front: Ford Musselman, Samay Bafana, Campbell Miller, McGuire Boyd III, Mason Harrell



Cabin 8: Back: Sam Phillis, Hyatt Hicks, Jack Hamel, Benjamin Kampine, Matt Ambrose. Front: Ford Anderson Jr., Quinn Kelliher, Ryan McNamara, Eduardo Altamirano, JP Hasley



Cabin 9: Back: Brian Dugan, Darby McMillan, Owen Weber, Harry Spring IV, Joe Walters. Front: Julian Madrazo, Trip Hurley, James Frushone, Laith Weimer, Rodgers McCullough



Comanche: Back: Hayden Futch, William Burton, Wyatt Sandberg, Will Young, Wilson Booth. Front: Luke Burkitt, Jack Anders, Walker Mullins, Riley Geer, Gray Smith



Blackfoot: Back: Erik Sorensen, George Hughes, Preece Smith, Benjamin Jones, Daniel West. Front: Joseph Jardina, Sam Hurst, Zell Godbold, Nico Dowdall, Jake Good



Crazy Horse: Back: Gresh Ganning, Jackson Skelly, Henry Peacock, Charlie May III, Johnny Moremen. Front: Hampton Templeton, Carter Siegel, Thomas Earl, West Burge, Powell Cummings



Geronimo: Back: Alex Paris, Claude Cobbs, William Tomlin, Will Woodruff, Cooper Flickinger. Front: Jack Morton, Campbell Killian, Avery Cameron, Evan Wray, Connor Robertson



Satank: Back: Jack Allan, Boss Oberlin IV, Kelly Horn, Will Cameron, Patrick McGrady. Front: Carter Adams, Gabriel Meyers, Hideki Liu, Rhodes Feild, Jackson Garlick



Ishi: Back: Ian Cormack, Ben Farmer, Logan Jones, Frank Reuther, Garrett McKee. Front: Rodrigo Esteve, Zach Sunderland, Owen Lewis, John Greeley, Thomas Anders



Keokuk: Back: Kevin Tipton, James Lilly, Heath Seawright, Harry Deane, Josh Cooley. Front: Sam Oberlin, Tucker Winham, Roscoe Heuer, Will Brittan, Tyler Phillips



Yonaguska: Back: Colin Bryan, Spencer Greeley, Charlie Hanson, Luke Dodson, Harry Marvin, Rob Yardley. Front: Will Riggs, Thomas Preston Jr., Thomas Hunter, Davis Ottinger



Honeymoon: Back: Charles Miller, Robert Sproule, Reid Pemberton, Charlie Earl, Will Young. Front: Sam Stevens, Grant Greeley, Connor Sandoval, Berkley Woodard, Will Skipper



Gall: Back: Dougie Burns, Conor Clinton, Lance Broad, Cameron Degen, Will Ehrhardt. Front: Robert Riser, Winston Smith, Garrison Rabalais, JD Long, Graham Naddell



Sequoyah: Back: David Gillespie, Aidan Fischer, Spencer Mermans, Hill Jenkins, Matthew Sebesta. Front: Miles Phillips, Ryan Fisackerly, Jeremy Rosenbluth, William Walker, Will Thomas



Little Raven: Back: Jackson Negus, Henry McMillan, Walker Borgmann, Cameron Summers, Breau Tubbs. Front: Ari Chen, Carter Burds, Sam Frushone, Will Burke, Wesley Bruner



Sitting Bull: Back: Zac Gay, Walter Miller, Will Crimmins, Pierce Adams, Erickson Livingston. Front: Michael Doucet, Eduardo Otero, Max Gluck, Mace Hood, Sebastian Tate



Watauga: Back: John-Luke Giroux, Graden High, Donald Buckley, Jack Fry, Gage Anderson. Front: Benito Jose Jaramillo, Jack Cutler, James Singhal, Julian Dufour, Baker Wilkins



Junaluska: Back: Blake Wilkinson, JP Madrazo, Whit Tiller, Ward Lilly, Eli Heard. Front: Pete Curtis, Harrison Cutler, Brennan Lummus, Jack Thomas, Bright Crosswell



Tsali: Back: Kyle Corbin, John Stanfill, John Ervin, Declan Doyle, Rob Howe. Front: Davis Mosby, Jack Roussel, Spivey Woodward, Hampden Geer, Tut Linen



Standing Bear: Back: Lewis Kirwan, Sam Evins, Edward Grinder, Sam Alexander, Brayden Ferguson. Front: Harry Powers, William Ashcroft, Mateo Davalos, Owen Lowery



Black Elk: Back: Jacob Montoya, Zach Jackson, Brooks Croone, Jack Lipscomb, Jed Henriksen. Front: Sam Tepper, Bruce Lanier, Christopher Talley, Paul Smith, Johnny Russell



Washakie: Back: William Walters, Bradley Tarbutton, Luca Dowdall, Noah Glasgow. Front: Charlie Oliver, Jacob Spafford, Owen Kelly, Jack Currence, William Pearce



Rising Warrior: Back: Daniel Han, Seaton Hamby, John Nowicki, James Crockett. Front: Mateo Del Valle, Jack Gowen, Whitman Flickinger, Matthew Leonard, Bo Phillips



Canoni: Back: Reid Perkins, Palmer Lykes, Charlie Dalton. Front: Felipe Esteve, Brown Turner, Bennett Brosnan, Cole Atherton, Aidan Murphy



Tecumseh: Back: Glen Frank, Thomas Kallen, Henry Langston, Joshua Dilling. Front: James McIntyre, Jack Adams, Miguel Esteve, Mark Van Kirk, George Voelker



Deganawidah: Back: Austin Mermans, Hayden Vick, Eli Kampine. Front: Liam Stephens, Quinn Novick, William Newton, Charles Brooks, Graham Carroll



Osceola: Back: Caleb Griffith, Spencer Hurst, AJ Gathright, Lew Wylie. Front: Nick Dossin, Carsten Dowdy, Benjamin Giersch, Jackson Singhal, Liam Horn



Red Cloud: Back: Drew Milner, Jasper Gazzo, Jackson Davis, John Robert Wallace, Emerson Prager. Front: Will Pappas, Gabriel Jones, Tommy Murray, Jim Sorensen



Mohawk: Back: Coley Brown, Chase Adams, Jordan Bennett. Front: Gaetan Rouaix, Bradford Owen, David Eford, Park Bruner



Anasazi: Back: Anthony McLeod, Thomas Buckley, Peter Kurschner, Cooper Williamson, Brooks Mischel. Front: Harrison Oswald, William Morton, Max Feild, Greg Cherry, Carson Oswald



Hiawatha "FLINT" Back: Liam Cunningham, John Allen, Harrison Little, Grant Pinkston, TJ Killian, Mo Blackwell. Front: Jack Gallivan, Rex Bowen, Evan Fuentes, Connor Talley, Ben Harris, Henry Osborne, James McGregor



Rolling Thunder "Men of STEEL": Back: Danny Gletner, Evans Collier, Jack Sprinkle, Adrian Barnes. Front: Julian Leidy, Chip Ratcliff, Cres Mapes, Luke Atherton, Ward Bissell



Cabin 1: Back: Rocs Spafford, Marshall Liggitt, Jack Smith, Hamilton Norman, Matt Torak. Front: William Flournoy, Cooper Gooch, Aidan Hande, Gates Dixon, Nicholas Ashcroft



Cabin 2: Back: Patrick Wolf, Tripp Biosca, Davis Rue, Parker Spence, Brooks Davis. Front: Charles Morris, Rand Jones IV, Will Versaggi, Jack Crowell, Drew Doster



Cabin 3: Back: Kevin Bonilla, William Miller, Quinn Davenport, Watkins McCullough, Duncan Jones. Front: Wells Dixon, Charlie Powell, Zack Muench, Fitz Knight, Elijah Hochstrasser



Cabin 4: Back: Reed Mattison, Edward Bates, Benjamin Finney, Paul McSwain, Worth Gentry. Front: Ford Pruellage, John Harris IV, Broughton Weekes, Benton Dowhower, Connor Brown



Cabin 5: Back: Cricket Davis, Julian McCoy, Bates McCluer, Ben Lefkovits, James Hale. Front: Mason Porter, Towles Melton, Cole Landers, Sam McKay, Bates Castellaw



Cabin 6: Back: Smat Sutton, William Weidner, Hale Borden, Nash Ausband, Sam Cole. Front: Alex Levine, Miles Fuller, Grant Lemke, Wilson Hayes, Wyatt Kaylor



Cabin 7: Back: High Garst, Ward Welden, Charlie Stauffer, Parker Bowers, Ryland Wheeliss. Front: Spencer South, Henry Neff, Jack Rollins, Harris Hatcher, Bo Vaughan Jr.



Cabin 8: Back: Matt Ambrose, George Smith, Griffin Allen, Spence Perry, Sam Phillis. Front: Park Holley, Robert Smith, Wilson Rutherford V, Henry Whited, T.J. Alfonso



Cabin 9: Back: Brian Dugan, Parker Tumelty, Lars Bergstrom, Baxter Parker, Joe Walters. Front: Coley Hucks, Wells Mileham, Peter Richardson, Ray Ross, David Lawton Barnes



Comanche: Back: Hayden Futch, Wil Mayer, Alex Diffley, Henry McGahey, Wilson Booth. Front: Nolte Dukes, Woods Gamble, Brett Goldsmith, William Tabb, Liam Wood III



Blackfoot: Back: Gresh Ganninger, Ford Diffley, Max Albright, Tucker Piper, Daniel West. Front: Judd Collins, Nick Pritchard, Reed Orben, Sellers Lynn, Jack Adams



Crazy Horse: Back: Austin Birch, Archer Huie, Huck Trottmann, Malcolm Thompson, Johnny Moremen. Front: Wade Polk, James Wakefield, George Stowe, Lawton Broughman, Lawrence Dempsey



Geronimo: Back: Charles Miller, Granger Osborne, Wells Gamble, Graham Dickerson, Erik Sorensen. Front: Bryce Ward, Finn Farrell, Teddy Niedringhaus, Silas Berry, Sam Evans



Satank: Back: Patrick McGrady, Hosford Roberts, Banks Cutter, Will Wagner, Colin Bryan. Front: Henry Jackson, Gunner Jones, Jackson Fitzpatrick, Pierce Hutchinson, Henry Morris



Ishi: Back: Josh Cooley, Benjamin Bradford, Robert Douglass, Thomas Vickery, Lewis Kirwan. Front: Bowman Yanicelli, Sam Abney, Dan Batten, Jason Wildey, James Doyle V



Keokuk: Back: Kevin Tipton, Tyler Leidy, Carter Savage, Edward Holder IV, Cooper Flickinger. Front: Duncan Jones, Jackson Shealy, Jack Rivera, Bryan Knox, Brooks Arnold



Honeymoon: Back: Ian Cornack, Albert Monk, Oliver Gooch, Bowen Body, Will Young. Front: Gavin Weintritt, Charlie Edmonds, Thomas Hunter V, Kearney Sword, Jake Hunter



Gall: Back: Will Ehrhardt, Tucker Brock, Charlie Edgeworth, Martin Zachry, Dougie Burns. Front: Corbett Parrino, Price DeMeyers, Hill Porter, Beecher Aldredge, Henry Echols



Sequoyah: Back: Kyle Corbin, William Lundstrom, John Houston Gettys, Walker Edwards, Matthew Sebesta. Front: Banks Heinrich, William McDowell, John-Dixon Fenwick, Wright Goldsmith Jr., Wells Rose



Little Raven: Back: Breaux Tubbs, Hunter Sabo, Burnam DuBose, Mac Copenhaver, Garrett McKee. Front: Grey Chamberlain, Rushton Doster, Jack Blanks, Jim Rubin, Cabell Townsend



Sitting Bull: Back: Zac Gay, Henri Snoots, Harrison Short, Hudson Copenhaver, Eli Heard. Front: Ridge Jenkins V, Ben Brittan, Davis Cargill, Drew Chalothorn, Charlie Woodruff



Watauga: Back: John-Luke Giroux, Owen Landers, Walker Dean, Jack McCoy, Zach Rivera. Front: Lance Reid, Ben Harker, Prescott Miller, Teddy Chong, Everett Hair



Junaluska: Back: Blake Wilkinson, Owen Timperman, Anc Clarkson, Boyd Faison, Brooks Mischel. Front: Wesley Hair, Robertson Allen, Chase Bazant, Jack Ferguson, Jake Turner



Tsali: Back: Will Wright, David Gillespie, Cole Cannon, Josh Wright. Front: Haywood Wall, Max Carson, Leo Drendel, Foster Stribling, London Moshiri



Standing Bear: Back: Jacob Montoya, Palmer Routh, Lander Smith, Henry Chiao, Jackson Negus. Front: Nate Woolwine, Graham Spears, Wyatt Cohen, Miller Peterson, Hunter Eckman



Black Elk: Back: Brayden Ferguson, Lee Balkcom, Colin Hande, Charles Hickok, Jed Henriksen. Front: Yancey Stribling, Noah Rollins, Wade Singleton, Eric Whited, Campbell Spence



Washakie: Back: Erickson Livingston, Wells Jackson, Slater Nalley, Andy Madden, Josh Trammell. Front: Jack West, Austin Porubsky, Edward Grimsley, Baker Wyche V, Will Bennett



Rising Warrior: Back: Daniel Han, Tucker Davis III, Joe McGirt, Connor Evans, James Crockett. Front: Teddy Hanson, Will Putman, Collins Lee, Mac Holley, Jacob Kaylor



Canoni: Back: Winston Bates, Reid Perkins, Sam Teich, Jack Warrington. Front: Harrison Smith, Sam Applegate, Charlie Williams, Henry Williamson, Nicholas Harper



Tecumseh: Back: Glen Frank, Nathan Hohnbaum, James Herbert, Charlie McKay, Joshua Dilling. Front: Nils Bergstrom, Charlie Hardwick, Charlie Nelson, Kevin Bronzert, Brigden Hayes



Deganawidah: Back: Drew Milner, Walker Ritchey, Carter Leidy, Quinn Knight, Hayden Vick. Front: Walker Liggitt, Gray Webber, Holden Pharr, Charlie Greiner, Powell Brickman



Red Cloud: Back: Hudson Weintritt, Burke Cameron, Emerson Prager, Jack Norman, Ryan Keyes. Front: Nolan Bishop, Ben Williamson, Alex Greene, Joe Maybank



Osceola: Back: Caleb Griffith, Jack Miller, Charlie Slabaugh, Kenton Gupton, Lew Wylie. Front: Thomas Lawn, Freddy Klein, John Circeo, Colin Breiter, Davies Roberts



Mohawk: Back: Billy Piper, Nathan Raney, Chase Adams, Jackson Allegra, Owen Gibson. Front: Devin Muench, Beau Brown, Stephen Fox, Harper Reed



Anasazi: Back: Gage Anderson, Jake Bell, Robert Malanuk, Mac McLean, Anthony McLeod. Front: Hudson Clark, George Goins, Hammond Fayssoux, James-Owen Fenwick, Gist Heinrich



Black Hawk: Back: Carter Hopper, Liam Cunningham, Will Howell, Henry Ervin. Front: Landon Lashley, Thomas Hines, Oliver Poole, Cole Rychak, Thomas Bell



Hiawatha: Back: Elijah Butcher, Tyler Beam, Mo Blackwell, Mac Barnette, Mason Stanley. Front: Doster Crowell, Roy Richards, Bowen Bishop V, Gray Hackney



Abiding Rock: Back: Rob Yardley, Major Phillips, Henry Evans, Cooper Bryan, Eric Smith. Front: Howell Wright, Mac Spear, George Glassner, Max Zachry, Hunter Plaster



Rolling Thunder: Back: Adrian Barnes, Stevens Moore, Thompson May, Thomas Johnson, Sam Long. Front: Dennis Farrell, Tucker Ausband, Matthew Spengler, Will Dodd, Lex McDonald



Cabin 1: Back: Rocs Spafford, Ren Albergotti, Miles Stengle, Cole Pritchett, Matt Torak. Front: Duncan Rutherford, Tradd Fain, Nolan Caughran, Grady Gross, Robert Cornelius III



Cabin 2: Back: Patrick Wolf, James Axon, Bennett Borders, Cooper Knowles, Erickson Livingston. Front: Charlie Good, Lee Wetzler, Jack Peak, Ridgeway Britt, Bryce Walger



Cabin 3: Back: High Garst, Benjamin Podurgiel, Whaley Nichols, Connor McElroy, Duncan Jones. Front: James Albright, Guy Tate, James Crawford, Carter Freno, Bo O'Connor



Cabin 4: Back: Reed Mattison, Jack Dunn, Jackson Weber, Bear Flack, Worth Gentry. Front: Cook Ferguson, Christian Sayer, Cameron Noah, Wills Yelverton, Smith Ragsdale



Cabin 5: Back: Jacob Montoya, Candler Dunlap, Walker Graham, Walker Aiken, James Hale. Front: Mercer Amling, Benton Alexander III, Jack Nesmith, William Hood, Smith Heilman



Cabin 6: Back: Smat Sutton, Whit Echols, Elliott Thompson, Bowman Ritchey, Sam Cole. Front: Dino Woodard, Stephen Parrott, Jay Weaver, James Edge, Crawford Screws



Cabin 7: Back: Kevin Bonilla, Dyer Fields, Joe Kennett, William Morrell, Ryland Wheliss. Front: Wyatt Fields, Hopkins Rembert, Quinn Wooster, Sam Rowe, Baker Humphrey



Cabin 8: Back: Matt Ambrose, Gus Fochtman, Penn Siegel, Jimmy Hunt, Andrew Josupait. Front: MacEwen Morrison, Cameron Morrison, Clay Farrell, Reid Davis, Austin Davis



Cochise: Back: Brian Dugan, Trey Davis, Tate Parrish, Boden Ostrom, Joe Walters. Front: Henry Adams, Luke Kirk, Ladd Bailey, Andrew Barquin, Ben Bronzert



Comanche: Back: Hayden Futch, Ian Meacham, Thomas Cook, Xander MacPhail, Wilson Booth. Front: Wip Mulloy, Jack Raney, Urijah Miller, Win Greer, Ames Dabrowiak



Blackfoot: Back: Matthew Kornegay, Jack Busby, Stuart Coleman, Houston Hewett, Gresh Ganninger. Front: Richard Brekka, Walt Wilkins, Garland Lynn, Welton McNorrill, Ben Morrow



Crazy Horse: Back: Johnny Moremen, Adrien Domart, Lincoln Davis, Jack Macfie, Austin Birch. Front: Bain Thorstad, Thomas Sproul, Tate Foster, Coleman Hooper, Telfair Parker



Geronimo: Back: Erik Sorensen, Henderson Rentz, Sam Shaw, Caleb Crowder, Charles Miller. Front: Rex Fern, Coleman Highsmith, McLean Robinson, Baylis Wang, James Langdon



Satank: Back: Alex Paris, Taj Majors, Nico Hellinger, Jack Anderton, Colin Bryan. Front: Henry Sumner, Hudson Pratt, West Cejudo, James Brown, Ryan Von Wyl



Ishi: Back: Lewis Kirwan, Beau Beam IV, Phillips Blair, Henry Groves, Josh Cooley. Front: Stratton Werner, Mac Lasiter, Fenley Flack, Grant Loeffler, Ned Warren V



Keokuk: Back: Kevin Tipton, Chapman Hughes, Lewis Brazzelton, Eli Hudzik, Cooper Flickinger. Front: Drew Wetenhall, Edward Scurry, Rhett Whitworth, Thomas Simmons IV, Jack Lawton



Yonaguska: Back: Blake Wilkinson, Chap Montgomery, Patrick Funderburk, Harrison Phillips, Brooks Mischel. Front: Hamilton Waters, Finn Henderson, Beckham Botic, Teagan O'Leary, Davis Eliasek



Honeymoon: Back: Will Young, Ford Daniels, Oliver Clary, Sam Dewey, Ian Cormack. Front: Kristian Baum, Jon Luca Brady, Kimble Pender, Gregory Hefner, Grayson Giovanoli



Gall: Back: Will Ehrhardt, Thomas Hansen, Chapman Johnson, Hudson Temple, David Gillespie. Front: Ford Crawford, Davis Jones, Parker Phipps, Heyward Hanna, Wade Monroe



Sequoyah: Back: Kyle Corbin, Brodie Wordell, Wham Walker, Kane Pritchett, Matthew Sebesta. Front: Rylan Chaput, Hopkins David, Dalton Stursberg, Smith Ferguson, Copeland Stukes



Little Raven: Back: Breaux Tubbs, Henry Hurley, Will Gallagher, Conrad Hull, Garrett McKee. Front: Palmer Proctor, Tucker Shumack, Rucker Smith, Henry Giesber, Rutledge Smith



Sitting Bull: Back: Zach Rivera, Robert Hunter, Tyler Smilack, Julian Pollard, Eli Heard. Front: Thomas Fuller, Alex Dauska, Griffin Latta, Colin Morrell, Nate Aaron



Rising Warrior: Back: Daniel Han, Cooper Davis, Mac Burch, Judson Collie, James Crockett. Front: Rush Kirk, Ellis Norwood, Zack MacFall, William Helmly, Boyd Farrell



Canoni: Back: Reid Perkins, Alex Faires, James Travers, Jack Lambertson, Brayden Ferguson. Front: James Borden, Riles Hucks, Aiden Nowak, Chappy Klick, Liam Kuntz



Tecumseh: Back: Jed Henriksen, Jack Foster, Thomas Scurry, Finn Graber, Glen Frank. Front: Will Henry, McDonagh Kuntz, Will Voellinger, James Murray, Edward Stinehour III



Deganawidah: Back: Drew Milner, Christopher Lemons, Banks Bartelt, James Foster, Hayden Vick. Front: Charlie Suddath, Charlie Martin, John-Cager Jones, William Gillespie, Bruce Harper



Red Cloud: Back: Jackson Negus, Locke Schoettelkotte, Stockton Leffel, Bennett Grau, John-Luke Giroux. Front: Graham Lewis, Stewart Upson, John Hardesty, Samuel Wyland, Cole Cook



Osceola: Back: Caleb Griffith, Augustus de Brux, Bates Mann, Lake Slacum, Lew Wylie. Front: Wyatt Botha, Tison Shippey, Beau Walton, Deacon Meier, Bennett Ward

Honor Council: Back: Sam Long, Harrison Little, Rex Bowen, John Allen, Grant Pinkston, Cole Atherton, Rocs Spafford, Will Ehrhardt, Patrick McGrady, Ward Bissell, Gresh Ganninger. Center: Jim Sorensen, Cooper Williamson, Harrison Oswald, Carson Oswald, Whit Flickinger, Bo Phillips, Sam Evins, Jacob Spafford. Front: Kaito Kanazawa, Ari Chen, Robert Riser, Spencer Greeley, John Greeley, Grant Greeley, Bruce Lanier, Zach Jackson, Julian Dufour.





Mohawk: Back: James Hendershott, Fin Brackett, Owen Holbrook, Michael Ryan Bourne, Len Wallace. Front: Oliver Losinski, Davis Dominik, Henry Gardner, Noah Snyder, Simon Ikenberg



Anasazi: Back: Anthony McLeod, McLean Woodydy, Carter Highsmith, Jackson Schmidt, Gage Anderson. Front: Harry Tanger, Charlie Lundberg, Rodes Cole, Will King, Maddux Doll



Black Hawk: Back: Sam Lyons, Mac Cobb, Connor Cloud, Grant Utsey, Liam Cunningham. Front: Jman Watson, Jackson Naylor, Jack Borden, Freddy Somers, Morrison Burroughs



Hiawatha: Back: Joshua Dilling, Lane Gallagher, Johnny Barquin, Ridge Tholen, Mo Blackwell. Front: Sam Thompson, Phillip McClary, Edison Pellumbi, Dylan Ashrafi, Riley Sampson



Abiding Rock: Back: Rob Yardley, Forrest Phipps, Paxton Coulbourn, Isaac Kirby, Jon Cabrera. Front: JB Clark, Zane Johnson, Bryce Bell, Max Gross, Beauford Mathews



Rolling Thunder: Back: Sam Long, Andrew Hart, Walker Meacham, Henry Martin. Front: Lee Adamson, Cole Landers, Christopher Landers, Robert Kendrick, Patteson Branch



Iron Man Competitors: Back: Breaux Tubbs, Dusty Davis, Walter Miller, Zac Gay, Cameron Degen, Mike Nuckles, Harrison Oswald, John Allen, James McIntyre, Mark Van Kirk, David Efird, James McGregor, Cooper Williamson, Thomas Kallen, Park Bruner, Max Feild, Jordan Bennett, Davis Mosby, Jack Adams, Will Thomas, Ward Lilly, Jacob Spafford, Eli Kampine, Sam Alexander, JR Wallace. Front: Gray Smith, Walker Mullins, Garrison Rabalais, Tucker Winham, Johnny Russell, Charlie Oliver, JD Long, Graden High, Pete Curtis, Grey Edens, Lance Broad, Robert Riser, Colin Moffett, Griff Cooper, Winston Smith.

expeditiongroups



BLAZE CO - Colorado Trail: Matthew Kornegay, Alex Paris, John Czabala, Waters Jordan, Jack Sprinkle, Alexander Grande, Thomas Walsh, Matthew Lorenz, Carson Oswald, Jim Parham.



SUMMIT NY - The Gunks: Aidan Murphy, Baker Dill, Harrison Oswald, Jack Gowen, John Westmoreland, Jon Cabrera, Jon Kannapell, Killian Vetter, Liam Horn, Peter Kurschner, Stephen Sweeney, Tanya Devereaux, Thomas Murphy, Will McLoughlin.



CRANK CO - Crested Butte: Left to Right: Cooper Williamson, Len Wallace, James Hendershott, Ford Cobbs, Sam Bowers, McMillan Davis, Jack Gallivan.



HUCK ID - Salmon River: Claire O'Hara, Ben Burgess, Billy Benson, Holden Dewey, Austin de la Torre, Barrett Taylor, Bryce Black, Chip Ratcliff, John Briggs, Burns Bissell, Bright Crosswell, Evan Dyer, Charles Brooks, Spencer Hurst, Graham Carroll, Rex Hallow, Max Feild, Thomas Buckley, Henry Langston, Carsten Dowdy, Max Redic, Brad Hull, Ben Giersch, Jez.



Tribal and Assistant Tribal Leaders:

JUNE & MAIN: Smat Sutton, Ryland Wheliss, KD Lemons, Josh Cooley, Zach Rivera, Rob Howe, Ashlea Rodman, Sam Lyons.

2-WEEK: Smat Sutton, Ryland Wheliss, Josh Cooley, Will Young, Zach Rivera, Zac Gay, Sam Long, Hayden Vick. Ashlea Rodman, Sam Lyons.

JUNIOR: Smat Sutton, Ryland Wheliss, Josh Cooley, Gresh Ganninger, Zach Rivera, Will Young, Sam Long, Hayden Vick, Ashlea Rodman, Sam Lyons.



Tribal Leaders:

L to R: Sam Long - Iroquois, Zach Rivera - Tuscarora, Ashlea Rodman - Creek, KD Lemons - Catawba, Smat Sutton - Cherokee.



Creek Tribe:

Back Row: James Hendershott, Tommy Carroll, Len Wallace, Claire O'Hara, Jez, Jules Jeffries, Ashlea Rodman, John Bates.

Middle Row: Paley Smith, Eric Smith, Samantha Hill, Abby McCarthy, Georgia Spicer, Josh Trammell, Carol Walsh, Martina Ramirez, Tess Bracher, Sam Lyons.

Front Row: Isabel Newberry, Ally Croll, Austin Killebrew, Savannah Paterson, Molly Price, Tanya Devereaux, Ally Hibbitts.

directorsandstaff



Facility Managers: Drew Boggan, Simon Wilson, Jerry Metcalf, Rocs Spafford, Doug Koziol, Scott Hilderbran.



Directors: Back: Jim Goodrum, Sam Clayton, Peter Bishop, Ben Williams Middle: Paige Hafner, Frank Tindall, Kyle Jeffries. Front: Nathan Newquist, Shelley Groh, Marisa Pharr, Yates Pharr



Kitchen Staff: Back: Sayuri Alderete, Nora Molinaro, Ellen Molinaro, Francheska Pujols. Center: Lina Torres, Angie Gutierrez, Nicole Vasquez, Isabel Lopez, Miryan Mantilla. Front: Jose Brazoban, Dani Picazo, Annie Ruiz.



Bird, Snake, WEMA & "Lumps" Guy: Steve "SFL" Longenecker.

**“IRON SHARPENS
IRON, AND ONE
MAN SHARPENS
ANOTHER”**

– Proverbs 27:17



THINK. DREAM. JOB.

IF YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE in the lives of young men while having fun and building life skills, there's no better place to spend your summer than Falling Creek Camp! Each summer our select group of staff members come together for a common purpose – to help our campers become the men God intends them to be.

If you know of an extraordinary individual who would be an asset to our team, please encourage them to contact us to begin the staff application process.

Contact Yates Pharr, Director yates@fallingcreek.com



campscholarships

LET'S START SOMETHING TOGETHER



One of the pillars of the Servant's Heart is to take the initiative to help others. Indeed, character traits like unselfishness, outward focus, and generosity have been modeled and taught to boys at Falling Creek ever since the camp began in 1969.

We as the alumni, parents, grandparents, staff, and friends of Falling Creek now have an exciting chance to live out that giving spirit by donating funds to any of three tax-deductible scholarships that directly benefit Falling Creek campers and staff members. Here are the details on each . . .

American Camp Association Campership

Imagine the boys who would benefit from the Falling Creek experience, but simply can't afford it. Your gift to support the American Camp Association Campership will make it possible for boys from around the country

to come to Falling Creek. Simply write "Falling Creek Camp" on the memo line of your check and make it payable to:

American Camp Association
5000 State Road 67 North, Martinsville, Indiana 46151-7902

Western North Carolina Counties Campership

In 1992, a scholarship was established by Director Emeritus Chuck McGrady, through the Community Foundation of Henderson County, that allows boys from several western North Carolina counties to attend Falling Creek, who otherwise would be unable to do so. Simply write "Falling Creek Campership" on the memo line of your check and make it payable to:

Community Foundation of Henderson County
PO Box 1108, Hendersonville, NC 28793

It Only Takes a Spark

This exciting grant program awards Falling Creek staff members who demonstrate a "Servant's Heart," the resources, and support to positively impact others beyond the summer months. Former FCC staffers have started ministries to help fathers and sons develop strong relationships based on hunting and Christian principles; provided much-needed school supplies to hundreds of impoverished children in rural South Carolina; and helped underprivileged families in Honduras to receive basic health care, construct homes, and strengthen their Christian faith.

The selection committee awards funding from \$250 – \$1,000 per project for various work around the world. To give your tax-deductible gift, write "Falling Creek Camp - It Only Takes a Spark" on the memo line of your check and make it payable to:

Community Foundation of Western North Carolina
4 Vanderbilt Park Drive, Suite 300
Asheville, NC 28803

You may also give to any of these scholarships online by going to:

<http://www.fallingcreek.com/about-us/giving>



Do the right thing | Act with integrity | Take responsibility for your actions | Tell the truth

SAVE THE DATE



Traditional Sessions

SESSION	GRADES	DATES
June Camp	1-9	Sun. June 3 – Fri. June 22, 2018 (20 days)
Main Camp	2-10	Sun. June 24 – Fri. July 20, 2018 (27 days)
STEEL (CIT)	11	Sun. June 24 – Fri. July 20, 2018 (27 days)
2-Week Camp	1-5	Sun. July 22 – Fri. Aug. 3, 2018 (13 days)
Junior Camp	1-4	Sun. Aug. 5 – Fri. Aug. 10, 2018 (6 days)

Father/Son Weekends

SESSION	GRADES	DATES
May Father/Son Weekend	K+	Fri. May 18 – Sun. May 20, 2018
August Father/Son Weekend	K+	Fri. Aug. 17 – Sun. Aug. 19, 2018

50th Anniversary and Reunion

EVENT	AGES	DATES
Reunion	Alumni age 25+	Fri., Sept. 7 – Sunday, Sept. 9, 2018

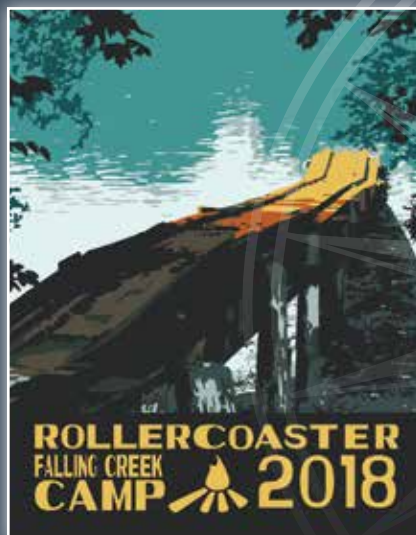
2017 Fall Camp Movies and Reunion Tour

Calling all new and returning Falling Creek families, campers, counselors, and alumni in your area — it's time to come together!

Join Falling Creek Camp Director Yates Pharr for our annual Falling Creek Movie and Reunion Show — and invite your interested friends.

Yates will share the new 2018 camp movie, and each boy will receive a 2018 limited-edition trunk sticker!

Come see old friends, meet new ones, and learn why we believe Falling Creek is such an amazing place for boys.



Don't live close to one of these Camp Movie/Reunion events?

Tune in to the Asheville show or watch the recording on your own time.

"Like" the event and receive an exclusive trunk sticker.



DATE	LOCATION	TIME	HOST FAMILY
Sunday, October 1	Atlanta, GA	6:30pm	Daniel Family
Monday, October 2	Birmingham, AL	6:30pm	Mandell Family
Tuesday, October 3	New Orleans, LA	6:30pm	Pipes Family
Wednesday, October 4	Columbus, GA	6:30pm	Flournoy Family
Thursday, October 5	Greenville, SC	6:30pm	Weekes Family
Wednesday, October 11	Columbia, SC	6:30pm	Grimsley Family
Monday, October 16	Raleigh, NC	6:30pm	Funderburk Family
Tuesday, October 17	Richmond, VA	6:30pm	Melton Family
Wednesday, October 18	Alexandria, VA	6:30pm	Spence Family
Monday, October 23	St. Simons Is, GA	6:30pm	Wessel Family
Tuesday, October 24	Jacksonville, FL	6:30pm	Rachels Family
Wednesday, October 25	Orlando, FL	6:30pm	Lawton Family
Thursday, October 26	Charleston, SC	6:30pm	Molten/McCullough Families
Monday, October 30	Charlotte, NC	6:30pm	Ridinger Family
Wednesday, November 1	Nashville, TN	6:30pm	Coble Family
Thursday, November 2	Louisville, KY	6:30pm	Jones Family
Sunday, November 5	Coral Gables, FL	4:00pm	Holly Family
Monday, November 6	Houston, TX	6:30pm	Riser Family
Tuesday, November 7	Austin, TX	6:30pm	Deane Family
Wednesday, November 8	Dallas, TX	6:30pm	Rhine Family
Thursday, November 9	Darien, CT	6:30pm	Heuer Family
Wednesday, November 15	Asheville, NC	6:30pm	West Family





a call to quarters

“Time, it stands still at the end of the gravel road.” - Matthew B. Mayes



By Jim “Goody” Goodrum



W

The above lyrics, written by a college friend, have been standing out in my mind lately as I reflect on my years at Falling Creek. How fortunate we all are to have the opportunity to celebrate the experience of camp. It does not matter how long we have been at Falling Creek — one, two or even nine years, this special community comes together year after year commemorating acceptance, diversity, community, and support of each other as a collective group.

This past summer was my 32nd season — and last — on Long Mountain. I have had the privilege to witness camp transform itself into a magical place that is truly spectacular and current, while preserving the sacred traditions and fundamental life skills that are essential for young men to grow, discover their identity, equip themselves, and carry the Falling Creek Spirit for generations to come. It is in this Spirit, and with the determination of the entire camp community — from the leadership team to the youngest camper — that I can rest knowing that Falling Creek will continue leading the way and pushing the envelope for the next big breakthrough, all while staying true to its mission and values.

As I enter the next chapter of my life, I now have the honor of being on the other side of the camp-parent dynamic — as a dad. It has always been a dream that one day I would get to pass on one of the most cherished things in my life to someone so special to me, my son

Thompson. Since 1990, when I became a staff member at FCC, I have watched so many campers arrive and walk down the hill into camp excited and eager to be a part of something bigger than they could ever imagine — and turn around to leave weeks later as young men developed, transformed, and ready to tackle the world. It is a thrill for me to know that someday very soon, Thompson will be walking the very same paths that I walked years before, and that he will have the opportunity to discover who he is, and be part of a brotherhood that is unmatched.

I want to thank Yates and Marisa for believing in me and for all their support in telling the Falling Creek story. Frank, thank you for teaching me the value of persistence and passion for learning. I am ready to tackle any challenge that comes my way. Simon, Nathan, Ben, Drew, and Jerry, thank you for your friendship, support, and for being there to listen and lend a hand for so many years. Kyle, thank you for pushing me to think outside the box, and don't be afraid to “Stir the Pot!” I am very proud of how much you have grown as a person and how you are now leading the way since we met in Statesboro. Chuck McGrady and Donnie Bain, thank you for your steadfast resolve, commitment, and endurance to keep the flame alive and for pushing me to be confident in myself. You all have taught me a great deal and I am forever grateful.

Lastly, I want to thank Kristi, Thompson, and Alice. Your love and support over the last few years has been life-changing for me and I look forward to the many adventures and memories ahead. Finally, to my mom and dad — you saw an opportunity that would change my life forever, something you knew would give me so much. I am lucky to have been able to give back since college and cannot thank you enough for giving me such a wonderful opportunity and privilege to go to camp.

I truly love Falling Creek Nation! May your light shine bright and remember, “And my little candle, if I choose to light it. Makes a difference.” 🕯️

Behold!
Goody

TAPS

Day is done,
gone the sun,
From the lake,
from the hills,
from the sky;
All is well,
safely rest,
God is nigh.

All FCC Campfire programs end with the community standing and singing the first verse of Taps together.





**FALLING
CREEK**
CAMP

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828.692.0262
www.fallingcreek.com

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