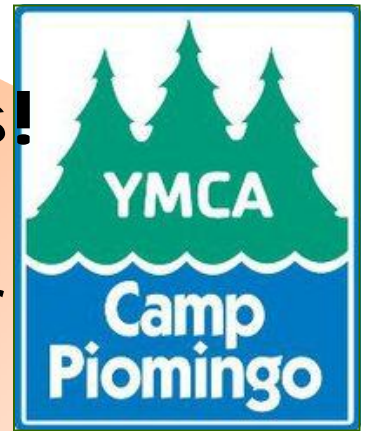




# What Joe Knows!

## Winter Newsletter



# News and Upcoming Events from Camp Piomingo

### Summer is right around the corner

I have caught myself daydreaming about the summertime lately, thanks to all this great sunshine and warm weather we've been having. I'm reminded of warm afternoon breezes, beautiful green grass, the music of song birds, the sounds of distant thunderstorms and the voices of campers and counselors filling up the tress at Camp Piomingo. Summer camp is truly right around the corner and I can't wait to get started. We are receiving more and more camper registrations every day and would love to reserve your camper's bunk today!

### Why is summer camp so important?

There are no other experiences quite like going to an overnight summer camp. Where else can you truly have so much fun, make so many friends and learn that it's ok to just "be yourself"?

The benefits of sharing a cabin with 7 other campers and 2 counselors are endless. Each camper has the opportunity to gain independence by learning to care for themselves, they can gain responsibility by learning that the words and actions they choose to use not only affects them, but also the others in their cabin group and they can gain an appreciation for the great outdoors by "unplugging" themselves from their online social medias. At Camp Piomingo we all rely solely on face-to-face communication and which leads to a gain of group decision-making skills.

Campers return to Piomingo each summer not only because of the awesome activities that are offered, the time-honored traditions or the amazing swimming pool and water slide, but because of the life-long friends they make. The thing that I love most about working at Camp Piomingo is that *"my job is to help kids make friends"*. I think that every child deserves to have the same experience I had as a camper at Camp Piomingo.

## **NEW for 2011**

Each year we make a strong attempt to offer new and exciting activities and to renovate old or build new facilities that will enhance the experience of our campers and counselors. Here is an exciting list of NEW things to expect this summer:

- Wooden deck on the mess hall that allows for outside seating and a place to gather during cabin activities
- Mountain Scooters (Mooters) are now being offered as a morning clinic
- Saddle and Paddle trailblazer trip (TB session IV) in West Virginia
- Brand new mountain bikes have been purchased to increase our fleet to over 25 bikes
- We have expanded our International relations to now host cabin counselors from Germany, Ireland, South Africa, Mexico and Peru
- We have a new riding arena at the horseback riding facility
- The radio station studio has been renovated with new walls, ceiling and windows
- New wooden decks have been built on all the cabins in Shawnee
- Every cabin now has comfortable wooden bunk beds

## **Summer Staff**

Is your camper wondering if they will see their favorite counselors this summer? Check out the list of names below to see who is returning for another remarkable summer:

Eleanor, Grizz, Bea, Solange, Meaghan, Estelita, Healey, Jeremiah, JD, Bryan, Colin, Ben, Jon, Orion, Martin, Rachel, Austyn, Matt, David, Rambo, Ryan, Rachel, Carly, Whitney, Steve and Joey

## **Spring Break Camp (March 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>)**

Traditional Spring Break Camp (ages 7-16) and Equestrian Spring Break Camp (ages 9-16) are great ways to shake off the winter chill and welcome the warm summer weather to come. Join your old friends and counselors at Piomingo for lots of outdoor fun and excitement.

Activities planned for this spring include gaga ball, front yard games, archery, the Pipeline Slide, adventure hikes, mountain biking, horseback riding (EQ campers only), climbing tower, high ropes, wagon rides and zip line.

### **Spring Family Camp (April 30<sup>th</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>)**

Come and enjoy your camper's favorite activities by spending the day and night at Camp with the whole family. Each family will stay in their own cabin and three delicious meals are planned thanks to our caring kitchen staff. Scheduled activities include gaga ball, front yard games, archery, the Pipeline Slide, wagon rides, pony rides, climbing tower, high ropes, zip line and a fun craft.

### **Parent/ Child Equestrian Weekend (April 30<sup>th</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>)**

This event offers an opportunity for parents and their children to share an afternoon at the barn learning about horses and riding together. Campers share their knowledge and love for horses while parents are able to learn more about their rider's passion. The weekend includes time spent down at the barn, horseback riding lessons, traditional camp activities, three meals and a campfire with s'mores for those who choose to stay the night. This event is held in conjunction with Spring Family Camp and if you can't attend this spring, join us for another Parent/Child Weekend in the fall.

### **2011 Open Houses**

These events are held on Sunday afternoon from 2pm-4pm on April 17<sup>th</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>, May 15<sup>th</sup> and May 22<sup>nd</sup>. We open up our doors to families who wish to tour our facility and try out some of the fun summer camp activities. Camp Piomingo admin staff and board members will be on-site to answer any questions you may have and to even take your summer camp registrations. Meet us in the dining hall for refreshments and to begin your tour of our cabins, bathhouses, health center and activity areas.