



CHRONICLE

Vol. XXVII No. 10 July 31, 2009 Discover the Spirit!

HAPPY TRAILS TO YOU... *Rollicking Fun Rocks The Ranch*



Howdy Pardners!

It was a whirlwind of activity as we began the second half of our incredible summer. Everyone got into the groove with 70s and 80s day, showing their spirit with creative costumes and great attitude – all to the beat of music wafting across The Ranch.

The 49ers were a busy bunch – the fifth grade boys reeled in loads of catches along with fun on their fishing jaunt aboard the “Miss Freeport.” On Thursday, all fifth graders had dinner on The Ranch before departing for Citibank Park to see the Long Island Ducks play – and to sing the National Anthem on the field! They also had a ton of fun with their LI Duck “quackers!” Earlier that day, the sixth grade had a choice of going to the beach on a glorious beach day or zoning a little in the air-conditioned Fun Zone. And it’s still not over – tonight, the girls in grades 6, 7, and 8 have their Girls’ Night Out in Manhattan. After dinner on The Ranch, the ladies are off to see the evening performance of “The Little Mermaid,” followed by a Meet and Greet with the actors. The very tired but undoubtedly happy 49ers will return tonight between 12:00 and 12:30 a.m.!

Speaking of action-packed, check the back side of the *Chronicle* to read about all the tournaments that took place this week on The Ranch. From the Robbie Levine Lightning World Cup to the RossCup to all kinds of GaGa challenges (parents, Pioneers, staff, CITs) and more...we showed our teamwork, spirit, and personal best this week.

Explorer girls took center stage earlier this week with their marvelous Karaoke show led by emcees Susan and Andrew – their dance routines and costumes were terrific, as were their commitment and courage to leave their comfort zones.

We’ve run out of space to recount the amazing times we’ve had this week, so we encourage you to log in to ColemanTown.com where you can view hundreds and hundreds of photos, read our daily blogs of activities on The Ranch, and view videos that capture the spirit!

Until Monday... Happy Trails!



HATS OFF...to Shelby, Caroline, and Brianna of G4-2 and all the Explorers who rocked The Ranch with choreographed karaoke. Dancing to a medley of songs, the Pawnees discovered the spirit, as did all the Explorer girls’ groups with elaborate costumes to enhance their musical numbers.

CIRCUS OF THE KIDS

Showtime: Friday, August 7th at 6:30p.m

If you’ve already joined the Circus (and all positions have been filled), you must come to the Grand Playhouse Sunday, August 2, for auditions at 5 p.m. Circus Master Bruce will explain the program, the commitment, and the sense of accomplishment from a week of circus arts training; then Bruce and his staff will have every camper try out at every area to determine the best fit. Bruce has been successfully producing these shows for decades and knows best how to setup our kids for success. So, Pardners, there’s no telling if you will be on a 6-man bike, roller-skating, flying on the high trapeze, or any of a dozen other acts. But what we do know for sure is that performers (who must attend every practice whether during or after camp) and spectators alike are in for a rare treat!



SCOUTS SHARE!

- Routines and traditions when welcoming August campers to The Ranch
- Teamwork while preparing for their Scouts Super Showcase

Tourney Talk

Because competition is an integral part of life, we make sure to provide lots of opportunities on The Ranch to coach our Partners to both lose and win gracefully and graciously. This week we've seen lots of action and had lots of chances to practice our social skills with:

- **RossCup Hockey Tournament** – 49ers choose their own players to form teams where the top two from each group move on to the next round, then on to the playoffs and finals for the much anticipated RossCup. The finals will be held on Monday, and the winning team will get the much coveted 49er “Nothing Could Be Finer...” T-shirt.
- **Robbie Levine Lightning World Cup Soccer Tournament** – Explorers gave it their personal best today as 8 teams advanced to the quarter finals. Team spirit was high and lots of cheering was heard from the Explorers on the sidelines!
- **Mini-murals** – The Scouts are actively practicing their dribbling drills and goal scoring in hopes of making it to the finals: a one- game elimination. The actions gets going next week.
- **Pioneers in The Pit** – Not to be outdone, the little ones had their turn at GaGa with face paint and entrances through “the door,” enjoying every minute of glory as they begin to grasp the fundamentals of “The Game.”

COLEMAN COUNTRY, THE TRAILER!

While *Coleman Country, The Movie* is coming soon to a (home) theater near you, *Coleman Country, The Trailer* has been released! Watch for your very own copy of our two-minute coming attraction, which will be sent home on the bus early next week. In the meantime, you can check out the preview on our Web site, www.ColemanCountry.com.

Explorers' CARING CORNER

C.I.A. (Caught in the Act) of Caring this week were campers who:

- hung up all the life jackets at Boating
- collected all the “group blocks” after an all-camp event
- welcomed August campers by creating group banners

Habits of the Heart

Our Vochellis (that's Zulu for “counselor”) and campers from Soweto, South Africa are completing the second week of their three-week visit at Coleman Country, and they have been teaching us as much as we are showing them! We would love the six of them to return home with more than memories – with necessary items for their families as well as themselves so that they may thrive in an environment that has so many obstacles.

Because we have had so many requests from staff and parents, and because we want to ensure that the most needed items get sent back to their families, we have created a “Soweto Bowl” from which those interested may select one item to purchase for them. These have been carefully chosen by Tshepo, Martha, Lello, Masentle, Tanjiwe, and Simphiwe for specific family members. Parents who are interested in picking a card from the Soweto Bowl should call Pam in the office, and we will make sure to send a card home with your child. Also, if you have a large soft suitcase that you don't need, and would like to donate, let us know please!

Giva Geta...

The Pioneers continue to grow this week, not only in physical skills but in life skills, too! Anna and Michelle reviewed some of the Giva Getas that the Pioneers have been learning about by chanting back “Geta” when Michelle says “Giva.” Campers showing the biggest smiles get to choose from the Giva Geta deck and hold up a card; this week's Giva Getas were: Handshake, Respect, High-five, Smile, and Responsibility.

Michelle and Anna also talked about fairness this week as part of their Character Counts program for 5-year-olds. After some role-playing and a short video about fairness, the campers learned that fairness means more than just going by the rules, even though that is important too. Fairness means treating everyone the same; it means giving everyone the same chance to make their own choices.

ON THE HORIZON

Tuesday, August 4th:

Boys' Night Out - Grades 6, 7, and 8 -

New York Mets parent pick-up at camp - 11pm

Wednesday, August 5th:

The Scout Super Show

Deep Sea Fishing - G5's and G6-2

Thursday, August 6th:

Pioneer Unbirthday Party

Fun Zone/Adventureland - Grades 7 and 8

Friday, August 7th:

Circus of the Kids - 6:30pm -

Bring the family back to The Ranch