

Silver Beach Splash

Camp Silver Beach, celebrating 10 years of Camping and Conferencing

Fall 2009



Greetings

According to the American Camping Association 2008, parents want the best opportunities for their children. They want them to have

whatever it takes to be happy and successful—good health, ability to get along with others, thinking and problem solving skills, a good self-concept. Children need resiliency skills: self-esteem, life skills, self-reliance, and pro-social behaviors. The camp experience offers a nurturing environment away from the distractions and, in some cases, the hostile environment of the city.

Camp is not inherently good or bad. It takes an intentional, systematic plan of action with well-qualified trained staff that believes in and supports the mission, goals and objectives of the camp. When the mission and goals and objectives are put forth in a way that truly supports making a profound difference in the human dimension, the camp will have a positive impact on its campers and the negative rudiments of camp will be limited to convenience issues as discovered in research. When the camp performs its function well, campers have fun. Campers make friends; they learn new skills and enhance the skills they already have. Campers deepen their interest in others, not just superficially, but in helping others they learn that giving of their time and talents betters humanity.

At Camp Silver Beach, we believe the value of camp is found in the friendships formed and relationships developed. In addition, activities abound so campers have a well-rounded balance of skill development not only relationally, but also in athletics, environmental awareness, performing arts, and just plain fun. We hope your summer at CSB was filled with positive memories.

Have a great year, and remember to join us in 2010 at Camp Silver Beach, for the magic that is "camping at its best!"

Sincerely,

Dan Credle
Executive Director

CSB—The Place To Be!

"Some people come into our lives, leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never the same."

—Author Unknown

1,952 campers and 87 counselors from all around the world spent time at Camp Silver Beach this summer making memories, building confidence and forming relationships to last a lifetime.

In a tough economy, parents realize the significant value and magnitude of a fun-filled week of camp and prioritized their commitment to ensuring their children this experience.



Honor Cottage Award -
made each week by Counselor Ross Barnes.

Camp's phenomenal well-trained staff is dedicated to ensuring that each child develops a good sense of self, learns new skills and gains a sense of acceptance for everyone.

49% of the campers attending this summer came back because of the fun and friendships they found in previous years. Whether it was kayaking out to a sand bar and swimming with the dolphins, or climbing to the top of the 55' Alpine Tower, campers found spending time at camp with new and old friends to be just what they were looking for and wanted to do it again. For the second year in a row, Camp Silver Beach hosted several students from Spain through the *SHE Herencia* program in Madrid. This past year, nine young

men came for a three-week experience during the middle of the summer. This program adds to our rich cultural diversity here at Camp while providing the best in American camping to these adventurous students. We look forward to renewing these ties once again in 2010.

We especially want to recognize the Honor Campers and Counselors of the Week. These dedicated young people displayed the core values every day in all they do, inspiring everyone around them. Each is a model we should mirror.

This summer CSB was a designated destination for the Army Reserve Child & Youth Services enrichment camps. Each year the Army Reserve seeks to provide residential camp experiences for children who have a parent in the Army Reserve, many of whom are actively deployed. These fifty children joined right in with our camp activities and had their own traditional "Military Day" designed by the Army Reserve. Plans are already in the works for a return experience in 2010.

Our 2010 application is on our website and can be completed online and emailed to camp. Also, you should have received the 2010 brochure, DVD and memories piece by now. Sign up soon while space is still available!

"Is this heaven?"

—Camper's remark upon arrival

Teen Camp Program

Imagine 40 of the coolest, most rock-in' teens from near and far at Camp Silver Beach this summer for 3 weeks creating quite a ruckus! This unique program is designed to allow rising high school freshmen, sophomores and juniors to look beyond themselves by integrating community service, leadership and responsibility into their camp experience.

Kim Boone returned this year as our Teen Camp Director and led this group through some pretty awesome adventures!

Service Project: Tangier Island

Campers took an hour ferry ride from Onancock, VA with a Tangier native to the beautiful, quaint island of Tangier. Some had never seen a crab pot, which is their main means of income and lines the harbor as you approach the island. They visited the local museum, and participated in a scavenger hunt to learn the rich history of the island life. Teens visited a crab house and were educated on the shedding process of the Blue Crab. They then picnicked at the playground of the only school on the island before beginning their community service project of walking the island to pick

up trash to help preserve the quality of life of its residents. Locals allowed the teens to borrow their bicycles to ride and explore, as this is the main means of transportation of the island (there are no cars). Ice cream was enjoyed at Spanky's. The day ended with a delicious dinner prepared by local ladies at the famous Chesapeake House, which included crab cakes, clam fritters, corn pudding, pickled beets and pound cake. Many of these children had never tasted these foods, and were simply delighted! That was the topic of conversation on their boat ride home.

Highlighted Activities On Camp:

Cultural dinners, sand soccer and kayak races, Alaskan baseball, relay



Teens on the Tangier Island Community Service Project

races, beach parties and more.

Highlighted Activities Off Camp:

Visiting Chincoteague Island, watching the famous pony swim, camping at Pocomoke State Park and visiting National Seashore at Assateague.

SAVE \$100!

Take advantage of the exclusive YMCA of South Hampton Roads member benefit of \$100 off one week at Camp Silver Beach!

Call 757-442-4634 for details.

We Love Our Alumni

Many states and countries were represented again this year here at camp: Washington DC, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Brazil, Australia, England, South Africa, Scotland and Russia!



We have completed our 10th summer and have begun the process of developing an active, engaging alumnus. Many already stay in touch but our hope is to bring you all back to the place where your friendships began—CSB!

A survey was emailed to over 500 past staff members for advice on the direction each of you would like to see us take.

In September, a small group of some of the first-year staff was able to return to camp and share a yearly tradition of gathering together. They had a wonderful time remembering all the fun times they had in those early years.

If you have not received the email survey or any information on how to be part of this elite group, please contact Rhonda Marsh, Director of Development at rhonda@campsilverbeach.org or call 757-442-4634 to update your information.

We hope to bring each of you back to camp to continue friendships, to be part of our continued growth and help guide the process. Visit our Facebook site "ymcacampsilverbeach" to find out what everyone is up to and stay in touch. If you are on Twitter, please follow us @yshr_csb to hear more news and updates from CSB.

