

The Hollymont Spirit

www.hollymont.com

November 2006

On the Road Again!

Hollymont campers are spread from coast to coast in big cities, small towns, and everywhere in between. We are always looking for great campers, JUST LIKE YOU! Over the years, we have found the best way to recruit new campers is through our Hollymont campers and their parents. Do you have school



friends, soccer teammates, friends on your dance team, neighbors or church friends who would enjoy experiencing life at Hollymont? We would love to come to your home and spread the Hollymont word! It's as simple as a

DVD and a short presentation that will get your friends excited about a fun-filled summer in the beautiful mountains of western North Carolina.

Lauren Glass, Hollymont's Assistant Director, is gearing up for this year's promotional travels (October 2006 through March 2007). Lauren loves getting to visit the campers during the school year and witnessing firsthand the excitement as campers



count down the days until they return for another great Hollymont summer.

Do you live in Jacksonville, St. Louis, Birmingham, Baton Rouge, Memphis, Raleigh, Atlanta, Jackson, Orlando, Columbia, Richmond,

Athens, Knoxville, Louisville, Little Rock, or another great location? Are you willing to host a Hollymont show in your home? If so, please contact us in the office (828-686-5343) or by email (camp@hollymont.com) and let us know! We're on the road again and can't wait to see you and your friends!



Coming soon to a city near you...

Somebody's Talkin' About...

Hollymont Parades

Did you ever wish you could stand in front of Macy's on Thanksgiving Day watching the parade as it moves by? Better yet, doesn't every girl dream of riding a float and waving to all the bystanders on 5th Avenue who anxiously await the parade's arrival? We decided to fulfill those dreams last summer by creating a parade of our very own at Hollymont. The newest Hollymont activity kicked off during the B1 and C sessions and was a big hit!

Our three camp tribes (Seminole, Choctaw, and Iroquois), were given cardboard boxes, paint, streamers, flags, and other art supplies, and asked to construct their very own floats. In addition, they were asked to have a musical element and a silent cheer. Creativity kicked into high gear as the tribes fashioned masterpieces from only cardboard boxes! The tribe members divided into committees and worked together to get everything done in a short time.



The inaugural Hollymont parade was on July 4th. Everyone gathered at the flagpole for the pledge of allegiance and the national anthem. Then Grand Marshal, Gail Mashburn, led the tribes down Holly Drive and in front of Laurel Lodge where a host of cheering bystanders were ready with cameras in hand. Each tribe stopped in front of the lodge to perform their cheer and musical element and to show off their floats!



The parade concluded with awards for best float, best musical element, and most spirit. Everyone had a super time and did a great job on their parade entries. We are already looking forward to the 2nd Annual Hollymont Parade in 2007!

Skills

Horseback Riding

Who wouldn't want to ride horses under that famous Carolina blue sky in the beautiful mountains of North Carolina?



Campers of all ages and all levels of experience can enjoy English riding taught by the patient and experienced Hollymont equestrian staff. Campers are initially assigned a riding class, then once the riding crew sees the campers in action, they may shift class assignments to balance camper experience levels and horse resources.

Beginners learn basic riding skills – how to mount a horse, hold the reins, and post. Campers can progressively work on trotting, cantering, and jumping in their quest to sharpen their equestrian skills. Trail rides are popular when the weather and training schedules permit. At the end of each session, campers have the opportunity to demonstrate their skills in the Hollymont Horse Show.

Sign up in advance for horseback riding on the 2007 camper application. There are only 60 slots available per session. Once those are filled, there will be a wait list.

THE LEGACY LIVES ON

Rami Cobb McCutchen's Hollymont career began in 1989. Her cousin, Alex Knox, was attending Rockmont and her grandmother called to tell Rami about Hollymont, the sister camp. Rami worked at Hollymont every summer until she married in 1994. She served as a Cardinal counselor and on the central staff (Waterfront/Special Ops). Rami definitely keeps in touch with friends she made while at Hollymont. Caroline Parkman Nurkin was even in her wedding!

Years ago Rami wrote on her staff application: "Camp is a wonderful place to build your self-confidence and strengthen your walk with the Lord. If one child comes to know Christ or is given the courage to do something she didn't think she could do, then its all worth it." Great friends and memories are the reasons why Rami has provided the opportunity for her daughter, Alli, to attend Hollymont. Now Rami is able to enjoy camp through the eyes of her daughter. Alli looks forward to meeting new friends and participating in her favorite skills (cheerleading, cooking, and tennis). She LOVES gathering with all the tribes at council ring.



Having been both a staff member and a camper parent, Rami has a unique perspective. "For most kids, having the opportunity to go to camp is the highlight of their year." Rami's advice to parents is "just relax and know that you are sending your daughter to a safe and loving environment where she can grow in her level of self-confidence and independence."



Camping is a Benton family tradition. Dorothy Benton Lagarde arrived at Hollymont in 1986. She served as a Cardinal counselor and taught tennis and archery. Dorothy returned in 1987 as the Eagle Head Counselor. Dorothy's daughter Mary Helen first attended Hollymont in 2004. Daughters Elizabeth and Ann Baker are looking forward to joining their sister at Hollymont in the near future. Dorothy's brothers, Murray and Bill, were involved at Rockmont. Their sons returned to Rockmont and Murray's daughters Meredith (98,99,00) and Maggie (05,06) are doing their share to keep the Hollymont tradition going.

When we contacted Dorothy for this article, she told us, "I want to be in Mary Helen's shoes every summer. I love singing songs with her and sharing the way 'we used to do it' at camp. I love hearing her discuss devotions. Every year, I get nervous and excited on the first day because I know how much fun she is going to have." Dorothy's favorite memories are of singing at meals, participating in night activities, and rocking on the front porch. Mary Helen enjoys the beautiful chapel, game show night, volleyball, cooking, drama, and sewing. Mary Helen looks forward to seeing all her counselors and friends year after year. She sends letters and e-mails to keep in touch year round. One day, Mary Helen hopes to follow in her mother's footsteps and be on staff.

Dorothy has noted the biggest changes she's seen at Hollymont are the improvements to the facilities and the addition of many skills and off-campus adventure trips (including the Sunday Rockmont waterfront activities). Having attended a summer camp and worked at Hollymont, Dorothy's message to parents is: "You will truly do yourself and your child a huge favor! Camping has made an incredible impact on my life...I learned many things in a beautiful surrounding and met life-long friends!" Dorothy would tell new Hollymont staff members that "they are in for the best experience and most rewarding time of their life...You are impacting so many girls and you don't even realize it."

Calling all Alumni!

If you or someone you know is a Hollymont alumnus, please email us at camp@hollymont.com to provide updated names and/or mailing addresses. We are working to create a database for our

**25th reunion
SUMMER**

Mother/Daughter Camp

August 2-5, 2007

Come experience a taste of Hollymont with your daughter!

Activities include a sampling of skills, night activities, Biltmore House or white-water rafting, and **MUCH MORE!**

Download an application from our website at www.hollymont.com

In Remembrance

Our deepest sympathy is extended to

Patti and Kristen Crouch
(long-time camp nurse and camper)

and their family, who tragically lost Josh, their son/brother in late September.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them daily.

"I lift my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."
Psalms 121:1-2

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