



From the campers...

Adam, eighth grader at Hendersonville Middle School, spent five and a half weeks at Camp Mondamin during the summers of 2009 and 2010. *"Camp was fun, exciting and I really learned to enjoy the outdoors." But most of all camp is about "friends and learning how to appreciate others,"* he said.

Antoni, fourth grader at Etowah Elementary School, attended a weeklong session at Camp Ton-A-Wandah in August 2010. Two main things he came away with after his camp experiences are friendship and having fun. *"It's easier now to make friends and meet new people."*

Kailah, fifth grader at Hillandale Elementary School, attended a weeklong session at Camp Ton-A-Wandah in August 2010. At camp she signed up for arts and crafts, archery and horseback riding. *"It was my first time on a horse and I was scared,"* she said. With the help of a patient trainer and a gentle horse named Hershel, Kailah learned to trot and even jump. *"I conquered my fear and learned something new."*

e-newsletter

If you would prefer to get the newsletter electronically via email rather than the printed and mailed version, please contact Paige Hafner, executive director of the Henderson County Young Leaders Program, at director@hcylp.org or by calling 828-697-2000, and give her your email address.

Henderson County Young Leaders Program

LEADERSHIP FOR LIFE



Summer 2011

Snapshot: Camp Greystone

Camp Greystone in Tuxedo provided summer camp scholarships in 2010 to two Henderson County girls, Brianna Nalley and Kassidi Grubbs, through the Henderson County Young Leaders Program.

It was an experience they will never forget.

"I love everything about camp," Brianna wrote in a thank-you note to the camp. "Camp Greystone is a great place to meet new people, make new friends, worship God, have fun and spend a summer. I can't thank you enough for this outstanding scholarship. I can't wait to see you at camp this summer. This will be the best summer of my life!"

Greystone is a non-denominational Christian camp with a mission of presenting Jesus Christ in a positive manner, says camp director Jim Miller IV. "Lives are touched at camp in a way that is unique and rewarding," he said. "Since 1920, young ladies have been drawn to Camp Greystone from all over the world. We are delighted to have more campers from the Henderson County Young Leaders Program and are most impressed with the contribution they bring to our community."

Camp expands horizons and grows character, Miller says, making it a valuable building block in a well-rounded individual.

Brianna Nalley, left, and Kassidi Grubbs, right, are all smiles as they enjoy a 2010 summer camp session at Camp Greystone.



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Garrett Graham Receives Camp Industry Leadership Award

Garrett Graham with Camp Ton-A-Wandah was awarded the second annual Camp Industry Leadership Award at the Henderson County Chamber of Commerce dinner and awards program January 20, 2011.

The award was developed by the Henderson County Young Leaders Program to recognize the impact the camp industry has on the local economy. Criteria include growth and success of the nominee's camp in Henderson County, leadership within the camp and the camping industry, investment in the community by giving back through non-profit organizations and involvement in community activities.

Fair Nabers Waggoner presents the Camp Industry Leadership Award to Garrett Graham of Camp Ton-A-Wandah.



Camp Scholarships

Twenty-two Henderson County children were given full scholarships to spend from one to up to five and a half weeks last summer at 14 of the best residential camps in Western North Carolina.

Though this area has long been a mecca for summer campers, the children attending the organized camps have traditionally come from out of state and even other countries. Very few local children knew much about the camps that are literally in their backyards and most families can't afford to send their children to the camps. This is changing, thanks to the Henderson County Young Leaders Program and the support of the camp community.

The tuition value is measurable and ranges from hundreds of dollars to more than \$5,000, but the value to the children who attend is immeasurable.

HCYLP program founder George Howell sums it up best when he describes the scholarships as a gift to the children of Henderson County. When board president Frank Byrd came up with the idea of involving all the camp community, Howell was amazed at the response. Though revenue might be lost by offering scholarships, most camp directors wanted to be part of it because, they agreed, there's so much more to be gained.

HCYLP In the News

HCYLP receives Rotary funds

Hendersonville Rotary Club President Chris Burns presented Henderson County Young Leaders Program with a check for \$1,000 in March. The generous donation from the Rotary was used by HCYLP to supplement the cost of a weekend camp session held at Kanuga's Camp Bob this spring for over 70 local fifth and sixth graders.

BBQ Fundraising Events

The early October morning was chilly as teams of young cooks gathered in a field at Camp Greystone. Soon their fires were hot, as ribs and other meats smoked and sizzled on the grills, savory sauces bubbling alongside. The competition had begun.

The Tuxedo camp was the site of two annual fundraising events in 2010 benefiting the Henderson County Young Leaders Program — the Future Legends of BBQ Competition and the Barbeque Ball. The money raised helps underwrite camp scholarships for Henderson County youth who otherwise might not have the opportunity.

The Future Legends competition began in 2009 and is sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbeque Society and judged by KCBS-licensed judges. On hand to inspire the young cooks were celebrity judges Mike Mills, who was recently inducted into the barbecue Hall of Fame and is known as "the Legend" in the world of barbecue, and Carolyn Wells, executive director of the Kansas City Barbeque Society.

As the fall day warmed up, spectators enjoyed live music, concessions, face painting and inflatables for the youngsters while the teams of young cooks competed for awards in various categories. Defending his title, as grand champion for the second year, was Colton Jones with Lazy Bones BBQ, sponsored by Wachovia, a Wells Fargo Company. Jones also took home the title in the best ribs category. Best theme went to Kung Fu Barbecue, sponsored by Falling Creek Camp. Competitor's choice went to Smokin' Clovers, the 4-H team. The Barbie Queens, a team from the Boys & Girls Club of Henderson County, dished up the best sauce in the competition.

As appetites were whetted by the smoky smell of barbecue still lingering in the air, the competition wound down just in time for the BBQ Ball to begin. The dining hall at Camp Greystone was filled with camp enthusiasts and supporters, many of whom were former campers themselves. Diners enjoyed a delicious variety of food from Hubba Hubba Smokehouse in Flat Rock. The evening included a silent auction, games and activities for the children, s'mores around a campfire, music and square dancing.

The barbecue events netted \$40,000 for the program, a 12.5 percent increase over last year, and the costs were actually down 11 percent. "This year was exceptional," says Starr Teel, HCYLP board member who helped spearhead the barbecue competition. "We got more for less. This is our goal. More money to fund the activities we are doing this work for."

Teel credits increased awareness of the program, more impassioned givers and smart event organizing. "There is a greater understanding of how important the camp experience is in childhood development," he says. This year's BBQ events are set for Saturday, Oct. 8, at Camp Mondamin in Tuxedo. For more information, contact Paige Hafner, executive director of the Henderson County Young Leaders Program, (828) 697-2000, or visit www.hcylp.org.

The HCYLP offers a progression of four distinct programs with eligibility for each based on success at the previous level:

1. Weekend camp sessions at Kanuga's Camp Bob each fall and spring designed to inspire 3rd through 6th graders.

• Just \$135 will make this possible for a child.



3. "Pathmakers" year-round leadership/mentoring program: Operated in cooperation with the Boys & Girls Club, this program reinforces the gains made by participants from the previous summer through monthly activities and mentoring.

• A \$100 donation will make this program possible for an additional child.



2. Full week camp each August. Currently offered in conjunction with Camp Ton-A-Wandah, this camp gives returning participants the self-confidence they need for future success.

• A \$270 donation will fund a full camp week.



4. Scholarship opportunities to multi-week camp sessions offered by participating WNC camps. Participants who progress to this point have the opportunity to fully realize the impact they can have on their community, family and themselves.

• We are always in need of donations for scholarships.

