



You Otter Know

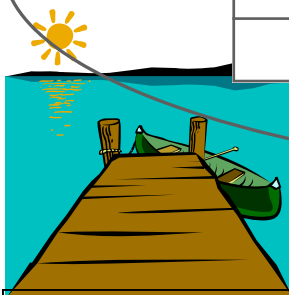
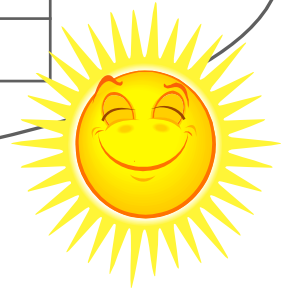


Merrimack Valley YMCA

MAY 2009

The Official Newsletter of Camp Otter

www.mvymcacamps.org



CAMP IS COMING!

Howdy Campers,

Eight weeks, that's all. I know it still seems like a ways away, but the summer fun at Camp Otter will be here before you know it. The weather is turning and soon we will all be basking in the sun with our friends at Captain's Pond.

John and I have been working hard at building the funnest(not a real word), coolest, most responsible staff so that we have the best year at Camp Otter in its 52 year history. Even the camp nurse is going to be a diehard camp fanatic! In addition to building our team, I have been working on some awesome themes for each week as you will read in this

newsletter. We have also done some work at camp to make it clean and safe for all campers.

So continue to cross off the days on your calendar and work hard studying at school. Who knows, maybe if you work hard enough and get good grades you can make a case to get signed up for more weeks at camp! I am excited to get outside for a summer of fun and games, but more than that I am excited to meet all of you, the campers. Until next time, work hard and be happy!

Your Friend,

Doug Currier

Camp Director

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to popular demand and late school closings, we are offering a daily rate for Week 1 (June 22nd-26th).

Register for the week at \$199 or by the day at \$40

NOTES FROM THE REGISTRATION OFFICE

Please make sure when sending in camp paperwork that all sections are completed.

Don't forget transportation and emergency contacts.

Remember, you can pay the camp tuition in weekly or bi-weekly installments.

Camp is filling fast, get your registrations in!!

Contact Us at (978) 975-1330 to Register



CAMP OTTER Spring Reunion

**It's that time of year to get psyched up about
Camp Otter!**

**Come meet Dynamic Director Doug and his
Amazing Associate John as well as other
Charismatic Camp Otter Staff and
Courageous Campers.**

**We'll be playing some of our favorite camp
games, reuniting with our old friends as well as
making plenty of new friends!! Whether you are
a new camper or a seasoned veteran you will have
an awesome time!**

***Saturday, May 16th
2:00pm to 4:30pm
Methuen YMCA
\$10***

Camp Lawrence for Boys

Our resident brother camp still has spaces available for the 2009 season!!

If you think you're ready for two weeks of fun, adventure, and self discovery—then call John today and learn more about our sleep-away camp! Camp Lawrence has over 100 years of history in changing boys lives!



Camp Otter OPEN HOUSE DATES

Sunday, June 7th 11am—2pm

Thursday, June 11th 4pm—7:30pm

Saturday, June 13th 9am—1pm

Wednesday, June 17th 4pm—7:30pm

66 Hooker Farm Road
Salem, NH 03079

OOOOHH YEAH!!!

One month till we start the best summer ever at Camp Otter!! Simple words can't possibly express how excited I am for camp! In order to fully understand and see my excitement you will have to be in attendance at camp this summer.

I will give you some reasons for my over-the-top excitement:

First off is our new Camp Director Doug Currier. On a daily basis we debate over who is more excited about camp. Doug is bringing with him some awesome ideas and great enthusiasm to Camp Otter. He has made it a personal goal to make sure each and every camper has an amazing summer. He has also worked hard to get the best possible staff for you at camp, which brings me to my next reason of camp excitement.

The staff at camp this summer is top-notch! Doug and I have looked far and wide for the most excited, creative, and dedicated staff members.

We are also bringing to camp with us the best Junior Counselors and CITs possible. This whole group is at camp just for YOU!

Another reason why I am counting down the days, hours, minutes, and even seconds till camp is because Camp Otter looks awesome! We have had some groups come out to camp to get it ready for you. Our new sports field is amazing, the work to the pavilion is done, and the water in Captain's Pond is great (I tested it out already).

I could go on and on about the reasons why Camp Otter Summer 2009 is going to be the best summer in history, but I'm running out of space! So, just register today and you will get a chance to be part of the excitement that is Camp Otter. See you soon!!

Sincerely Excited,

John Goudreau
Associate Director

2009 Weekly Themes

Week 1: Otterpalooza – This is a week where anything goes. Most activities will revolve around building Camp Otter spirit and team cohesion amongst the various cabins.

Week 2: Holiday Hoopla – Celebrate a new holiday each day with this theme week. We will change up the program each day to celebrate a new holiday, ending with a Fourth of July celebration.

Week 3: Big Otter Circus - Do you like the circus? How about carnivals? Well if you do, this is the theme week for you as it will be a weeklong celebration of games and activities that you might see at either of these fun attractions.

Week 4: Harry Otter's Great Camp Caper - This will be a week of mystery and magic, Otter-Style where kids will experience various programs and activities themed around some of the more popular trends including Harry Potter and the board game Clue.

Week 5: Otterlympics - For those that have been, know! Be part of a country and compete for Otterlympic Glory.

Week 6: H2Otter - Camp can get hot, so keep cool and experience all things water in this week of games and activities.

Week 7: Imagination Animation - Have you even wanted to be in a cartoon? How about a Disney movie? Well during this week anything goes as far as animation is concerned. Programs will be designed around some of the most popular animation out there today.

Week 8: Pirates of the Otterbbean - Arrrr you ready for some fun! Live the life of a pirate. Go on treasure hunts, dress up as your favorite buccaneer, and join the adventure.

Week 9: Guinness Book of Otter Records – Are you the fastest runner? How about the best colorer? Well, we are going to put your skills to the test in this week of games and challenges from every talent under the sun. Do you have what it takes to set an Otter record?

Week 10: Campers Rule!!! - Do you like Otter, but ever wish you could pick the games and activities for the week? Well do we have the theme week for you as the kids chose the program from day to day (within reason of course).



RENT CAMP OTTER

Looking for a place to have a family reunion? Company outing? Birthday party? Boy scout/girl scout event? School field trip? A get together with friends?

Then Think CAMP OTTER!!

Swimming, boating, two pavilions, a large grill, high and low ropes courses, a sports court and field and many more activities to make your day amazing.



Call John Goudreau today to get the 2009 rental pricing and availability.

ROAD RANGERS TRAVEL CAMPS



Sunshiny Days (July 6-10) All things outdoors! Head to the beach one day, go mini-golfing and batting cages, go on a day hike, and top the week off at Canobie Lake Park!

Saddle Up (July 13-17) This week takes place at Yorkfield Farm in Kensington, NH. Rangers will have the opportunity to ride horses but also learn how to care for them.

Watermania I (July 20-24) Yes, water is the theme of this week! Campers will head to the beach, go boating at camp, travel to the aquarium and finish the week off at Water Country.

Choose Your Own Adventure (2 week) (July 27- August 7) Our exciting two week program in which the Road Rangers will have control over the trips and travels they want to do. The first week they will learn how to develop a budget with the help of some business and accounting minded people, they will go on some local excursions as well. During the second week they will hit the road and put their plan into action. The campers may decide to do an overnight trip, head to an amusement park, play at the beach or any other adventure they choose to do.

wYld Encounters (August 10-14) The Road Rangers during this week will head off to many of the areas zoos. We will travel to Franklin Park Zoo, Stone Zoo, the MSPCA and finish off the week with a trip to York's Wild Kingdom. They will encounter some wild beasts and have lots of fun.

Watermania II (August 17-21) Similar to Watermania I, campers will be immersed in water all week. If it involves water, you will be there!



Paddles' Joke
Of The Moment

What lives in water and takes
you anywhere you want to go?

Answer: A Taxi Cab!!

**CAMP OTTER
REGISTRATION OFFICE**

101 Amesbury St. 4th Floor
Lawrence, MA 01840

(978) 975-1330
Fax: (978) 975-7354

CAMP OTTER

66 Hooker Farm Rd.
Salem, NH 03079

(603) 893-4911
Fax: (603) 893-7206

BOATING
CAMP
CAMPSITE
CHEROKEE
COOKOUTS
COUNSELORS
CRAFTS
DANCE
FRIENDS
FUN
GAMES
NATURE
OUTDOORS
POOL
SAFETY
SMORES
SONGS
SPORTS
SUMMER
SWIMMING
TECHNOLOGY
TREES
TRIPS

Try to find **all 23** words on this board.

```

S E R O M S A F E T Y X B W U
D H J Y T I D H I J Q V T S F
N S Y F H I I E S P I R T W J
A E A E C N A D S L N E R V P
H R M S T U O K O O C K E E J
C H E R O K E E O H O P E T V
G S C E R U T A N B U O S I T
K C G N I T A O B Y N O E S C
P F R K Q A L U L Y S L L P A
F S E N B O S T D P E S W M R
S E M A G G E D G H L D F A T
O W M Y N Z E O N J O T E C N
B B U O I D E O U A R R A Z O
V A S D N E I R F D S X J O C
A A S T R O P S W I M M I N G
    
```