

The Grove Staff - 2010



Twenty-two year old **JONNY THURSTON** is headed back to The Grove for his 3rd summer. He recently graduated from Sheffield Hallam University with a degree in Sports and Exercise Science. When not working, Jonny enjoys swimming, playing soccer and watching his favorite soccer team, Norwich. Jonny has spent the last two summers teaching guitar and swimming at camp. This year, he will continue to teach swimming with the added responsibility of becoming our swim director. We are so excited to have Jonny back at camp

We are so excited to have **MARCUS PAPIN** return for his second summer at The Grove! Currently, Marcus is a student at The University of Michigan-Flint and studying graphic design and advertising. This summer, Marcus will be down at our waterfront as one of our Windsurf instructors. We are so excited to have him back with us for another amazing summer!



We want to give a big welcome to twenty-two year old **KRISTOPHER HARRISON** from Michigan to The Grove for his first summer. Currently, Kris is a student at Central Michigan University majoring in both Psychology and Philosophy. He hopes to become a college professor as well as work with troubled youth. Our campers will find Kris down at the canoe and fishing docks this summer. In his free time, Kris enjoys playing guitar, writing, bike riding and hiking. We are excited to have Kris help our campers navigate the lake and catch some big fish this summer!

Twenty-five year old **BLAKE WHILLOCK** is coming back The Grove for his second summer all the way from Bundella, Australia. He is very passionate about working with children and is so excited to be part of the summer camp experience and help campers learn to water-ski this summer. No stranger to the outdoors, Blake was involved in the Cadets Program and reached the highest rank as Sergeant. As a Sergeant, he was involved in taking groups of 20 children on treks through National Parks for up to 4 days at a time. He is also very passionate about waterskiing, has been skiing since the age of 7, and has had his boating license since the age of 14. Blake is such a great asset to camp, and we are so excited to have him back as part of our staff this summer.



We are thrilled to have former camper, CIT, and Junior Counselor, **JARED DAVIDOVE** return to camp for his 8th summer as one of our waterskiing instructors. Jared just graduated from Stevenson High School and will be heading to San Diego State in the fall. Jared was actively involved in many things at school including Students Helping Soldiers and The Give Club, which helps the community. In his free time, Jared plays basketball, volleyball, baseball and football. We are so excited to have Jared back down at the lake teaching our campers to waterski this summer!

We want to give a warm welcome to **DANIEL ROMERO** from California to The Grove as one of our very talented waterski instructors. Currently, Daniel is a student at University of Hawaii majoring in business. Daniel is an avid wake boarder and started wakeboarding at the age of 11. He also can slalom, and do all kinds of neat tricks on his wakeboard. In his free time, Daniel enjoys being in the outdoors, hiking, traveling, and swimming.



Twenty-Four year old **WARREN TECHOW** is heading back to Decatur for a second summer at The Grove! After leaving camp last summer, Warren spent time traveling across America and then went back home to South Africa to work at a resort. In his spare time he loves to waterski, motocross, road bike, play soccer, squash and being in the outdoors. He loves to try new sports and spend time with his family and friends. Warren is an amazing water-skiier, and will continue to help our campers “walk on water” this summer. Welcome back, Warren!

A big welcome to twenty-two year old **JONATHAN POOLE** from Michigan to The Grove this summer as one of our tennis instructors. Currently, Jonathan is a student at Michigan Technological University majoring in Environmental Engineering, and he is planning on going into the Air Force. Jonathan has been playing tennis for many years and was ranked the #1 doubles team in his high school conference. He has experience working at tennis camps with children of all ages. When not studying and on the courts, Jonathan enjoys road biking, waterskiing, and just being in the outdoors. We know he will be a huge asset to our tennis program.



Former Greenwoods camper, **GARRETT MINTZ**, is so excited to be heading back to camp this summer. He recently graduated from Munster High School in Munster, Indiana and is so excited to be heading to Indiana University in Bloomington after camp ends in the fall. Garrett is no stranger to Decatur as he spent 5 summers at Greenwoods Camp from 2002-2006, is proud to have his five-year plaque and was on black for Color Days. Having played tennis his whole life, and during all four years of high school, we are excited to have him teaching tennis at The Grove this summer. He played on the varsity team during his senior year of high school, and is proud that his team went to state. Garrett spent last summer teaching tennis through Munster Parks and Recreations. He taught tennis to children from the ages of five to fourteen and has experience teaching private, semi-private, and group lessons. He is outgoing, athletic, and can't wait to spend another fantastic summer at camp!



Six foot six, twenty-two year old **NATHAN UTHOFF** from Glenhaven, Australia will be joining us for his first summer at The Grove as one of our very talented basketball instructors. Nathan has a tremendous amount of experience in playing and coaching basketball. He has been playing since a very young age and has competed at a National Level. When not playing basketball, Nathan enjoys weightlifting, kayaking and surfing. We are so excited to welcome Nathan to camp this summer, and watch him shoot



We are thrilled to welcome back twenty-two year old **KRIS NOSWORTHY** to The Grove for his third summer. The past two summers, Kris has been one of our amazing soccer instructors, but this year Kris is taking on a new position as our Program Assist at The Grove. He will still be living in a cabin as a cabin counselor, but will be busy helping our program director, Will Dunmire, to run the day to day operations and evening programs at The Grove. Kris is originally from Sydney Australia, and moved to America on scholarship to play Division 1 soccer. Currently, he is the Captain of the team that won the 2009 ASC Conference Championship. Kris is heading into his senior year at Adelphi University in New York and will be finishing his History Degree. He is about to undertake his Masters in Education. Kris loves both watching and playing sports. His favorite teams are the NY Rangers, Mets and Jets. Kris has the next 10 years planned out for himself and, after University, plans to lend his efforts to the missions field in Africa where his dad is highly involved, study further at University and receive his doctorate in History, and to travel around America and Asia. He has thoroughly enjoyed camp's fun atmosphere, the feeling of being free to express yourself, and make new lifelong friends. Kris would not want to be anywhere but in Decatur, Michigan for his summers. We are truly lucky to have him back with us for another fantastic summer at The Grove!



We are so excited to welcome twenty-four year old **MANUEL MEJIA** from Colombia to teach sailing at The Grove this summer. Manuel has recently graduated from The University of Colombia with a degree in Industrial Engineering. He has experience in working at an overnight camp for 2 summers teaching many activities including sailing and climbing. Manuel loved the summer camp experience, the camp culture, and can't wait to share his passion with our campers this summer. In his free time, Manuel loves to stay active by playing tennis and squash. We know Manuel will be a great asset to our team this summer!



A big welcome to twenty-five year old **IAN JOHNSTON** from Sydney, Australia to The Grove this summer as one of our Soccer instructors. Ian will also be helping with our Outdoor Living Skills and Fishing classes as well. Ian is no stranger to the sport of Soccer, and has been playing it for 20 years! He has also coached for 5 years in schools and amateur clubs as well. When not playing soccer, Ian enjoys singing, and is the lead singer in a band. We are thrilled to have Ian with us this summer!

We want to give a big welcome back to twenty-five year old **GERGO (Jerry) FARKAS** all the way from Hungary. He will be joining The Grove staff for his second summer as a volleyball and basketball instructor. As a member of his high school team, he was one of the most valuable players and now plays as a member of his University's team. Last year, his team earned third place in the national championship. Currently, he is teaching high school basketball and loves to pass on his expertise in the sport while studying economics and marketing at University. Every summer he plays beach volleyball and he teaches the sport to young children. Greg is looking forward to another fantastic summer back in Decatur!





Former camper, CIT and Junior Counselor, **JAKE KARMEL**, returns to camp for his 5th summer as a baseball instructor at The Grove. No stranger to the sport, Jake has played baseball for 10 years and travel baseball for the past 6 years. Currently, Jake attends Homewood Flossmoor High School. He is active in the National Honors Society, Broadcasting, Operation Snowball and many other organizations. We are so thrilled to have Jake back with us for another amazing summer at The Grove!

We are so thrilled to welcome back **JAMES CALVETTI** for his 7th summer at camp as one of our archery instructors. James is an avid outdoor enthusiast enjoying archery, climbing, biking, kayaking, and swimming. He also enjoys traveling, and when he can, scuba diving. James just graduated from Glenbrook North High school, and will be heading off to college in the fall. He participates in his schools model U.N. club and Environmental club. James is no stranger to camp as he was a camper at Greenwoods for 4 years, a CIT and then a Junior Counselor. We are sure James will do a great job teaching our campers how to hit the bulls-eye this summer!



AARON "SCOTTY" BARRON joins us at The Grove for his first summer as one of our riflery instructors. Currently, Scotty is a student at Kennesaw State University in Georgia. He is studying Organizational Communications and French. Scotty has had experience working at a camp last summer in California where he taught Archery, Horseback Riding and Riflery. When not studying, he enjoys traveling and hiking. Having gone to summer camp since the age of 8, Scotty has such a passion for working for summer camps, with children, and he can't imagine being anywhere else in the summer. Welcome to camp, Scotty!

We are so excited to welcome back twenty-one year old **TOMMY JOHN** from Portage, Indiana for his third summer at The Grove. Currently, Tommy is in his 4th year at Purdue University majoring in Elementary Education. Tommy has had experience working with children in Kindergarten through 5th grade classrooms, and he is learning more about teaching every day. He is very active on Purdue's campus and involved in many philanthropies including: efforts to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis, Cancer, and Heart Disease research and prevention. Tommy is so excited to be teaching Rocketry and Team Sports back at The Grove this summer.



Former camper, CIT and Junior Counselor, **DAVID ELFMAN**, returns for his 8th summer at camp. We are so excited to have David with us at our climbing tower teaching our campers how to climb, zip, swing and do our high ropes course. David just graduated from Homewood Flossmoor High School. He has been climbing for the last 10 years! We are thrilled to have David back for another summer before he heads off to college in the fall. Welcome back David for another amazing summer at The Grove!

A big welcome to twenty-five year old **JAKE BROGREN** to The Grove this summer from Michigan as one of our Outdoor Living Skills (OLS) instructors as well as our Trip Leader. Jake graduated from Central Michigan University with a degree in Psychology. Jake has enjoyed camping as well as canoeing and is looking forward to leading our campers on their overnight trips as they pitch their tents, cook over open fires and canoe, and tube down the river at their campsite.



We want to give warm welcome back to 22 year old **BRYAN SMIGILL** from Michigan for his second summer at The Grove. Currently, Bryan is a student at Central Michigan University majoring in Communication Disorders to become a Speech and Language Pathologist. Bryan will be helping our campers learn to fish and canoe this summer. In high school, he was the President of the National Honor Society and worked with children who were in need of academic help. Her grew up fishing and took archery classes weekly where he even was involved in many competitions. During his free time, he enjoys playing guitar and exercising. Bryan is excited to be back at camp this summer and we are excited to have him!

From Merrill, Michigan, twenty-four year old **ADAM WALE** returns to The Grove for his second summer! Adam just graduated with a degree in elementary from Central Michigan University. This summer, Adam will, once again, run our very important Canteen (camp store) as well as assist with our Go-Karts. Some of his hobbies include playing baseball, softball, and archery. Adam loves the outdoors and, we are excited to have him back at camp this summer.



We are so excited to have twenty-four year old **JAMES ALCOCK** from The United Kingdom return to The Grove after taking a year off from camp. James will be behind the video camera this summer making sure to capture amazing clips of our campers having the most incredible time at camp. With a degree in TV and film design, James has studied film, media and television, and has even worked for the BBC in Manchester and Hull. We have seen how talented James is when he helped create our video yearbook 2 summers ago, and we can't wait to see the next video yearbook he helps create this summer.

Twenty-five year old **MICHAEL HOTWAGNER** joins us at The Grove for his first summer as a fishing and computers instructor. Michael recently graduated from Central Michigan University with a major in Political Science and is a freelance web developer. Michael grew up on the shores of Lake Michigan and enjoyed spending his summers on the beach and sailing. In his free time, Michael enjoys running, playing the drums, and building things. He is so excited to share his knowledge about computers with our campers as well as help them to catch lots of big fish this summer.





We want to give a big welcome to twenty-three year old **GAL ROSENBERG** all the way from Israel to The Grove this summer. Gal will be helping our campers to learn about Outdoor Living Skills as well as helping with our Hebrew tutoring. He was active in the "Mashatzim" which is similar to the "Scouts" in America. More recently, Gal was an IDF officer and was the commander of soldiers ages 18-20. Gal enjoys hiking, camping, and outdoor cooking, as it's been a part of his life since he was young. We know Gal will be great at teaching our campers all the skills they need to "rough it" outdoors!

Twenty-two year old **JAMES WHITTINGTON** joins The Grove for his first summer all the way from The United Kingdom as our very important photographer this summer. As our photographer, James will be snapping pictures of all of our campers learning new skills and having fun. The pictures will be posted on our camp website so that all of our camp families can see just how much fun it is every day at The Glen and The Grove! James enjoys taking photos since photos, unlike memories, cannot be forgotten.

