



# Welcome to Lake of the Woods Camp for Girls

Dear Camp Family,

We are thrilled to welcome you into our camp family! We know that finding the right summer camp can be a tough decision, but we can assure you that your daughter will have an amazing experience at Lake of the Woods this summer.

It is hard to think about preparing for camp with the summer several months away, but we want to help prepare you and your daughter throughout the year for her upcoming camp adventure. We know that the more we can do to help our you prepare now, the more we can ensure a successful summer for your daughter.

You should know that by making the decision to send your daughter to camp, you are providing her with an experience that will have a lasting impact on her forever. Camp is a place where she will learn new skills, make friends, grow in confidence, gain independence, enjoy the outdoors and just have FUN!

We pride ourselves on the communication and close relationships we have with our camp families. Please do not hesitate to call or email us throughout the year if you have any questions or concerns.

We look forward to another fantastic summer!

All our best,

*Dayna & Dana*

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## **CAMP DATES 2012**

### **FIRST SESSION**

**Monday, June 18— Saturday, July 14**

### **SECOND SESSION**

**Monday, July 16 — Saturday, August 11**

### **FAMILY CAMP**

**Sunday, August 12— Saturday, August 18**

## **WINTER OFFICE INFORMATION**

Lake of the Woods Camp  
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# MEET THE DIRECTORS



Our Owner/Director **DAYNA GLASSON HARDIN** arrived at Lake of the Woods Camp in 1979 and worked her way up from camper to counselor to assistant director before becoming owner/director in 1997. Dayna is very involved in the camp industry and served as the past President for the Midwest Association of Independent Camps (MAIC). In addition, she serves as the Vice President of the American Camp Association's (ACA) National Board and is a past member and PR Chair for the ACA Illinois section Board. Dayna is the co-founder of SCOPE Midwest (Summer Camp Opportunities Provide an Edge), a charity that provides camperships to underserved children throughout the Midwest at not-for-profit camps. She is a speaker at camp conferences throughout the year on topics ranging from helping campers cope with homesickness to trends in camping. She is the past conference chair for the American Camp Association's national conference and has received a number of awards for her dedication to the camp industry. Dayna has two boys, Dylan and Tyler, who join her at camp all summer.

Our Associate Director **DANA COHN** has over 20 years of camp experience as a former Lake of the Woods camper, counselor, program director and now our Associate Director. Dana is involved in staff recruitment, staff training, program development, and has terrific relationships with our campers, parents and staff. Dana graduated from Indiana University with a degree in Journalism and Political Science. Having been a camper, Dana understands the benefits of a summer camp experience. Dana is the co-founder of SCOPE Midwest (Summer Camp Opportunities Provide an Edge), a charity that provides camperships to underserved children throughout the Midwest at not-for-profit camps. Dana has been on the program planning team for the American Camp Association's national conference and is a speaker at conferences throughout the year. As a former water-ski instructor, Dana's favorite camp activity remains waterskiing. Dana also loves to play tennis with her father's 1983 wooden racket!



Former camper, counselor and year round Operations Director **EMILY "FERDIE" FERDMAN**, graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in English. Emily quickly realized her dream to work at her childhood summer camp. As the Operations Director, Emily works behind the scenes to ensure that everything runs smoothly. She does everything from planning our camp reunions and new camper parties, hiring office and support staff, organizing all of our camper transportation, and helps oversee the summer office. She also serves on the Illinois section board of the American Camp Association. Emily has spent 17 summers at our camp and sailing across our lake in "SS Ferdstr" is amongst her favorite things to do!

**In addition, we have several people that work in our office...they are such assets to our camps!**

Before joining us, Program Director **ROB BURNS** completed a four-year degree in business, and worked within the International marketing department of a French company. Having spent time living in Spain, Germany, Cyprus and England, Rob decided that he wanted to find out what an American summer camp was all about. In 2006, Rob joined us as a counselor and climbing instructor. For Rob, the "American Dream" became summer camp and he has been living and working full-time for camp ever since! Rob moved to Chicago in 2006 for his role as the Greenwoods program director. He has always had a passion for soccer, but the boys at camp have opened his eyes to many new activities including: wakeboarding, climbing, and gaga! Rob recently completed the Honolulu Marathon and is always looking for the next challenge.

**SAM FRICK** joined our year round team last year as our male staffing coordinator. He just finished his 4th summer with us, and has been a counselor, water-ski director and co-program director at Greenwoods Camp. Sam devotes much of the winter months to interviewing and recruiting the best possible staff to join our team in Decatur. Outside of camp, Sam loves wakeboarding and golfing. He is a May 2008 graduate of Concordia University in Moorhead, Minnesota where he majored in Political Science and History.

Our Resident Life Director **AMY LATULIPPE** was a counselor and water-ski instructor with us in 1993 and 1994. She rejoined Lake of the Woods and Greenwoods as our Resident Life Director and Parent Liaison at The Glen and The Grove for the summer of 2007 and is now part of our full-time team! During her years away from camp, Amy graduated from the University of Illinois with a degree in Psychology and Human Development and Family Studies, completed her masters in Elementary Education at National Louis University, and began her career in elementary education. Amy taught 3<sup>rd</sup> grade for 4 years and Kindergarten for 4 years. She has 3 beautiful children and 3 very happy campers! Gabi, Brady, and Keegan join Amy at camp every summer.

From 1995-1999, **SHANA DORN** was an enthusiastic LWC camper. Her passion for camp never wavered and Shana continued on as a CIT, JC, and counselor for the next 6 summers. Throughout these years, she taught a variety of activities, everything from dance, aerobics and swimming, to even a brief stint as a rocketry instructor! In May of 2006, Shana graduated from the University of Iowa with a B.A. in Health and Sport Studies and Journalism. Shortly after, Shana attended her first camp conference and fell in love with the camping industry. During summers 2006-2010, Shana held several senior staff positions at LWC, including the Program Director at The Glen. As of January 2011, Shana joined our year round team as our Staffing Coordinator and Glen Program Director, and we couldn't be happier to have her on board.

**BOBBIE BLOCK** is our accountant and tennis superstar! Unfortunately Bobbie does not move to our summer camp office, but we are lucky to have two of her granddaughters at camp with us!

**SANDY GLASSON** is the friendly voice many of you will speak with when you call our winter office. Sandy works with us throughout the year to help with our many administrative tasks. She also happens to be the mother of Dayna Hardin and grandmother to our campers, Dylan and Tyler Hardin!

# **DIRECTOR'S DISH ON DO'S & DON'TS**

*Over the years we have helped many parents and campers succeed at their first home away from home experience. Here are some simple tips on the "do's & don'ts" to help your daughter's experience be a successful one:*

**DO** talk about homesickness! It is so important to talk with your daughter about how normal it is to feel homesick at camp. You can share with her that 99 out of 100 campers experience homesickness at some point during their stay. It is good to talk about what she should do if she does experience homesickness at camp. We will work with her and with you to come up with a plan to help her cope with these feelings. It is important to know that you can be homesick AND still have a great time at camp! Some of our most homesick campers continue to return year after year.

**DO** set some summer goals with your daughter. In addition to making friends and having fun, camp is about trying new things and learning new skills. We pride ourselves on the individual attention we give to each and every camper. We encourage all of our campers to set some personal goals each summer, whether it is learning how to water-ski or shooting a bulls eye in archery...we strive to help our campers achieve these goals during their stay at camp.

**DO** include your daughter in the camp shopping & packing process. It is great way to share your excitement for her upcoming experience and it is helpful for her to know what she is bringing to camp!

**DON'T** tell your daughter that you are not going to be okay without her this summer! Of course it is okay for her to know you will miss her, but we want to avoid her worrying about mom or dad while she is at camp. Try saying "I am going to miss you so much, but I know you are going to have the best time!"

**DON'T** make the "pick-up deal" by telling your daughter that you will come pick her up from camp if she does not like it, or is homesick. Children typically lose any motivation to try and succeed at camp if they think a parent is coming. We promise that she will hold you to this deal and it will make it much harder for us to help her adjust to life at camp. Part of camp is learning to work through situations that may not always be easy. Please know that the directors and counselors are taking great care of your daughter; we are committed to helping her throughout the summer so that she can have a positive and successful camp experience.

A final thought on parenting - it's not easy! Raising intelligent, decent kids is tough; in today's culture, girls have a unique set of challenges. Looking for insights? We recommend:

- **Emotional Intelligence**—*Daniel Goleman*
- **Best Friends/Worst Enemies: Understanding the Social Lives of Children** - *Michael Thompson*
- **Giving the Love That Heals, A Guide for Parents**—*Harville Hendrx*
- **Not Much Just Chillin': The Hidden Lives of Middle Schoolers**—*Linda Perlstein*
- **The Blessing of a Skinned Knee** - *Wendy Mogel*
- **Perfect Madness, Motherhood in the Age of Anxiety** - *Judith Warner*
- **Odd Girl Out, The Hidden Culture of Aggression in Girls** - *Rachel Simmons*
- **Queen Bees and Wannabes: Helping Your Daughter Survive Cliques, Gossip, Boyfriends, and Other Realities of Adolescence** - *Rosalind Wiseman*
- **Cliques** - *Charlene Giannetti and Margaret Sagarese*
- **Bullyproof Your Child for Life – Protect Your Child from Teasing** - *Joel Haber*





# Important Dates & Reminders

## DECEMBER

- We hope you cancel, but unless you are enrolled in CAP, December 15th is the last day to cancel enrollment without losing your deposit.

## MARCH

- You will receive the **MEDICAL MAILING**, which includes a Health History Form for your camper, information on camp medication and much more. This mailing will also include suggested packing lists.
- Your daughter will receive a letter from her 2012 CAMP SISTER, a return camper who is close in age. Our return campers look forward to telling your daughter all about camp and help answer any questions she might have. During the first week of camp we have a camp sister social so that our pen pals can finally meet in person!
- At the end of March you will receive the **FINAL MAILING PACKET** which includes a camper profile form, tuition statements, activity selection forms and our parent handbook which contains a lot of important information for parents. This is when your daughter will select the activities she would like to take at camp.

## APRIL

- **SAVE THE DATE** for our **Chicago Area New Camper Party & Parent Orientation, Thursday, April 19th.** We will be mailing out more information in the spring.
- Final tuition payments and all forms sent in the Final Mailing Packet are due back to our winter office no later than April 30th.

### Parents, please partner with us on the following camp policies...



#### ELECTRONICS POLICY

Our electronics policy helps to ensure that campers continue to have authentic social interactions with each other as well as avoid jealousy that may occur amongst campers who do not come to camp with these types of games. Handheld electronic games such as Gameboys, PSP's and Nintendos are NOT allowed at camp.

In addition, we do NOT allow **iPod Touches** or **iPads** at camp. Campers are allowed to bring iPods as long as they do not have video or internet capabilities (only Nanos and Shuffles). If your camper does have an iPod with videos on it, we ask that you remove all videos before camp.

We recommend that campers leave valuables at home, as the camp is not responsible for loss or damage.

#### PROHIBITED ITEMS

In addition to hand-held electronic games, we do NOT allow the following at camp:

- Cell phones
- Televisions
- DVD players
- Video cameras
- Laptop computers
- Fireworks
- Knives
- Electric fans
- Skateboards
- Scooters
- Food
- Bottled Water



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **Q: How and when do you make cabin assignments?**

**A:** You and your daughter will find out her cabin assignment once she arrives at camp! We carefully review each child's guidance form at the beginning of the summer and try our best to accommodate friend requests when it is a mutual request.

We do not finalize cabin placements until right before your daughter's arrival at camp, and hope you trust our judgment when doing so. If we are unable to meet one of your requests, we will call you before camp so there will be NO surprises for you or your daughter. We spend a great deal of time putting each cabin group together to ensure a fun dynamic for your child where they can be with old friends and make new ones!

Please don't panic if your daughter is coming to camp and does not know anyone...we think it can be the best way to experience overnight camp; after all, camp is about meeting new people and making new friends! In addition to our camp sister program and new camper party we are happy to give you more information about other campers the same age that are enrolled. We have helped many new campers connect with other campers throughout the year! Once at camp, our wonderful counselors are trained to help facilitate connections amongst campers all summer long.

## **Q: When and how does my daughter pick her camp activities and schedule?**

**A:** Campers will create their own activity schedules prior to arriving at camp by filling out an Activity Selection Form that you will receive at the end of March, this form will help us get to know your daughter's interests prior to her arrival. This is also a great way for you to review the camp activities as a family and discuss different options with your child before camp. There are over 40 different activities to choose from, so the hard part will be narrowing it down to 9 or 10 "elective" activities that she really wants to focus on while at camp. We will take the activities your daughter selects and create a customized schedule. Your daughter will receive a copy of her schedule on the first day of camp. We encourage all of our campers to try their schedule at least twice and then we are happy to make any schedule changes at the end of the first week.

Each day consists of five, 55-minute activity periods. The first 2 activities take place between breakfast and lunch and the 3 afternoon activities follow lunch and rest-hour until dinner. If she chooses, your daughter may leave one activity period open three days a week as a "free choice" period. During "free choice", activities that are not taught as a class will be available. These include ping-pong tournaments, free swim, sporting events, GaGa, crafts projects and more.

In addition to the instructional activities, we offer private lessons in golf, tennis and basketball, which are scheduled during down-times like rest hour. Private lessons do not count as an elective activity.

## **SAMPLE DAILY SCHEDULE**

	A DAY	B DAY
1st Period	Western Riding—Beginner	Gymnastics
2nd Period	Arts & Crafts	Climbing
3rd Period	Swimming	Hip-Hop Dance
4th Period	Water-skiing	Sailing
5th Period	Free Choice	Drama

Lake of the Woods Camp for Girls  
650 Vernon Ave. #202  
Glencoe, IL 60022



### **DIRECTORS ON THE ROAD**

We are often asked what we do during the "off-season." Even though we are not at camp, we are busy throughout the year recruiting staff, planning the program, and we travel all over to attend camp conferences and fairs. If we are traveling to an area near you, we would love to arrange a time to meet your family!



#### **November 7th-9th—White Plains, New York**

We will be attending a conference with a group of private camp directors on the East coast to share best practices.

#### **January 27th and 28th— St. Louis, Missouri**

We look forward to seeing many of our campers who live in Missouri for a camp get-together. We will also have a booth at The Summer Opportunities Fair on January 28th at Whitfield School.

#### **February 20th-24th Atlanta, Georgia**

We will be attending the American Camp Association's (ACA) National Conference.

#### **March 13-March 16th— Atlantic City, New Jersey**

We will be attending the ACA's Tri-State conference.



## **SAVE THE DATE!!!**

### **CHICAGO AREA NEW CAMPER PARTIES & PARENT ORIENTATION**

**Thursday, April 19th**

Both parties will be at the Glencoe Park District.  
More information will be mailed out in the spring.