



FALL ISSUE... 2015

The Cheley **PACK RAT**

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Ninety-Five Years of Fun in the Rockies

The spirit button for 2015 was NFYO FITR: Ninety-Five Years of Fun in the Rockies. Ninety-Five Years!!! I think Frank had plans for Cheley Camps to celebrate 95 years of success. He built the lodges and cabins with quality and a vision that Cheley Camps would impact children for years to come. With only 70 boys at the time, he built Ski Hi Lodge to handle over 200 people. He purchased the Land 'O Peaks Ranch that had enough room for expansion and provided a buffer from the future growth of Estes Park.



I think Frank would be humbled and honored to see that Cheley Camps is still alive and well. We have weathered fires, floods, economic downturns, and changes in our culture. However, we still provide an experience that is so important for our youth. One of my favorite stories is of Frank's comments when he was creating the Trail's End Ranches. He felt that children were becoming to "citified" and that they were losing the pioneer spirit. This was back in the 1940s. I can't imagine what he would think today. A lot has changed since 1921, but the Cheley Experience has stayed pretty consistent. Yes, we have added rafting, mountain biking, technical climbing and stand up paddle boarding. And we have discontinued skeet shooting, wearing jeans and cowboy hats on hikes, and running our horses up Fish Creek Road. However, the values and ideals of Cheley have remained consistent. The Code of Living has always been a cornerstone of our program. It is one of the few places in a young person's life where they get to decide on the values they want to strive towards. It is also one of the few places where young adults are constantly reminded to

IN THIS ISSUE...

| | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Ninety-Five Years of Fun..... | 1 |
| Camp Dates for 2016 Season..... | 2 |
| 95th Reunion..... | 2 |
| Lower Chipeta 2015..... | 3 |
| Lower Ski Hi 2015..... | 4 |
| Chipeta 2015..... | 5 |
| Ski Hi 2015..... | 7 |
| Senior Chipeta 2015..... | 8 |
| Haiyaha 2015..... | 9 |
| Girls' Trail's End 2015..... | 10 |
| Boys' Trail's End 2015..... | 12 |
| Cheley/Children's Burn Camp..... | 14 |
| Teen Summit Camp..... | 15 |
| Around the Campfire..... | 15 |



Trigger Bill says...

You have to live a lot of your life with yourself, so learn to enjoy your own company.



CAMP DATES FOR 2016

Full Season:

Wed. June 15th – Mon. Aug. 8th

First Term:

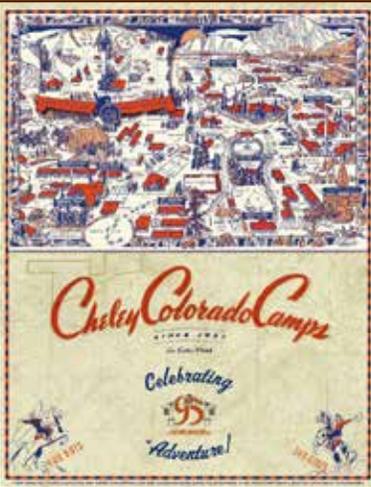
Wed. June 15th – Mon. July 11th

Second Term:

Wed. July 13th – Mon. Aug. 8th

Family Camp:

Tues. Aug. 9th – Sun. Aug 14th



PACK RAT PUT TOGETHER BY

Around the Campfire: Cheley Staff

Staff Updates: Jeff Cheley

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do the right thing. We sincerely believe that campers are leaving at the end of the term a bit more prepared to succeed in their communities.

This summer, we witnessed the value of children unplugging and connecting with each other and with nature. Campers had a chance to slow down and just be kids. They got dirty, they pushed themselves, and they created memories that will last a lifetime. The staff members pushed themselves and dedicated their summer to the Cheley mission. Every person leaves Cheley a little stronger, a little wiser, and a little happier. Thank you Frank for having the vision 95 years ago to create a place dedicated to the development of our youth.

95th Reunion

We were pleased with the turnout of the reunion. Almost all decades were represented and a wonderful group of people came together on a beautiful Labor Day Weekend. We kicked things off with a camp dinner and a good ole square dance in the Dome.

On Saturday, activities for campers included: hiking, horseback riding, archery, climbing wall, and fishing. It was a beautiful evening and fun was had by all as we enjoyed BBQ down at the Ranch. To cap off a fun evening, we were blessed to have Paul Weidig along with Dianne McKinney lead us in camp songs in the majestic Totem Teepee. On Sunday, we gathered for a Sunday service in the chapel, followed by lunch at Woods Kitchen. The John Austin Cheley Foundation presented Cheley with a birthday cake at lunch. We ended the day and the weekend with a peaceful vespers with inspirational readings as we watch the sun go down. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for being a part of the legacy of Cheley. As we celebrated the weekend, it was in the back of our minds that the 100th will be here before we know it. Stay connected so that you don't miss out!



CHELEY PACK RAT

is published four times a year by Cheley Colorado Camps to keep the Camp Family informed – send us news and information about you and your friends. The PACK RAT is mailed free of charge to all current campers and staff, as well as to lifetime and annual members of "Cheley Friends." Others who are interested may get an annual subscription by sending their name and address with a check for \$15 to PACK RAT Editor, Cheley Colorado Camps, 601 Steele Street, P.O. Box 6525, Denver, CO 80206.

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER 

2015 Another Great Summer



Lower Chipeta

In Lower Chipeta, we pride ourselves in providing “unique life experiences” for our campers “in a challenging and nurturing natural environment,” as part of the Cheley mission states. Our nine to 11 year-old campers certainly pushed themselves by being away from home for nearly four weeks, trying different activities and making new friends, all while in the beautiful mountains of Estes Park. Whether it was hiking in Rocky Mountain National Park, riding a horse, climbing the face of a rock, shooting an air rifle or bow, sleeping under the stars, cooking over a fire or channeling their creativity in crafts, each girls challenged herself in one way or another. Although our wonderful summer has come to an end, we are hopeful that the skills and lessons that were learned will continue to be used throughout the year.

In our horseback riding program, **Ali Brown, Morgan McGonagle** and **Meghan Riviello** taught campers persistence, self-sufficiency and determination. Not only did girls have the opportunity to ride in the ring, where they focused on improving specific horsemanship skills, but they also had the opportunity to go on trail rides. There were several dinner rides, which allowed our campers to ride on a trail to a campsite and then cook their meal over a campfire. Several of our girls even had the opportunity to try English riding and barebacking! We are proud to say that each camper in Lower Chipeta rode at least once this summer— an impressive feat! Some chose to further develop and hone their horsemanship skills and knowledge of horse care and earned their riding patch: **Rowan Ahearn, Soffia Cady, Ryan Champagne, Kate Gillikin, Emily Gottshall, Jane Harker, Lexi Hill, Macey Lillard, Ella Shofnos, Alexandra Vinton, Meghan Castro, Charlotte Commons, Madison Foster, Sophia Cornell, Grace Selke, Brynne Hobart, Hannah Langer, Margaret Lipton, Carly Najarian, Parker Palmer, Margaret Periard** and **Annabelle Sallick**.

Meggie Buikema and **Emily Moss** led the hiking program and spent nearly every day in Rocky Mountain National Park, hiking to lakes, waterfalls, glaciers, and to the tops of peaks. Each hike was themed and many of the girls chose to wear costumes, which added to the fun of being in the mountains. Every camper signed up for at least one hike in the park this summer! A few of our campers challenged themselves even further by signing up for early breakfast (EB) hikes. Destinations included Flattop, Hallett and Mount Ida, as well as Chapin, Chaquita and Ypsilon. Those who earned their chipmunk patch for hiking learned to identify mountains and flowers, memorized and practiced the Leave No Trace principles and demonstrated their knowledge of the outdoors. **Olivia Ferrell, Gillian Hazlett, Emma**

Coulter, Gabrielle Marchant, Ainsley McKay and **Page Roulette** received their chipmunk patch.

Outcamps with **Alison Hix** and **Kristin McLerran** always included great food and fun games! Some of the skills that the girls learned on outcamps included how to set up a tent, start a fire and properly live in the outdoors while minimizing one’s impact on nature. They had the opportunity to sleep in different types of shelters like teepees and tents, or make their own shelters out of tarps. Recipients of the outcamping patch were: **Marina Griffin, Hayden McJunkin, Isabella Nelson, Anne O’Neill, Olivia Ritchie, Manuela Sepulveda, Naomi Wolff, Leah Wood, Madison Foster, Annika Jones, Bea Kaufman, Sierra Ross** and **Emma Singer**.



In crafts, **Abby Mayo**, encouraged the campers to use their minds and hands to be creative using various media. Projects included: ceramics, woodworking, tie dye, jewelry, wind chimes and leather products. Campers had the unique opportunity to hike Cathedral, a mountain behind camp, and sketch the town of Estes Park below. Hopefully, this summer’s crafts made great gifts and are beautiful pieces to display in your homes!

Our riflery counselor, **Allison Cruthis**, taught safety and focus while on the range. Using air rifles, the girls learned to shoot in the prone position and had fun working to improve their accuracy during the summer. Over 60 campers earned their young specialist patch, which requires that the shooter hit the target five times consecutively. **Emmie Andres** and **Katherine Boone**, our sports counselors, also worked on marksmanship with the girls in archery. Over 60 girls earned an arrow

*Heated arguments
don't make warm friends.*



for their accuracy on the archery range! The sports counselors also worked with campers on the climbing wall. The following campers demonstrated their proficiency in climbing safety and knots earned their spider patch: **Emilee Arias, Sara Burke, Luisa Dorigo, Siona Dua, Kate Gillikin, Emily Gregg, Sara Hamilton, Ellie Klebe, Hayden McJunkin, Sophia Pike, Natalie Sulester, Amelia Vinton, Sara Conroy, Natalie Dumler, Mackenzie Hampton, Caroline Chinn, Anya Dua, Hadley Morris, Olivia Ritchie, Madison Foster, Savannah Harvey, Brodie Rodemacher, and Ellie Rutledge.**

The Circle of Stars patch is earned for trying a variety of activities. **Caroline Chinn, Anya Dua, Siona Dua, Lauren Duffy, Sadie Furmaniak, Ellie Klebe, Freyja Kremer, Macey Lillard, Sophia Pike, Alexandra Vinton, Leigh Waxter, Amelia Vinton, Sofia Bozzuto, Sara Conroy, Georgia Cooper, Emma Coulter, Natalie Dumler, Sloane Dunker, Valeria Giorgi, Ava Goldson, Savannah Harvey, Sara Herrera, Brynne Hobart, Emily Gottshall, Sofia Bours, Emma Brown, Brodie Rodemacher, Allie Weil, Annika Jones, Marilyn Lindsley, Quinn Merrill, Claire Moore, Carly Najarian, Ellie Rutledge, Annabelle Sallick, Eliza Thorpe, Katherine Walsh, Violet Wexler, Willow Whelan and Anneka Zimmermann** earned their Circle of Stars patch.

Each night, our campfire counselor, **Emily Arvola**, organized various activities including: Mario Kart, sparklers for the Fourth of July, Talent Night, dance parties, All-Camp Campfire and a spa night with Senior Chipeta. Several campers had the opportunity to visit Chipeta and Girls' Trail's End to see what life is like in the older units. Our campfires always included singing songs and telling stories from the day's activities.

The Silver Coup is a special recognition that is not earned for completing certain requirements, but is voted on by the campers. Each term, campers worked together to create a Code of Living that they promised to live up to. Some characteristics and traits included on both term's Codes were: sisterhood, respect and kindness. Silver Coup recipients were **Kate Gillikin, Manuela Sepulveda, Amelia Vinton, Natalie Dumler, Brynne Hobart, Ainsley McKay and Emma Singer.** We are confident that every Lower Chipeta camper will continue to be the best version of herself by living their Code throughout the year.

This summer was an incredible experience and we thank you for sharing your girls with us! Together, we learned and laughed a lot. We also challenged ourselves daily in the "nurturing and natural environment" that we all call Cheley and many of us call our second home. Hopefully, we will see your camper next summer and will create more wonderful memories in the beautiful Rocky Mountains!

*Sarah Glasser, Mallory Guinee,
and Kathleen Hooper*



*More people are thoughtless
than are speechless.*



Lower Ski Hi

It has been an incredibly adventurous summer full of growth and fun here in Lower Ski Hi! Countless games of knockout are no longer rattling the chains of our unit's basketball hoop, sounds of singing "Lean on Me" have been replaced by quiet noises of nature, and our counselors are reminiscing on all of the great memories made with the remarkable campers we hosted over the past eight weeks. Just like the campers, the staff are back home and telling anyone who will listen about all of their amazing experiences at camp.

Showing off pictures from hiking beautiful peaks and lakes such as The Loch and Steep Mountain is a common occurrence among campers upon returning home. **Ryan Balderrama** and **Dan Havel** had an awesome time fostering stronger connections to nature and using Rocky Mountain National Park as their playground. These counselors also helped the boys persevere through many EBs, or Early Breakfast



hikes. These hikers peaked more difficult destinations such as Mount Lady Washington and Mount Ida. Within the hiking program, there were a handful of campers who went above and beyond in their knowledge and appreciation of nature on the trails, and they were recognized with the chipmunk patch for hiking: **Tommy Branon, Luca Chaia, Sam Furmaniak, Matthew Kintzele, Ethan Reich, and Spencer Rosenblum.**

Our Outcamping program is one of the most popular ones during sign-ups. Counselors **Drew Barrett** and **Sam Jarrell**, provided a nearly luxurious camping experience with great food, such as King Ranch Chicken, and fun games like Capture the Flag. While these trips were always a great time, campers also learned principles of Leave No Trace, and being safe and sanitary while cooking, cleaning and playing. These campers gained and demonstrated a more in depth knowledge of these aspects of outcamping were recognized with their outcamping patch: **Andrew Brust, David Craine, Jackson Harada, Kalen Hazlett, Ryan Hingle, Keegan Miller, Carter Bartel, Rocco Bazzano**

Joseph, Oliver Clarke, Aidan Collins, Hudson Donovan, Tilden Lamme, Cade Oster, Kellan Oster, Harry Robison, and Noah Triplett.

Another program that enjoys the beautiful scenery surrounding us in Estes Park is the horseback riding program. Campers who signed up for rides learned and developed basic skills in the riding ring, on trail rides with splendid scenery, and dinner rides, where they would cook a gourmet meal at their destination. **Dan Byrne, Luke Quibell, and Tyler Humphrey** were proud of how much riding skills improved throughout the



summer, and the skills showcased in the Horse Show echoed their sentiments. The following campers earned their riding patch: **Eddie Bullard, Dominic Jackson, Maximilian Kassoy, Joey Kennedy, Cohen Kolbe, Davis McMahon, Max Mercuri, William Parker, Lance Setright, William Clarke, William Harding, Alexander Hornady, Ambrose Vellequette, and Baillie Weil.**

Target sports – archery and riflery – were another challenging, yet enjoyable and popular program for campers. Not only were they able to improve their marksmanship in each, but they were also able to have some fun shooting paint and water balloons, as well as cans and bottles. We also had some friendly competition with our sister unit, Lower Chipeta, in shootouts at the end of each term. No matter the results, a great time was had by all!

We displayed our creativity by making some awesome stuff with **Mike Koerner** in Crafts. Campers loved making paracord survival bracelets, God's eyes, tie-dyed t-shirts, and dream catchers. What an incredible opportunity for us to express our creativity this summer!

Whether it was on the climbing wall or on Christmas Tree Rock, many campers were climbing like spiders! The following campers climbed several times and learned how to belay correctly, how to harness in, and many safety procedures, earning their spider patch: **Eddie Bullard, David Craine, Jackson Harada, Russell Hutchens, Patrick McMahon, John Senti, Lance Setright, Emilio Velez, Gus Balasubramaniam, Wyatt Benes, Hugh Carlin, William Clarke, Aidan Collins, Michael Dietrich, Beck Gilliland, Keller Gilliland, Will Harding, William Herff, William Regan, Ethan Reich,**

William Sessions, Benjamin Simmons, Garrett Suits, Jamie Sussman, Grant Weerts, and Baillie Weil.

The Circle of Stars recognition was created to encourage campers to get the most well rounded experience possible at camp. For this patch, campers must participate and be competent in a wide variety of activities and programs. The following campers earned their patch: **Alexander Choi, David Craine, Lucas del Valle, Mateo del Valle, Elijah Echols, Benjamin Esquer, Bernardo Esquer, Theo Frericks, Hunter Haney, Jack Hodge, Russell Hutchens, Maximilian Kassoy, Benjamin Koppman, Davis Loy, Corby Martinez, Patrick McMahon, Keegan Miller, Rett Palecek, Sam Roth, Gustav Sjoberg, Rogelio Tapia, Ryan Tozzi, Jesus Antonio Urias Burr, Gus Balasubramaniam, Carter Bartel, Rocco Bazzano Joseph, Reed Carter, Alec Cevallos, Michael Dietrich, Benjamin Harding, Harrison Henke, William Herff, Wyatt Lindgren, Oliver Niemann, Kellan Oster, Matthew Rowe, Garrett Suits, and Grant Weerts.**

Every term of campers here at Cheley creates a unique Code of Living. Throughout the term, the camper-created Code of Living sets a standard and goal to strive towards during their time here. At the close of each term, the unit in its entirety, counselors included, vote on the campers who they feel most lived up to each of the characteristics and ideals on the code. These were the campers who best lived up to their respective codes this summer, and received their Silver Coup: **Carter Griffin, Jonah Craine, Rett Palecek, Keegan Miller, Rocco Bazzano Joseph, Henry Rosenblum, Noah Triplett, Aidan Collins, Will Harding, and Lars Olsen.**

Soon enough the school year will be over and sounds of laughter, rattling chains, and off-key singing will take back their place here in Lower Ski Hi. I assure you that we will be counting down the days until then!

Harrison Shure, Garet Tucker, and Callum Fraser



Chipeta

As the temperature drops and the aspen leaves start to shimmer with gold, it's officially time to say the summer is over. Yet the memories live on, catching in the warm glow of laughter shared over a campfire, of tired smiles as the sun rises over a mountain peak, of the creak of saddles on a hillside trail, and the echoing silence after another friendship circle draws to a close. Though we may be scattered miles apart, the bonds of friendship and love hold us together, connecting us to each other, and the generations of Chipeta campers who have come before and will come after.

*No opportunity is ever lost;
somebody else takes those
you miss.*



Cheley believes that “great things happen when youth and mountains meet,” and this summer proved no different. While each program varied, our collective pursuit remained the same: to grow in character and resiliency, to revel in the beauty of the National Park around us, and to foster empathy and respect for all aspects of our lives, together at Cheley, and in our own homes.

As so often happens, some of the best moments of the summer happened in the most challenging circumstances. Chipetans woke up early to peak mountains on foot and on horseback, embarked on four-day backpacks, and pushed themselves and each other to deepen their knowledge of the park and the different program areas.

Led by **Brigitte Bushnell** and **Lindsay Miller**, our campers tackled Chapin, Chiquita and Ypsilon; Longs Peak; an 18-mile traverse from Bear Lake to Grand Lake; and Thatchtop. We also visited a variety of lakes, from Black Lake to Gem, Finch to Jewel. In an effort to further challenge themselves, **Fritze Mayer, Allie Means, Frances Street, Sarah Street, Eleanor Lockhart, Lucy McCollum, Ivy Goldson, Laura Moore, Margot Rosenblatt, Gwen Harker, Laura Zelenka, Sally Buck, Helen Ruckelshaus, and Bunny Rutledge** earned their hiking patch.

Some girls wanted more from the mountains, and opted to sleep nestled under the pine trees and the stars. Led by **Brittany Hecht** and **Christa Peterson**, backpacks this summer included Caribou Lake, Parika Lake, and Chapin Creek to Hague Creek. Backpacking patch recipients for this summer were: **Lauren Mayo, Abigail Amonett, and Jane Olsen.**

Wranglers, **Rachel Tanner, Sarah Henson** and **Molly Daniels** led trail rides to Storm Pass and Eugenia Mines, overnights to Pierson Meadow, and riding lessons in the rings. The girls mastered the basics of horsemanship, and grew in confidence, poise and knowledge. The following Chipetans earned their riding patch: **Osha Ashcraft, Lily Olson, Sofia Damico, Esme McGaughy, Mary Frances McGaughy, Caroline Michael, Mia Nelson, Lily Cohen, Anja Stefka, Sloan Trapp, Dillon Case, Jesse Wham, Hallie Toren, Alexa Sutherlin, Sarah Tarczali, Emilia Pintado** and **Bella Hughes.**

Some of the most rewarding times at camp are spent in quiet reflection, or in laughter around a campfire. Led by **Ashley Carter** and **Clare McKinney**, our outcamps to TE Crossing, Teepee Village and Meadow Outpost, provided a much needed space to deepen connections and ruminate over our personal challenges and growth. Congratulations to **Clare Coffman, Marleigh Hill, Emma Koholua-Charlton, Lana Winograde, Tabitha Wolfe,** and **Jolie Kim** for earning their outcamping patch.

Occasionally, a single-minded pursuit is too constrictive to those whose hearts wander more widely. Not to be tied down, these young women tested the limits of their boundaries, and found they could go as far as their imaginations would carry them. In recognition of their adventurous spirits, the following campers earned their On the Trail patch: **Izabel Acosta, Charlotte Clark, Isabel D'Angelo, Kendall Floyd, Gwen Harker, Marleigh Hill, Ava Honerkamp, Macy Loy, Emma Maiocco, Nina Marasco, Tara Marasco, Fritze Mayer, Lauren Mayo, Esme McGaughy, Mary Frances McGaughy, Allie Means, Alexa Narlinger,**



Isabella Pare, Sarah Pokorny, Marcy Senti, Margo Simon, Anja Stefka, Frances Street, Sarah Street, Ruby Sutherlin-Sovern, Quinn Toomey, Emma Topping, Sloan Trapp, Malli Tyson, Sarah Van Hare, Lana Winograde, Tabitha Wolfe, Lily Yandell, Laura Zelenka, Carmen Goldberg, Scarlett Irwin, Eleanor Lockhart, Campbell Nicholson, Bunny Rutledge, Alexa Sutherlin, Karina Wilbur, Vivienne Kaufman, Hallie Toren, Emilia Pintado, Elena Hyre, Ivy Goldson, Abby Amonett, Sally Buck, Helen Ruckelshaus, Jolie Kim, Regan Cooney, Gigi Douillard, Jesse Wham, Isabella Hughes, Dillon Case, Lucy McCollum, Jane Olsen, Phoebe Schneider, Olivia Soler-Roig, Maya Winfield, Sarah Tarczali, Laura Moore, Kendall Bartel, Margot Rosenblatt, Joy Wagnon, Kate Olsen, Rebecca Dunlap, Lola Murnighan, Elizabeth Rowe, and Daniela Becerra.

In an effort to take advantage of all the Cheley has to offer, including some behind-the-scenes work at campfire and cookout, the following girls earned their pinecone patch this summer: **Izabel Acosta, Isabella Pare, Sarah Pokorny, Marcy Senti, Kendall Floyd, Bridget Bullard, Katrina Csaky, Colby Case,** and **Kendall Bartel.**

Girls also accepted challenges that require absolute focus and determination. Led by **Claire Scates, Maggie Flint** and **Marion Hearne**, the girls learned that beautiful things take hard work to create, that stealth and aim were sometimes a girl's best weapons (for the Hunger Games), and a steady hand would led to military precision on the range. At the end of a hard day, we would settle onto benches worn smooth by generations of Chipeta campers, recount our day's adventures, and sing, arm in arm, to the accompaniment of **Emery Wilkins'** guitar.



Most of us know how to say nothing; few of us know when.

What ultimately sets Cheley apart is our firm belief in the Code of Living: a living document created by each unit, each term, reflective of the values to which we aspire and to which we hold ourselves accountable. The Silver Spurs is a testament to those values, a recognition manifest in the young women of Chipeta. The following campers received their Silver Spurs: **Charlotte Clark, Taylor Foky, Allie Means, Sarah Van Hare, Sarah Street, Ivy Goldson, Kate Olsen, Eleanor Lockhart** and **Bunny Rutledge**. To echo Recognition Night, "It is the Code that sustains us. It is a camper's knowledge that she will continue to live the Code that is the real honor, the real reward. This is not the culmination, the end of a quest. Rather, it is the value of a life journey, far more than any destination."

While the last notes of taps in the dusk only whispers in memory, the lessons we've learned together in these mountains reverberate with strength and joy, sustaining us until our next summer together.

*Ali Kittle, Becky Williams,
and Shelbie Loonam-Hesser*

In the hiking program, **Giacomo Bonetti, Joshua Hadden, and Bodhi Kier** all earned their hiking patch. These campers put many miles on their hiking boots



and took it upon themselves to push their limits deep in the heart of Rocky Mountain National Park. While not every hike was an easy one, they persevered and took many great memories away from this program.

The backpacking program offers amazing views that will last a lifetime, a wide range of day hikes, great trail food, and the opportunity to earn one of the most difficult patches here at Cheley: the backpacking patch. **Emil Chaia, Ethan Curnett, Joshua Hadden, Max Balasubramaniam, Harrison Donovan, and William Holst** all challenged themselves to try to be more positive and lead by example while participating in the strenuous trips. They proved that they are all capable and proficient in the program, and earned the respect of many.

The horseback riding program had a few men work above and beyond in the program to earn their riding patches. They had to learn and be proficient in anything and everything dealing with horses and the riding program overall. **Calvin Wilson, Chase Avery, and Owen Fuller** all have been awarded their riding patch.

Our outcamping patch recipients were: **Carlos Real, August Bryan, Brady Lamme, Henry Martin, and Jose Elverdin**. Pinecone patch recipients are: **Sam Biznek, Joshua Hadden, Tyler Hess, Russell Sherman, Joshua Bellin, Patrick Wood, Nico Alioto-Pier, James Commons, Brady Lamme, Andrew Meyers, Andrew Milewski, and Elliot Nieman**. Each of these campers challenged themselves to do more and to be their best self, always willing to go that extra mile to help out.



The crisp morning air, the sun rising over the mountains, the wind whispering through the strong pines, and a calm sense of great days ahead still remain on the hill of Ski Hi. Although the campers, staff, morning bell wake ups, stomping of horse hooves, and the fresh smell of cinnamon rolls flowing out of the kitchen all have left the spot on the hill we call home, our summer still lives on through the warm thoughts of peaking the mountain as the sun rises on that EB hike, the thought of riding that horse over the ridge towards Pierson Meadow, and waking up in our tents while out on the trail backpacking or outcamping.

The sports field no longer has fresh tracks in the morning dew, the crafts shop remains silent and ready for inventors, while the waters of Colorado find themselves devoid of rafters and paddle boarders. The rifle and archery ranges no longer have metal whizzing through the air and our climbing walls are no longer sporting colorful ropes, hanging like massive pieces of tinsel.

Deep in the Rocky Mountains, we've had the opportunity to challenge ourselves in many different activities and the chance to build friendships when we returned back to the unit to share our stories from the day. Whether it was riding a horse or strapping a pack to our backs and heading into the wilderness, each of us have stories we can share for a lifetime. This year, many Ski Hi campers were so committed to their programs they earned a patch in the programs they chose to learn and master.

*A person's true wealth is the
good they do in the world.*



The young men that have earned their Silver Spurs this summer all went above and beyond on a daily basis in order to make each and every campers camp experience one to remember for many years to come. The Silver Spur recipients were voted on by their fellow campers. They have consistently shown and proven that they treat the code and everyone in camp with the utmost respect. They received these spurs as a reminder to keep that sense of camaraderie alive in day to day life and not just here at camp. **Ethan Curnett, Jose Elverdin, Nathan Laurent, Gian Martinez, Morgan Yockey, Miles Nardi, Myles Rosenblum, Wyatt Zatterstrom, and Conner Meegan** received their Silver Spurs.

The men of Ski Hi had an experience that will last a lifetime. They have learned to appreciate the little things, to learn about others and where they come from, and to always remember to take a moment to get outside and appreciate nature. We wish all of you the best of luck in anything you put your minds to and hope to see you all next year at Cheley Colorado Camps.

"Sometimes the most ordinary things could be made extra ordinary, simply by doing them with the right people."



Senior Chipeta

As we look back on the sunshine daydream summer of 2015, all we can do is smile. We strived to live up to our Code of Living by embracing others and ourselves. We kept swimming and persevered through challenges. Although camp provides a safe and healthy environment, in which we can be our best selves, we are confident that the Titanium Women of Senior Chipeta have continued to live up to the Code while they share the Cheley light with their communities at home.

This summer, **Katie Clurman, Anna Lindgren, and Amy Dunn** taught us how to use effective communication while being patient horseback riders. Going to exciting destinations like Sand Beach Lake and Chasm Junction were just part of what made the riding program so fun. Patiently and confidently, the riders took on the challenge of riding horses that were formerly in the Colt program at Cheley. We are thankful for their perseverance with the young horses and know that their work will benefit riders for years to come. Congratulations to the young women who earned their riding patch this summer: **Zoe Bennett, Mackenzie Burkhardt, Grace**



The best thing about telling the truth is that you don't have to remember it.

Cross, Meg Biznek, Ania Real, Julie Street, Annie Tobey, Hattie Hobart, Avery McKay, Sam Telson, Maddie Smith, Eva Lopez, and Charlie Dill.

The Trail Hand is a recognition that is decided by the riding counselors, rather than a typical patch that is earned by completing requirements. A camper who



is awarded the Trail Hand has earned their riding patch in a previous summer and demonstrates knowledge that goes above and beyond basic patch skills. **Maddie Laidlaw** received her Trail Hand based on her exemplary skills in the ring and on the trail, helpfulness in all aspects of the riding program, and overall strength of character.

Taylor Meneley, Jacquie Weddell, and Jordan Warmath might still be sore from all the miles they hiked this summer, but the memories of peaking mountains and visiting alpine lakes remain strong. Using the scope and sequence philosophy, hikers started with easy hikes like Mills Lake and worked their way to waking up at 2:00 A.M. for EBs (Early Breakfast hike) to Desolation and Circle Peaks. Expanding their knowledge of first aid, maps, and general outdoor practices were the recipients of the hiking patch: **Lucy Conlon, Kate Penner, Kaitlin Steinfort, Olivia Pozder, Elizabeth Cummings, Julie Street, Sophie Lackner, Maddie Bryan, Ellie Daugherty, and Rachel Sohn.**

We now know that backpacking is not just an activity- it's a lifestyle. **Kristen Thomas** and **Laurel Starr** helped us unplug and leave civilization in order to find inner peace in the wilderness. From Michigan Lakes to Fourth of July Mines, the backpackers searched far and wide for solitude and the meaning of life. We all gained a deeper appreciation for the outdoors and each other because of the backpackers' commitment to living in the moment. While the program was never renamed to "Fannypacking", there's always next year! **Maya Mohr, Annie Albers, Taylor Champlin, Daisy Williams, Megan McCoy, Paige Cassidy, and Dani Brown** went above and beyond to earn their backpacking patch.

It was a special summer for our recipient of the Tyrolean. **Sophie Lackner** displayed exceptional proficiency in the hiking and backpacking programs for years. This summer, she was recognized as a woman who is extremely knowledgeable in the backcountry and can be trusted in any situation. The Tyrolean is similar to the Trail Hand in the sense that it is not



earned like a patch, but given to recognize a camper who has gone above and beyond in the hiking and backpacking programs.

After countless games of "Dirt or Bruise," we hope that **Jamie Dyer** has recovered from an exhilarating summer of mountain biking. From tough rides to Pierson, to the feature ride at Devil's Backbone, the mountain bikers showed what it means to be buff mountain women. Values like perseverance and mental strength helped the bikers conquer big hills together as a team. Congratulations to these women for earning their mountain biking patch: **Willa Doss, Lily Lederer, and Kate Watkins.**

Our outcamping counselor, **Claire Zollondz**, taught us how to build fires and shelters using tarps and ropes during overnight trips. Congratulations to **Tana Elias** and **Julia Dunn** for earning their outcamping patch this summer. The following campers earned their On The Trail Patch for spending more than 15 days out of camp in various program areas: **Morgan Dunn, Lizzy Farr, Margie Hemp, Taylor Kerr, Hannah Park, Ania Real, Lilly Brilz, Alyssa Elliott, Bahia Elverdin, Hattie Hobart, Megan McCoy, Avery McKay, and Rachel Sohn.**

Not only did campers go off camp property to enjoy program, but many also stayed at camp to participate in activities such as crafts, riflery, and archery. **Michelle Eveker** taught us how to make glass beads, tie-dye t-shirts, and leather bracelets during crafts. **Olivia Miller** guided over 60 campers in receiving an archery arrow or riflery patch/pin this summer. Congratulations to **Taryn d'Avignon** for earning her Gold Arrow this summer! At the end of each day, **Maggie Mitchell** would lead us in fun campfires such as Disco with Lower Ski Hi, Eagle Cry, and Building the Titanium Woman!

After creating their Code of Living, the women of Senior Chipeta continuously strived to make the traits integral parts of their lives. As voted by the unit, the women who best lived up to the Code and received their Gold Key this summer were: **Willa Doss, Kate Penner, Lucy Carlson-Krakoff, Hana Lindsey, Julia Lackner, Erin Bingaman, Emily Carroll, Charlie Dill, Maddie Laidlaw, Dani Brown, and Sophie Lackner.**

Our CILTS (Campers in Leadership Training) were: **Meg Miller, Julia Friedberg, Isabelle Arnheim, Emily Carroll, Laura Street, Hannah Wineman, Lanie Flint, Kate Wood, Jessica Thompson, Hana Lindsey, Taylor Kerr and Ginger Resko.**

We miss hearing laughter in the courtyard and passing around handfuls of granola to honor the sisterhood during Sunday breakfasts. Although the summer is over, our journey towards being our best selves is not. We left the real world of Cheley a few months ago, but the spirit of the Titanium Women of Senior Chipeta remains strong. "From the hills we gather courage, visions of the days to be, strength to lead and faith to follow, all are given unto thee"...until we meet again!

*Peace be the journey,
Sarah McCue and Caitlin McGonagle*



Haiyaha

The sun is still rising and setting over The Hill here at Haiyaha, yet there is a drastic decrease in the amount of singing, smiles, and laughter. Somehow, with all of these missing pieces, the colorful sunsets don't seem as beautiful. The remnants of everything that was once here still remains in spirit. The echoes of The Gambler, Unit Song, and Taps will ring loudly in Totem Teepee until next summer finally arrives. Although the brothers of Haiyaha are now scattered all across the globe, our unity will always bind us together.

Throughout the summer, a sense of adventure rang loudly as many campers were successful in their pursuit to deepen their experiences, expand their knowledge base, and obtain recognitions in many different program areas. They woke up before the sun to peak mountains, ride horses, and simply spend the maximum amount of time with their brothers.

Led by our phenomenal hiking counselors **Ben Wostoupal, Henry Warrington, and Ben Gorman** campers were able to conquer Desolation Mountain, Chiefs Head, Spearhead, and Mount Wuh. Along with

*Happy people are not idle,
idle people are not happy.*



these beautiful mountains they were able to witness the beauty of alpine lakes like Chasm, Shelf & Solitude, and Lake of the Clouds. The following campers earned their hiking patch: **Oliver Penner, Michael Cummings** and **Max Robison**.

Some campers wanted to spend more than just their days out in our beautiful mountains, and opted to spend their nights sleeping out underneath the stars. Led by **Drew Nelson** and **Jack Douglas**, our



backpacks were able to conquer every single mountain in the Never Summers range along with numerous peaks and beautiful areas of our mountain home. The following campers earned their backpacking patch: **Alex Dye, Chase Manhart, Bob O'Neil, Jack Street, George Wheeler, Grant Dumanian** and **Ryan McCoy**.

In addition to having all of these patch earners, we were honored to have the opportunity to recognize an exceptional mountaineer with our rare 4th degree mountaineer recognition. **Andrew Conlon** without question truly exemplified everything that a true outdoorsman needs to embody. He was always the first to volunteer to help out at camp sites and lead on both hikes and backpacks. Congratulations, Andrew!

The wranglers **Peadar McCarthy, Brockman Guinee**, and **Darragh Kelsey** led horseback excursions to Eugenia Mines, Pierson Forest, and Chasm Junction.



People who talk about their inferiors seldom have any.

The Iron Men of Haiyaha mastered basic horsemanship skills, increased their knowledge base, and grew infinitely more confident. The individuals who gave their all to horseback riding and earned their riding patch were: **Zachary Ailes, Josh Bennett, Liam Guinee, Maximilian Damon, Elliot Irwin, Kyle Milan, Ryan Janek, JJ Rosenberg**, and **Lucas Touw**.

Campers had the opportunity to push themselves on two wheels, led by our mountain biking counselor **Jake Hines**. Campers were able to truly find their limit when they chose to participate in our rigorous mountain biking rides. Those who gave their mountain biking program their all and earned the mountain biking patch were: **Nelson Anderson, Liam Endres**, and **Chase Manhart**.

Our CILTS (Campers in Leadership Training) were: **Jeremy Francoeur, Peter Kubly, Reagor Wagnon, Peter Schmidt, Spencer Niemann, SJ Durand, Russell Bowden, Ian Stanford, Josh Bennett, Marcus Tweedy, Charlie Ovens, Zachary Mintz** and **Kieran Murphy**.

The thing that makes Cheley so unique and special is the fact that each community comes together and decides what values they want to live by throughout the term. Living up to the high standards that are created by their brothers is not an easy thing to do, and every once in a while people struggle in that pursuit. Each term, there are some individuals who truly embody the Code of Living. These individuals, who are chosen by their peers, are given the recognition of their Gold Key as simply a step in the continuation of their journey into bringing the Code into every decision they make in their lives. The following campers received the Gold Key this summer: **Jack Street, Josh Bennett, Chase Manhart, Logan Manhart, Ian Stanford, Reagor Wagnon, Spencer Neimann, Peter Kubly, Jeremy Francoeur, Zachary Mintz**, and **Kieran Murphy**.

As the Iron Men of Haiyaha go back to their daily lives, be reminded that no matter what occurs, the Totem Teepee will always be standing on top of our hill. This place where we lived for four weeks will always be our home. No matter what occurs, the sun will continually be rising and setting and all of us will have somewhere to go back to.

Corey Martz and Joey Kaufman



Girls' Trail's End

It's hard for us to believe that the last weeks of the summer have gone by so fast, and that our campers are all back at home starting another year. The wagon yard and dining hall are quiet without all the laughter and songs that our campers shared together this summer. This summer at Girls' Trail's End, campers made life-long friends and memories, climbed mountains, rode horses and had sing-along nights for

campfire. We had such a wonderful summer with all of our campers, and we miss them as we reflect on the incredible summer that we all shared together at the ranch at the end of the trail.

Many campers chose to spend their days at the barns with our wranglers **Maddy Kern, Mary Ellis Bowler** and **Isa Almy**. The girls woke up before breakfast every day to catch and feed the horses, and then spent the day in our western riding ring, or on trail rides to Piper's Meadow, Upper Wagon Yard and even peaking Signal Mountain on horseback. Campers had opportunities to go on overnight



horseback trips, where they spent one or two nights out of camp at destinations such as Donner Pass, Split Rock and True Gulch. On these overnight trips, campers cooked their meals over a fire, took care of their horses by themselves and slept in tents with their friends. Campers who dedicated themselves to the riding program worked hard to earn their riding patch. Our junior riding patch recipients of the summer were **Eliana Durand, Ellie Flacke, Abby Hornady, Kylie Runquist, Grace Carney, and Bianca Burden**. Campers who earned their senior riding patches this summer were **Molly McCreight, Emily Wagner, Grace McCaffery, Hannah McReavy, Retta Smith, Natalie Skigen, Madeline Brasher, and Ines Santacruz**.

Out on the trail all summer, hard at work, were our backpackers. These campers spent the summer with our counselors **Jenni Gerard, Meredith Hackett** and **Erin Alkire** learning all about hiking and camping in the backcountry and peaking mountains in the early hours of the morning from destinations such as Red Deer Lake, Michigan Lakes and Bighorn. Girls who earned their backpacking patch were **Katie Furlong, Sophia Rodawig** and **Lucy Conlon**.

Our hiking counselors **Dulie Herr** and **Michaela Lowe** spent the summer hiking with our campers through the beautiful Rocky Mountain National Park and the Indian Peaks Wilderness. They started with shorter destinations such as Gem Lake, Mills and

Jewel Lakes and Isabelle Glacier. Later in the term, campers enjoyed premier hikes, also known as our EB (Early Breakfast) hikes. On these days, campers woke up before the sun rose and peaked some of the most spectacular mountains in the park, including Spearhead, Navajo, and Pagoda. Campers who spent a majority of their time on the trail this summer had the opportunity to earn their hiking patches, learning things such as names of mountain ranges, memorizing items in the first aid kit, and demonstrating how to hike on different terrains. Girls who earned their junior hiking patch were **Natasha Marcoux, Claire Kelley, and Grace Fuselier**. Campers who earned their senior hiking patches were **Hannah Golub, Isabel Horst, Nora Meade, Annie Price, Renee Wright, Mary Cate Carroll, Crafton Deal, Katie Furlong, Claire Jennings, and Taylor Santangelo**.

Campers were able to grow and challenge themselves with mountain biking. Our counselors **Grace Morrall-Kelly** and **Monica Hudec** taught campers how to choose the correct size of bikes, how to change and fix bike tires, and how to safely ride a mountain bike. They took campers on day and overnight rides to sites like Stanley Park, Gypsy Grounds, Pierson Outlook, Pierson Forest and Devil's Backbone. Girls who earned their mountain biking patch this summer were **Emily Adams, Daisy Dunlap, Megan Carty, Ireland Rose Dunlap, Maya Forte** and **Kelly Fiedler**.

Laney Wallace and **Morgan Judy** had an incredible summer taking campers camping in the wilderness with them. On these trips, campers learned how to cook food over a fire, set up tents and shelters, and clean dishes outdoors. Often the girls could be found playing games around the campsite, laughing and having a blast. Campers who earned their junior outcamping patch were **Madelyn Cooper, Molly Murphy, and Grace Nolan**. Campers who earned their senior outcamping patches were **Lillie Baxter** and **Grace McCaffery**.

This summer we had nine wonderful young women who were a part of our Campers in Leadership Training (CILT) program. These campers applied last summer and were selected by their peers, staff and directors to take part in the program. Working closely with our assistant directors, **Madeline Brooks** and **Julia Wickman**, they strived to be leaders in our unit. During their third week of the term, they journeyed to Lower Chipeta and Chipeta where they acted as counselors on exchange, and making positive impacts on those units. Our CILTs this summer were **Alyssa Brookover, Ally Price, Julia Nadler, Grace Slocum, Kendall Jones, Georgia Marshall, Brooke Lummis, Annika Skigen** and **Meagan Moor**.

Our CILTs helped us create a Code of Living, which was inspired by every camper at GTE. The unit

"Anger" is only one letter short of "Danger"



chose character traits such as warmth, sisterhood, adventurous and integrity and the Code is something that they all hope to bring back home with them. Campers came together at the end of the term and voted on who they thought best lived up to the Code of over the course of the term and those that acted as examples were recognized with a Driver for our younger girls or Top Hand for our older campers. Our Driver recipients were **Gizelle Winter, Madelyn Cooper, Natasha Marcoux, Abby Hornady, and Bianca Burden**. Our Top Hand recipients were **Kelly Fiedler, Maggy Wolanske, Alyssa Brookover, Ally Price, Grace McCaffery, Isabel Edstrom, Sophia Rodawig, Ines Santacruz and Claire Jennings**.

The summer went by way too fast! The girls have done amazing things and are capable of so much more than they know. It was such a pleasure having all our campers with us and we know that some strangers have become friends, and some friends are now family. Thank you all for an amazing summer. It is definitely a year to remember and we hope to see you all next year!

Helen "Ox" Oexmann, Madeline Brooks and Julia Wickman



Boys' Trail's End

Greetings from the manly, but mellow men of Boys' Trail's End! Although camp has quieted for the winter months, we carry the memories of happy, excitement-filled days of summer. As we go about our everyday lives, there are constant reminders of the extraordinary experience of Cheley Colorado Camps. A Blue Kerchief hanging on a bedpost, a crafts project displayed on a shelf, or a particularly long walk uphill all bring us back to a summer we'll never forget.

Director **Will Putnam** and assistant directors **Thomas Burk** and **AJ Yingling** often think back to the summer, and the opportunities it contained. We were able to get to know 124 incredible campers, and share our love for youth development in the outdoors. We learned and grew alongside our campers, experiencing old traditions and creating new ones as we went. We thank you for allowing us to have such an inspiring summer mentoring and challenging your sons.

We would be unable to create these wonderful experiences at Cheley if not for our amazing support staff. Head cook **John Marshall** and assistant cook **Jaime Caicedo** kept our campers well fed and in high spirits throughout the summer. They were more than cooks-

they were friends with a never ending enthusiasm for banter and lively conversation. **Gary Swetnam** reprised his role as the camp nurse for another year. He was never too busy for a camper in need, and no concern was too small. Gary supported campers and counselors



alike in staying healthy for a fun filled summer. **Ruth Swetnam** also returned as Camp Mom. In between running our camp store and ensuring campers kept their elbows off the tables at meals, Ruth always had kind words to offer. Many campers were healed of their homesickness and came to love BTE because of her guidance and comfort.

Once on program, campers began to push their boundaries and go outside their comfort zones. Our hikers traveled hundreds of miles over the course of the summer, led by counselors **Enrique Meija** and **Drew Van Arsdale**. They taught our campers how to travel across all different kinds of terrain, hiking to glaciers, lakes, peaks, and spectacular views. The most spectacular of those hikes being the early breakfast treks to Thatchtop, Pagoda, and Eagle's Beak. Some campers tested themselves by working towards their hiking patch, becoming experts in the program. Hiking patch recipients were **Grayson Phillips, Nicholas Wolanske, Chance Zimmerman, James Anspacher, Peter Cannon, Andy Fresen, William Walsh, and Stephen Vaughn**.

Our horseback riding program taught campers the value of hard work, dedication, and compassion. At Boy's Trail's End, campers along with wranglers **Julian Castillo, Chris Beavers, and Declan McGallagly** are solely responsible for the care of our 20 horses. This requires early mornings and exhausting work, paying off with unforgettable experiences. Our riders participated in skill sessions in the ring, as well as trail rides in our beautiful forest wilderness. Campers were able to have a true western experience on horseback trips, where they spent up to three days in the wilderness while being completely self-sufficient. Our most driven riders worked towards their riding patch. Recipients of the horseback riding patch were **Caden Kalfin, Benjamin Parker, Caden Pew, Eli Sherman, Konrad Hadley, Akhil Jakatdar, Stuart Randall, Joseph Wagnon, Charlie Weil, and Harry Winer**.



The world turns aside to let people pass who know where they're going.

Campers stayed in camp to express creativity, play sports with friends, give back to the community, or work on technical skills. Many campers worked on their target shooting skills with riflery counselor **Weston Elder**, learning proper gun handling and shooting techniques while earning recognitions in standing, kneeling, and prone positions. Campers also expressed their creative sides in woodworking and crafts with **Mike Reitano**. Some campers chose to spend their crafts days fixing and improving things around camp, giving back to the community they love.



Campers were able to show their competitive side with our sports and mountain biking counselors, **JP O'Grady** and **Grayson Ford**. Friendly games of knockout and pickup basketball were always going during free time. On program, our mountain bikers were challenged to strenuous uphill rides and exciting descents. They learned perseverance and motivational skills, culminating in the three day mountain bike ride through Pierson Forest. The campers that chose to go above and beyond in working towards their mountain biking patch learned bike maintenance and handling, first aid, and how to lead a group while biking. Mountain bike patch recipients were **Lucas Henry, Matias Henry, Bryson Andregg, Peter Cannon, Gage Carter, Andrew Periard, and Patrick Plaisted**.

Our outcampers learned vital outdoors skills while cooking delicious meals and fostering community with their BTE brothers. Alongside counselors **Jamie Resko** and **Tony Perez**, campers learned to make cooking fires, build shelters, rig hammocks, and play games at a campsite devoid of technology. Some campers even chose to further challenge themselves and participate in outcamp solos. On solos, campers spent 24 hours alone in a controlled environment with nothing but a tarp shelter,

sleeping bag, a small amount of food, and a notebook for journaling. This was a time to reflect and enjoy the wonder of nature without any distractions. The following campers demonstrated their camping proficiency and earned their outcamping patch: **Allen Fridman, Luke Jerome, Julian Kreft, Liam Dietrich, Jameson Mohr, and Martin Sirakov**.

Our backpacking program saw tremendous success, immersed in the beautiful Rocky Mountains. Campers learned teamwork and appreciation for the quieter times from backpacking counselors **Jack Sweeny** and **Parker Barrell**. Campers spent up to five days navigating the wilderness as a group, carrying all their supplies as they traveled. Like the hikers, they were able to peak several difficult mountains, such as Static, Chiefs Head, Meeker, and Navajo. Several campers dedicated their summer to backpacking, and some earned their patch. Backpacking patch recipients were **Theo Chestnut, Ryan Dunlap, Chance Zimmerman, Charlie Cope, Wyatt Ellison, Grayson Phillips, Dillon Friman, and Weston Metzler**.

Much of what we accomplished this summer both out on program and in the unit would not have been possible without our Campers in Leadership Training (CILT's). CILT's were voted for by their peers, and were responsible for leading in the unit, writing the All Camp Campfire skit, and helping campers create the Code of Living. These campers were given leadership roles and additional responsibilities before being sent to other Cheley units for further experiential training. Our CILT's were **Alex Moulton, McCarthy Fitch, Porter Ludwig, Justin Henry, Guillaume Van Der Straten Waillet, Kevin Brito, Cameron Kozloff, and Henry Woodward**.

The Code of Living is the anchor of our community, and the unique foundation of life at Cheley. It's an agreed upon way to act, created and signed by all of our campers. The Blue Kerchief is the symbol of the Code of Living. It reminds our campers that although the summer may have ended, they are part of a brotherhood that goes beyond the boundaries of Boys' Trail's End. To recognize campers that embody the traits of the Code, we award the Driver and Top Hand. The Driver is for our younger campers, aged 12 to 14. The Top Hand is given to older campers, ages 14 to 18. These campers were recognized by their peers for living out the Cheley spirit. Campers recognized with the Driver were: **Levi Pinkert, Dane Lee, Nick Kowalske, Lyle Griggs, Jim Ber, Simon Reuter, Noah Schneider and Peter Cannon**. Top Hands were **Teddy Allegra, Michael Trentel, Porter Ludwig, Andy Fresen, Guillaume Van Der Straten Waillet, and Kevin Brito**.

Although the summer has passed, we carry the memories of boundaries overcome and friendships formed. We hope this reminds you to look to your Blue Kerchief and remember the Code that it represents.

*As the adventure continues,
Boys' Trail's End Staff*



*A person does evil when he
does nothing good.*

Cheley/Children's Burn Camp

Thirty-two years strong! Seventy campers arrived at Cheley in August for seven days of the Cheley Experience. Dance parties and laughter, horseback riding, succeeding at new things, sunrise hikes and great moments with their counselors. Burn Camp is a celebration of life for these campers. They truly appreciate being alive and enjoy coming to a place where they can forget about being burned. They share their experiences with one another and support each other in healing their physical and emotional scars. The campers and staff are filled to the brim with love and joy by the time they leave to go home.



The staff consists of Cheley counselors that stay after their regular summer and past Cheley counselors who take vacation time to contribute to this special week. These amazing people bring Cheley spirit and values to the program. The other part of the staff includes nurses, firefighters, occupational therapists, physical therapists and adult burn survivors. They bring the knowledge and expertise in dealing with the health

issues of the campers. This staff comes together to create a truly amazing week.

"Opportunity" was the theme of this year's burn camp. All around us, we find opportunities: a chance to learn a new skill, to try something that seems impossible, to make a connection with a new friend.

As you may know, it is difficult to put the experience of camp into words. We know campers thrive and grow in this environment that is full of love, challenge, nature and acceptance. As the week closes and we watch the bus drive down the dusty Fish Creek Road, we are so thankful to have these beautiful children in our lives and hold them in our hearts until next summer.



Teen Summit Camp

This August marked the sixth summer Cheley has hosted the Teen Summit Camp, a six day program for the children of Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members. Teenagers from all over the country apply for this leadership development program, and we welcomed 120 campers this year. Through a variety of funding resources, the campers' families do not bear any of the cost for attending, including travel.

When we designed this program six years ago, we attempted to inculcate as much of the traditional Cheley experience into this much shorter time frame. No minute goes wasted. Teens begin the day at 6:00 a.m. with a variety of activities that focus on physical well-being like yoga, Zumba, running, or calisthenics. After breakfast, campers depart on the traditional Cheley activities that we all know and love. By 4:00 p.m. everyone is back at Land O'Peaks where campers go through two hours of engaging leadership development rotations and listen to professional

speakers that we bring in from all over the country. After dinner, campers have another leadership rotation followed by a night social, full of dancing, laughing, and s'mores. Totally exhausted, but completely fulfilled, everyone is in bed by midnight to do it all again the next day.

This year Chief of the Air Force Reserve, three star Lieutenant General James Jackson joined us for our banquet and recognition night. General Jackson expressed his gratitude for the sacrifices these sons and daughters of service members have made while their parents have been deployed and away at training. Many of these teens have had to step up and help run a household at a young age.

As the chartered buses arrived the next morning to take everyone to the airport, tears flowed, hugs were exchanged, and promises were made to keep in touch.



Around the Campfire ... with Cheley Friends

FUTURE CAMPERS

Davis Ravnaas, camper 1994-2000, and wife Ally welcomed Robert Dean Ravnaas II on 8/18/15. Davis writes "my experience at Cheley built a permanent impact on my life. The values I developed with you have been invaluable. I would not have had the successes I've had in my life without Cheley. I'm already counting down the days until Robert can come to Cheley!"



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Carol Binding wrote to tell us that **Taylor Binding** (camper 1999-2005) works at Colorado National Bank and **Kelly Binding** (2000-2008) graduated with a 4.0 and a Master's degree in bio-medical sciences from Barry University and is now in dental school in Salt Lake City.

Camille Jerden is working as a store manager at Christi's in Waco TX. She befriended the owner of the store next door and found out she is married to old Cheley camper who I went to camp with, John Lewis. Cheley's 6 degrees of separation and bring people together.

Katherine Reid writes "Happy 95th Birthday, Cheley Camps! Since my retirement, I have been busy with Delta Kappa Gamma Society, the Alpha State Texas Education Foundation, church and the Texas Retired Teachers Association. Enjoy the beauty and collect many wonderful memories. We may lose our friends, but never the memories. I miss Cheley!"



KEEPING IN TOUCH...

We'd like to be able to keep in touch – but we can only if you keep us up-to-date with your **address and other current information**. Please take a minute now to send us an update.

And – we also want to hear from you with your news for the next **PACK RAT**.

Just send an email to: office@cheley.com