

## Bringing the Extraordinary to the Ordinary

### It's Almost Time to Choose Activities!

It's so hard to believe that the off-season is coming to an end. We'll all be back at camp before we know it! Over the next few weeks you'll receive lots of information to help you prepare for the summer. One of the highly awaited bits of information is coming in early May— your activity sign-up information. This information will be emailed to your parents, so remind them to be on the lookout for an email from Alicia. The information your parents will receive will contain all kinds of information about the various activities at camp, how the scheduling system works and how to choose your activities for the first week of camp. If you or your parents have any questions about anything relating to your activities email Alicia at [Alicia@fernwoodcove.com](mailto:Alicia@fernwoodcove.com). Get excited!!

### Beigette's Arts & Crafts Adventure

The winter is a perfect time to have fun with the arts and crafts. This year I discovered that I enjoy scrapbooking, felting and painting. I enjoyed them so much that I want to do them this summer with you.



Beigette recently shared a blog post from Dr. Tim Elmore, the founder of “Growing Leaders”, an non-profit organization for developing emerging leaders. His blog post was about “ordinary leaders” that have emerged in areas like Egypt and Uganda, where there has been significant unrest and destruction in recent years. He was recalling recent visits to these areas where local residents were sharing stories of the unbelievable events they had lived through. He learned of caregivers taking in people from the opposition, caring for them and making sure they got home safely. While in Uganda he met two pastors who are overseeing the rescue of thousands of orphans and child soldiers in Sudan. They are providing rehabilitative care, foster and adoptive homes, food and lots of love for these children who had the misfortune of being victims to a very violent aspect of the world.

The blog concluded with the following points:

- Ordinary people are achieving extraordinary feats by simply choosing to act.
- All effective leadership gains traction when it is a response to a problem.
- We rarely hear these stories because they're acts of kindness, not crisis.
- Bad news travels faster on TV and the Internet because fear captivates us.
- If we could just see the good that's occurring, maybe more of us would join in.

We hope that you will never be faced with the destruction and adversity that these individuals have been faced with. However, we do hope that when you wit-

ness mistreatment of others or see someone in need that you'll step up to be a leader to create positive change. And when you see someone stepping up to help, show your gratitude and appreciation. This is what being “extraordinary” is all about.

Taking notice of others in need and taking action to help improve the situation may feel odd or difficult. Today's society has made it acceptable to turn a blind eye towards situations like this. However taking notice and taking action is part of what makes camp such a special place— people are always willing to lend a helping hand, stand up for others and help create a safe, healthy environment for everyone. With some basic actions we can begin to create this reality in the ordinary world as well.

How amazing would it be if the ordinary world was full of the support, love and kindness that you experience at camp? It wouldn't be very ordinary, would it? And your classmates, your neighbors, your friends and even the people in the next town over could experience the extraordinary and want to be extraordinary too.

This may seem like a dream, however if ordinary people can become leaders of change in areas like Egypt and Uganda, each of us can become leaders of change on our sunny, neighborhood streets and school playgrounds. Show others what it means to be a leader, to be extraordinary— help someone in need, stand up for someone being mistreated...if you see a piece of paper, pick it up! These are all ways that we can help lead others and make the ordinary a bit more extraordinary. What can you do? Let us know!!

Alicia ([Alicia@fernwoodcove.com](mailto:Alicia@fernwoodcove.com))

# WELCOME TO THE EXTRAORDINARY WORLD

Once you arrive at camp you'll start hearing the Directors, Staff, CITs and returning Campers refer to Fernwood Cove as the Extraordinary World. You're likely already asking, "What makes it extraordinary?" and wondering what this really means— maybe you're a returning camper and still wondering these things. Great questions!! Fernwood Cove, like many other summer camps, is a world of its own— separate from the "real world" and a place for you to learn and discover throughout your various summer adventures. And yes, Fernwood Cove offers some amazing activities such as water skiing, Natural Horsemanship, Gymnastics and Metal Smithing— but this isn't what makes it "extraordinary." The thing that takes Fernwood Cove from being amazing to being extraordinary is the people, the love and the support that surrounds each of us while we're at camp. We each strive to be the best person we can be. This does not mean we have to be the best at everything we do— it means that we help others, we include others and make new friends. We challenge ourselves and support others as they challenge themselves. It's these not-so-simple things that makes Fernwood Cove and all of the people there extraordinary— we're excited for you to join us!

*I recently asked what it meant to "be extraordinary," here are some of the responses I received...*

"...taking experiences and making the best version of yourself out of those experiences. Also, referencing situations that help you be your best and most successful, and helping others learn that within themselves." -Amy (Fernwood Cove Alum)

"It means pushing yourself & others to do amazing things not otherwise done in the 'ordinary' world with other like minded extraordinary people. The overall feeling is magical." -Jenny (Fernwood Cove Alum)

"Singing "com-a-la com-a-la com-a-la vista...." in my head all day long as I do my best to attack my two exams in grad school with grit and poise....smiling because this tune takes me back to camp and gives me confidence. "Itch a meeny, scratch a meeny, ooh ah ooh ah la meeny...." - Elise (Fernwood Cove Alum)

"To me it means being the best version of yourself in every possible way." -Lucy (Counselor)

"To be all that you can be!" -Caton (Fernwood Cove Alum)

## Natural Horsemanship at Fernwood Cove

If you love horses and what to learn more about them and yourself our program is for you!

Our program offers riding and so much more! Learn about horsemanship, each horse has their own horsemanship just like you have your own unique personality. Once you discover your horse's horsemanship you will understand their likes and dislikes and how to treat them the way they like to be treated. For example Tiger, he is a chestnut Gelding and he likes to move slowly, food is super important, he likes scratches and he likes to know "what's in it for him." We call him a Left Brain Introvert (LBI). Patti is a pinto mare she likes to be stroked gently, loved on, she needs to know that she can trust you and that you won't push her to fast into new things. She likes consistency. We call her a Right Brain Introvert (RBI). Jenny is a Newfoundland Pony mare, she loves to play, try new things, has lots of energy, she likes to move and also loves scratches. We call her a Left Brain Extrovert (LBE).

Learning about our horses horsemanship helps us to understand about our own personality and how you personally approach the world. It will not only help you know yourself a little bit better but it will also help you to understand your friends better. Therefore helping with developing and maintaining all your relationships.

As I said our Natural Horsemanship program is so much more!

Keep it natural, Beigette

\*\*We also have 2 new fun toys for our natural horsemanship program a Teeter-totter and a car wash! (Come visit the barn this summer to find out why we have these toys for our horses)

## The Extraordinary World Dictionary

**Cove Pal:** A Cove Pal is a camper that you are paired with prior to the summer. For new campers, Cove Pals are a great way to learn more about camp. For returning campers, Cove Pals are a great way to enjoy your camp memories and get excited for the coming summer. For everyone, Cove Pals are great friends to have going into the summer!

**Focuses:** These are our instructional activities. There are 6 Focus Periods each activity day and three separate, 5-day focus weeks during camp.

**Bunk Mom:** These are the counselors who live in the bunk with you. There will be at least two bunk moms in your bunk.

**Bunkle:** These are the male counselors in camp. Each one is assigned to a bunk and act like an uncle to the bunk family. Bunk Uncle = Bunkle

**CIT:** CITs (Counselors in Training) are former campers who have been accepted into Fernwood Cove's CIT leadership program. They spend the entire summer at camp and help in bunks as Bunk Cousins (Buzzins).

**Bunk Aunt:** Not all female counselors live in the bunk with campers. Those who do not live in the bunk also assist with their assigned camper bunks during clean-up, bedtime, etc.

**The Feeder:** All of our buildings at camp are named after birds. It just makes sense that our dining hall where we eat most meals is called The Feeder!

**The Chick:** The Chick is our main auditorium space. We have assembly there in the mornings and it's where Performance Nights take place. The downstairs of the Chick is where the new Camper Library, one of our dance studios, and a CIT Classroom are located.

**Wanger Banger:** This is the Fernwood Cove term for a thunder storm. Fernwood Cove has been known to host some pretty amazing, beautiful storms in the past.

**Scorcher:** This is a really hot day at camp. On these days it's important to drink 3, if not 4, glasses of water at each meal!

