

March 2012

Mountain Biking

We are excited to announce the introduction of mountain biking as a new addition to Falcon's program this summer! Mountain biking will be offered as an optional activity at different times throughout each session during the regular program schedule, evening activities and camper choice nights. We'll be experimenting this spring to map out the many ways and places to ride. We'll be looking at some paved road riding, some overnight



area trips (a mountain bike camping overnight!!), and multiple miles of trails/tractor roads up on our farm and adjacent farm properties. All of our horse trails and hiking trails will be looked at for a bit of more rugged riding and we will be setting up a training/lesson area for beginners and practice. We are really looking forward to mountain biking and this will be an excellent addition to our program.

Thanks, Alison!

After 17 years at Falcon, Alison Mizen has decided that her multiple teaching duties make her unable to join us at camp for the summer. Alison began as a camper in 1993, staff in 2000 and administration in 2005. She has held too many camp positions to mention but has always put her heart into everything involving Falcon.

Alison has been teaching English at Euclid High School (Cleveland area) since 2006 and received her Master's of Education from the U of Akron in 2010. She is a mentor teacher for the Cleveland State Master's Urban Teaching Program, a Curriculum Consultant for Cleveland State's Education Dept., a cooperating teacher with Baldwin Wallace's undergrad Education Dept., co-director of Euclid High School drama productions and advisor to the Student Council.

Alison received a national grant in 2010 for creating an urban future planning curriculum for high schoolers and she will be spending much of this summer working with her Cleveland State group to finish that work. Pretty impressive! Because of this workload, Alison will not be at camp physically but the good news is that she will remain a part of our off season planning team and will be an active member of our alumni team.

Rather than feeling sad about losing Alison for the summers, we are quite proud of her accomplishments and are happy to share her talents with others! We know Alison will bring what she learned and shared at Falcon to others in the more formal world of classroom education. She will be at camp prior to opening day working to ensure a smooth transition in the office and hopefully will visit on a regular basis.

Alison ---Thanks for everything!

Final Camp Fairs

If you haven't come to see us yet at a camp fair, you only have one chance left! We are attending Equine Affaire for the first time, April 12-15. This is at the Ohio Expo Center in Columbus, and we are so excited! Plan to spend the day at the Equine Affaire, as you can see lots more after you've visited us: there will be demonstrations, sale booths, information booths, and one very special booth run by a former Falconer that will have baby horses! And remember, if you bring a friend who is interested in camp, we'll send both of you an awesome, limited edition t-shirt!



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Meet the 2012 Staff!

We had a very hard time with hiring this year with a large number of extremely qualified staff wanting to return (what a good problem to have!). With that being said, we are very confident and enthusiastic about the choices we made, and are excited to present to you the Staff for the Summer of 2012!

*Staff who didn't respond in a timely manner were given accomplishments by Tali

SENIOR STAFF:

Pablo Aviles (Head of Archery): This will be Pablo's 8th summer at Falcon. Pablo spent half of the year studying art history in Florence, Italy.

Bric Bain (Head of Creative Arts): This will be Bric's 6th summer at Falcon. He is now Editor in Chief of his school's magazine and newspaper, as well as the Assistant News Director and Anchor of the daily video announcements (look for some of this to make an impact on camp!)

Lara Buckley: This will be Lara's 2nd summer at Falcon. This year Lara got into her dream university and will be headed there in the fall.

Izzy Hammer (Head of Woodstove and Hawks Unit Leader): This will be Izzy's 11th summer at Falcon Camp. She just won an Oscar for her role as The Dog in *The Artist*. Izzy would like to thank the most influential person in her life, Tali Cornblath.

Alex Harrison (Head of Sailing and Eagles Unit Leader): This will be Alex's 11th summer at Falcon Camp. Alex was the captain of a Relay for Life team cleverly named Bad Boyz 4 Lyfe.

Armand Holmes (Head of Riflery and Kestrals Unit Leader): This will be Armand's 14th summer at Falcon. Armand was named a Forester Guide for the incoming New Student Orientation this fall.

Laura Nice (Waterfront Director and Cardinals Unit Leader): This will be Laura's 8th summer at Falcon. Laura will be running her first half marathon this spring.

Leanne O'Neill (Head of Crafts): This will be Leanne's 8th year at Falcon. This year, Leanne got to hand-feed giraffes.

Savannah Patterson (Head of Horse Camp): This will be Savannah's 2nd summer at Falcon. Savannah started college in the fall, and is slowly turning into a horse. By summer, we expect her to be a rideable centaur.*

Julia Ross (Head of Canoeing): This will be Julia's 5th summer at Falcon. This June, Julia will be traveling to Indianapolis to compete in the National Speech and Debate Finals.



Lauren Ross (Barn Manager): Although most of you won't remember Lauren, she has been coming to camp since she was nine (with a break for the past five years), first as a camper, then as stables staff, finally running horse camp and the barn for a couple of years. We are so excited to have her back!

Matt Schulheiss (Head of Athletics and Blue Jays Unit Leader): This will be Matt's 7th summer at Falcon. Matt is on Lafayette's Crew team this year.

Claire Schwieterman (Robins Unit Leader): This will be Claire's 6th summer at Falcon. Claire spent the past year discovering the true power of Captain Planet.*

Margaret Schwieterman (Head of Swimming): This will be Margaret's 6th summer at Falcon. Margaret was accepted to be a group leader for freshman orientation in the fall.

Eva Szabados (Head of Tennis): This will be Eva's 7th summer at Falcon. Eva was captain of her varsity tennis team and the executive secretary of her school's student council. She has spent spring break discovering a new species of unicorn.

Callum Watt (Head of Drama): This will be Callum's first summer at Falcon. He is very skilled at drama, as well as guitar and composing music, and we are so excited to use those skills in different ways this summer! Callum is from the United Kingdom.

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One More Reason Why Falcon Is Special

Our last newsletter mentioned that I received the Buckeye Award from the American Camp Association in Ohio for outstanding service and leadership in the camping industry. I am both proud and humbled to have been honored by my peers in the camping profession. What was most important to me and so special in the announcing of the award at our January ACA conference was one of the main reasons behind the award. As Denny Elliott spoke of the accomplishments which led to the award he talked about how he believes that year in, year out, **Falcon has the best trained staff he has ever worked with.** Denny has visited Falcon many times to assist with staff training, accreditation and various leadership meetings. For Denny, a camp director of 30+ years experience and current national exec for the Ohio section of the American Camp Association to make that observation is something that I am tremendously proud of. Our staff *is* excellent but as in any premier organization, the training is a team effort. The Buckeye Award truly belongs to our entire administrative team –Emily, Nici, Tali and Alison- and also to the entire Falcon staff for their desire and hard work to be the best staff that you can find anywhere. ---Dave

Luis Mendez Valencia (Head of Woodworking): This will be Luis' first summer at Falcon. He has lots of experience in different types of woodworking, as well as outdoor camping and martial arts. He is from Colombia, and we can't wait to meet him!

Martiria Corbalan Frigola: This will be Martiria's first summer at Falcon. He will be working in the stables, teaching riding which he has done for a very long time. Martiria is from Spain, and we're very excited to have him this summer!

JUNIOR COUNSELORS:

Pedro Aviles: This will be Pedro's 8th summer at Falcon. Last November, Pedro built a stairway to the stars. We're hoping he returns by summertime.*

Roberta Blaho: This will be Roberta's 7th summer at Falcon. Roberta went to London this year and is excited to start volunteering with the Capital Area Humane Society.

Carly Broome: This will be Carly's 7th summer at Falcon. Carly was in the SPCA art show this year and sold her painting, which donated money to help animals.

Anna Faxon: This will be Anna's 7th summer at Falcon. This year Anna was the stage manager of her school's production of 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.

Martin Harrison: This will be Martin's 9th summer at Falcon. Martin (and his family) just spent the week in a desert called Qasr al Sarab.

Samantha Kamen: This will be Samantha's 8th summer at Falcon. Samantha played Penny in her school's production of Hairspray this spring!

Karen Kaplan: This will be Karen's 5th summer at Falcon. Karen recently took apart and reassembled the entire elevator system of the Empire State building in under 20 minutes, a new world record, before foregoing that completely and taking the stairs that Pedro built.*

Megan Mathur: This will be Megan's 5th summer at Falcon. Megan started volunteering at an animal shelter this year.

Jordan Mauro: This will be Jordan's 10th summer at Falcon. Jordan will be playing Conrad Birdie in his school's production of Bye, Bye Birdie this spring.

Dakota Peacock: This will be Dakota's 3rd summer at Falcon. Dakota was asked by Mick Jagger to be the drummer/harmonica player in the reformed Rolling Stones, but turned them down to play with ACDC instead.*



Ashley Sartoris: This will be Ashley's 5th summer at Falcon. This year Ashley competed in the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science regional competition, and got a 1st place perfect score and the overall senior high microbiology award.

Zack Schenk: This will be Zack's 8th summer at Falcon. Zack is going to be in his high school's jazz band, and he is starting to write his own music.

Kat Wilson: This will be Kat's 7th summer at Falcon. Kat will be playing the part of the Sour Kangaroo in her school's production of Seussical the Musical, as well as choreographing the show!

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2012 DATES

Two Week Sessions

June 17 – June 30
July 1– July 14
July 15 – July 28
July 29 – August 11

Four Week Sessions

June 17 – July 14
July 15 – August 11

Six Week Sessions

June 17 – July 28
July 1 – August 11

Eight Week Session

June 17 – August 11

Falcon Young Adventure Camp: 6 to 9 year old boys and girls
July 29 -August 4 and August 5 -11

Horse Lover Camp: One week sessions June 17 – August 11