

Campfire News

Rotary's Camp Florida ~ Winter 2012

MEET THE HEROES FROM LOWE'S!

Rotary's Camp Florida is a camp for those with special needs; the camp operates year round and serves more than 2,000 children and adults annually.

Many of the campers have conditions such as Multiple Sclerosis, Muscular Dystrophy, Cancer, Leukemia, Diabetes, Blood Disease, Birth Defects, etc.

The camp aims to assist members of special needs groups to realize their full potential by sharing, learning about, and mastering their challenges; all the while, growing in character, building self-confidence and determination, and gaining life changing skills.

On November 7, 2012 both the Brandon and Valrico Lowe's stores came together to donate materials and labor to build a canoe/kayak rack and a cover for our pool equipment.



Volunteers from the Valrico Store were Ed Mandell, Sarah Hoelman, Judy Adams, Becky Hatcher, Angela Lauziere, David Wilson, Johnny Leonor, Don Bransford, Jonathan Carlisle, Jeff (Happy) Newman, and Jennifer Frost. Joining them from the Brandon Store were Julie Rocha & David Pinnell.



Cliff's Notes



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
District 6950



A message from Board President Cliff Snedeker

Your Rotary's Camp Florida is making great strides in enriching its facilities, programs and capabilities to serve our camper customers, allowing them to experience a new level of success with their events at RCF. This is being done with the increased capabilities of the staff at RCF and the support of Rotarians and Rotary clubs from most of the Rotary Districts in Florida.

This time of year many of you are planning on year-end donations to your favorite charities or funding Rotary Club Projects. We ask you to remember Rotary's Camp Florida Scholarship Fund to immediately support the attendance of special needs children at RCF or to The Rotary Camp Florida Endowment Fund, a permanent endowment housed in the Tampa Bay Community Foundation.

Our camp enriches the lives of children with myriad challenges...both physical and emotional. A week at camp with other children experiencing similar challenges can make a huge difference to our little friends, and every donation makes a difference!

Donations to Rotary's Camp Florida Endowment Fund add to the principal and result in interest payments to Rotary's Camp Florida at an expected level of 4-5% per year, as approved by the Tampa Bay Community Foundation Board. The endowment is a safe long-term investment supporting Rotary's Camp Florida.

The successes we are experiencing need to have the support from your Scholarship donations or donations that build the Endowment Fund. These are the safest and surest ways to assure the financial support that RCF needs to continue its work into the future. Donations may be sent to Rotary's Camp Florida - POB 1027, Brandon, FL 33509. Please indicate whether your donation is to be deposited to RCF Scholarships or to the RCF Endowment Fund for long term financial security of the camp. Thank you personally or as a Rotary Club for your support of Rotary's Camp Florida.

WE'RE GROWING!

In July of 2012, Rotary's Camp Florida was presented with the opportunity to purchase approximately 3.5 acres of land on the camp's western, fenced border. This land purchase included a 15-year old, 2,175 square foot house located on Lake Gronto in Brandon, FL. In August of 2012 Rotary's Camp Florida was the recipient of a large donation to be used for the purchase of the property, which was purchased at the end of August.

The property is in desperate need of trimming and removing vegetation from many years without maintenance. It will take someone with tractor and bush hog to help get the property cleaned up. The camp does not currently have a friend in the bush hog business.



The house needs a new roof in the amount of \$10,000 and is the first step in preparing it to house either camp offices or a new infirmary.

Rotarians in District 6950 have a possible source for the donation of the roofing materials; the next step will be finding a company to install the roof.

We will need lots of help as this property is prepared for camp use, so take a look at the opportunities to

JOIN US FOR A WORK DAY!

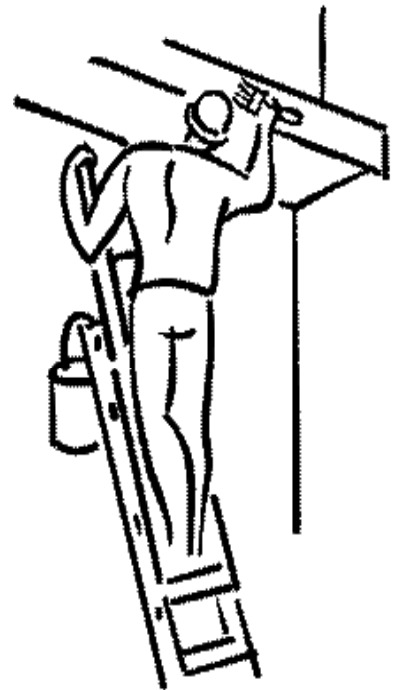
Beginning on December 1, there will be a Work Day on the first Saturday of each month at the new property acquired by Camp Florida.

If your club, Rotaract group, or just a group of friends would like to come to the camp to help out, we can use you! Work would include clearing Undergrowth, painting, and general landscaping.

If your club would like to sponsor a work day, that should include providing workers with donuts and coffee when they arrive, sandwiches and drinks for lunch, and promoting the work day within your district.



This activity could help your club earn a Presidential Citation in the Future Generation category and your club will be recognized for helping!



For more information, contact Ben Alexander at 813/391-3895 or via email: BenAlexander@BalloonDistractions.com.

FROM THE COURTYARD

Thanks to many Rotary Clubs across the state of Florida, and to individual Rotarians and friends of Rotary's Camp Florida, the courtyard has been cleared, paved, and furnished with attractive benches, a beautiful flagpole, and picnic tables that will last for many years to come.

While the entire courtyard has paving stones, there are many "blank" ones that are just waiting to be inscribed. The stones and labor were donated, so each stone that is purchased for personalized inscription means revenue for the camp.



Please consider purchasing an individual stone for your personal inscription, or perhaps encourage your club to purchase one (or more) stones with the club name featured prominently. Several organizations have purchased a block of four stones to make a large square paver. Stones are \$125 each, and the four-stone blocks are only \$500.

To order a stone, or for more information go to Rotary Camp Florida's website @www.rotarycampflorida.com.





SPOTLIGHT ON...CLIFF SNEDEKER

With this issue, we begin a special feature to introduce you to the members of Rotary's Camp Florida's Board of Directors. Our first subject is RCF President Cliff Snedeker, who was raised in Clearwater, Florida and graduated from Florida State University with a BS degree in Marketing. Cliff's first involvement with Rotary was as a recipient of the Rotary Clubs of Florida College Loan Fund. After graduating from FSU he joined Armstrong World Industries, Building Products Division where he received training in wholesale distribution of Building Materials, an industry in which he remains active today. While living in Toledo, Ohio, Cliff joined the Rotary Club of Maumee, Ohio,

He married his wife Deanna following graduation from Armstrong's training program, since a requirement of training was that all members of the class be single! After a very successful career in Toledo, he was transferred to Clearwater, Florida, to cover the growing building materials market in Florida. He transferred his membership the Rotary Club of Clearwater in 1966 and achieved 30 years of perfect attendance in 2007.

In 1970, Cliff formed C.E. Snedeker Sales, and soon purchased and reorganized Kwik-Way Corp. of Mt. Pleasant, Texas. After selling Kwik-Way in 1995, his agency began to focus in the world market, sourcing products in wood producing countries throughout the world. Today C.E. Snedeker Sales is a Global Manufacturers Sales Agency.

Since joining the Clearwater Club in 1966, he has chaired the Rotary Invitational Swim Meet, Organized the Club to Club Student Exchange between Clearwater Rotary and the Leverkusen and the Leichlingen Opladen Germany clubs. As president of the Clearwater Club (2003-04) he was awarded the cherished Four Way Test Award by his Rotary Club and Assistant Governor of the Year from District 6950 (2006-07) and District 6950 Rotarian of the Year for 2011-2012. In addition, Cliff serves on the City of Clearwater Cultural Arts advisory board, St. Petersburg Alumni Association Board and other community related boards and committees.

Cliff and Deanna have both been active in the GSE program and hosted several GSE visitors. Cliff started the joint Clearwater Clubs GSE meetings and encouraged Clearwater Clubs to work on joint fellowship events.

The Snedekers divide their time between Clearwater and their residence in Banner Elk, North Carolina. They have two sons and five grandchildren. They enjoy hiking in the mountains, spending time on and around the water and attending performing arts presentations. Cliff is a multi-engine, instrument rated pilot, and he also enjoys light tackle salt water fishing, golf, swimming, scuba diving, and most any outdoor sport. Cliff and Deanna are avid Seminoles and still enjoy going to football games.



A Project of Rotary Clubs Throughout Florida
"Because We Care"

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