

UPCOMING
PROGRAMS:

- **75th Anniversary**
celebration 8/29
- **Family Camps**
Labor Day:
(Fri 9/4-Mon 9/7)
Autumn Magic
(Fri 10/23-Sun 10/25)
- **JP Morgan Chase**
Corporate Chal-
lenge: 3.5 mile run
9/16 at 6:45 pm
Crissy Field; Presidio
- **Winter Camp**
Campers return:
Registration starts
Sept 1!
- **Christmas in the**
Redwoods: Dec 12
All are invited!

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benefits CJG

Gulch Gazette



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New Programs Complement Old

Carpet ball swept camp this summer! In capturing the attention of campers and staff alike, it gave us a platform to teach Character Values and respect for your opponent. Two more tables are under construction. We can't wait to see you and your family enjoying this great new game.

The kids are Ga-Ga for our new version of dodgeball. In the Ga-Ga pit, competitors dodge flying balls while launching them with open hand or fist hits. The spectators cheer from outside the low-wall fence. It is great community fun!

The horses are still here; they've moved to a new corral east of the Indian Bowl. In

this great improvement for this summer-only program each horse has its own stall, bathroom, and kitchen sink... Just



New carpet ball tables are irresistible to staff.

kidding! But they do all have their own stalls and self-watering stations. And the shed we built now houses all the tack out of the summer dust. We love the shade too! Come

check it out.

Teen Adventure Camps this summer enjoyed a wide variety of experiences. Our second year of horse camp was even better than the first. Over two sessions, 26 campers cared for and saddled horses, improved their skills, took pack-out lunches to Sam MacDonald Horse Camp, and enjoyed an overnight under the stars. Groups also surfed on beaches from San Luis Obispo north to Manresa, backpacked from Wawona to Glacier Point in Yosemite National Park, climbed at El Capitan, hiked to Vernal Falls from Yosemite Valley, kayaked on Lake Tahoe, and rode coasters at Great America. Look for next summer's schedule to find the right adventure for you!

Donors Build a Better Future

Camp Jones Gulch received a grant from the Save-the-Redwoods League to help develop an interpretive trail to educate guests on the redwood forest and surrounding ecosystem. Signs are in the Buckeye Grove and on the Big Trees Trail near the Valley of Giants trail as well as at the entrance to camp. Check 'em out.

The Group Activity Trail (GAT) was refurbished in summer of 2008 with a generous donation from Shauna Marie Rose and Raymond R. Sullivan, and additional donations from Stewart Hanlon, Charles Bourdon, and Victoria Perrault. All labor was completed by the Leaders In Training program campers to re-create this beautiful program area. The trail,

located near the old horse corral, was used extensively this summer to help groups like Horse Camp build more cohesive teams through activities like the Spider Web, Texas Skis, and Trust Fall. Thanks you all who helped! We are looking forward to having your groups on the GAT soon.

Groups Groove in the Redwoods



A clinician addresses music camp participants in our premiere Music Shell

It has been another successful year as 74 groups, among them twelve first-time groups, added their names to camp alumni, Jazz Camp West, Hayward La Honda Music Camp, and Mt View High School treated us to amazing music among the redwoods. Chen Style Tai Chi, Tai Chi Form, and Bay Mountain Wing Tsun took advantage of the tranquil back drop of camp.

YMCA Adventure guides from Marin, South Valley, Diablo Valley and Southwest YMCAs enjoyed their annual campouts and participated in all of our program activities ending with a traditional ceremony at the historical Indian Bowl.

We are looking forward to another exciting year and sharing this magical place with our upcoming groups!

"It was another great season; we only wish the kids could have stayed longer"
Eric Aaholm,
YES Exec Dir

\$104,000 awarded to 266 campers

Camp Jones Gulch extended over \$104,000 in summer camp scholarships to 266 children this year. This is in part due to collaborations with area organizations.

The Guardsmen contributed \$36000 again this year. This group of Bay Area men organized in 1947 strives to "enhance and improve the lives of at-risk youth" through scholarship and camper-ship programs where "kids who otherwise would not have a chance at success are given the opportunity to excel as productive members of society."

Youth Enrichment Strategies, a

nonprofit in Richmond, California, brought 98 campers. YES aims to "inspire connection and belonging among thousands of low income, inner-city youth and their families" and accomplishes its mission in part by sending hundreds of children ages 8 – 16 to week-long summer camps around the San Francisco Bay Area. Camp Jones Gulch is proud to be partner with each of these organizations!

In addition, Camp was able to revive the day camp program. The Silicon Valley Community

Foundation donated \$15,000 to provide the experience and Puente de la Costa Sur connected us with kids. Overall, we served over 62 campers and 14 junior counselors in program areas that included swimming, zip line, climbing tower, arts & crafts, canoeing, guided hikes, horseback riding, garden exploration, leadership development, and much more! We here at Camp Jones Gulch are thrilled to collaborate with Puente.

See the websites for more information:
Guardsmen: www.guardsmen.org/campership.htm
YES: www.yesfamilies.org
Puente: www.puentedelacostasur.org

Students Swarm the Gulch

San Mateo Outdoor Education and San Joaquin Outdoor Education will be joining us again this year at the Gulch with an anticipated 8700 participants!

SMOE and SJOE, with 40+ and 50+ year histories, integrate science, math, social studies, language arts, art, music, drama, and physical education

into a curriculum of environmental core concepts and interpersonal skills/personal development core concepts. 5th and 6th graders spend five days and four nights exploring and learning in nature. We look forward to the arrival of the naturalists and students in September!

For more information about each program please see their websites:

SMOE: www.smcoe.k12.ca.us/outdoored/SMOLibrary/SMOLib001/str/SMOLib001Str.html

SJOE: www.sjcoe.org/outdoored/ or <http://outdoorededucation.sjcoe.org>



Achieving More with Leadership Ventures



In the 1970s Pro Action and Associates built one of the first live (tree-mounted) ropes courses on

Teams support each other on the Reach event the West Coast. In fall of 2007 the YMCA took over the management of the ropes course and hired Marcus King to lead and develop the new program called Leadership Ventures. Using high and low ropes course elements, low initiative, and problem solving activities, Leadership Ventures serves sports teams,

leadership retreats, school groups, and adult groups both on and off site. Leadership Ventures clients include Camp Glenwood Boys, Pescadero Middle School, Camp Jones Gulch LITS and CITs, YMCA Association Management Team, Monterey County Office of Education Migrant Education program, Harker School, Dimensions and Discoveries, and local swim clubs. Contact Marcus to see how Leadership Ventures can help your team achieve more.

"My daughter cried for half an hour when we left Autumn Magic; she loved it so much!"
Kathy Fulton

Not-So-Summer Camp

Family camps are fun opportunities for campers of all ages! Whole families can participate in camp activities like horseback riding (seasonal), canoeing, archery, arts & crafts, swimming (seasonal), zip line, climbing tower, guided hikes, and of course campfires!

We still have room in our Labor

Day Weekend (Friday, September 4 – Monday, September 7) and Autumn Magic (Friday, October 23-Sunday, October 25) events. Sign up now to join us!

Winter Camp is a great chance for children to come back to Camp Jones Gulch for a mix of outdoor and indoor activities during their

break from school. Many of our summer counselors return to lead creative programs that take advantage of the winter season and the excellent face to face. Register your 6-15 year old now for this great program where they can enjoy great camper to counselor attention!

Loving it at the Outpost

Lower Outpost has reopened!

After a few years closed due to maintenance issues, the beautiful satellite campsite is open again. As a benefit to members, buy one night and get the second night free June through October (based on availability).

Bring your friends and family to this beautiful site nestled in a grove of old-growth Redwoods. Have a great cook out, camp out and campfire in our little valley! Enjoy all the beauty and rustic charm without missing your flushing toilets, hot showers, and running water. It is a beautiful and



Campfire ring at Lower Outpost nestled among giant redwood trees

remote campsite great for artist retreats, youth groups, scout troops, tracker programs and family reunions.

Run for Funds

Join us at the Presidio Crissy Field on September 16th! Camp Jones Gulch is the beneficiary of the 25th annual JP Morgan Chase Corporate Challenge. This challenge run raises money every year for a local not-for-profit. The 3.5-mile team road race will be held on Wednesday, September 16 with a 6:45 p.m. race start at beautiful Crissy Field on The Presidio.

We are pleased to be represented this year in the run/walk by a number of our staff. Prizes are awarded for most creative t-shirt designs so give us your ideas. And, of course, Go and cheer them on!

Check the website for more details:
www.jporganchasecc.com/events.php?city_id=14&page=events051909



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**We build strong kids, strong families,
and strong communities.**

At YMCA Camp Jones Gulch we believe everyone needs and deserves opportunities to explore outside. We use our old-growth redwood forest and a bio-diverse environment as platforms to educate and inspire people about the natural world.

Our 927 acre facility sleeps up to 400 and has a variety of cabin types, meeting rooms and program areas making us the camp of choice for youth retreats, colleges, womens' retreats, band camps, religious organizations and more. Resident Camp programs include family camp, summer camp for ages 6-16 and Teen Adventure Camp. Our Leadership Ventures program offers teambuilding and experiences at our ropes course in the Redwoods for youth and adult groups.



Giving Back to Camp and Community

The YMCA teaches four character values: Caring, Honesty, Respect and Responsibility. This year we are stepping up our efforts to demonstrate our character as volunteers!

We reorganized our staff to allow more time to be spent recruiting, training, organizing, developing, and recognizing volunteers and leaders in our community.

We are looking forward to developing more relationships with existing agencies and developing mutually beneficial programs. Among such projects are a teen leadership corps, a standing volunteer work committee, and a group to serve the surrounding communities with time and compassion.



Find our new Outreach Coordinator, Sarah Schneider to find out what you can do to help!

