

We have been excited to talk to quite a few alumni just in recent days about sending their children to camp this summer. What greater way to share your camp experience with your child than to give them the same experience??!! Just today, I visited with Karl Engelman (Karl, Laurel and Alex were all campers!) whose son Aiden will come to BMR for the first time this summer! In Ft. Worth at the home of alumni Phil and Hallie Pritchett (3 current campers), we met Kristi Thomas, wife of former camper Barrett Thomas, who is sending their two children to camp this summer. And her mother is one of Suzie's best old friends from Ft. Worth!! We also visited with Melissa and Ben Hoskins – both alumni – who will send their daughter Georgia this summer. They brought all three of their daughters to the movies with them. In Dallas, at the home of alumni Heather Wallace Winters (2 current campers), we met Amanda Chastain who is the niece of Jeff Frazier who has ties with the Allen family and Blue Mountain Ranch WAY back!!! They are sending four children to our second session. In San Antonio, Katie Dillard (2 current campers) arranges our movie showings and in Austin, it's Lesley Howe Lorenz whose two children will attend for the first time this summer. Former campers/counselors Eric Hartmann (in his BMR staff jacket!) and Stephen Goodwin stopped by in Austin and shared some old stories! Dionne Doche Johnson (2 current campers) shows the movies in Amarillo. She had a great bunch of kids to meet us! Other alumni sending children currently (including this past summer) are: Kevin McIntosh, Whitney Baughman Harper, Michael Baum, Chris Carpenter, Kaki Gilbreath-John, Kristen Wooten, Shayna McIllwain Leeper, Terri Milligan, Cricket Snavely Montague (hers plus 4 cousins!), Jack Nichols, Rob Armstrong (niece & nephew & soon his own!), Elizabeth Matlock Obermiller, David Parker, Tory Richey, Todd and Becky Shields, and Jillian West (a whole line of Wests have come to camp)!! Add your name to the list of alumni who are sending children and grandchildren to BMR!!

Once again, we are asking your help for contributions to our **BMR Legacy Fund** which is administered by the New Horizons Foundation in Colorado Springs. Because of situations out of our control, we need help to get our facilities back into the best shape they can possibly we and to continue to create an atmosphere of peace and happiness for our campers!! I am enclosing a couple of letters from former campers who understand our need and have helped us out.

It is not easy for me to ask for help, so I hope you understand that I would not ask if it wasn't necessary. Last year, I hoped we could raise \$100,000 which would have put us in great shape going into the summer. We so appreciate the donations we received, and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts, but we came in a bit short of our goal. We were, however, able to re-do the bathroom of Miller Cabin including new floor, cabinets, sinks, & showers. We also put in new carpet and had the interior professionally painted. This year, we hope to do the same for **Jones Cabin**. If it were possible to raise that sum, we could get everything in great shape and have some reserve for unusual expenses (like having to dig up the entire sewer line of the nurse's cabin that was built in 1965 with no plans! None of us knew where the septic tank was!)!

Bottom line, we need your help and with that we can offer scholarships to deserving campers like the Flowers boys from College Station who lost their parents and then their grandmother's house burned up in the Waldo Canon Fire. Their grandmother has told me that this has been the best experience they could have wished for for those boys. The oldest has just been accepted to college! There are others as well, and with the funds for those children to go to camp, we can do the things to improve BMR that we need to. We do have a wish list on our website of everything and anything we might do to improve camp if you are interested. You can also donate directly to camp.

Please consider helping us out with a donation to the Legacy Fund either online or by mail to:

New Horizons Foundation 5550 Tech Center Dr., Suite 308 Colorado Springs, CO 80919 (Please note donation for BMR Legacy Fund)

We love you, and we thank you for listening!!!!!