



# Parent's Newsletter

2016

Summer: 1687 Route 6  
Greeley, PA 18425  
(570) 226-3636

Winter: 1528 Walnut Street, Suite 1900  
Philadelphia PA 19102  
(267) 639-2488

www.lakeowego.com  
info@lakeowego.com  
@lakeowego

Dear Parents,

We are excited to welcome you to Lake Owego's 56th summer! We are counting down the days until we welcome your children to camp for a summer of fun, friends and adventure.

It's an honor to have this opportunity to provide your child with an outstanding camp experience. We realize the level of faith you have placed in us to provide a safe, nurturing, and accepting environment for your son. Our dedicated counselors and staff members also understand the importance and significance of their role in your child's life. We can't wait to start creating lifelong memories and friendships.

In order to create this truly special camp experience, we are committed to working very closely with each family before, during, and after the summer, so please keep in touch! This newsletter is filled with valuable information that we think will set your son up for success at camp. Please read it carefully.

Happy Camping,  
**Johnny, Kyle and Freedo**



## Visiting Day is July 24th

For full-session & extended half session campers  
11:30 am - 3:00 pm

Parents, grandparents... The whole family is invited.  
(No pets please!)

Don't overdo the food from home, a bountiful camp lunch is provided and campers can only keep treats from home for one day. Please do not bring any food items containing nuts.

Please no "bunk gifts," it leaves some campers and parents feeling left out and is really not necessary. Your presence is the best gift.

Gratuities are not permitted.

## Explorers' Weekend & Play Days

Overnights: July 9-10, July 30-31  
Play Days: July 23, August 6

If your child is entering 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th grade and is not yet ready for camp we encourage you to visit while camp is in session and try our one-night, two-day [Explorer Camp](#). We also offer [Play Days](#)! Please feel free to call us at 267-639-2488 or e-mail us at [info@lakeowego.com](mailto:info@lakeowego.com) if you have any questions.

## Important Information

Saturday, June 25	Camp Begins
Wednesday, July 6	2nd Ext. Half Begins
Tuesday, July 19	1st Session Ends
Wednesday, July 20	2nd Session Begins
Tuesday, August 2	1st Ext. Half Ends
Saturday, August 13	Camp Ends
Sunday, July 24	Visiting Day

## Getting Ready

- If your son is flying to camp please leave out a camp shirt so that he can wear his “Camp Official” on the plane.
- Write a letter to your child before camp starts so it is there for the first mail call.
- Baggage cannot be put on the buses. Duffles, and suitcases should be shipped to and from camp.
- Remember to pack bug spray, a flashlight, a water bottle and sunscreen.
- Pre-addressed, stamped envelopes are helpful to young campers.
- Bunk placement information will not be given out before camp.
- Laundry goes out once a week, so make sure your child has enough socks and underwear for a week.

## Medication Procedures

For children who take daily or routine medication at camp (not including liquids and inhalers), parents **MUST** order their medicine through CampRx. This **DOES** include over-the-counter, non-prescription medications and vitamins. CampRx will deliver your child’s medication to camp in daily, pre-packaged containers. You should have received a special letter explaining the procedure, if not, go to [www.camprx.com](http://www.camprx.com) or call (877) 302-3881 for more information.

Parents, please do not send up medicine except through CampRx. Medicine arriving with children on the bus in bags or backpacks will be returned and CampRx will charge a late fee and overnight charge. Please cooperate, camp can no longer dispense medicine that is not properly pre-packaged through CampRx.

We have a fully stocked, beautiful Health Center with plenty of non-prescription medication. Campers are not allowed to keep ANY medication in their cabins, so please do not send up Tylenol, Advil, Pepto Bismol, etc.



## Letters

We encourage good, old-fashioned letter-writing. At mail-call each day, there is no better feeling for a camper than receiving a real, hand-stamped, hand-written letter or card. Some are treasures that are kept through adulthood. Camp is a low-tech place for children (and adults) to take a break from the hustle-bustle of daily life during the rest of the year. No TVs, no Blackberries, no iPhones, no running to check e-mail. In their place - friends, campfires, teamwork, and, hopefully, personal growth, independence, and self-esteem.

Parents may also send e-mails through the “CampMinder” system (see back page), but letters are better.

“Humor is mankind’s greatest blessing.” – Mark Twain



# Packages

Except for necessities from home that were inadvertently left behind, like a book for school, goggles, shin guards, etc. there is really no reason to send things to camp. Gifts from home like toys or games breed competition between bunkmates and leave some campers feeling left out. Birthday packages are, of course, permitted and encouraged, but no food, please.

Remember all packages are opened in the presence of staff.

## The Lake Owego Team – The Directors!



### Kyle Silver

Kyle has been working at Lake Owego Camp for over twenty years. Kyle is a 6th grade teacher and grade team leader at Fieldston Middle School in the Riverdale, New York. Kyle's background includes coaching both high school basketball and soccer.

Kyle formed and leads the Pike County Athletic Association which conducts a wide variety of athletic tournaments throughout the summer for a number of camps in the area.



### Jeff "Freedo" Freedman

Jeff started as a camper at Lake Owego Camp in the 1970's and since then, has gained over 16 years of experience as an independent boys camp director. Prior to entering the camp world, Jeff was a lawyer for the NCAA. He was also a competitive tennis and basketball student-athlete in college and received All-American accolades. He has a passion for youth and what camp can provide for them and feels that camp is the best place in the world for a boy to spend his summer.



### Johnny & Rachel Waszczak

Johnny and Rachel Waszczak have been year-round camp directors for over twelve years, and bring invaluable experience in the outdoors, wilderness trips, rock climbing, ropes course instruction, group facilitation, lifeguarding, and health care. Johnny is an American Camp Association committee member and prepares for the summer all winter-long. Rachel is a nurse and serves as our camp healthcare coordinator. Johnny, Rachel, and their children live in Greeley, PA all year!



### Shelly Silver, Director Emeritus

Shelly was the director of Lake Owego Camp for over 25 years and an educator for over 40 years. He continues in a supportive role, as a resource for Lake Owego and as an inspiration to campers and counselors.

## Don't BRING



iPod Touch



Kindle



Cell Phones



Laptop

## Do BRING



MP3 Player  
(without wifi)



A novel or two



An open mind



A sense of  
adventure

# Electronics

**We do not allow iPod Touches, Kindles, or any device capable of a wifi connection, hand-held games, portable DVD's, laptops, or cell phones. Even if the wifi connection can be disabled, we do not allow that device in camp.**

If they arrive at camp, phones and electronics will be collected, and returned at the end of the summer. First of all, there's no time to use them, second, they break or are "borrowed" and lost. And lastly, this is CAMP; the perfect time and place to take a break from the onslaught of technology. The whole point of camp life is to live our lives a little differently, a little simpler than we do the rest of the year. Campers can only gain independence if they are truly independent from you and the outside world.

And what about music-only iPods, you may ask? We discourage campers from bringing these for the same reasons listed above. But if your camper can't leave home without it, their personal music-only device will be restricted - not outside the bunk and only after letter-writing at rest period or before bed, after bunk meeting time. Remember, no wifi connected devices. We suggest basic mp3 players such as Apple shuffles or old-fashioned iPods.



“The only way to have  
a friend is to be one.”

– Henry David Thoreau

## CampMinder

### Connect on-line for photos and more!

Every parent will be able to email their child, check out news from camp, and see up to date photos and videos from the summer using the same login they use to fill out forms.

Among many other things, you will have the ability to email photos to your friends and family.

Just go to **“My LOC”** on the top right side of the website and you will be directed to the many options available. You can also create guest accounts so that the whole family can connect to the online camp community. Enjoy, and if needed, call us for help!

## New Camper Weekend June 4-5

Calling all new campers! Come up to camp with your family for the day or stay overnight. Meet future bunkmates, participate in camp activities and sing at a campfire! Call the office to RSVP.

“You are never too old to set another  
goal or to dream a new dream.”

– C.S Lewis



## Phone Calls

It’s not easy, but part of sending children off to camp is “letting go.” Although phone calls are not necessary, one phone call may be scheduled for first-session campers after July 8th and for second-session campers after August 1st. The office will schedule as many calls as possible, before or after dinner, until evening activity begins. Please be reassured that there is always a counselor at the telephone. Hearing your parents’ voice for the first time can be upsetting and we will be there to comfort your son. Tears only last milli-seconds after the call – until the first friend walks by, a basketball is dribbled, or a frisbee whizzes by. Don’t worry, but if you have a real concern – call us.

## Important Contact Information

**Camp Phone** (267) 639-2488

After June 20 (570) 226-3636

**Mountain Baggage** (570) 775-0556

email: [mountainbaggage@aol.com](mailto:mountainbaggage@aol.com)

website: [www.mountainbaggage.com](http://www.mountainbaggage.com)

**R&B Baggage** (603) 536-2197

(baggage for Florida families)

website: [www.rcampbaggage.com](http://www.rcampbaggage.com)

**CampRx** (877) 302-3881

website: [www.camprx.com](http://www.camprx.com)