

# Stone Mountain Adventures

## Camper & Staff Memory Book Session 2, Summer 2013



# ***A Note from the Camp Directors:***

Greetings from camp to everyone in our Stone Mountain Adventures (SMA) family. It is hard to believe that another summer session has come and gone so fast. It seems like only yesterday we were dusting off the canoes and tuning up the mountain bikes and now the summer of 2013 is in the history books. The remainder of the summer was great, but we often found ourselves playing "remember that time in 2nd Session... that was awesome!" during our down time.



**Campers**, we miss each one of you so much, and it's just not the same without you around. We hope you have recovered from the craziness and had an awesome end to your summer. How was the first month of school?

**Parents**, thank you for sending your son or daughter to Stone Mountain Adventures for the summer. Each member of the incredible group that was SMA 2, 2013, possessed fantastic qualities and helped to make the group so special. Some groups come together at the end better than others, and 2nd Session, 2013, receives STAR status!

*To that end, on the last full day of the session we asked each member of our group to take a few moments and "reflect" about his or her experience at Stone Mountain Adventures. Enclosed you will find these entries that we call "reflections of the summer." You also will find a brief description of many of the activities that we did at camp written by our stellar staff.*

We will be uploading the **Second Session Slide Show** to our web site in the weeks to come. As we peruse summer photos we can't help but smile; there were so many silly costumes, 'go fast' activities, and quality friendships. What an incredible summer!

We hope you enjoy this SMA Memory Book and these "reflections" as much as we have!

Best wishes on the school year ahead,

Jud, Anne, Wyatt, Molly, Pam, Biff, Comet, Sula, Frisbee, the Cats, the Horses, the Rabbits & other random farm animals!



# Camper Reflections on their Experiences at Stone Mountain Adventures Session 2, 2013

## **Sabrina Schwartzberg**

This has been one of the best sessions I have had at SMA. The group of campers here were like any other and it is fun being a third year. I was finally allowed to do the Mattawana traditions that were rumored around my first years. I love the freedom we are given and I will always remember the amazing times I have had with my friends. SMA is truly my second home and I will never forget the years I have spent here.



## **Molly Biddle**

Five years, seven sessions, and fifteen weeks, to say “I love SMA,” would be a great understatement. SMA has been arguably, the greatest influence on my life these past few years. I have constantly found myself, while at home, dreaming of camp, thinking of all my friends, recalling so many fantastic memories, remembering the party vans, greatly anticipating and counting down the days for my next year of camp.

So much has changed at camp since my first session: the campers, the counselors, the music played, the dining areas, the game room/bunk just area, and yet, although so many things have changed, so many people have come and gone, the magic of SMA has remained, influencing the lives of all who have been lucky enough to have experiences here.

This was such a great session! We had such a nice mix of old and new faces. Everyone was invested into making each day better than the last and fitting as much fun as possible into the short time we had. I cannot remember a set of two weeks that have gone faster. How can it already be over? It was a session full of great campers and counselors. Mattawana was a bunk full of such fun girls, and it was always fun to walk into the cabin and see who was hanging out inside. I had such an enjoyable time each time at horsemasters; it was so cool to watch everyone improve, face their fears, and surpass their goals. There were some fabulous party vans and a great many exciting evening activities.





Seeing it all drawing to a close is saddening and disappointing. We should not focus on our sadness at the fact that it is over, but rather remain so very glad that it happened. Thank you all for the memories, jokes, support, and friendship. Until next time...

### **Chloe Williams-Healy**

SMA is my favorite summer camp that I have ever been to. All of the activities are tons of fun. My favorites were rock climbing, white water rafting, wakeboarding, and especially tie dying in art studio. This session I did so many new things that I do not think I would have had the confidence to do otherwise. I probably would have never gone rock climbing, white water rafting, wakeboarding, windsurfing, or many of the other activities that I had the opportunity to participate in at camp. I also met so many new people. I made friendships that I hope last forever. All of the counselors here are so nice and funny. I hope I can come back next year!



### **Simon Werbrouck**

I could not come to SMA last year as expected because I broke my arm. I missed an entire experience and I came here this summer hoping to make up for that. And I did.

I had some wonderful fun this session. From the overnights, to seeing some old friends back again and to making new friends. Everything was really great. To some point I wish I could stay longer, but then I would have another great moment, I would cry and then I would miss SMA even more.

But I will talk about stuff in particular. White water rafting was great fun, and my team (Jay, Beth, Harry and myself) worked really well together. It was so much fun. The saucy lads (say this in an English accent) were the sauciest guys of them all and even though I was not entirely part of it, I laughed so hard at everything that happened.

Laughing was also a big part of this session. People were hilarious and I often found myself laughing really hard, which I do a lot, but also at my own jokes. The counselors this session were awesome and I had just an amazing time with every single one of them. My time with the raze-infused Time and Josh at the airport was great. My time spent with every single English counselor, as well as all the jokes and conversations with the other counselors were memorable.

I also had a great time with the campers and I have so much to say, but not enough time to say it all. I'll try though. I had a great time with Nick Junior. The guy's amazing. Finding the third, fourth and fifth years back again were really nice. I was so happy to see them again, and it is always nice to see some familiar faces in this huge crowd when you first arrive to camp. Secret friends were amazing.

Finally, being a third year was awesome. I was able to take part of some things I previously had not





been able to do; such as the dance, paper plates, chilling with other third and older years. Anyways, when I leave SMA, I am probably going to cry, but I do not actually care. I will try to keep in contact with every camper, if not most; as much as I can, and I might even see some of you again if I come next year.

It was really a great year and I hope I remember it for a long time?!?

P.S. I got five video games for almost nothing!! Can it get any better

P.S.S. It already did.

### Harry Biddle

This is my fourth wonderful year here at SMA. These past two weeks felt like a couple of days. They went by way too fast. I wish it could last forever. This session was the most comfortable I have ever been at camp (credit to the counselors and campers). There was never a moment that I wish I was not here at my summer home. I accomplished my goal of meeting and getting to know all the campers and counselors. No matter who was on my activity, I had a great time and felt I could carry a conversation with



everyone. There was never a dull moment from the amazing party vans to the greatest days of summer. My favorite activity, disco rollerblading, exceeded my expectations because of all the bunk junk and the enthusiastic group of campers. Being a part of wakemasters allowed me to spend more time on the boat than I have in past summers and I also improved my skiing more than I would have expected. The Furnace was amazing. I was with all of my friends that have been there with me from the start. They helped make the cabin feel like home. Many of these fourth years have said that this is their last summer at SMA. This fact is making the end of the session hard because I have come to the realization that I may never see these people again. These last few days have made me sure that no matter what, I will be back as a camper, counselor, or friend. I am excited to relive this session through the candle light and watch the slide show tonight. Thank you SMA for making my last four summers the best yet.

### Maddy Wade

When I came here last year, I knew SMA would be my "summer home." I was so excited to come back this year! I made so many friends and saw many friends from last year. I was super happy to finally get up on the wakeboard even though I was only able to go wakeboarding once this session. I also greatly improved my rock climbing skills and I have been inspired to start rock climbing at home. SMA is an amazing place that I want to go to for as long as I can! The friends I make here are something better than my friends at home and I wish I could see them all the time. My friends from SMA and the camp itself hold a special place in my heart. See you next year!





### **Gabe Jaffe**

So this is going to be my last summer at SMA, and that really upsets me. I do not think I have quite grasped the fact that I will never be back here again. Next summer is going to be incomplete without SMA, as I have been coming here the last four summers. I feel SMA has affected me and it is something I can think about or look forward to when I am feeling sad. But now, I can no longer do that. Camp has given me confidence in myself, friends and many amazing experiences.

I hope that SMA feels as great to the younger campers as it was to me my first year. This year, I tried to make camp the same kind of place that I really wanted to come back to after my first year. I tried to be a good example and foster the spirit of SMA. There are so many seasoned campers leaving after this year, but I really hope that some younger campers can step up to the place and continue to make SMA the place it is.

I will miss SMA greatly, and it will change my life not having these two weeks to escape from life and relax.



### **Anatole Laugier**

It was two wonderful weeks! When I left Paris, I was not happy at all because I have never been to a place like this before. Now, I am very happy to have been here and I want to come back next year. I want to see my new American (and Costa Rican) friends again. And the cool counselors too! SMA is really an amazing camp!

### **Thomas Rojas**

I can't find the words to describe the camp, so I am just going to describe it in one small sentence. It was awesome!

### **Mathilde Van Dooselaere**

This was my second year at SMA and I feel like I have been here forever. I was here third session last year, so it was nice to meet new people





that only come first and second sessions. I loved doing all the activities and learning new skills. I love the counselors and all the returning campers who make the new campers feel comfortable and at home. I love bonding with my cabin over little things and bonding with the other cabins through sleepovers and little parties. I love all the activities at SMA, but my favorite is white water rafting. I love getting in the van and



sleeping on the shoulders of my friends and stopping at McDonalds. I also love getting out on the river and pushing people in and then saving their lives. All the evening activities and meetings were memorable. I am very sad to see everyone leave, but I am excited to see my friends from last year in third session. I know I will cry during the candlelight meeting, but I am already looking forward to next year and seeing everyone again. Love you all. (P.S. I love Brooke Cherry with every inch of my heart)

### **Daniel Nilov**

During the first day at SMA, the hours seemed to pass like days; now on the second week, the days zipped by. I am really looking forward to staying for the next session, and I am really thankful that I made the decision for four weeks. During this session I had many experiences, both positive and negative, but most positive. My experiences at SMA will impact and highly influence my way of thinking. It is very good to have experienced the activities I had this summer at SMA. I appreciate being able to try new experiences. This was one of my personal goals to achieve this week. Although I regret no wakeboarding this week, wakeboarding will be a high priority next session.

SMA is definitely not a stereotypical summer camp. I was not expecting everyone to be so kind and courteous. Of course this week will not have been the same without my great friends and the staff. Overall, SMA is the best summer camp I have been at; I am really looking forward for having tons of fun next session.

### **Mirena Medina**

When I first started SMA, I knew absolutely nobody. My friends from home would ask if I knew anybody and when I answered they look at me weird. That didn't last long, though. From the minute I stepped out of the car I was greeted by lots of hellos and tons of friendly smiles. I had started almost half way through the session and everybody already had friends, but they made it seem like a little spot in every group had been reserved for me. As I toured the camp, everybody along the way greeted me. When I got to the cabin everyone seemed genuinely excited for my arrival. All of that was just the first day! Over the last eight or nine days I have done things I could have never imagined I would do. I rode a horse by myself, one the very first day. I also wakeboarded, tie dyed, and a bunch of other fun stuff. I feel like all of the campers and staff is like one big family. I will miss each one of them when I leave. Lucky for me, I am staying another session.

### **James Mazaris**

Well, I have been here since session one and during my time here I have really come out of my shell and embraced myself. And I could not have done that with out this camp. It has really taught me how to be an open minded person and accept others. Also, it has taught me how to have fun and just be yourself. I have appreciated and enjoyed all the time that I have spent on the boat wakeboarding with Lindsay and the wakemasters. I just got a new skill and I am happy about it. I have enjoyed all of the activities and all the people. I am grateful for the experience.

### **August DuFloux**

The first thing that I want to say is that I had a very good time here. I would love to stay a little more, but I also want to see my family. During these two weeks, I did things that I never thought I could do. I rock climbed barefoot and went on an awesome biking trip. I even got up on my first time wakeboarding thanks to Lindsay's advice. Everybody was so nice that I feel that they have been my friends for a very long time. I really appreciated the food that was served at dinner. I liked all of the staff and I would like to say thank you to everybody at SMA.

### **Olivia Gellis**

This session at SMA was awesome. I made so many new friends that I will keep forever. White water rafting was really fun even though I did not feel the best that day. Secret friends was also really great. My bunk also got along really well, which was great. I am so glad I decided to stay the extra week because I was able to become closer with many more people. I will definitely come back next summer!



### **Katie Bisio**

This was my first summer at SMA and it was simply amazing. I absolutely loved the experience I had here. I loved having the opportunity to choose from a great variety of activities everyday. My personal favorite was rock climbing in the morning and doing something in the water in the afternoon. I loved wakeboarding. It is so much fun because I felt like I was riding on air. The food was really good too.

White water rafting was so awesome!! Crashing into rapids was really exciting. I loved going to the Amish market. I got nice things there. The wakeboarding overnight was probably the best experience I had at SMA. I got to know a couple people that I did not have the opportunity to bond with before. Meeting people was probably one of the best things that I was able to experience during the overnight.

Being in crew helped me learn more about how to do chores properly and how to be responsible for my own messes. Overall, I had an awesome time. I still will be in contact with my new friends after they all leave. I am really happy to be staying for the third session.

### **Alex He**

I would say that SMA is the best place to be in the summer. Although, I stayed for only two weeks my first year, I had a very interesting experience. There were so many activities that I have never did in this camp and it felt good try them all. The skill involved in activities such as wakeboarding and canoeing/rafting came to me at a fast pace and that left me wanting to do more of it.



I felt that the camp counselors all added to my great experience at SMA. They were not only good at their jobs, but also at helping campers have the best summer they possibly could. They all have unique personalities, but all of them are very responsible and awesome at everything.

Most of all, I think all the other campers contributed to each other's experiences. Everyone can make amazing friends and they all make everyone feel at home. Personally, I made good and interesting friends. This made me feel good about myself at SMA. Unlike in school, everyone wants to make the best out of their time at camp. By making others feel good about themselves everyone has a great time. I want to keep in touch with all the great friends I have made at SMA.

I would want to come back to camp again next year, and it would be awesome to spend time with some of the great friends I have made here next summer.

### **Abriel Markowitz**

This session at SMA was amazing. I met so many good friends and I hope I can stay in touch with them. I can't wait to come back next year as a third year camper. I look forward to having another amazing summer at camp.



### **Laura Wade**

This is my second summer at SMA and I enjoyed it even more than I did last summer. All of the activities were absolutely amazing! I love how you have so much individual freedom. My favorite activities were wakeboarding and windsurfing. I was able to get up on the wakeboard on my second try ever! It was so much fun! At windsurf and sail, I had a lot of fun paddle boarding with Chloe and Kat, as well as many others. Kat and I had tons of fun talking about random thing like scary stories and girl stuff. I wish I could stay here year-round with all of my friends!

### **Jin Yu Hirsch**

This is my second year at SMA and I have come to the conclusion that SMA is the best camp ever. I enjoyed everything we did this session, especially disco roller skating, white water rafting and horse masters. When I first came to camp I was worried that I would not make friends, but by that night I had made many new friends. I really enjoyed watching people roller skate and fall and be pushed out the rafts when we were on the river. I also really enjoyed getting to know everyone, especially the horse masters. Doing chubby-bunny and watching all the performances at the talent show was fun. I will keep SMA in my hear all the time and I will not forget any crazy, cool people I have met here when I go home.

### **Mia Beahm**

SMA has been the best summer camp experience I have ever had. I actually even called my parents to ask to stay longer because this camp is so amazing that I never want to leave. This is my first year at SMA and my first experience at an overnight camp away from home. Ever since my first day at camp, I have been very happy that I came. It feels like a second home with all my friends that I have made and the great staff makes it even better.



The fun activities are great and I have tried things that I never thought I would do or even love. At the end of the days and evening meeting, there would be some days where we would do something special for the evening activity. Disco roller skating was really fun. I learned to roller skate with the help of staff and friends. The overnights are also loads of fun and I made so many memories on them. White water rafting was my favorite activity this session. It was filled with so many smiles and laughs that will probably be remember by everybody.

Everyone I have talked to these short two weeks were just amazing. Everybody has been so nice and friendly. I hope to meet more new people and learn about them in the future. I will most likely come back next year and I will be even more excited to come to camp than I was this year. This is a great camp and I felt so at home that I barely missed my friends and family. I am hoping that my next session is even better than this one!

### **Edouard Gali-Papa**

On the first day of camp, I was a bit anxious because I had never really been so far away from home and everything I know. But as the days advanced, I felt better and better. I can now say that SMA is my second home. There were so many wonderful people at camp and I really enjoyed the people in the Furnace bunk. My experiences here have made SMA my second home and family.

### **Basile DuFloux**

This summer camp was great. The activities were fun. I really liked how warm the weather was. The counselors were very funny, which I really liked, and the campers were all really friendly. Playing pool in Rockbottom with Jeremy, Auguste, and Johann was awesome. The food was also good.

### **Brooke Cherry**

I think this session for me has been very memorable. There are so many things I could write down in this reflection, but I just do not know where to start and what to even write down. Even though I have been here for two weeks, I feel like I have known this place forever because of how close I have become to the other campers. I have really enjoyed wakeboarding the most because I just love being in the water. And let's face it, everybody knows that I really am a mermaid at heart. The overnights allowed me to get to know and bond with other campers. I have overall really enjoyed just being with everybody and just doing our regular routine at SMA. Thank you everybody for making my summer exquisite and I can't wait for next summer.

### **Brooke "Shucky" Shuck**



Coming back to SMA for the second summer in a row was one of the best decisions that I have ever made. These past two weeks flew by so fast, but I feel that I have grown so much by being here. I loved doing all the activities, especially rock climbing, wakeboarding, the talent show, and white water rafting. However, my favorite part of SMA is making new friends and getting closer to the people who I have already met and bonded with. To me, SMA is not an ordinary summer camp. It is a place where people can be themselves. No one ever has to hide anything and most people gain the ability to break out of their comfort zones and gain the confidence to do things they want to do. The past two summers have been great and I hope that I will get the chance to come back and spend another summer with the people I love. Thank you everyone for a great two weeks. I can't wait for more.

### **Ana Hilton**

This summer I have had a great time. I loved my cabin this session. I loved horsemasters because I was able to meet new people. I am really going to miss all of the campers and counselors that I have met here. I hope that we are able to keep in touch in the future.



### **Kat Flanagan**

This session was a ton of fun with horsemasters and white water rafting, hanging out with my cabin, windsurfing, and everything else that has made my experience at SMA awesome. I made a bunch

of new friends and I was able to bond with some old friends from the previous session. The counselors have been like my big brothers and sisters. I am really going to miss being here and I can't wait to come back next summer.

### **Ariel Kaye**

This was my first year at SMA and it was exactly what I had expected it to be like. I was kind of nervous at first because I knew that there were already campers here from first session. When I arrived everyone came up to my car and introduced themselves right away and everybody had a smile on their faces.

Horse masters was so incredibly fun and I had a great time working with Pam, Kelsey and the other horsemasters. When I was able to go wakeboarding I got up on my first try. I have realized that this camp is a great place for trying new things. I can't wait to come back next year and the years to come.

### **Roisin Leonard**

On the first day of camp, I was really nervous about making friends. I was worried that it would be a group of campers that already knew each other. It turned out to not be like that at all. Everyone is always friendly towards each other. I made so many friends that I hope to keep in touch with forever. I know the goodbyes will be hard, but I would not trade my experience here at SMA for the world. I loved all the activities that we did. Rock climbing was really rewarding. Even the van rides were fun. We had some great ruddle puddles. I am really glad that we had our candle light meeting. I will miss all of my friends and the counselors so much. My experience has been so surreal and it has gone by so fast. These past two weeks went by in the blink of an eye. I am sad that it is time to leave, but I will definitely come back next year.

### **Annie Cohen**

This summer at SMA, I did a bunch of cool activities. I bonded with my bunk and made a lot of new friends. The canoeing overnight was fun and we were able to ride down the rapids. It was fun and we played badminton as well. Evening activities were fun. I liked the talent show and using the bunk junk. At tennis we played four squares and people dressed so silly. Johann looked great when he dressed up. Camp was really fun overall.

### **Valeria Sonderegger**

When I first heard I was coming to SMA I was nervous and really shy. Now, that it is time to leave camp I am really sad that I have to leave the great friends that I have made these past two weeks. I am so glad that I came to camp. The activities have been amazing and the food is great. This camp has really brought me closer to nature, as where I live I do not get to enjoy the beauty of it. Honestly, this has been a great experience and I really hope I have the opportunity to come back next year. I want to come share another summer with these wonderful people.

### **Brooke Shostek**

This session I have made so many new great friends. I got so close to everyone. This session has made me become more outgoing. I was also able to be myself. Being here first session and then being able to help all the new campers during second session helped me become more outgoing. Doing the 1,000 steps hike is something that I never thought I would be able to do if I was at home, but I am glad I was able to make it to the top. All the counselors have helped me with things throughout my time here. This summer has changed me in many ways and helped me discover who I really am. I can't wait for another great summer at SMA next year. I hope to come back and make even more memories and great friends.



### **Mathilde Coolen**

At the beginning it was very hard for me because I felt like nobody cared about me here. I am the only French girl in my bunk, but some of the other girls started talking to me and we became friends. These two weeks went way too fast and I don't really want to go back to Paris. During this awesome session I tried canoeing and windsurf/sail. I rode on a very nice horse and I will miss him. I went to on an awesome overnight. The counselors were all awesome, nice, and fun. Here everything seems to be easier and nobody judges you. I will miss everything that I was able to do here. When I go back to France, I will lay in my bed, staring at the wall like "what can I do?" I will try to come back next year as a "super camper." I don't know what I can say. I just want to cry and hug everybody. But I just want to say thank you!

### **Lydia Shanen**

This session has been amazing. I have met many new people and become closer with the people that I met last year. The counselors are also very crazy, but very good at their jobs. Within the first couple of days, I felt as if I already knew everybody. Horsemasters this session was fantastic. It was amazing to see Pam again, who is probably one of the people who knows me best. I was really glad to meet Kelsey and get to know her. The counselors are all very understanding and caring people. I tried windsurf/sail for the first time this summer and it was so much fun. Hanging out on the front lawn, going to walmart,



white water rafting and horsemasters are all very memorable experiences. The friends I have made are some of the best I have made and they were always there for me when I needed them during camp. The counselors that have influenced me in particular were Lindsay and Tim. Lindsay is just so carefree, funny and does not let anything negative get to her. Tim is just so cool, relaxed and understanding, which are all qualities I admire, I really hope that when/if I become a counselor, I am just like them. SMA has helped me in so many ways and I am just so grateful for everything. This camp is my second home. I wish I could come here more often than just in the summer. Finally, I owe all of my thanks to Jud and Anne for running such an amazing and wonderful camp. I hope that I can come back next year as a super camper.

### **Nora McNulty**

Before coming to SMA, I sat on the couch all day, every day watching Netflix and I was content with that. Now after two short weeks of nonstop fun, I honestly have no idea what I am going to do when I get home. I have met so many new and great friends here. I have learned so much that I am not going to be the same because of my experience here. This place is definitely my home away from home and I am going to be back next year. The activities, kids, and counselors are all so nice and funny. I will be bored going back home after being here at camp. I cannot thank you enough for the best two weeks of my summer!!



### **Liz King**

Even after having already written one reflection this summer, I don't think I can find the words to fully sum up the effect these four weeks have had on me. To me, this camp is a safe place to be myself and it has given me the opportunity to make closer friends than I would be able to make at home. It is a family here and I know that is the one thing that I will miss the most. I hope to be able to come back next year and reconnect with all of my friends. I came this year with expectations of a similar summer to last year's, but I am going to leave with a much different, but better experience than I had hoped for. I know that I will never forget the people I have met here. If home is where the heart is, then my home is here at SMA.

### **Walter Keiler**

I think that this was an amazing experience. The counselors were really fun. I had a lot of fun at SMA this summer!

### **Nick Duell**

It has been fun this session and I am even staying for next session. I came here with an entirely different set of expectations than what I actually experienced. I am really excited to stay for next session and meet even more people.

### **Johann Ollu**

This session was very different than first session. I loved how happy everyone was and I had a lot of fun. Here at SMA, I have done things that I would have never done anywhere else. Getting a Mohawk or rock climbing barefoot and shirtless are just two examples. I have changed a lot because of my experience at camp.

### **Benjamin Six**

I really enjoyed my time at SMA this session. It was the best holiday that I have had yet. My favorite activity was canoeing, but I really loved white water rafting too. Thank you so much to the staff. You were all really great and I just want to say thank you. I am really happy that I am able to stay for session three.

### **Sammy Keiler**

I really liked white water rafting and rock climbing. The talent show was really fun and enjoyable. I really liked the new cabin. It is so big. I really had a good time.

### **Ryan Walden**

This was my first year at SMA and it was an incredible camp. Over the two weeks, I was able to know everybody by name and other people I was able to really bond with. Over the days, I really was able to get to know Katie and some of the other girls



well. I think that we could all be really good friends. I really owe a lot of my experience this session to Zach for getting me to break out of my shell. I also want to say thank you to Harry for just being an awesome friend and person. I really feel like when I am back at home, I am going to be a much more outgoing person. It was really cool to meet lots of kids from different countries.

### **Ben Gross**

Unfortunately, this was my last year attending SMA. I have been going to camp for four years and each year was better than the previous. There are so many fun activities that I have done over the years. My favorite activity is disco roller skating. We dress up in wacky clothes and go roller skating. We make complete fools out of ourselves. Another thing I enjoy here at camp is secret friends. It is pretty much just like secret Santa. At the end of the session you reveal who your secret friends are and it is so much fun. These are two of my favorite things at SMA, but there are so many more wonderful things that I have participated in and really enjoyed. I wish I could come back next year. I might even consider trying to become a counselor in a few years. SMA is always going to be my second home.

### **Connor Fritsche**

These two weeks have gone by so fast. They have been amazing though. I have done a lot of new activities that I never have done before. I have made a ton of new friends and have seen a lot of old ones too. SMA has been a spectacular summer home for the past two weeks. The three activities that I would consider my absolute favorites are wakeboarding, rock climbing and mountain biking. I can't wait to come back next year and see all my friends again

### **Zach Johns**

This is my fourth and final year here at SMA and it has been one of the best. Although my time here has come to a close, I will remember my experiences at this camp for a very long time to come. It seems just yesterday I was a doubtful and apprehensive first year camper. It is amazing how fast four years goes by. The development of my personality throughout this time is even stranger. As far as this session goes, there have been many standout moments. White water rafting, disco roller skating and other various activities have all been a part of those great moments. However, the real highlights are meeting new and interesting people from all over the country and world. Also, getting to know the people



who I have spent the past few summers with was a high point from this session. I will always be grateful for the time I have spent here because it has helped shape my character in a way that nothing else has or could have.

### **Daniel Kuperman**

This was my third session of SMA in the past three years. I knew coming into this summer, that it was going to be my last year, but I had also decided that I wanted to stay for both the second and third sessions to make the experience last just a little longer. This session has gone by so fast; it is hard to believe that I have already been here for two weeks. Of course, this is a halfway reflection for me, but for the campers who are about to leave, I think that their second session of SMA 2013 has sped by.



A lot of the things were the same as the past years, but they were all still so enjoyable. White water rafting on the Yough River has been the most memorable experience for me. One difference between this year and my past years was that I stayed in the Furnace instead of Rockbottom, which became the new music studio/game room/bunk junk storage area (much to my dismay because that cabin had a lot of sentimental value for me).

There was a good amount of more campers here this session than I remember in the last couple of years, but I was fortunate enough to know a bunch of returning campers. It has been a fun session and I will soon follow this up with a final reflection in about two week's time.

### **Jasper West**

I am sad that this is my last year at camp and I wish the people I am friends with here went to my school. Summer is going to be very different without SMA and I really hope that I am able to see my SMA friends again. I am really going to miss this place.

### **Jeremy DeYoung**

I really enjoyed camp this year. First and second sessions were amazing and I have had many amazing experiences, as well as made great friends. I will remember them for the rest of my life. I am looking forward to coming back next summer. This camp has really changed me.

### **Chris Alfieri**

SMA was so awesome. I had the most fun that I have ever had during the summer in many years. White water rafting was so fun. I am grateful to have been able to participate in such a fun camp.

### **Jeremy Wasson**

I enjoyed this camp a lot. It was not my first summer camp. I have previously attended a camp in England and it was a really bad trip. At SMA, the counselors are friendly and it is very easy to have many friends because of how small the camp is. The activities were all really great and I had a lot of fun. Wakeboarding on the big lake was one of my favorites. The evening meeting and the activities afterwards were very fun and I really loved the roller skating trip. I went crazy during the "capture the flag" game. These two weeks were very fun and everybody at camp was very friendly, cool, funny, and great. I am so sad to leave this camp now because I want to stay with you all again. I played a lot of good pool games with Auguste, Basile, and Johann in the game room. I am going to ask my mom if I can come back again next year! P.S. I am French!

**Kyle Heller**

Even though this was only my second year at SMA, I feel so attached to this place, kind of like it is a second home for me. The experiences and friends I have made here are some of the best I have ever had. This camp has opened me up to so many things like white water rafting and real mountain biking and I am forever grateful for it. It has affected me in every aspect of my life and taught me to be myself. Leaving SMA is definitely one of the hardest parts of my year, but at least I am look forward to next year!!

**Ben Novack**

I came to Stone Mountain Adventures without knowing anyone; I just knew that I wanted to rock climb. I arrived at camp and everyone was very friendly. As the session went on, I met so many cool people, counselors, and campers alike. As the time passed, I only went rock climbing three times in two weeks. This is a wonderful place that takes you somewhat out of your normal boundaries. I participated in mountain

biking and white water rafting, which are two things that I would not have done at home. SMA is an amazing summer camp and it has been a great way for me to end my summer.



*Our Start Staff Team of 2013  
take time to tell you about the  
awesome activities of  
Stone Mountain Adventures!*



### **Wakemasters**

Wakemasters this session was AMAZING! As an instructor, I was very proud of improvements and willingness to learn from all the wakemasters. We worked on getting up on the board, staying inside the wake and jumping the wake. I am so proud to say ALL the wakemasters “mastered” every one of their own personal goals on the boat. Not only did we work with them on wakeboarding, we also showed the wakemasters the importance of taking care of the boat; all that goes into being on the water safely and still having fun. I could not have asked for a better group of kids!

**SPORTS.** Session 2, 2013 was a truly special session. With many returning campers, games were taken to a new level. People gave it their all and played hard which we love to see here at SMA. The sport that got the most intense would definitely be ultimate frisbee. The epic match between the counselors and campers during All-Camp Day is one that will go down in history. The counselors of course came out on top, but I think it's safe to say everyone enjoyed the game. Whether it is "Freezewood", Whipple Dam, the softball field, or the front lawn of the farm there are always sports and games being played and a lot of laughs and smiles. It has been a great summer so far and we all are looking forward to session 3!

**WHITE WATER RAFTING-** The sun suddenly came out as we pulled into Ohiopyle PA, ready for 7.5 miles of rafting on the Lower Yough. We slathered on sunscreen, duct taped rogue shoes, and divided into boats, each captained by a fearless counselor. After acing the first two rapids, we were informed that we were the best group the guides had ever seen. Was it sarcasm? We'll never know. Having become bored with the skill and talent demonstrated by the boats, Jud decided to switch things up by

toppling into a hydrolic. Several campers and counselors followed his expert lead over the course of the day, taking some surprising yet refreshing swims. Splash battles raged, Kings of Boats were crowned and dethroned, and everyone made it to the end safely. To show our thanks, we offered the tribute of a single water shoe to the River Gods.

### **Evening Activities – Session 2, 2013**

At the closing of the first full day at camp the infamous 'Jud Games' set evening activities to an incredible standard! Silliness and high-energy madness led the way for awesome nights ahead...from getting ice cream during quiet over-night evenings to the craziness and hilarious sketches during the camp fire, evening activities never fail to round up a top day at SMA with appropriate awesomeness! Some high lights this session most defiantly include invention convention when people got creative with their skits as well as their wardrobes...speaking of creative wardrobes the 'Tropical' themed dance was a night of exotic outfits and awesome dancing, the swimwear came in handy when the 3<sup>rd</sup> years dumped all that water on our heads! Then there was the sensational roller disco, and once again the 'bunk junk' get-up stole the show...I'm sensing a theme here?! I will not forgot the skating limbo competition...And of course, there was the superb talent show. The traditional crazy dance parties in between the awesome acts certainly made it a night to remember! The 'talent' packed night was the ultimate evening activity to bring Session 2, 2013 to an amazing end with us all together and having the time of our lives one last time.

**Canoeing-** Second session 2013 had some awesome canoeing! It was great leading trips of new campers down the little J. Canoeing allowed us all to work through challenges while still having an awesome time. I am very proud to say that Aly, Jay and I led a canoeing overnight with NO CAPSIZES! Silly games, songs, and conversations dominated canoeing trips.

**Hiking** at SMA is an awesome way to slow down and appreciate the beauty of Central Pennsylvania. Thousand Steps offered gorgeous views while the River Hike created time for reflection. As always, the campers are what made each and every experience at SMA wonderful. I'm going to miss all of the campers here so much!

**The Amish market** is a sight to behold, it's a place where you find yourself lost in stalls offering everything from freshly made cakes to music, trucker hats and trinkets from across America. It's a great place for campers and counselors to spend a morning exploring whilst experiencing the unique Amish culture. For me the Amish Market will always be special place because it's where I had my first whoopie pie and witnessed the sights and smells of the livestock market. A morning spent at the Amish Market is a great activity to have; campers get so excited it makes the staff even more enthusiastic to go. I'll always remember the Amish Market not just because of the whoopie pies but because it gave me an insight into a different side of American culture I never thought I'd experience

### **Wakeboarding, Waterskiing and Belly Womping, Oh My!**

I was so excited to find out that I would be instructing wakeboarding and waterskiing out on the boat at beautiful Raystown Lake this summer. It is one of the most popular activities at camp. Some of the kids who came out to try their hand this session were first time skiers or wakeboarders, while some were seasoned vets. Either way, just about every person that we put in the water had huge success. It was amazing to see the smiles on their faces whether they had finally gotten up for a few seconds or had attempted a big jump before wiping out. Overnights were some of the best times that the crew had out on the boat. Getting that flattest water out on the lake in the evening, tent camping over night, and then waking up early in the morning to catch more glass was awesome. Kneeboarding this session was especially impressive, particularly the wipeouts. Multiple campers improved their skills or proved their prowess in slalom ("one ski"), jumping on the wakeboard, or belly womping epically by the end of the session.



**MOUNTAIN BIKING** - Since arriving here at SMA we have been biking the Allegrippis trail, which is one of the best trails I have ridden in a while. The campers that have ridden it said it's the best they've ever been on. We also have rails to trails, which is an old rail road track that was turned into a bike trail, with an amazing view the Little Juniata river for the duration of the ride. We had few wrecks, minimal injuries, and a lot of fun riding around greater Huntingdon. Watching campers build their confidence and try more technical tracks proved a rewarding experience; the biking in this area is superb and there will always be something to offer riders of all skill levels.

**Art Studio** brought the wild and crazy creativity out of all of us. Many campers showed their creative sides through painting and drawing this session, while others found the classic friendship bracelet making to be their creative outlet. Tie dye this session was also a hit - campers practiced their spirals, bull's eyes, v-patterns, and dip dying. Some campers even had a blast finding new and crazy things to tie dye, be it rocks, sheets of paper, or even their own hands! By the end of the session, almost (if not every!) camper had something creative to bring home, be it a bracelet from a friend or a pair of mismatched tie dye socks. Campers and counselors alike loved the feeling of drifting away to our cozy, upstairs barn studio where we could let our creativity run wild

**Rock climbing** has been amazing this session. Beginning with Belay school, campers learnt or brushed up on the basics of rock climbing: the figure of eight knot, the figure eight follow through, belay techniques and commands and safety at the rocks. With so many rock climbing enthusiasts, Jud has often had to throw the shoe in evening meeting in order to decide who gets to go this time, and who has priority for next time – this was fantastically encouraging and awesome to see so many kids wanting to climb! We climbed at Donation rocks where there are climbs for all abilities, campers were confronted and challenged with Damnation – Frosted Flake and Camel's head, Africa wall, The Gully Scramble and Sharks tooth, as well as Triceps – The Book and alternate climbs either side. We were blessed with great weather and rock climbing has been an option almost every day; however, some days the hot weather proved challenging for climbers with chalk disappearing within seconds and sweat pouring, but campers perseverance and determination has been absolutely outstanding! Some cooler weather on the last activity day provided us with brilliant climbing conditions where camper excelled and ascended the rock faces with the skill and precision of spiderman. The skill sets demonstrated and developed during this session were evident and witnessing the more experienced climbers explaining techniques on the wall or belay techniques to the less experienced, made instructors incredibly proud of their wealth of knowledge, their development, progress and maturity. It was a great session for rock climbing and all participants should be incredibly proud of themselves!

### **Wind. Surf. Sail.**

This activity is spent out on the beautiful Raystown Lake, which is located in the heart of Huntingdon County. It is a great place to learn how to wind surf or sail as well as improve your skills with either activity. A typical day out on the lake would begin with the more tedious part of unloading the trailer and learning how to properly assemble the sails. Once everything is set we venture out into the water to catch some wind. Many people this session were new to wind surfing and took on the challenge of jumping up on the board and riding around. It's always a blast getting to play around in the water and cool off at the lake on a hot summer day. Weather the time spent on this activity is out on a paddle board with a few of your friends or sailing around in the lake you are sure to have a good time out on wind surf and sail.