

SPARKS

A Camp Greystone Quarterly Magazine

Winter 11



Merry Christmas Greystone Girls!

Main Campers (and those who follow the Greystone news on our website) know that I love Christmas. I have a really good Santa Claus outfit (complete with jolly tummy) and a really bad “Buddy the Elf” outfit (one of those nylon cheap things from China). No matter what the quality of the costume, getting dressed up really makes me happy. Celebrating Christmas in July always brings a smile to my face and happiness to my heart. There is just something about Christmas!

I hope that you will make this Christmas mean more to yourself than getting great presents. The key might be listening to some really great music. As you listen to Christmas music this year, put some of our Greystone Concert artists on your playlist. Drew and Ellie Holcomb (they have a new Christmas album), Andrew Peterson (Behold the Lamb of God is my favorite Christmas album EVER), and Amy Grant (she played on the Pagent Court surrounded by girls before she was famous). Listen to the words and let yourself be drawn into the Majesty of the Reality: God became Man. This is the most amazing truth of

the universe; it makes your heart sing... Christmas is the most amazing season because it celebrates the most amazing event that will ever happen.

Greystone is the best camp (not bragging, I just really think it is true) but we are the best camp because of our Christian faith. Christ calls us to excellence, for His Glory! This summer, be prepared to be amazed at how great camp is. Be prepared to taste a little bit of Heaven here on earth. We are working very hard to make that dream come true, preparing events, preparing facilities, preparing program, and hiring a jaw dropping group of counselors. I am even looking for better costumes to get into the spirit of Christmas THIS July!

Jimboy



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Jimboy, Margaret
James Franklin, Catherine, Caroline
Virginia and John



“Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth, peace, goodwill
toward men.”

Luke 2:14



Christmas Love From,
Libby and Honey



Cheers!
Love, Kelly

Seasons Greetings from The Grant Family!
Love, **Greg and Katie**





Wishing you Christmas Blessings!
Laura, Gervais, Leland and Kathleen

Merry Christmas
from Sarah, Rob and Wyatt



THE INSIDE SCOOP...

Once again, we are featuring one of our Head Staff for you to get to know. The last issue featured Jimboy and we loved reading his answers. For this issue, we asked Sarah Brown, our Head Counselor, to come up with some questions for Laura Hollowell. So here goes....
The Inside Scoop Featuring Laura!! Enjoy!



Who was the "Laura Hollowell" at camp when you were a camper? What was she like?

When I was a camper, Libby was directing camp. She had Anna Bryan as Program Director (like Kelly Carew now) and Smith Houts as Head Counselor (like Sarah Brown now). They were a great team and we loved them all. Libby's mom, Mrs. Hanna, did the Council Fires and Libby sat right next to her (where I sit now.) We would get so nervous if we were called to see Libby, just like the girls get nervous if I call them now.



What is your favorite camp memory from when you were a camper?

There are so many: Opening day my 1st day at camp ever! Council Fire when I passed advanced in Riding, Apple Hill overnight with my cabin, Banquet night in 1981 when the Evens won, Jimdaddy's Breakfast Club, the Asheville Tennis Tournament, dancing in the cabin, getting the horses ready for the show, being a table girl, skit night ep, Mrs. Hanna telling the MeMe Bird story, singing in the dining hall, riding in the back of the cattle truck on canoe trips... I could go on and on.

...FEATURING LAURA!!



Would you rather win the Nobel prize for physics or be the World Wrestling Federation heavyweight champion?

I am sure I would rather be brilliant and using my intelligence for good in the world than be getting beaten up and punched in the WWF ring, even if it is staged. And I cannot imagine wearing that skimpy bathing suit outfit and body slamming someone! But thanks for calling me the champion because I would win!



How do you react when people sing Happy Birthday to you?

I smile that awkward, I don't like attention on me, smile and wish that the song was over, but then I'm ready - let the presents begin!!



Do you have any recurring dreams?

Oh yes, I dream that I have a big exam at school, but I haven't studied and I can't find the classroom. Also, the closer we get to camp, I have a recurring dream that the campers show up and it's opening day, but I haven't finished cabin placement. And now, anyone who reads this will have a recurring dream (nightmare) of me in the WWF ring!

THE INSIDE SCOOP...

Style watch: would you rather be underdressed or overdressed at a party?
Why?

Interesting question. I think the correct answer is to be overdressed because it shows that you care about the party and made the effort to look nice. The true answer is that I usually wear what I think is right and I don't care if others are dressier or not. This should not be a surprise given my "skort, tennis shoes, and pencil in my hair" style at camp.

Have any fun holiday traditions you'd like to share?

My parents gave me a beautifully hand-carved nativity set when I was younger. The first year Gervais and I were married, I set it up for the holidays. The next day, I noticed that "Jesus" was missing. I panicked! Where did he go? Did our dog eat Baby Jesus?? When Gervais got home, he explained that he hid Baby Jesus, because it wasn't Christmas yet and that Jesus would be put in the manger on Christmas morning. So every year, someone in our family hides Baby Jesus. The game is to try to find him so you can re-hide him and be the one to put him in the manger on Christmas morning. When my nieces and nephews come over for the holidays, they love to search, but no one has found him yet! Our hiding places are very good!



...FEATURING LAURA!!



Who would you want to play you in a movie about your life?

Let's pick someone great - Sandra Bullock would be fabulous. She did a fantastic job playing Leigh Anne Tuohy in "The Blind Side" and I can see her working the skort and making announcements!

We're all dying to know: who cooks dinner at your house?

Campers are always surprised by this since Gervais does the cooking at camp, but I do all the cooking at home. I love to cook and come up with new recipes. Some of my favorites get included at camp. The Ginger Salad Dressing that we have at camp is one of my best creations. Right now, I am working on a broiled chicken recipe that we think the campers will love. Gervais and I talk about camp food all the time. In the summer, he makes me nervous when he calls the office to say, "Remind me how you make _____" and I look at my watch and realize that lunch is in 15 minutes and he is not ready.



What are you hoping to get for Christmas this year?

This year, I am hoping to have both of my girls home. That would be the best present ever. Kathleen is in graduate school and working in Ft. Lauderdale and Leland is working in Atlanta (and starting grad school soon) Both of their schedules are crazy. Other than that, I wouldn't mind a gold watch... hint, hint, Santa!

THE INSIDE SCOOP...

What past Greystone tradition do you think we should bring back and why?

We have kept all the best traditions and improved them over the years. Obviously, when camp was longer (it was 7 weeks when I was a camper) we were able to have more evening programs. One fun one was "Commercial Night." You and your cabin were given a random object that you had to "sell." We sold some funny stuff, like the year we were given a curling iron and we sold it as a multi-purpose gadget that could do amazing things like zap and catch fish in fishing class and iron fabric in sewing etc. There are some other ones that we won't bring back, like the "Miss Greystone Pageant" where girls competed to win "best legs" or "best hair" etc. I'm glad that one is gone!



What parts did you play in banquet when you were a counselor?

My first summer, I was a Chimney Sweep in "Mary Poppins". (Bill Taylor was our director) We danced on the tables in the dining hall. I was assigned to dance on the Head Table. I still remember the look of shock on Mrs. Hanna's face when my soot covered bare feet bounced on her table. The next year, I was Pinocchio. I had a nose made with Silly Putty so it could "grow", but it kept falling off! Now, I don't have a role very often, but I have played Ursula in "The Little Mermaid" 4 times.

...FEATURING LAURA!!



**What is the nicest thing Gervais does for you?
What does he do that drives you crazy?**

Gervais makes coffee for me everyday. In the summer he brings coffee and fruit to our cabin before I go to the Head Staff meeting. We have our coffee, fruit and prayer time everyday! It drives me crazy when he is running late (like in the answer about cooking) for things. You can ask the counselors, you better have your watch set to "Laura Time" or you'll be late!



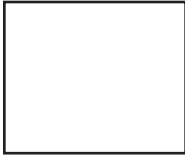
Prefer being hot or cold?

Neither, this "Goldilocks" likes her porridge to be "just right", but if I have to pick, I'll go with hot. Like hot at the beach hot, not hot during rest hour hot.

Something people probably don't know about me is....

The campers think that I don't like the camp song, "Laura, Laura I've been thinking..." but I don't mind it at all.





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Since 1920

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