

Another summer camp has gone by and too quickly. The ACT summer camp was held again at the Nantahala Outdoor Center and The University of Tennessee. There were new activities and new friends and plenty of new memories. The group of 10 campers (including our first junior counselor, Nickolas) and 11 volunteers met at the Nantahala Outdoor Center on Saturday and wasted no time getting wet. We went on two rivers again this year: the Nantahala for our bigger and more experienced rafters and the Tuckaseegee for the rest of us. Everyone got splashed and had a great time. The weather couldn't have been better. HOT! We made it back to camp just in time for dinner and then our campfire and storyteller. We heard stories about the Cherokee Indians and then roasted marshmallows for those delicious S'mores.

Sunday morning came much too soon for some of us. We started the day by singing "Happy Birthday" to Kenyetta. Charlie and Walt prepared their usual fantastic breakfast and we headed out of camp for the day. First stop: Deep Creek Riding Stables. Everyone was a cowboy or cowgirl for an hour. I remember my horse's name was Red Man. Do you remember your horse's name? We lunched at the pavilion, and ate homemade treats provided by ACT members Marianne, Rose and Doris. After that pleasant meal we drove to our next adventure on the lake. We began with pontoons, canoes and paddle bikes, but quickly decided the canoes and bikes were too much work so all piled into two pontoons. We drove off for a swim, or fishing or just hanging out on the boat. Artie did not catch anything that we could eat. So we headed back to NOC (after a brief delay while looking for car keys). It was movie night and some watched Mrs. Doubtfire while others played cards and wrestled. It was like Monday night wrestling on TV!

Monday was the big day on the ropes course. Some new and old campers took the plunge on the BIG swing. It is scary and a big thrill (and very very safe I must add). We tied ourselves in knots and laughed while trying to hoola hoop again. June and Judy could do and Kim was a master at it. Christopher S. built an entire town out of sticks and rocks and some struck it rich at mining. After ropes, a few hearty soles went swimming in 57 degree water. Chris R. gets the polar bear award for getting in the water with Missy and Ed and Judy. Jamie, Kim and Kenyetta got wet even though they did not get in the river! Delicia was our fashionable camper and came to dinner dressed in a different, and stunning outfit. With energy to burn, some campers and volunteers went into Franklin to go bowling. James had a strike, Kim had the high score, Jamie dusted the floor in his excitement a few times. Even after two games and a full day Christopher E. wanted more fun, food, time to stay up. It was midnight when we all got to bed. Whew! The last morning is cleaning up, taking pictures, saying good-bye to some campers and heading back to UT. We met at the UT Football Hall of Fame some soon to be famous UT football players and happy parents. Thanks to Mike we got autographs, a tour of the stadium with our own personal football player guides and we shot hoops with them. Hard to believe another great camp had come to an end. We hope to see you all back next year. Have a great year!