

Echo Hill Ranch Review

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HOEDOWN!

By: Reese Drew & Noah Shaw

The biggest event of the season, western night, better known to us here at Echo Hill as hoedown, began early in the morning with an authentic chuck wagon dinner with a real chuck wagon from the 19th century.

game to play because if you're not fast enough to shoot the machine then he will shoot you.

The spitting contest skit was really funny because Brett Samet and Ben Niefield both competed on who could spit the farthest then at the end it would land in a cup!

It was followed by the Snake, which was fun. We all joined hands and made a huge snake that weaved in and out of itself.

Every bunk did a dance to a traditional hoedown song. The Prairie Dogs did a dance to Ira Hayes. And the Stars and Spurs did a

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The skit "Shotgun" Philly's Shooting Machine was a dangerous

Our 57th Anniversary Summer

Facts About Our

Little Green Valley

- Over 400 acres nestled in the Texas Hill Country
- 2,000 ft elevation above sea level
- Founded in 1953 by Uncle Tom and Min Friedman

Kownsaler's Night

By: Brett Samet

It was that fateful day, I could still picture it in my mind. The Bug Juice was flowing through the air, everyone was a mess, and the Kownsalers were crazy! It was Kownsaler's Night, one of the greatest nights of the year. Once a year, when the moon is right and the stars align, the Kownsalers arrive to show the world their mirth, merriment, and delightful comedy.

It was a night filled with some new and old tricks. All the classics were there like Ben Boral with Spike the Baby, or 12 Days of Camp, along with some new material like the instant classic Cheese Skit. The evening finished with a fantastic musical performance by Lane Topletz, Daniel Backrack, Austin Roach, Phillip Brush, and Zach Lefenfeld.

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This Week’s Sermon - Services were Led by the Spurs!

By: Aaron Pomerantz & Will Willenzik

Shabbat Shalom ranchers,

Respect and ingenuity are two very important aspects of camp life. We, as campers, have to show respect to other campers, counselors, ourselves, and the land we live on. Showing respect, in return, gets you respect. We all know the phrase “whatever goes around comes around,” and this is definitely true in our little valley. Being genuine achieves the same results. Being true to yourself and others is always the right thing to do, as you know, and it only makes your

lives better. Like last week, when we talked about how important it is to be yourself and how diversity is important, respecting each other’s differences helps that grow.

In respecting the land, just as our dear friend Elliot Stixrud taught us, we are able to live fuller, more wholesome lives at camp and in our home communities. By respecting the environment here at Echo Hill, we are able to further enjoy the activities we love, such as horseback riding, nature study, and much more.

Another topic we would like to touch on is appreciation. While respecting, you should also be appreciating. Even though we may not be happy with everything in our lives, we should all learn to appreciate everything that others do for us. We are so lucky to be able to have the opportunity to come to this non-competitive ranch camp for boys and girls ages 6-14 nestled in the Texas Hill Country where we can be ourselves and be proud to be who we are.

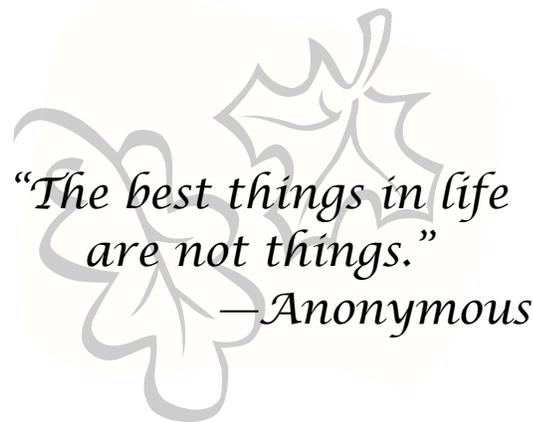
NEWS FROM THE BUNKHOUSES

Prairie Dogs (Morgan Rosenbaum)

We have been having a lot of fun in our cabin. A few of the things we’ve been doing are: Playing with a football, catch, bullet shell hunting, etc, etc, etc. We have made a lot of rock sculptures around here. It’s been a fun session. Over and out.

Sunflowers (Emma Grosser)

The Sunflowers went on a sleepout on July the 12th. We lived with bags for a night. We have invented a new smores. The Reese’s smores! We have perfected horseback riding! If you want a cool bunk go to the Sunflowers to learn how! Subway Eat Fresh!



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Ranch Officers—Week Three
Foreman: Jamie Penn, Max Schein
Mail: Kelly Finnerman, Baeren Rubenstein
Camp Council: Hallie Bucher, Rachel Feine, Savannah Zeff, Mitchell Davis
Laundry: Rachel Roberson
Reporter: Noah Shaw, Reese Drew
PX: Mary-Nell Disman
Ecology: Natalie Greenberg

Executive Editor:
Roger Friedman
Editors:
Zach Murrmann & Brett Samet
Lead Reporters:
Noah Shaw, Reese Drew

NEWS FROM THE BUNKHOUSES (Continued)

Bronco Busters (Jake Horowitz)

As usual, the Bronco Busters are doing great at honor bunk. We also had an overnight. We lit a 1-match fire that lasted till the morning. Some people stayed up all night. Oh yeah, we had our overnight at the South Flat. Counselor night was a blast. I love that they make fun of themselves. My favorite part is the Bandera Home for Bewildered Counselors. We also had Hoedown. My favorite skit is the gun machine. Some people went with girls or danced with girls. We are really looking forward to the next week of camp.

Happy Hollow (Mia Clonts)

Sunday Happy Hollow went to big-foot and swam. And at the same time had a care package party. It was so much fun!

Range Riders (Geoffrey Lore)

Our bunk is great! We are having fun doing all sorts of activities. Everyone in the bunk likes each other. We also have awesome counselors too like Lane, Tino, Mike, McD, and Sam. Nature study is one of our bunks favorite activities. We like it here.

Echo Inn (Emma Singleton)

I walk out on to our bunk "porch" (Where the stairs to our cabin meet the ground and we put our chairs) wearing jeans and a tee-shirt. I'm standing next to my bunk mate and friend, Rachel Bucher, in the cold, morning air. (I still can't believe it's 6:00, I never get up that early at home!) We walk towards the coral, where we usually meet Chuck and Shelly for HBR club. As we near the corral, I can taste the sweet sent of hay. I can smell the living

fume of an equine. I can feel the horses heavy breath along my skin. And I can know that I can do what I love, and be accepted that way at Echo Hill Ranch.

Mavericks (Max Dietrich)

This Friday the Mavericks had the most action-packed nature hike of the session. Climbing the steepest rocky slope that Echo Hill has to offer, the bunk quickly ran out of breath. Finally, we reached the boulder that overlooks bunk 6. Now the real action began as the whole bunk slid down Echo Hill's face. After that ordeal, we emerged right next to our bunk.

Wildflowers (Sofia Michaelides)

This week I'm filling in as reporter for the Wildflowers. This past week we had our overnight and heard the Monkey Story and we are all pretty convinced that it was Lane that tried to scare us afterwards. We went swimming in the lake and had tons of fun. The social was great and so will the next one.

Crows Nest (Michael Portal)

Just recently we had a CTF (Capture the Flag) match and my entire bunk and all the boys who participated enjoyed it. In all, the minor scratches could never (or barely) outweigh the fun and bonding all the guys had. Sorry girls.

Stars (Reese Drew)

The Stars went on a backpacking trip. We had lots of fun! We went by 3 Rivers and climbed the hill behind Echo Hill and Mt. Min. We call it Mt Starry because we were the first ones on it. For dinner we had fajitas which were delicious.

We also pitched our own tents which we slept in. We all got to bond with each other and we had lots of fun.

Spurs (Jesse Rosenberg)

This week we got to go trailblazing with our old counselor Elliot who was only here for three days. We went up Mt. Min and it was very delightful because we got to make a new trail for ranchers of all ages to go on. The sad part about this week was that one of our great bunkmates, Ben Ray, left and we will miss him.

Boy CITs (Myles Tag)

I have been moved into my new bunk and my CIT training has really amped up to the next level. With Phil's expert guidance I know I can make it. We can make it and camp is great.

Girl CITs (Kokey Ring)

This week the CITs have started to kick it into high gear. Our CIT projects are in full swing and it's busier than ever, but we love it! Phil's mentorship and guidance will carry us through. Thanks guys!



Camp Council Holds 1st Meeting!

The camp council is made up of bunk representatives who meet twice a summer with Roger to offer suggestions and discuss new ideas about improving camp. The Council's first meeting was after lunch on Sunday, July 12th and the following Council members were present: Hallie Bucher, Eliana Metni, Mitchell Davis, Michael Portal, Savannah Zeff, Rachel Feine, and Jacob Michel. One big topic was doing more to

help the environment at the ranch by composting, reminding kids to separate plastics better at the dining hall and to pick up plastic bottles on the flat more. The Council also debated whether or not balloon fights and shaving cream fights were good fun or not safe —campers were pretty evenly divided on this, but everyone agreed that balloons should be biodegradable! Council reps suggested more efficient light

bulbs in the cabins, more hammocks for each bunk, adding stage lights at the tennis court, and fixing the speakers near the Wildflowers so they can hear announcements better. Everyone loved the Chuck Wagon and Dinner on Hoedown night and recommended it become a tradition for next year!

HOEDOWN (Continued)

dance to the Virginia Reel.

At the end of Hoedown we got to dance with our friends from camp! We danced the night away.

THE AMAZING ALL CAMP SNAKE DANCE THAT BEGINS EVERY HOEDOWN!

