

CAMPLIFE! LINE

WWW.CAMP-LIFE.ORG

CampLIFE!

12908 Park Dr, Austin, TX 78732

A Change Is In The Air...

By John Gillis



With the changing of seasons to Fall, CampLIFE! is going through changes too. We are excited to host our next camp this November at Camp Buckner, in Burnet, Texas.

In spring of 2008, CampLIFE! continued to expand. The HUGGS (Helping Unite Gold Star Survivors) attendance was our largest ever – with over 60 campers! About a third of those were moms, and this camp was held the weekend before Mother's Day. This allowed time for all of the campers to create special Mother's Day presents, since this is usually an activity that the father spearheads. In addition to the crafts, the camp included fishing (and the catfish were plentiful), horseback riding (with an amazing barrel riding demonstration), and the carnival (featuring jumping gyms, snow cones, and cotton candy)! Scott and White Hospital again provided the grief counseling, a critical component to the weekend. We also had journalists come to chronicle the event, and [were featured on the cover of the Dallas Observer](#), with the article titled, "Families of Slain Soldiers Bond Together to Bind Their Wounds."

We are thrilled to be recipients of the 2008 Newman's Own Awards, with the awarding

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ceremony at the Pentagon Auditorium by General Cartwright, the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. We appreciate the Fisher House Foundation for sponsoring that award, and giving us a grant.

In addition to this grant, the Dallas Foundation continues to support us [through their Triad Fund](#). We also are receiving donations of individuals through corporations (United Way), and individual donations honoring lives. As the holiday season approaches, please consider a donation to CampLIFE! as a gift option.

CampLIFE! lost two friends this year – – We celebrated the life of Gram Martha Gillis, with donations coming in from all over North Texas to celebrate her life. We also celebrated the life of one of CampLIFE!'s largest supporters, Ann Griffin of Dallas.

We look forward to our upcoming "Thanksgiving" camp and ropes course challenges!

Happy Fall!

John

November Camp Scheduled

CampLIFE! Is scheduled for the weekend of November 15th and 16th at Camp Buckner in beautiful Burnet, TX. Ever changing, and ever growing, CampLIFE! Is trying out new venues to see which ones offer the most for our campers, counselors and staff.

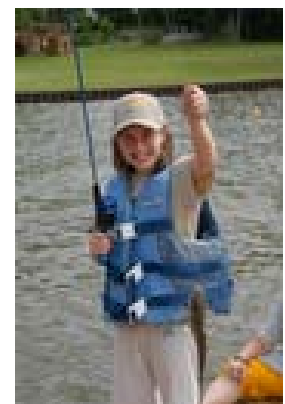
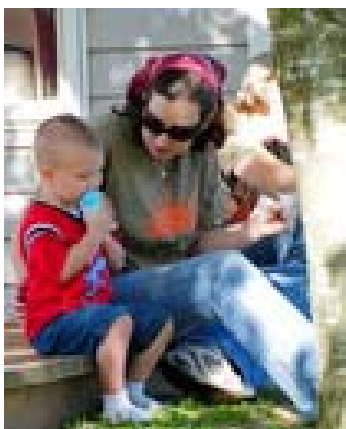
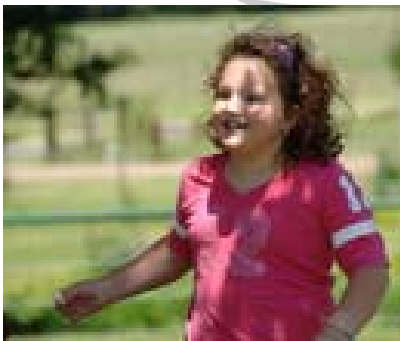
Activities for the November camp include games, ROPES course, team building activities, archery, scavenger hunts, and the 2nd annual CampLIFE! Thanksgiving dinner.

If you are a HUGSS family and are already signed up for the November camp, be sure to go to the CampLIFE! Website (www.camp-life.org) to review the “what to bring list” and to fill out all the required forms.

Are you a HUGSS family and haven't signed up yet? Sign up now for what is going to be a great weekend, and remember that spots fill up quickly. Contact Norah Boucher ASAP at 254.288.1668 or norh.boucher@us.army.mil

Pictures Tell a Thousand Words...And Laughs!

Check out these pics from our May CampLife!



Grant Updates

CampLIFE! has received a \$1000.00 honorable mention grant from the Newman's Own Foundation, in partnership with Fisher House, a group known for helping military families. The purpose of the Newman's Own Awards is to recognize volunteer and non-profit organizations supporting our nation's military families.

This grant, just like the others we gratefully receive, help us reach our goal of providing free recreational, educational and counseling activities in the setting of a camp experience to the children of recently deceased US soldiers deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

For more info go to www/fisherhouse.org and click on Newman's Own Award.

CampLIFE! Counselors

Many thanks to the following volunteers for making our May camp a wonderful success!

Jess Adams	Chrisma Jackson
Bianca Andrews	Don Kersting
Damion Andrews	Caitlin McCormick
Catherine Bailey	Aaron Mitchell
Kristi Bradford	Kelli Morrison
Debbie Busch	Raj Ramachandran
Ed Bystrom	Brian Stout
Travis Cappel	Nathan Wilson
Trey Chapman	
Kelly Coulter	
Peter Dawson	
John Gillis	
Lynette Gillis	
Thomas Gilpin	
Chris Gordon	
Denise Hoos	



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.camp-life.org
