



# Ryde Lake News

October 2011

Our mission is to promote growth in mind, body, and spirit.

The Ryde Lake Camp experience fosters respect, and appreciation of self, others, and our natural world within a nurturing, Christian community.

Making a difference in the lives of individuals since 1952

Looking for a very special Christmas or birthday gift?

Consider a week at camp for that special someone!

Contact the office for how to make it happen.



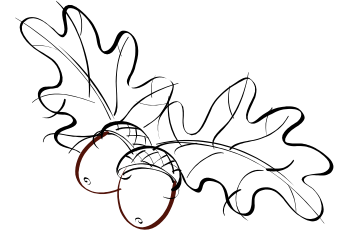
## Annual Dinner and Silent Auction

Nov 5 6:30 pm  
Parkwoods United Church, North York

## Annual General Meeting for all members

Sat March 3 10:30 am  
Parkwoods United

## Bringing the latest news to all Friends of Ryde



### Reflections . . .

I wish you could all experience the changing seasons at camp. The fall colours are beautiful and as the leaves fall, the landscape changes, allowing us to see things differently. The top of Baldy becomes visible from the camp road, the lay of the land shows through the forest.

While busy putting the site to bed for the winter, it is at a much less frantic pace than the summer months. Time to reflect on the summer . . . and what a summer it was!  
- girl's camp numbers up by 11%  
- almost 200 family campers in Aug.  
So many opportunities to connect with each other and God's world. Thank you to all who make this possible . . . the greatest staff, the many individuals and groups that give financial support, and our volunteers!  
"Franny"

## Dinner/Silent Auction Fundraiser

Sat Nov 5 6:30 pm

Join us for a delicious dinner and fun evening!

Adults \$25.

Kids (12 and under) \$10.

Casual, kid-friendly event

Tickets are limited

Call to reserve your ticket today

This event is our major fundraiser, your support is appreciated.

## Camper Thoughts

It's my 6th year at Ryde and I love it here.

My first year at Ryde I didn't know anybody except for my sister. I was so nervous to come but as the days went on I realized that at Ryde everyone is a big family.

Ryde means so much to me. I've made so many new-

friends. Whether it be swimming, food, or eve programs, my summers would never be the same and I would never be the same without Ryde.

I'd like to thank the staff for making Ryde an amazing experience and I would especially like to thank my sister Puddles for introducing me

to Ryde and convincing me to come.

It's crazy to think that I have been coming here for 6 years. I can't believe it's my last year as a camper. I am definitely planning on coming back next year as a CIT!

Emily C.  
Session 1, 2011

## Ryde Tidbits

- **Some special arrivals to past staff and their families,** *Congratulations and Best Wishes to all!*

**Linda (Teddy Bear) and Trevor Longhurst,** and big brother Jeremy, on the birth of *Grace Jean*, born Sept 15, 2011 (granddaughter of Spook)

**Tasha (Grover) and Tony O'Sullivan,** and big brothers Naish and Kian, on the birth of *Mira Rose*, born July 6, 2011

**Melissa (Nemo) and Travis**

**Robbins,** on the birth of *Madeline Elizabeth*, born June 18, 2011 (granddaughter of Babe)

- **Camper numbers were up** at the girls' sessions! Sessions 3 and 4 were full with waiting lists.
- **The Open House/Hike-a-thon** on Oct 1 was enjoyed by many. We were honoured to have four of our alumnae attend: Ruth Bolt (chair of the board in the '60s), Louise Brown (the first camp registrar in '52), Dorothy Dilworth and Doris Smith. Thanks to all who supported this event!



- **The 60th Anniversary of Ryde Lake Camp** is happening in 2012! Further details to come.
- **2012 dates** for the girls' sessions and family camping will be posted on the website in late Nov. Registration information will be mailed out in December
- **Beth Aikenhead's** family donated a lovely 2-seater bench in her honour. It has been placed overlooking the lake for all to enjoy!
- **A new hiking trail** up beyond the FC should be ready for next summer

## Your Donation \$'s in Action - some 2011 projects made possible by donations

- **New well** - this project cost in excess of \$24,000. by the time it was completed due to the depth of 600 ft, pump and electrical required, and all we had to do to be in compliance with Drinking Water Reg 170 which is required for children's camps. The well was up and running for the start of camp and was able to meet the volume demands required and provide safe drinking water, all with much less demand on our time. Money well spent! Thank you!!!
- Over 20 campers were helped by the **Campership fund**, providing a camp experience that they could not otherwise afford (approx. cost \$5,000.)
- Extensive **canoe repairs** done by our volunteers (material costs \$1000.)
- **Tree work** by the experts - 3 unhealthy pines were cut down due to the risk of them falling down and causing significant damage, plus thinning out of the top growth of a number of other trees to prevent future problems (approx. cost \$3000.)
- **Installation of a kitchen exhaust hood and fire suppression system** as required by the Fire Dept (cost \$14,000)
- **Masonry work** on the dining hall fireplace as required by Fire Dept (approx. cost \$1000.)
- **Online staff training program** for 54 staff to enhance our own training (\$800.)

## CIT's of 2011 - A Special Group



Sixteen campers completed Ryde's CIT (counselor-in-training) program

this past summer.

Two 2-week programs of eight girls each provided opportunities to develop leadership skills and for personal growth.

And Ryde benefited from their talents and enthusiasm, shared so generously. We hope to see them back at Ryde in the years to come.

Congratulations to the following:

Meredith Anderson - "Sparky"  
Morgan Baskin - "Boots"  
Alana Bertolo - "Mini"  
Catherine Brassard - "Rafiki"  
Sarah Burgess - "Quill"

Katrina Carter - "Dot"  
Lauren Demoe - "Tutu"  
Paige Demoe - "Simba"  
Laura Del Maschio - "Randy"  
Mary Ellen Fraser - "Xena"  
Shannon Hare - "Flicka"  
Chloe Longuet - "Cola"  
Kendra Mallais - "KB"  
Nicole Meadows - "Gidget"  
Amy Reston - "Guppy"  
Emily Rickert - "Barbie"

## Thoughts From A Leader

- from the leader speech given by "Sushi" at the banquet of session 3 this past summer

Despite only having 3 years of Ryde leader experience under my belt (2 as a lifeguard and 1 as Assistant Director this year), I still feel I can share a few thoughts on what the whole experience has meant to me.

University has kept my summers busy these last few years, but Ryde has always had a strong presence in my heart...especially when my mom Sunny would bring me home a t-shirt or pen, or write me a letter from camp.

With this summer free, I was quick to send in my application to be back. I didn't know what I would be or how I would fit back in, I just knew that I wanted to be here.

There is just something about these rocks and trees and the water and cabin doors that slam in the middle of the night, that is familiar and like home.

There is not a job in the world quite like being a leader here. Even if you're tired and hot, it only takes some singing at dinner or some skipping to the waterfront to cheer you up. Since last January I've known

that this was going to be one great month!

It's been hard to convey this awesomeness to friends and co-workers who have never been here. They probably understand how fun it can be, but don't realize the personal rewards I've reaped from it over the years as well. They see me for who I am now, but they never saw the camper and young counsellor those years ago and how this camp has changed her and moulded her into the person she is today.

I recently read a quote from Nelson Mandela and it made me think of camp:  
 "There is nothing like returning to a place that remains unchanged to find the ways in which you yourself have altered."

Camp hasn't just been an absolute blast over the years, it's also taught me valuable lessons, given me enormous confidence, and shown me how to be a strong woman in society.

This year, I've come to appreciate something else about camp, its ability to give me peace and quiet. The peace

and quiet needed to de-stress from life (and emails and cell phone texts) and appreciate all the little things again.

What a blessing it has been to be here. I'll be dreading my return home next week, but will take a months-worth of memories home to keep throughout the year . . . for whenever I'm just tired and hot and in need of cheering up!

Thank you Ryde Lake Camp for all you have given me. I can only hope to give back just as much!

*Diane Kishi, aka "Sushi"*  
 July 23, 2011

**Comments from 2011  
camper evaluations:**

- Ryde is my favourite part of the summer!
- Thank you for making Ryde my home away from home.
  - Awesome!
  - I love the food
  - Ryde Rocks!

## Ryde's 2011 Five-Year Campers



We were pleased to honour the following campers who celebrated their fifth year at Ryde this past summer:

*Marnie Anderson, Meredith Anderson, Kristen Arscott, Tamara Burgess, Katrina Carter, Megan Doleweerd, Taylor Farrugia, Makayla Gay, Megan Gooley, Grace Grzela, Lynnea Neuland, Amy Reston, Alexis Riley, Leah Sather, and Victoria Seheult.*

At presentations over the summer, a framed Ryde photo was given to each of our 5-year campers.

Their names have been added to the 5-year camper plaque at camp.

**Reserve your tickets for  
a great evening!**

**Dinner / Silent Auction  
Sat Nov 5  
Parkwoods United Church  
Kid-friendly event!**

## Contact Info

Camp Director:  
Fran Sugawara

Camp Office:  
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Washago ON L0K 2B0

Phone/Fax: 705-689-3727

Email: rydelakecamp@rogers.com

Website: rydelakecamp.com

Charitable Registration Number  
11913-0367 RR0001

Visit the website at  
[www.rydelakecamp.com](http://www.rydelakecamp.com)



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Individuals Since 1952

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**Please consider a donation today. Your gift will make a difference!**

Our camper fees (girl's camp and family camping) are kept intentionally lower in order to make camp accessible for as many as possible. This income helps in covering the very basic operating costs.

Capital costs, major repairs/upgrades, the campership fund, staff bursary fund, staff development, new programming and more are all funded by donations. These are all essential areas that make our camp the special place that it is.

Donations may be made by cheque or online through [CanadaHelps.org](http://CanadaHelps.org) (pls note there is a small admin. fee when making donations online)

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*Yes, you can count on my support. Please find my enclosed donation.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheque payable to Ryde Lake Camp.

Send to: **Ryde Lake Camp office, Box 100, 7854 Poplar Lane Washago ON L0K 2B0**

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