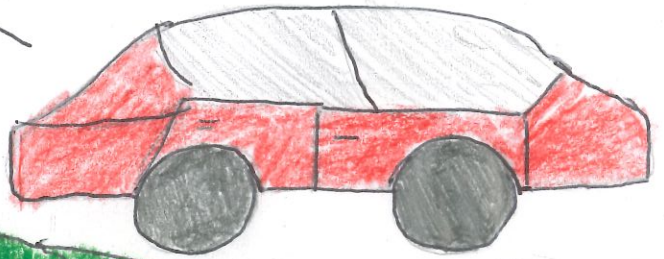
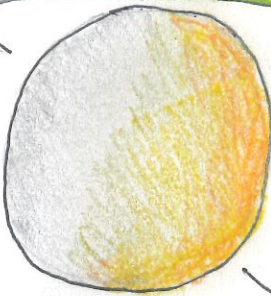


# ROCKY RIVER

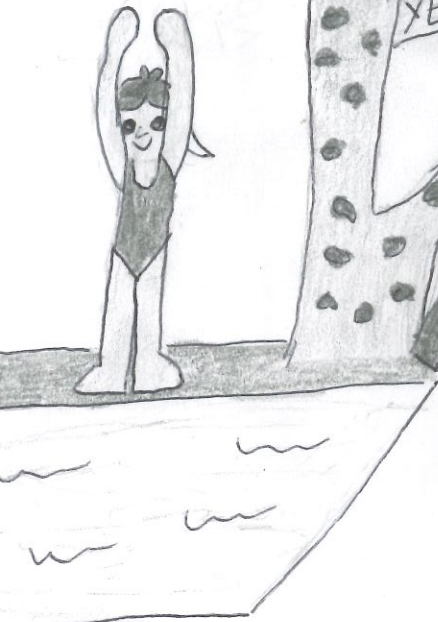


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MSU



# THROUGH

*the*

# AGES

# New Farm Animals

By Audrey H.

How has farm animal fun changed from last year?

We got baby chicks and we got ducks

What are the names of the new animals?

We have a goat named Rosie and two babies named Fluff & Oreo.

Are the new animals nice?



All of the new animals are nice but the goats like to yap and are always hungry.

Did you get to get name them?

No, but the Rocky River family did.

What is your favorite part?



My favorite part is getting to show campers new animals that they may not get to see every day.

How did kids react to it?

They were excited and happy.



Why?

There will be more things to do at the farm.

# Camp Birthdays



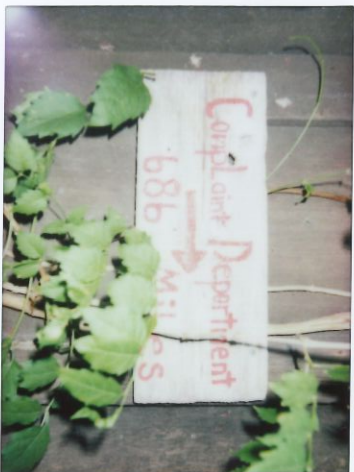
Here at camp we have many special traditions celebrating campers' birthdays. For example, the "Round the Grubstake" song. This session, we wanted to highlight those who celebrate their birthday at camp. One of these campers is Ada, who has been coming to camp for two years, and is currently living in Circle B. She turned 9 years old on July 14<sup>th</sup>, the first day of Session 5. She showed up to camp with a birthday sash and discovered that her bunk had been decorated by counselors. Ada's favorite part about celebrating at camp is that "I get to see all my friends on my birthday." When asked how celebrating at home differs from celebrating here, she replied "At home, you kinda only see your family, but at camp, you can see all your friends, and hang out with them." And finally, we asked the most important question of all - "was the cake good?" To which Ada responded "It was really delicious."

Written by Sage Sansbury

## Dreariness and Joy

The sky is dark. Soon, the rain will come.  
From the cabin porch, I can hear the sky groan.  
The clouds begin to well up with tears.  
I can hear them start to pitter-patter on the roof.  
The trees sway moodily, and the leaves tremble,  
But as Mother Nature sobs,  
I can hear laughter ringing from inside.  
Turning back to the cabin, I see glee  
On the face of each and every camper.  
Although the world is wailing, we are joyous.  
Our camp spirit grins through the gloom.

Poem by Charlotte Hernández



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sponge dodgeball

↙ Sport-a-day



7/19/24

## Low Ropes Course

By Athena Metzger

Low-ropes is a SIT 1 tradition that encourages teambuilding and creates unbreakable bonds. This year's low-ropes took place at Texas State University Camp this Tuesday with thirteen SIT 1s. Activities included a "whale-watcher" see-saw exercise, a wire and rope obstacle course, and a spiderweb escape activity.

"I thought it was really fun," Maci M., Bar Nada, said. "It helped us work together as a team more than as individuals."

# What is day camp's favorite thing about Rocky River?

Written by Penelope Conner

✦  
"I like going to the river."

-Reese



"Going swimming at the pool. It's really fun because I want to be an overnigher camper."

-Hadley



"Going swimming and eating candy."

-Ellis



✦  
"I like going to the pool and river."

-Claire



"Swimming in the river and eating candy."

-Poppy



→ Bonus: Find Ruby the camp dog! 5

# Scavenger Hunt!

Can you find...?

- a footprint on the steps to the grubstake?
- a troll doll by the PB&J station?
- the old mineshaft on the low road?
- the old campfire benches by the river?
- the ring and hook game by the wishing well?
- the screamer, rappelling course, and climbing wall?
- the camp costume shed?



Charlotte H.



# Polls by Sophie S

What is your favorite camp song?

Jenny Lou: 8

Girls Girls Girls: 2

"I picked 'Girls Girls Girls' cause I think it's funny, upbeat, and silly!"  
-Shanna

Barges: 4

The Moose Song: 1

Mmm Plucka Plucka: 5

"I picked 'Mmm Plucka Plucka' because I play guitar and I think it's underrated." -Athena M.

Weenie Man: 4

Do you prefer the pool or the river?

■ Pool

■ River



# SING-SONG

Written by Penelope Conner

Sing-song is a tradition where cowpokes and wranglers each write a song to sing at Corral. We use other songs and write our own lyrics to promote our teams. The winning team gets points that goes toward winning session.

The theme this session is girl power and the cowpokes are doing 9 to 5 by Dolly Parton and the wranglers are doing Pink! by Lizzo.

It is important for the songs to follow the theme and to pump up your team without bringing the other team down.

One sing-song leader said, "It's really fun being sing-song leader because we get to be creative and come up with lyrics to a pop song." The sing-song leaders are all trainees going into 9th grade.





# THE GUM TREE!! Athena Metzger

The gum tree, a long-lived camp tradition, has been used since even camp owner Rue was a camper. Campers put their chewed gum on the bark of the tree instead of under the Grubstake tables or other unconventional places to encourage cleanliness and fun.

"The girls would come in and put their gum under the tables when they came into the Grubstake to eat their meals," Rue said. "So the founders, who were still around when [the tree] started, began the tradition."

The gum tree is flourishing to this day. Campers use it regularly.

"The gum on the tree isn't all the original gum, if there was, there'd be no tree left," Rue said. "The gum actually will freeze in the

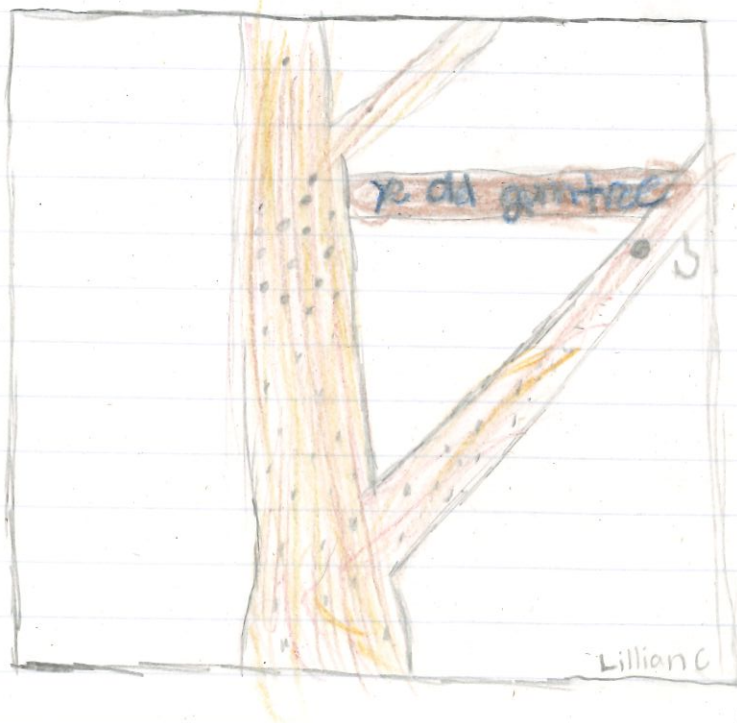


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winter and will fall off, and  
we'll clean it up every year."

Although the original gum  
isn't intact, the tree is, and  
so is the tradition.

"[The gum tree is very beautiful  
and it's a great tradition in  
camp," Olivia Sicarelli, Western  
Empress, said. "I put my gum  
on it, so it's pretty special."]



# WHAT RRR MEANS TO ME

I first lived in the red wagon when I was 7 years old, a first-year camper enchanted by every camp tradition she encountered. I stuck gum on the gum tree, filled my heart and wardrobe with Wrangler spirit and vowed that in 10 years I would have a Decades Club plaque hanging in the 49'er. Eleven years later, I can say that Rocky River truly grew me into an independent girl. Because of camp, I know how to live in my challenge zone, be silly and enthusiastic no matter who's watching and lead with kindness and intentionality. My 10<sup>th</sup> year of camp, I returned to the red wagon, this time as a counselor. I was just as in love with RRR as ever, but my mindset had shifted. As a counselor, I made it my mission to spread the magic of RRR to my campers. I watched Rocky River ~~change~~ <sup>change</sup> my campers' lives just as it had changed mine. As evidenced by the beads around my neck (Decades club charm in the middle), Rocky River helped me embody kindness, creativity, loyalty, integrity, friendship, leadership and thoughtfulness. RRR shaped me into the person I am today, a person I love and am proud of.



Lillian C.



# Synco



1. What was synco like in the ~~olden~~ olden days?

Hope: It was way more popular! The class was usually full because of how fun it is.

2. What are the most iconic RRR synco moves?

Hope: Flying dolphin, eiffel tower, fan arm wave

3. How do they come up with the routines?



Hope: The counselors suggest songs for the girls to vote on then we all work as a team to choreograph the routines



4. Why do you like teaching/taking synco?

Hope: I love seeing girls' teamwork and creativity flourish. Plus it's just so much fun!

5. What do you wish people knew about synco?

Rue: It has been here since before I was here

6. What do you wish people knew about synco?

Shanna: It's really hard and girls that do it are amazing

# Evening Programs by Sophie S



Sunday: Chip Draw - New campers are called up one by one to draw a chip from a hat. The color of the chip determines what team the camper is on - Cowpoke or Wrangler.

Monday: Go Green - Campers go around with their cabins to stations based on green things, such as Christmas or recycling.



Tuesday: Ms. RRR - Campers dress up their counselors for a skit. The cabins perform the skits and compete for bragging rights.



Wednesday: Space - Campers go around with their cabins to space-themed stations and avoid the evil aliens.



Thursday: Elements - Campers were split into 4 groups: Water, Fire, Air, and Earth, then went around to stations. The stations required teamwork with other elements to complete.

Friday: Carnival Capers - Western Empress makes stations where the campers can go with a partner of the other team to earn points for their own team.

## STAFF BIOS



Hi my name is Lillian C. I have been at camp for 4 year. My favorite thing we do at camp is evening program.

Athena is a Wrangler Wreporter or Rocky River Roundup. She's a BITTLE this year and likes knitting, writing, reading, and swimming. She has a sister, a brother, a kitty, three guinea pigs, and a bunny, and she lives in Buda, TX.



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☆ ☆ ☆ ☆  
☆ Audrey Cowpoke ☆

I currently live in Circle B at Rocky River Ranch.  
My favorite book is Odders by Katherine Applegate.  
My favorite color is blue. I am from Austin.

Sage Sansbury - Wrangler

I live in Austin TX, and this is my 6<sup>th</sup> summer at camp (counting the Covid Year).  
I play guitar, and my favorite book is Good Omens. This year I'm living in WE, and my favorite part of camp is the songs.

Penelope Conner - Cowpoke

Penelope Conner lives in Austin, Texas.  
This is her 3rd year at Rocky River. She is a trainee, living in Western Empress. She loves reading and her favorite book is The Age of Darkness series by Katy Rose Pool. She is so excited to live her life.

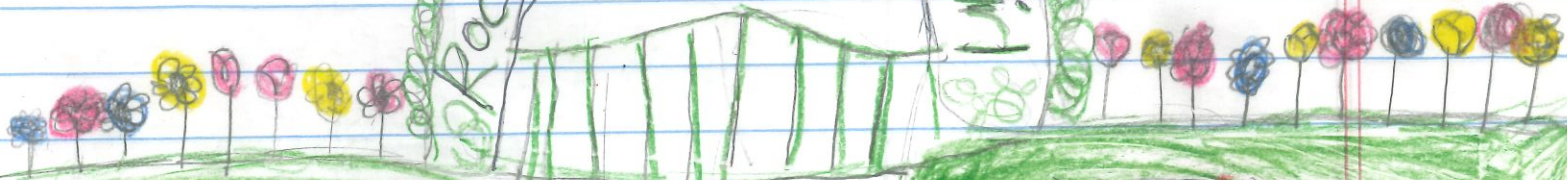
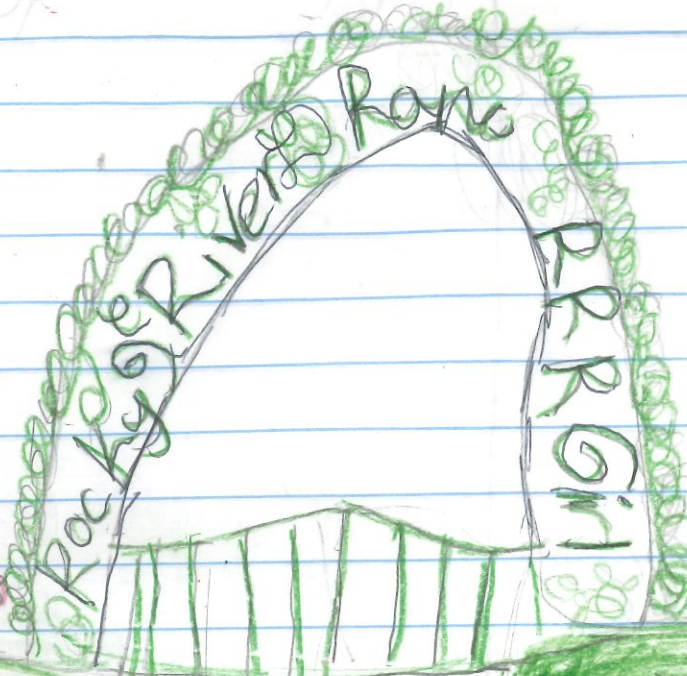
😊 ♡

My name is Sophie S (Cowpoke) and I live in Austin, Tx.  
This is my 6<sup>th</sup> year at RRR, counting COVID year, and I'm living in Western Empress. My favorite part of camp is the independence. My favorite book is A Good Girl's Guide to Murder and my favorite musician is Taylor Swift or Chappell Roan.

Charlotte Hernandez is a SIT 2 in Lazy D. She is a Cowpoke, and this is her 10<sup>th</sup> year at RRR. One of her favorite parts of camp is the drama show. This year, she is playing Andy, but she has performed in roles like Mushu, Annie, and Fiona in previous years.

INGRID SMITH

This is my 11<sup>th</sup> year at camp, and I am a counselor in Circle B UP. I love meeting new people at camp, singing camp songs and evening programs. I am from Austin, Texas!



Come back  
Soon y'all



Audrey