



Jameson Ranch Camp  
Glennville, Ca 93226  
February, 2009

## ***To All Campers, Parents and Friends,***

We hope that 2009 fills you with health and happiness.

As we write this letter, there is a few inches of snow outside. We seem to be right on the snow line. The oak trees have lost their leaves and snow clings to the bare branches and trunks. During a storm, the world outside becomes a different shade of black and grey. Some green grass has sprouted from the effects of snow at the end of December and some warm "Indian summer" days in January. The mountains act as a large sponge, soaking up water and sending it into the soil. Any extra water fills the ponds and creeks and runs to the valleys below. To date, our lake is not quite full. We are pleased to have the moisture and are hoping for more.

We often feel blessed to be living in a place that is filled with nature but seems quiet by city standards. The other day, while feeding hay to horses by the lake, the quiet was broken by a loud skirmish between the large blue heron, who has been in residence here for many years, and a couple of large golden eagles. The squawks, the chatter, the flight, the chase... were all amazing in the volume and majesty of these large birds as they fought for the right to live by the lake.

## ***Family Report and Ranch Happenings:***

Colton Ross Jameson has come to join our family. He was born on February 3rd and, after spending a couple of days in the NICU, is now at home with proud parents, Marie and Michael, and devoted sibs, Jada and Isaac. We are so pleased that they are doing well and Ross and Debby are proud to have so many grandchildren!

Our foreign exchange student, Alena Scharrenbroich, returned to Germany in late January after spending six months with us. Alena made great friendships at school and loved riding horses on the ranch. We had fun showing her some things on her "bucket list" like Disneyland, Las Vegas, The Grand Canyon and San Francisco. She and Arianna became good friends and we all miss having her as part of the family. Arianna hopes to visit her in Germany sometime this next year. Ari is in the middle of her sophomore year. She enjoyed the winter formal, and is getting into condition on the track team.

Mia, David, Emili, and Natashya enjoyed a recent vacation to Utah. Emili (5) is home schooling and keeps us all entertained with nonstop conversation. Natashya, at age 2, is talking in short sentences and has the ability to communicate well with body movement and enthusiasm, even if she can't quite find some of the words. Of course, she tries everything her big sister does. Mia and David continue with being great parents and work on the ranch. Erica continues her challenging teaching career at North High School and Palie is now an inch taller than her Nana, Debby. Michael continues to manage an office for H & R Block. Jeremy, Gina, Bryana and Daniel are still in Willits. Jeremy continues work at a mill that makes moldings for house construction. The recent slowdown in the housing market across the country has affected the business but Jeremy hasn't been one of the many that have been laid off. Debby still sings for the Masterwork Chorale in Bakersfield, keeps busy with Nana duty, and is helping with some of Emili's home schooling. It was great having the Vlach family, the Iversens and Jamie Madden here to party in the New Year.

## Alumni Report:

Thank you for the many beautiful holiday cards and emails. It has been great to see or hear from many of you. Congratulations to Janise Madden who had a baby boy, Connor, on January 20th. All are doing well. Caitlin and Lori Latta, Michelle Seibert and Joan Sadler came to the ranch for a baby shower for Janise. Annette Azbil is here visiting from Utah. Peter Iversen passed his contractor license test this fall and is now working around the mountain community as a contractor. Jill Iversen has expanded her art work (see enclosed postcard). You can use this card to send a written note to your camper this summer. Erik Iversen is a senior in high school and is looking forward to college where he hopes to train as a pilot. Hayley Iversen is a sophomore and is doing well in all of her GATE and AP classes.

Eric Gurney is drawing plans for computer games and is into inline skating. His brother, James Gurney, follows politics and has an interest in science, art, history and music. Mark Ellis went to Greese, France and Italy as a Student Ambassador this last year. Hayley Fleishman ran cross country this fall, was part of a campus ministry and is sorting through acceptance letters from schools she plans to attend.

Lisa Green graduated from UCSB and is now living in Florida working with marine animals at Disney World. Congratulations Lisa! Erin Dwyer recently got married and is now living in Oregon. Jenny Dare Paulin has a lead role in a Broadway production in New York. Max Swedelson has recently returned from a study abroad tour in Equador. Craig Hummel is now working in real estate with his dad in Bakersfield. Jonny Gordon is in his first year at Cal Tech, in Pasadena. John Metais is attending school at Sidmore college in New York.

We are looking ahead to a great summer of camp! Find enclosed our information for summer 2009. We hope you can join us! This year we are offering 4 sessions of children's camp and one week of family camp. We have eliminated the one week session that we have tried the last couple of years. **In response to these tough economic times, our rates will be the same as last year.** Email us at thejamesons@jamesonranchcamp.com or call 661-536-8888 if you have friends who would like to receive our material.

This is Jameson Ranch Camps 75th year of operation! To mark the occasion, we are planning a reunion on Labor Day weekend, September 5 to 7, 2009. Mark you calendars and join us. You will be getting some registration information in the mail soon.

The CIT (Counselor in Leadership Training) program has been a great success for many summers and we are excited to offer it again. It is designed for 16 and 17 year old teens to learn team building and leadership skills that will make them terrific people and camp staff in the future. If you know teens that are interested, let us know and we will forward them information.

If any of you have funds to sponsor a child to come to camp, it would be a **gift of a lifetime** to a young person who cannot afford this kind of experience. JRC donates a certain amount of camperships each year and with the help of our campership fund, we try to include as many children as possible into our camp family. This year, we are specifically targeting children of active, overseas military families. There is a way to channel funds through the American Camping Association so that your sponsorship of a child at JRC is tax deductible. Any amount will help. Let us know if you are interested.

That's the news from our mountains. Have a wonderful winter and spring and we hope to see you this summer!

*The Jamesons*