Wetlands & Woodlands Summer Camp Staff 2017

Sarah DeGraaf - Student Camp Leader (Session 1, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5, 6, & 7)

This coming fall, Sarah will be a junior at Calvin College. She is studying Elementary Education with minors in Integrated Science and Language Arts. Growing up in Rockford Michigan, she always enjoyed playing in the woods in her backyard with her sisters. As an adult, her favorite outdoor activities include camping, spending time at Lake Michigan and cross-country and downhill skiing. This is Sarah’s first summer working as a summer camp leader.

Fun facts about Miss Sarah:
- She once biked over 300 miles in 24 hours in a bike race with her dad!
- Her favorite Michigan animal is the white-tailed deer because she loves to see the newly born fawns in the spring.
- If she could be any Michigan forest animal she would want to be a squirrel so that she could scurry around climbing trees all day.
- Miss Sarah and Miss Rachel are roommates here at Calvin.

Rachel DeHaan - Student Camp Leader (Session 1, 2B, 3, 4A, 4B, & 5)

Rachel will be a senior this fall at Calvin studying Elementary Education. She grew up here in Grand Rapids and loved to play in her neighborhood woods. It wasn’t until high school that Rachel discovered a passion for being active in the outdoors. She is actively involved with Calvin’s Outdoor Recreation department where she gets to share her love of backpacking, rock climbing and creation care with her friends. She has been working for the Ecosystem Preserve for two years and has enjoyed learning more about the natural world that she loves to play in. This is her second year as a camp leader and she is excited to share her excitement and delight for the wonders, small and large, that God has created for us to enjoy right here at the preserve. Rachel will be studying abroad in Budapest, Hungary this coming fall.

Fun Facts about Miss Rachel:
- Her favorite Michigan animal is black bear. She has never seen one in Michigan, but hope to see one someday.
- Rachel loves to go backpacking. She enjoys the solitude of being several days away from civilization and not worrying about what to wear. She also enjoys pushing herself physically and mentally and exploring God’s creation far away from the big crowds.
- One of her favorite things about teach camps last summer was Family Night. She remembers one particularly beautiful summer evening and the campers were showing off their bug-catching skills in the garden. “We caught dozens of dragonflies and damselflies and I loved seeing the campers share their new knowledge with their families.”
Jeanette Henderson - Camp Director (All sessions)

Jeanette’s official title is Program Manager of the Calvin College Ecosystem Preserve (CCEP). Her responsibilities include overseeing all aspects of CCEP’s education and outreach programs including but not limited to developing curriculum and programs, training Calvin students in environmental education/interpretation techniques, and teaching programs for Pre-K through adult. She holds a B.S. degree in Biology from Calvin College and certifications in Project Learning Tree, Project WILD, Aquatic WILD, Growing Up WILD, Flying WILD and Leopold Education Project. She has worked at the state level for Michigan Audubon directing and coordinating programs. Additional experience includes designing and teaching school and family programs as a marine educator for the University of Georgia’s Marine Education Center and Aquarium in Savannah, Georgia and as a naturalist for several state parks in Michigan through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. In her free time, she enjoys gardening, cooking, knitting, and traveling.

Fun Facts about Miss Jeanette:

- Her least favorite animal are snakes! It has a good portion of her life to not scream when she sees one. Even naturalists have fears! However, she is fascinated by most every other creepy crawlies. Millipedes, grasshoppers, slugs, worms, spiders and katydids are just a few creatures that fascinate her.
- Her childhood dream was to be a marine biologist studying marine invertebrates such as crabs and sea stars, fish and sea otters.
- Abbie Kat, her calico cat plays fetch and rolls on her back to be petted just like a dog.

Nancy McIntyre - Staff Camp Leader (Sessions 2B, 4A & 4B)

Nancy was born and raised in Tolland, Connecticut. She has loved playing outside in the woods since early childhood. She has a B.S. in Horticulture from the University of Connecticut. Her passion is teaching and exploring nature with young people of all ages. She has worked with children in this setting at the Peace Valley Nature Center in Pennsylvania, at Blandford Nature Center and at the Wittenbach Wege Environmental Center. During the school year, she works as para professional with pre-K children at CA Frost Elementary in their nature based preschool program. She has also taught the Junior Master Gardening at Kent/MSU Extension. At the Ecosystem Preserve, she was the lead teacher for the Critters and Company program for many years and has been a Camp Leader since the summer of 2010. Her hobbies are kayaking, photographing nature and wandering.
Fun Facts about Miss Nancy:
- She loves being a camp leader because she get to wander and play with kids in nature and hopefully teach them to love nature like she does.
- Her most memorable W & W camp experience is when her small group spotted a mommy mink carrying a baby with four other babies following her.
- She as has two dogs, two cats, three tortoises and a snake.

Jared Swanson- Student Camp Leader (Session 1, 2A, 3A, 5, 6, 7)
Jared is a senior at Calvin College studying Elementary Education with a focus in integrated science. He grew up in Chicago, Honduras, and South Korea. His parents are missionaries thus he moved around a lot and has traveled to almost 20 different countries. One of Jared’s most favorite travel adventures was to Australia where he saw wild kangaroos and got to snorkel in the Great Barrier Reef. His goal is to someday travel to every continent. When he is not studying or working, Jared enjoys hiking, swimming, riding his bike, playing basketball, and trying new foods. During the academic years, Jared works a CCEP as a Program Leader. This is his second summer as a camp leader.

Fun Facts about Mr. Jared:
- Jared’s favorite Michigan animal is the white-tailed deer because they are fast and agile. It is very hard to spot one because they will always hear you before you see them.
- As a child, Jarred climbed to the top of Mt. Fuji in Japan. It was a long and tiring hike but it was very worth it when he made it to the top.
- If Jared could be a creepy crawly, he would want to be a slug because you can tell where they have been with their path of slime. They are also a very important part of the ecosystem.

Julie Wilbourn- Department Assistant
Julie grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio, and has a B.S. degree in Marketing from Miami University. Her work experience includes project management and analysis of market research studies, as well as market analysis and product management of various manufactured products. Most recently, she spends time volunteering at her children’s schools, coordinating enrichment presentations, book fairs, and hot lunch programs. Julie joined our staff in August 2012 and in regards to camp assists Jeanette with camp registration and marketing. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, traveling, and outdoor activities like biking and swimming.

Fun Facts about Miss Julie:
- Her favorite spot in the preserve is on North Pond deck in the fall, because when the wind blows the leaves off the trees and sends them swirling over the water, you feel like you’re in a giant snow globe.
- If she could be a tree, she would be a dogwood.
- She doesn’t have any pets - at the moment, she thinks her family is enough to take care of! But, she has had ladybug, ant & butterfly habitats at home.
April Windemuller - Staff Camp Leader (Session 3A)

April graduated from Calvin with a B.A. in elementary education with minors in integrated science and Spanish in January 2012. She spent several years teaching Spanish at Jenison Christian School after graduating and now stays home full-time with her 2 young children. She grew up on a hobby farm with a variety of pets and enjoyed watching chicks hatch out of their eggs and loved snuggling new kittens each spring. Now she enjoys seeing creation through her children’s eyes and watching their faces light up with joy when they discover new things. She has a pond in her backyard and her 3-year-old son already loves scooping in it with his net! Her past volunteer and work experiences include leading programs in the Ecosystem Preserve, being a Wetlands & Woodlands camp leader, substitute teaching at Zeeland Christian School, and being a counselor at Camp Geneva. She loves being a camp leader because it combines three things that she’s passionate about: kids, teaching, and God’s creation! She loves seeing the campers’ eyes light up with excitement when they discover something hiding under a log or see turtles sunning themselves in the ponds.

Fun Facts about Miss April:
- She loves turtles! She loved teaching and learning about them at the BIC a few summers ago and now they’re her favorite animal! She especially enjoys catching them while kayaking at her family’s cottage!
- Her favorite spot in the preserve is on North Pond deck because it’s so peaceful overlooking the pond and away from the busyness of everyday life.
- Her favorite W & W experience was when she saw a snapping turtle dig a hole and lay eggs near the BIC parking lot.

Volunteer Jr Camp Leaders

We are grateful to the following teenagers for donating their time and skills to serve as Jr. Camp Leaders this summer.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session #</th>
<th>Jr Camp Leaders</th>
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<tr>
<td>Session 1</td>
<td>Phoebe (4th Year), Caden (1st Year), Calder (1st Year) &amp; Jillian (4th Year)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 2A</td>
<td>Clara (3rd Year), Brinley (2nd Year)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 2B</td>
<td>Sydney (3rd Year), Robin (1st Year)</td>
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<td>Session 3</td>
<td>Clara (3rd Year), Ana Maria (1st Year), Yura (1st Year), Jimmy (2nd Year)</td>
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<td>Miles (1st Year), Phoebe (4th Year), Jimmy (2nd Year)</td>
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<td>Alisa (5th Year), Kennedy (1st Year), Julie (1st Year)</td>
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<td>Session 5</td>
<td>Aden (1st Year), Will (2nd Year)</td>
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