

Camp Log

Camp Log Helps

Many camps produce a camper-created "camp log." A camp log is a collection of writings, art, humor, and when possible, photographs, that are copied and given to each participant. Sometime this is done during the week and distributed near the end of camp to allow for campers to write personal messages in them, much like yearbooks in high school. Some items that might be included:

letters from the camp director, camp pastor, and other camp leaders

the camp schedule

the camp song or songs

class/activity descriptions

last wills and testaments (campers "leave" things to others, many times the oldest campers will leave things to younger ones)

personal vitae - names, address, and phone numbers of participants (ask the staff if they wish to share this information, don't assume it.)

ABCs - a list of attributes (make them all positive) that begin with each letter of the alphabet, then identify one male and one female that fits each attribute

classified ads - through which campers can exchange encoded information, etc.

dedications - real or created song titles dedicated from one camper to another

poems, sketches, etc.

cabin pages - including a list of who was in each cabin, a description of the group mid/or some of the events that occurred, and a photo of the cabin group

photo pages - featuring candid shots taken throughout the week

Some camps include the entire week in their logs and mail them after camp, some just include photos from the first two or three days, write as if events have already happened mid copy them before the week is over to distribute at the end of camp.

Photos can be included in a number of ways. Color photos can now be processed much faster than black and white (unless you have a resident photographer and a dark room on camp -- it would make a great class!)

Pages with photos attached may be taken to a local copying company (many are now open 24 hours a day in larger metro areas) and have equipment that will make the photos turn out nice. A better quality technique that requires some additional work is to have the photos you select for the log to be made into halftones (or PMTs). When these are placed on pages and copied even on less expensive copies, they turn out well. A third alternative that works fairly well is a photo screen that can be cut and placed over each photo as it is copied.

Travelog

If you should choose to conduct a caravan or other type of traveling camp, you might choose to pre-mail camp logs and make them more like journals to be used throughout the camp.

