

CAMP LONGHORN BULLETin

Inks Lake Edition

2026 Spring

www.camplonghorn.com

OFFICE BUZZ

Online medical information and tuition payment must be completed by **APRIL 1st**. Don't forget to read the Parents Information Packet and other important information online in your Parent Portal.

InMERITance . . . All first-year legacy campers will receive a form the first few days of camp to complete and return to the office. We will look up any parent that attended camp to see how many merits they left behind. Merits will be divided among siblings, anything over 25 merits per camper will be sent as a Merit Check to the parent to use in the Merit Store for V-Day shopping.

Mail Call . . . Please notify all family and friends that may send packages to your camper of our **NO BOX** policy.



*** All boxes received will be Returned to Sender.**

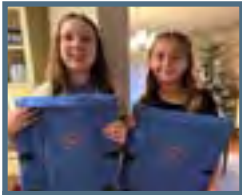
The CLH staff is working hard to get everything ready for our 86th Summer, don't hesitate to call or email us if you have any questions.

REMINDER: Please do not send Food, Snacks or Drinks with your camper. Help keep the pesky insects and critters out of the cabins.

512-793-2811 or inks@camplonghorn.com



2025-2026 CARNIVAL WINNERS



Abilene
Trudy Canon and
Lakynn Casselberry



Amarillo
Adeli Williams and
Grace Weinheimer



Atlanta
Sallie Cox and
Reid Anastasia



Burnet
Bradley Milam and
Layla Winkler



Chicago
Baird Summerford



Austin
Evelyn Armstrong, Addie Craig, Jocoby Cunningham,
and Drake Bryant



Austin
Libby Merket, Harley Hill,
Jim Flores, and
Ben Gravenor (not pictured)



Austin
Lael Earnhardt, Evie O'Donnell, Weldon Spencer,
and Luke Olson



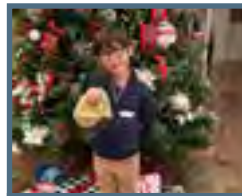
College Station
Tyler Hopkins and
Olivia Schuler



Corpus Christi
Olivia Massad and
Walter Schimmel



Denver
Preston Jagger and
Grantham Chereck



El Paso
Levi Murray



El Paso
Devin Ninkovich



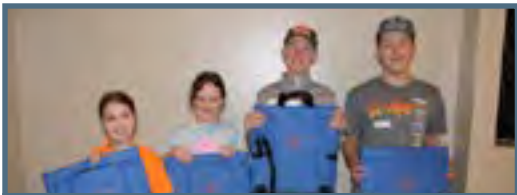
Dallas
Mae Clark, Clara Pope, Jack Johnson, and
Robert Allen Luna



Galveston
Kate McNew and
Will Peterek



Dallas
Berkely Bruns-Singlet, Caroline Millwee, Ben Ettinger, and
Bradley Wahrmond



Ft. Worth
Clarie Robertson, Caroline Youngberg, Will Magill,
and Storey Sheppard



Lake Travis
Parker Brady, Lucca Mattiza,
Gavin Zimmer, and
Owen Gilkison



Ft. Worth
Austin Smith, Andrew Estes, Maggie Hopkins,
and Mazarine French



Longview
Farrah Fite




Los Angeles
George Rechsteiner and
Emerson Allen



Dallas
Jack Rogers, Matthew Bielamowicz, Ella Wood,
and Hazel Welty



Houston
Jackson McKee, Eli Nabors,
and Charlotte Zorich



Houston
Amelia Hancock, Brooke Douglas, Hayes Miller,
and Brody Davis




Houston
Jackson McKee, Eli Nabors,
and Charlotte Zorich



Houston
Graham Wood, Walter Easterly, Harper McConnell,
and Collins Reckling



Midland
Emily Paredes, Gus Jones, James Steele,
and Lura Hudson




Longview
Claire Bitting




North Austin
Cooper Smith, Emma Bassett_, Ian Smith,
and Joseph Queen




Nashville
Guy Ryerson and
Bixby Wesley



Lubbock
Grace Hooks and
Baines Carruth



McAllen
Isabel Mohamed and
Maya Subhani



Phoenix
Sawyer Ferlise




San Angelo
Walker Kingman and
Braxton Belmont




San Antonio
Evan Bean, Scotty Dewald, Dorothy Littleton,
and Lyla Conger




Shreveport
Maggie Garrett and
Ridley Marlar




Temple
Nella Jermstad and
Ellie Bozon



Tyler
Allison Jackson



Tyler
Henry Dietz



Victoria
Addie Rogers and
Barrett Blain



Waco
Emma Harris and
Brewer Basden



Oklahoma City
George Snowden, Matthew Martens, Eleanor Smith,
and Dagny Burchfield




San Antonio
Lillian Richardson, Mills McMurray, Noah Hoberman,
and Cooper Wohlfarth



Washington D.C
John Thomas and
Georgia Shipley



Camp Longhorn Inks Lake

Summer 2026 Dance Themes

All Terms



2nd & 3rd
Terms



All Terms
Hawaiian
Laua



INKS LAKE MERIT STORE

www.camplonghorn.com/meritstore

THE WORLD'S GREATEST AND ONLY CAMP LONGHORN MERIT STORE!

CARE PACKAGE: The Merit Store has designed a Custom Care Package stuffed with loads of FUN! The Package includes an assortment of gifts and games as well as custom Camp Longhorn items. Contents vary by age and gender. These items are ONLY available in the Care Package and may not be purchased on a Merit Store shopping day. ONE CARE PACKAGE PER CAMPER. Click on INKS LAKE (In Camp) and then click on Care Package. **Order deadline: before NOON the last WEDNESDAY of each term.**

CAMPER SHOPPING: Each camper will enjoy 2 shopping days during their term to spend their hard-earned merits. Please note that merits cannot be purchased or added to a camper's account.

IN CAMP DELIVERY: Parents may visit our Inks Lake In-Camp Delivery store on the website to order special items (in addition to care packages) to be sent directly to their camper at mail call. Ordering opens for ALL TERMS on March 1, with new products added frequently from March through May. The deadline to order is noon the day before you want it delivered, no exceptions and no deliveries on Sundays. In Camp delivery cannot be sent between camp branches . . . so be sure you are on the Inks Lake site.

ONLINE SHIP HOME: Also opening March 1 is the Camp Ready section of our Online Ship Home store, featuring helpful items to support you and your camper as you prepare for camp.



ONLINE PHOTO GALLERY

Our photographers will be taking pictures of campers and counselors throughout the term. Each cabin will be highlighted on different days during the term, with lots of group photos. A Photo Gallery set up in the Parent Portal (accessed by your website code) gives an overview of some activities and special events that occur during the term.

Please enjoy viewing . . . ALL THE FUN of Camp!

*NOTE: Each cabin will be highlighted on certain days during the term, not daily.

How to save your photos:

1. When viewing a photo in the Daily Photos, click the "Add to Photo Album" below the photo.
2. When viewing the Daily Photos in the slideshow, there is an "Add to Album" button below each photo.
3. To view the photos you have saved in your album, click the "Photo Albums" link from the parents homepage and then click the year of the album.

Pictures in Hand:

1. Images in the Daily Photos are not "watermarked". Photos may be printed on your home printer from the Gallery but will have lower resolution.
2. High quality color prints may be ordered online for a fee. We partner with Instant Images.
3. High resolution images may be downloaded to your personal computer hard drive for a fee.

Did you Know?

Lots of campers and counselors have asked what it means to “pass a bar” at CLH...In the early years of camp, when there were fewer campers and plenty of creativity, Bob Tarlton introduced one of the most unique motivational traditions. Right where Founders Pavilion stands today (yes—that's why it's called that!), there was once a working foundry.



At this foundry, campers could create brass bars stamped with the activities they excelled in. It became a fun and meaningful way to recognize achievements, as campers built their own personalized plaques over time.

So, when someone asks, “Did you pass your bar?” or you see an activity circled on a plaque... now you know the story behind it.

Did you Know?

The merit system at CLH has roots going all the way back to World War II. After Tex and the camp's founders completed their military service, they brought a similar system to camp as a way to instill discipline and motivate campers. In those early years, merits looked a little different than they do today. Campers were given five demerit pins—simple laundry pins with a hole in them—each labeled with their cabin name and number. Just like today, campers would check their merits each morning, hoping to save enough to spend at the one (and only!) Merit Store.



Over time, the system evolved. The plastic merits we use today were introduced in the early 1970s. You'll still see special variations too—green merits for Frog Day, blue for CLASP members, and even the occasional gold and silver from milestone anniversary years at CLH.



Even earlier than the pins, some of the very first paper merits were round cardboard tokens—repurposed from milk bottle seals! These were printed by a camper's

parent, handed out during camp carnivals, and redeemed each summer.

Did you know?

Those funny Road signs coming into camp are the brainchild of Wally Pryor. Wally was an All-American swimmer on Tex's UT swim team and a counselor for many years. His mother helped start the Girls Camp in 1950 which Mary's Cabin is named after. The road was not always nice and paved as it is today. Wally felt that adding a little humor to the drive into camp would alleviate the stress of dodging potholes along the way! **Do you have any suggestions for a road sign?** Camp signs come from camp minds - submit your sign idea to your director for some merits and if selected for the Camp Road receive a 20-merit reward!!





ATTAWAYTOGO!



Nothing says “camp is just around the corner” quite like the bluebonnets blooming across Central Texas! The warmer weather has everyone at CLH in full summer spirit, and camp will be here before you know it. We’re so excited to welcome you as we celebrate our 87th summer of fun in the sun & we can’t wait for campers, counselors, and families to make their way down Intercamp 39!

This spring rainbow at the base of Church Mountain, captured by a kind neighbor, feels like a little bit of camp magic - the pot of merits at the end sure to make someone’s day. Church Mountain has long been a favorite spot for alumni and campers alike. It’s a place to return, reflect, and take in the beauty of it all.

Here’s to the memories waiting to be made and the friendships just beginning. Summer can’t come soon enough!



We are so blessed to have more than 96% of our campers returning and we look forward to welcoming all the new fun and friendly faces. There still may be a few places available this summer at Inks Lake or one of our other two locations. If you have any Camper or Counselor prospects, please encourage them to contact us. In addition to the [CAMP MOVIE](#) played at the carnivals, a fun tribute to our counselors is posted [HERE](#). We can’t thank you enough for your trust in CLH and we are looking forward to another wonderful season at camp Longhorn!!

-Will & CoCo, Bill & Carol





Spring – Camp Longhorn Inks Lake Boys Camp 2026

WHO'S READY FOR SUMMER?

We at Camp Longhorn Inks Lake are hard at work preparing for an incredible 2026 season! From repairing the blobs and boats to filling up our amazing Lazy River, everything is coming together for what's shaping up to be an **UNFORGETTABLE SUMMER.**

We absolutely loved seeing everyone in person during Carnival Season. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did! Don't forget to pack your Merit Check and get ready to shout, "Go buy the Merit Store!"

Have you seen the **NEW Camp Longhorn Carnival Movie** ?

If you missed it, be sure to check it out here:

<https://www.camplonghorn.com/r/20>

EARLY BIRDS -We've had an incredible response from our Early Bird Campers, along with many new campers and familiar faces returning for 2026. With so many of our amazing counselors coming back as well, everything points to the **BEST SUMMER EVER.**

WAIT LIST - For families currently on the waiting list: every year we experience some cancellations, and spots often open up as we get closer to summer.

We'll be in touch if availability changes!



Staff Updates by Carol

Carnivals were funtastic!!!!

We are so thankful for those of you that attended, and we appreciated all your help with running the games for the campers. Remember to bring your carnival card to CLH this summer so you can receive your money for all your help!

Attention! There may be a place among the hills and dales!

Due to cancellations, we may need counselors. 3rd and 4th term in the girls' camp and all terms are available in the boy's camp. Angela is looking for photographers 3rd and 4th term.

If you are interested in working an additional term, please email the Director. If you know of someone interested, have them fill out an application on our website www.camplonghorn.com. You are our best recruiter, and we appreciate all your help sending us great prospects. Remember there is a bounty reward for each new recruit we hire (*Counselor, photographer and Pit Stop = \$100 for a 2- or 3-week term and \$50 for a 1-week term*).

It pays to come 4th term, wow!

We need counselor's 4th term (July 26-Aug. 9). All Early Bird counselors or those that worked a previous term will get a bonus added to their pay for coming forth for 4th term \$200 = 2 weeks / \$100 = 1 week.

Lifeguards wanted!!!

We hope some of you can find the time to get certified. Camp is always thinking of safety and the more we have certified, the more camp will be prepared for this summer. Please send us a copy of your certificate (Red Cross, YMCA, StarGuard or Ellis & Assco. Online only classes will not be accepted) before you arrive so we can add your one-time summer bonus (\$300) to your pay. Here is a link to look for a class <https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class>

Other certification bonuses: TPWD Boat Safety=\$40 and Scuba=\$25





CLH WORD SEARCH



Hidden words are listed below. The words appear forward, backwards, up, down & diagonally in this puzzle.

Archery
Attaway
Blob
Bunk
Campfire
Canoe

Carnival
Chowhall
Church Mountain
Counselor
Crafts
Friends

Fun
FunInSun
Hat
Hole in the Wall
Kayak
Lake

Library
Mail
Merits
Merit Store
Mile Swim
OD

Old Facefull
Pat
Petting Zoo
Pickleball
Pit Stop
Quiet Time
Salo

Shop
Summer
Swim Bay
Swimming
Tex
Vday

F	U	N	H	A	O	B	C	O	U	N	S	E	L	O	R
D	C	C	A	E	L	K	A	Y	A	K	F	H	G	N	H
E	L	H	T	C	D	T	J	B	L	O	B	R	O	M	O
O	A	O	U	A	F	A	E	P	I	T	S	T	O	P	L
N	K	W	M	R	A	R	S	X	M	A	I	L	C	Z	E
A	E	H	P	N	C	C	W	S	W	I	M	B	A	Y	I
C	Q	A	E	I	E	H	I	G	B	F	E	C	M	F	N
W	U	L	T	V	F	E	M	V	Y	R	R	A	P	U	T
M	I	L	T	A	U	R	M	O	S	I	I	T	F	N	H
I	E	C	I	L	L	Y	I	P	U	E	T	T	I	I	E
L	T	R	N	B	L	A	N	A	M	N	S	A	R	N	W
E	T	A	G	B	R	C	G	T	M	D	T	W	E	S	A
S	I	F	Z	U	S	A	L	O	E	S	O	A	P	U	L
W	M	T	O	N	G	H	R	J	R	X	R	Y	I	N	L
I	E	S	O	K	V	D	A	Y	O	D	E	Q	U	N	Z
M	E	R	I	T	S	L	L	A	B	E	L	K	C	I	P



Ship Home Store



CHECK IT OUT!



IN CAMP Orders

Hello Camp Longhorn family!

Welcome to our 1-stop shop for all THREE of our branches!

Whether you're at Inks, Springs, or C3, you can shop everything you need in one place, making it even easier to come buy the merit store.

Summer Update: The Ship Home store will be pared down on May 1st to focus on in camp campers and V-day. Some select and online exclusive items will still be available for purchase.

Camp is just around the corner, and we've got everything your camper needs to make the most of it! From exciting new gear to cozy essentials, shop our new summer **camp-ready collection** and ensure they're prepared for all the fun and memories that await.

- LION LATCH
- BUNK CADDYS
- SHOWER CADDY
- SWIM CAPS
- GOGGLES
- LAUNDRY BAGS
- TOWELS
- BLANKETS
- AND MORE!!!

This section will close may 23rd as we transition our focus to in session terms

In camp stores are now open and ready for shopping! All terms are able to start ordering now.

Remember that items purchased in this store will be sent to your camper while they are at camp. This is also where you will find our care packages.

Make sure to check back often! New items are still arriving!

Quick links:

[Inks](#)
[Springs](#)
[C3](#)



ATTAWAYTOSHOP

Wendy, Cami & Taylor

RAMBLING RANGERS 2026

With **SIX** trips planned to the Colorado Rockies (Inks, Springs & C3) the Rangers get to experience white-water rafting on the Arkansas River, rock climbing in 11-Mile Canyon, hiking the Great Sand Dunes and camping under the stars, all while learning the tools & skills to help them become the leaders of tomorrow! In addition, Rangers will get the chance to cross the Royal Gorge Bridge near Cañon City, CO and see the Cliff Palace cliff dwellings in Mesa Verde National Park.

The Rangers from C3's 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 6th Terms take the Texas-Based Ranger Trip through the Texas Hill Country where they are given the unique opportunity to raft the Guadalupe River, go zip-lining, swim at Blue Hole in Wimberley, TX and visit the Meadows Center on Spring Lake in San Marcos, TX!

A special thanks goes out to **ALL** our Ranger counselors and Staff who have helped guide these young men down the path towards success. We hope that all the Rangers who earned their Early Bird last summer decide to put their newly-acquired leadership skills to good use and return this summer and continue making Camp Longhorn a home away from home!

Looking forward to another amazing summer full of adventures! Please contact Ross Oliver if you have any questions.

Attawaytogo,

Ross Oliver

Inks Lake Ranger Director

ross.oliver@camplonghorn.com



CLASP Membership Applications and Dues Deadline

This notice serves as a reminder that CLASP Membership Applications and Dues must be submitted no later than Friday, May 15, 2026.

Annual Membership: \$25
Lifetime Membership: \$250

Eligibility Requirements

Individuals who have not previously held CLASP membership must meet the established criteria. Eligibility is based on the following:

Affiliation with Camp Longhorn

At least one of the following must apply to you or your spouse:

Former Camp Longhorn camper, counselor, or staff member

OR

A child who has completed, or will complete, three summers at Camp Longhorn

Age Requirement

Applicants must be 25 years of age or older

Submission of Dues and Application

To submit dues or complete the membership application, please visit:

<https://www.camplonghorn.com/CLASP/paydues>

