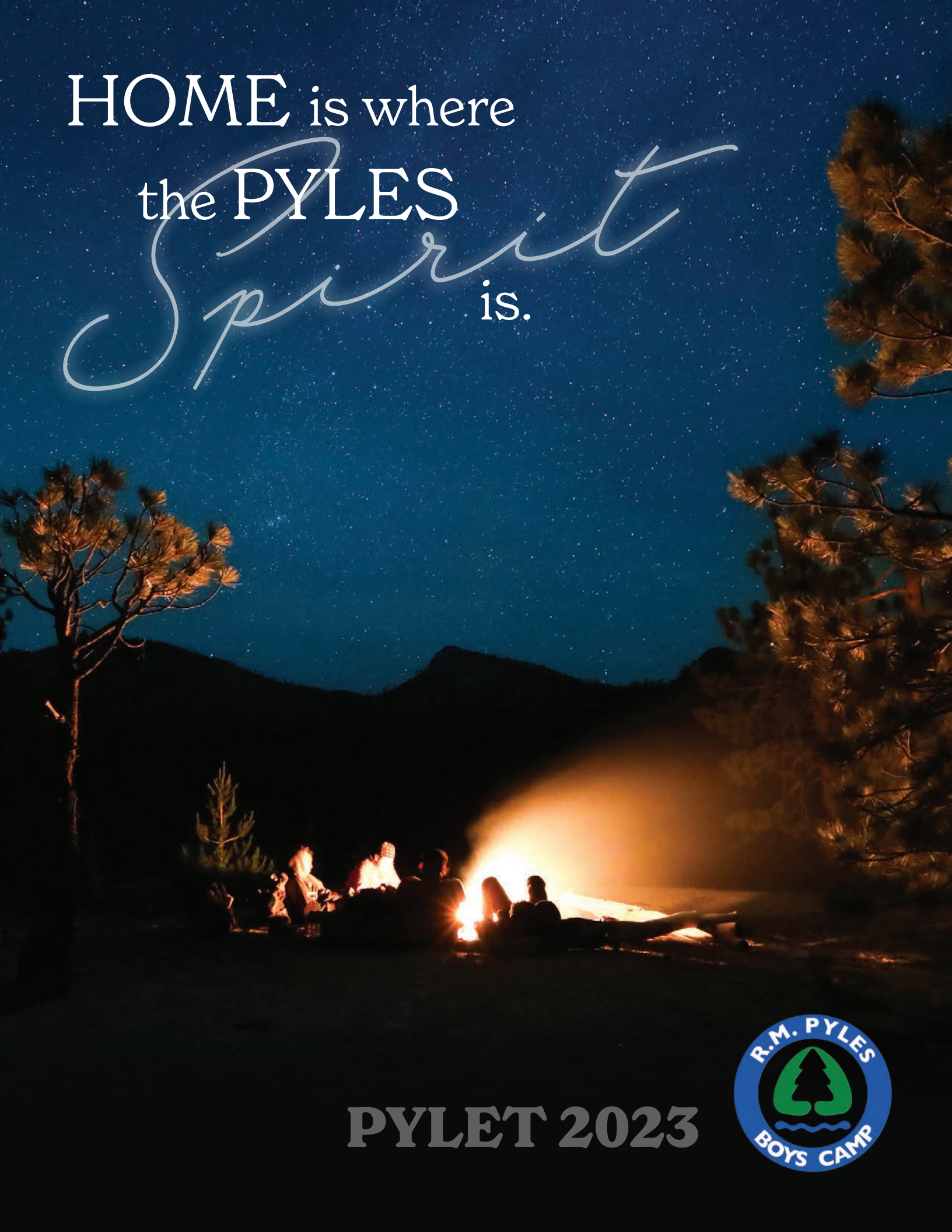


HOME is where

the PYLES

*Spirit*

is.



**PYLET 2023**



# Dedication

Pyles Camp lost two giants of their own this year. Calvin "Cal" Cotton and William "Bud" Selvig were passionate advocates and supporters of RM Pyles Boys Camp. They served together on the board for decades and remained involved as Trustees until their deaths this year; Bud passed in April, Cal in June. Cal was the definition of a gentleman. He was gracious, kind, interested in everyone around him, and passionate about the camp. He was so proud of his family and we all remember his famous delicious toffee called "Cotton's Candy." The board and staff are profoundly grateful for their years of dedication and service.

In 2024 Pyles will celebrate 75 years of changing lives. This remarkable milestone and the long-term, generational success of Pyles Camp is due in part to men such as Cal and Bud whose leadership and commitment were steadfast. Their lasting legacy is the multitude of lives changed, by the young boys and men, now adult alumni, who came through our program during their watch. Our sincere condolences to Cal's family and friends and to Bud's family, sons Scott, Steve, and Bill.



# Peaches

## Executive Director

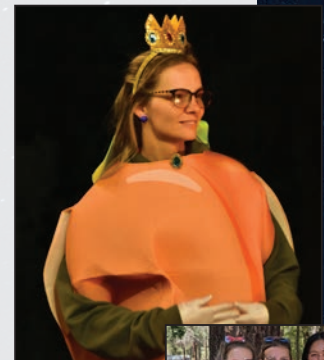
Hello! My name is Peaches and a few of you know me as Nurse Peaches but I am excited to have accepted a new role for Pyles as the executive director. The Pyles family is sad to see Stripes and his family leave our organization but they know that Pyles camp will always welcome them home. Over the years, I have considered Pyles camp my home-away-from-home as we have moved with the military and I am so very excited to be here full-time.

Home is where the heart is and this year our hearts remain firmly with each of you. Though things around us may constantly be changing, some things stay the same. Over the past few years at Pyles Camp, we've had many changes, but we've also stayed close friends and stayed together.

Each summer, we've kept the Lloyd Meadow basin in our hearts, along with the fun times of hiking, eating together, and talking by the campfire under the amazing starry sky. As you read these pages, dear friend, remember the memories of 'home' at camp, and know that you always have a place where you belong.

So, until we can meet again around the campfire in a friendship circle, know that you always have a place where you belong. Pyles will always be waiting for you.

**Stay Peachy**  
**- Peaches**



# Bamm-Bamm

## Camp Director

Welcome to the 2023 Pylet! Pyles Camp has always been a welcoming community for me. Like many of our staff, I found myself and my home at Pyles Camp. I hope you too, found yourself and your new home at camp. Let me be the first to say, "Welcome Home!"

During this past summer, we had to temporarily move out of our home and adjust to a new environment in order to recreate the Pyles Camp experience. It was definitely a change of scenery. Despite the unexpected circumstances, we were grateful for the opportunity to bond and make memories together. Leaving one's home can be a mixed feeling, but the thought of carrying a part of it with you wherever you go can be a source of comfort. The memories, traditions, and loved ones can all reside in your heart and mind, a reminder that home is not just a physical place, but an emotional state that can always be present within you.

As the summer comes to an end, it's only natural to feel a sense of sadness. But, just like how the seasons are changing at camp, you too have changed during your time there. Remember all the challenges you faced, the lessons you learned, and the thoughts of the day you gathered from your counselors and the Pyles staff. These experiences and skills will stay with you for the rest of your life and will help you face any challenges that come your way. Keep them in your "Toolbox" and carry them with you wherever you go.

We hope that the Pylet helps to keep that flame going inside of you and that you strive to always do your best in everything you set your mind to do.

In the Pyles Camp Spirit,

**Bamm-Bamm**  
**Camper 1995**



# Gadget

## Program Director

Hey Pyles Family!

I hope this letter finds you working towards your greatness. I have been reflecting on what the past year has taught me and how it will impact the one coming. So, I find myself asking, “What did I learn?” “Am I happy with the decisions I made?” “Can I do better?” My answers? I learned not to be embarrassed to ask questions and to be confident that I will figure it out, “with a little help from my friends.” I am extremely happy I made the decision to be the Program Director at Pyles because it gave me the opportunity to meet all of you. I grew with you, made some mistakes, reflected and I will try again, as I hope you will do and continue to do. Lastly, “Can I do better?” Always!

I’ve learned any amount of improvement, small or big, goes a long way. Personally, little steps work for me, no need to overwhelm myself and make things too difficult or boring. Now, what does this have to do with you? My hope is for these words to encourage change and challenges within you. Do not be afraid to go for something that scares you, it can be rewarding in so many ways. If you do go for the scary changes or challenges and feel as though you failed, ask yourself, “What did I learn?” “Am I happy with the decisions I made?” and, “Can I do better?” If there is an answer to even one of these questions, you did not fail, you developed.

Thank you everyone for an amazing summer and year of self-development. I hope to see you out on the trails in the summer of 2024.

Happy Trails,

- Gadget



# Sky

## Administrative Manager

Hello, Campers!

I hope this message finds you well and that you are keeping the lessons you learned at camp close to your hearts in this off-season.

This is my second camp season with Pyles and it was certainly not what we were expecting, with a new location and having to limit our sessions due to the collapse of our beautiful mess hall. However, it is clear from the stories I have heard and from my time visiting camp that the magic of Pyles doesn't just reside in a specific place. It is true that our home in the mountains has an inspirational beauty that is hard to rival and adds a special element to the camp experience. It is equally true and more evident than ever that the magic of Pyles resides in the people who so lovingly nurture the program each year. By the end of summer, that magic also resides in all of you who take what you have learned to heart, bring it back to your cities with you, and apply it to your lives at home.

Our camp staff worked tirelessly to bring the Pyles magic to our temporary location at Sky Meadows. The energy was palpable and the excitement contagious. The staff worked hard during the 10 days they had with you to use that Pyles magic to light a spark within you, now it's your responsibility to bring that spark home and fan it into a flame that shines on others in your home and community and to keep it burning until you are together with your Pyles family again.

I look forward to seeing you bring that Pyles magic back to us when you return next summer. Blessings to you and your families in the meantime!

~Sky



# Presta

## Development Director

Salutations!

It was a delight to have the opportunity to visit camp during the first session. Thank you to the seasonal staff for your warm welcome, conversations, and insights. It was a pleasure to share time with you. I am grateful for your willingness to return and serve as workers, specialists, and counselors. The lessons you model about perseverance, accepting challenges, and facing adversity are powerful – and this summer's unexpected relocation to Sky Meadows and shift in session schedules required y'all to live that out in real time. Thank you.

As a parent of a former camper, I had heard stories about camp; spending time there and seeing it first-hand was a new perspective. I was able to observe or participate in several activities

including Ropes, Krafts, Physical Fitness, and Nature – and join everyone for several meals too!

Favorite memories from my visit include joining the line to welcome and celebrate the first-years returning from Out Camp, Bamm-Bamm leading a rousing, roof-raising, edition of All-you-Eta in the mess hall, and the fun and camaraderie around the evening campfire. I already knew Pyles Camp was special, my visit only reinforced how very special it is. Thanks again to each of you for your part in making it so.

~Presta



# 1st Session



## 1st Pick - Grizzly & Sarru's Growlers

Edward Duran  
Sebastian Hurtado  
**Daniel Linares**

Santana Ronquillo  
Brian Spann  
Jack Warren



## 3rd Pick - Matrix & Spirit's Ruthless Spirit

Aaden Cervantes  
Judah Jones  
**Gino Medina**  
Michael Moran

Richard Romero  
Hayden Tellez  
Josue Xinachtli Galvan



## 2nd Pick - Daredevil & Inso's Grizzlies

Eddie Davila  
Thomas Elmore  
Andres Mendoza Ramirez  
Samuel Montiel

Jonah Nunez  
Christian Richey  
Dylan Villatoro



## 4th Pick - Mouse & Bloodhound's CaliHounds

Eduardo Aguilar  
**Jesus Barajas**  
Victor Cova  
Ian Memije

Adriel Nanez  
Isaac Raxic-Benavides  
Cash Tomlinson



**5th Pick - Kirby & Rapids' Momoas**

Dominick Alston	Cosmo Fernandez
Bentley Baze	Tyson Kerley
Jakye Chaney	Sebastian Maldonado
Michael Cornejo	



**7th Pick - Flint & Maqunia's CocoMelons**

<b>Ramiro Andrade</b>	Jacob Ramirez
Bryan Davis-Riebe	Vonzell Stringfellow
Jayden Halko	Martin Villa Hernandez
<b>Alexis Lopez</b>	



**6th Pick - Sniper & Fives' Ninjas**

David Arcos Rodriguez	Michael Rodriguez
Bryson Arreola	Jesus Rojas
Phillip Garcia	Antonio Williams



**8th Pick - Cookie Monster & White Buffalo's Titans**

Kayden Gilchrist	Eder Rojas Luis
Cameron Jewell	Brandon Sanchez Mina
Kain Kelley	Anthony Vasquez
Keaton Kerley	



**Workers**

Kaido	Modern
Seis	Yeti
Juice	



**Specialists**

Raccoon	Bug-Eye
Gri-Gri	Lasso
Havoc	Foxlad
Fader	Hurley
Big AL	BlondeBeard

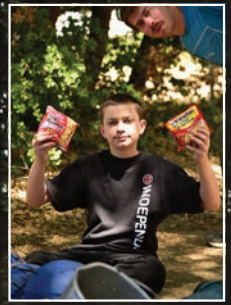


**Leadership**

Bamm-Bamm	Patriot
Gadget	Simba







# 2nd Session



## 1st Pick - Matrix & Fives's The Big 9

Josue Agustiniano  
Tiuke Aleamotua  
Aiden Canales  
Harlan Copeland

Joshua Guerrero  
Alexander Lopez  
Aaron Munoz



## 3rd Pick - Barnabus & DareDevil's Executioners

Xander Dean  
Eric Flores  
**Mauricio Gandara**  
Evan García Mendoza

Turner Hothan  
Kory Kirk  
Jesse Spencer



## 2nd Pick - Crossover & Sarru's Lion Fighters

Christian Ascencio  
Joseph Avila  
Samuel Escobedo  
Julian Gasca

Hugo Perera  
**Bryan Rogel**  
Jaden Tellez



## 4th Pick - Kirby & Skipjack's Cobras

Allan Cruz  
Juan Estrada  
Joseph Flores  
Brayan Guerra

Kyle Harris  
Isaac Kim  
Diego Martinez



**5th Pick - Simba & Lasso's Dark Knights**

William Leon  
Alexander Mejia  
Bryant Pacheco  
Saul Ramos Baez

Carlos Viveros  
Ryder White  
Sebastian Zamora  
Aguilar



**7th Pick - Sniper & Bloodhound's SniperHounds**

Alexis Andrade  
Phoenix Andrews-Davis  
Mariano Antolino  
Christopher Collins

Osmin Davila Aguirre  
**Joel Morales**  
Isaac Sanchez



**6th Pick - Mouse & Spirit's Bulldogs**

Samuel Alcantar  
Jorge Ayala  
Isaac Duran  
Dominic Jimenez

Oscar Pineda  
Adolfo Reyes  
Damien Reyna



**8th Pick - Flint & Cookie Monster's Titans**

Isael Aguilera  
Thurston Dickson  
Benjamin Martinez  
Yovanny Milan Gonzalez

Damian Olivares  
David Rosales  
Luis Ruiz



**Workers**

Kaido  
Seis  
Miles  
Freeze  
Yeti



**Specialists**

Raccoon  
Cosmo  
Gri-Gri  
Havoc  
Peaches  
Rapids  
Foxlad  
Hurley  
BlondeBeard  
Menace



**Leadership**

Stripes  
Bamm-Bamm  
Gadget  
Patriot  
Fader

# Lion Meadows



Are you ready to take the next step on your Pyles journey? Lion Meadows may just be the experience of a lifetime for you. This breathtaking place is located right in the heart of the Golden Trout Wilderness and offers only a simple cook cabin, storage cabin, and three shelters. You won't find any specialists or Draco here, as the Lioniers take on all responsibilities themselves, including cooking over a wood stove and cutting and gathering wood. This means you'll have more freedom and fun than ever before, but also more responsibility.

The Lionier Program has been a tradition since 1977 and this past summer marked 46 years of this rich tradition. While Lion Meadows can be intense, many found it worth the effort. Longer hikes with heavier packs were expected, but those who accepted the challenge were happy they did so. Lioniers quickly became a close-knit team, almost like a family.

If you're interested in becoming part of the Lion Meadows Family, there are a few things you need to do. First and foremost, keep in contact with the camp and express your interest in participating. Write letters about how you're doing at home, what you learned at camp, and how you're using those lessons in your life. We'll also require copies of your report cards, so keep those grades up! Even if your counselor didn't recommend you for a return trip to Lion Meadows, you're still welcome to participate if you make positive changes in your life and follow the steps listed above. We hope you'll take the challenge and join us in the adventure of a lifetime.



## 1st Session's Lioniers

Director: Aztec

Counselor: Red

Izkalli Aparicio

D'Sani Pogue

Leonardo Campos

Bradley Still

Benjamin Gerber

Thomas Torres

Antonio Guerrero

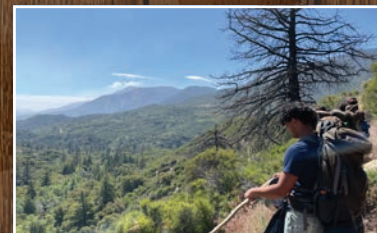
Nigel Truitt

Sebastian Gutierrez-Ortiz

Ronen Zamorano

Michael Medina

Eliseo Zamorano





## 2nd Session's Lionsers

Director: Aztec

Counselors:  
Red, & Maquina

Damian Aguilar  
Andres Belmontez  
Nicholas Cheung  
Kayden Crowe  
Esequiel Esparza  
Andrew Guerrero  
Jesus Hererra

Caleb Kelly  
Jonathan Maza  
Tyler Melendez  
Iker Moreno Sanchez  
Ricardo Zepeda



## 3.5 Session's Lionsers

Director: Aztec

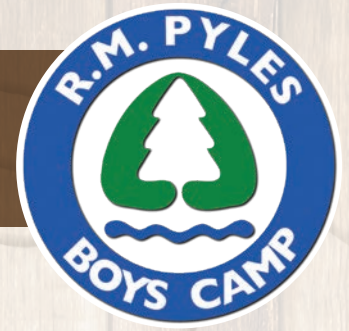
Counselors: Patriot,  
Crossover, Spirit, & Mouse

Santiago Aguilera  
Joshua Castillo  
Isaac Cueva  
Joseph Fry  
Trace Gomez  
Addiel "Levi" Hernandez  
Nolen McAdams

Malachi Moore  
Anthony Portillo  
Ulices Soto  
Ritchy Toscano  
Matthew Venegas



# Voyagers



The Voyager Program is the last step of the Pyles Camp camper experience, and the first step towards becoming a staff member. To be a voyager means that you accepted the challenges of your Camper and Lioneer years and that you have grown to become better individuals because of it. The Voyager Program challenges you once more, and it challenges you in ways both familiar and unfamiliar. As Voyagers, unlike Campers and Lioneers, spend their entire session backpacking dozens of miles through the wilderness. Being a Voyager is tough, as you don't have the amenities or resources of Main Camp or Lion Meadows, and everything you need to survive for more than a week in the wilderness literally lies on your shoulders. While being a Voyager may sound daunting, it is ultimately very rewarding, as it is an adventure and experience of a lifetime. Voyagers travel to some of the most unique locations in the Sequoia National Forest, from pristine mountain lakes to cold rushing creeks and lush alpine meadows. The friendships that you build during your Voyager year can last a lifetime, and the sights you see and the places you visit will leave you wishing to stay just a bit longer.

This summer, our Voyagers backpacked through an area that has rarely been visited in the past 5 years. Though Lioneer and Voyagers once traveled these trails regularly, due to fires and floods over the past few years, this year's Voyagers put on their packs and traveled into the unknown. It was an amazing, yet very difficult adventure, as the trails were tough (when we could find them) and the heat was

sometimes unbearable. Yet the Voyagers still pushed on and managed to backpack all the way to Sequoia National Park. Though the Voyagers were physically exhausted, their determination to make it as far as they could was truly remarkable. The hard work ethic and teamwork that they showed throughout the session makes me believe that they will be excellent workers and, eventually, superb counselors.

There was one point on the trail that truly showed the strength of this year's Voyagers. We had stopped by Angora Creek for dinner, it was getting dark and we were exhausted after trudging through swamped meadows and burnt forests. I looked ahead at the trail, and it disappeared through thorn bushes not too far ahead. Knowing the difficulties and uncertainties that lay ahead for that night's hike, I asked the Voyagers whether they wanted to continue going forward or turn back. To my shock, they wanted to keep pushing forward, even though they were exhausted, even though the trails were practically nonexistent, and even though we did not know what new challenges lay ahead. That was the moment I knew that this year's Voyagers were unique, and I look forward to the day when I may be honored to work with them as staff. I look forward to seeing you all again one day.

Sincerely,  
**Red**  
*Lead Voyager Counselor*



## 3.5 Session's Voyagers

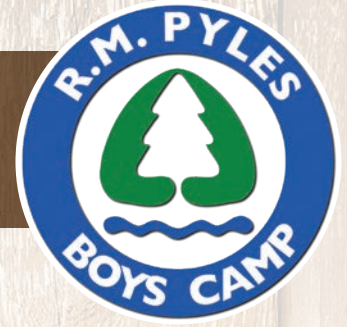
Lead Counselor: Red      Counselor: Fives

Mazatepeyolotzin  
"Chewy" Aparicio  
Evik Garcia

Angel Melendez  
Angel Mendoza



# Farewell Stripes



## Good luck, Stripes!

The staff and campers of Pyles Boys Camp wish you all the best in your future endeavors. We appreciate the guidance and support you've provided us over the past seven years. You have been a wise leader and we have gained valuable knowledge from you. Your leadership was especially important during challenging times, and we are grateful for your strength and guidance.

We will miss you dearly, but we know that you are ready for this new chapter in your life. We wish you all the success in the world.

Sincerely,  
**The Staff and Campers of Pyles Boys Camp**

*This was written with love by ChatGBT*



# Mess Hall & Road Damage



## Moving to Sky Meadows

In March of 2023, Maverick identified major mudslides on US Forest Rte 22S82, which posed the risk of closing off our only entrance and exit for several years. However, thanks to Maverick's timely discovery and the assistance of the United States Forest Service, we remained optimistic about the possibility of opening Pyles Camp for our 1st session campers. A considerable amount of effort was invested this spring to try and reopen the road.

Despite a lot of hard work to clear the road, Maverick discovered that the Mess Hall at Pyles Camp had collapsed due to excessive snow loads. This forced us to make the difficult decision to move our 1st & 2nd Session summer programming to a new location.

In the face of adversity, the Pyles Camp community came together to overcome the challenges that threatened our beloved program. Over Memorial Day Weekend, Bamm-Bamm, Gadget, Draco, and the Pyles Seasonal Staff worked together to move mountains, both figuratively and literally. They moved everything from our traditional home, Lloyd Meadows, to our temporary new location, Sky Meadows. This was a huge undertaking, but the Pyles Camp community was determined to make it happen and worked tirelessly to get everything ready in time for the start of summer. Thanks to their hard work and dedication, Pyles Camp was able to open its doors for another year of fun and memories.

A special thanks to Maverick, the USFS, and the Pyles community for making our road safe again and starting the process to rebuild our cherished Mess Hall. This experience has only strengthened our resolve to persevere and continue to provide an unforgettable camp experience for years to come.





# Patriot

## Assistant Director

Hello Pyles Family! (I can hear you calling back, "Hello Patriot")

I hope this message finds you well, and when it does, I'm sure you are all aware of how long it has been since we were all together in the mess hall calling mail, or down by the campfire singing songs, or even playing in the dust on the sand bar during golden hour. I want to say that it was a pleasure and an honor to be your AD this summer. It will be a summer I will talk about for the rest of my life. Even though we were not at Lloyd Meadows where our Pyles home resides, we made it feel like home. Thank you.

Now we are all back in the city trying to adjust to our lives with a new perspective on life, with the lessons we have learned, the love we shared and a new path we created. At times it may be difficult for you to continue this new path you created for yourself, to continue with this new version of yourself without having your counselors around, your brothers and the rest of your Pyles family to support you, but that's simply not the case. Remember, we are all there with you in the lessons you have learned, in each "Thought of the Day" you heard, and in those moments when you smiled because you remembered a good memory from this past summer. Not only that, you are a part of our family, the Pyles family. We are thousands strong ready to support you and be there for you for the rest of your life; your counselors will always be your counselors and you will always be their campers. Always remember that we are only an email away if you ever forget these three simple

things: how important you are, how amazing you are, and how much we care about you.

A memory I will always hold dear is when we sang "All-you-eta" in the mess hall. When we were loud, we were silly and most importantly, we were all so full of life sharing that moment. One big family full of love and life; those are the moments that remind me how meaningful life can feel when there is as much love as we have at Pyles. Those are the moments I want to make, share and live for. Those are the ones I remember when I'm down. So make those moments happen in your life, share them down in the city, make your dreams a reality and create goodness -- because that's the Pyles standard. Remember tug of war, that the only way you lose in life is if you give up. Always keep hiking forward, just like you did at Pyles. Forward towards your dreams, your goals, to a better life, to spread goodness around you. And as you have learned here, you are capable of so much more if you can only imagine it. I believe in you, we believe in you, and we can't wait to see where life takes you as you spread good in this world, because that's what Pyles men do. Remember, we are a family now, for life.

With love, respect, and unwavering support,

**Patriot**  
**Assistant Director**



# Fader

## Worker Coach

I want to start off by welcoming all of you fine young gentlemen to our Pyles Camp family, a legacy of almost 75 years. I also wanted to congratulate all of you for accepting and completing the Pyles Camp challenge. As a former camper, I was in the same shoes as you over 20 years ago. As I sat at home after camp I had new perspectives and ambitions in life. I wanted to be a productive member of society, someone who began thinking of a positive future. I also want to let you know that writing to you reminds me of all the wonderful times we spent together. I am honored and grateful. I would like for you guys to know that you now have a family you can count on, and know we are always thinking of you. So remember, if you ever need someone to reach out to, don't be discouraged. We are just a

phone call away, or write to us. My prayer is that you all would take the lessons learned at camp and apply them to your daily lives. I know that our lives can become overwhelming and challenging, but now you have a new set of tools you can utilize in your day-to-day life. With as many challenging activities you have overcome at camp, I am positive that you can overcome any obstacles that life throws at you. I can't wait till we all meet again in the near future and be able to share life with each other once again.

**Much Love,**  
**Fader**



# Staff Roster



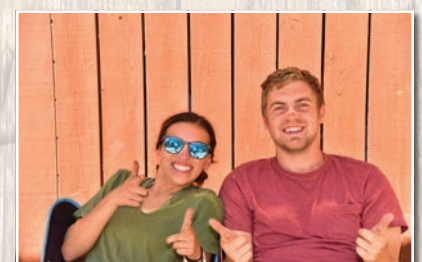
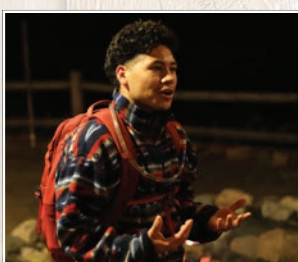
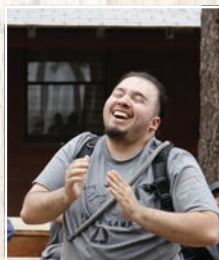
"Aztec".....Jonathan Ramos  
 "Bamm-Bamm" ....Dale Decker Jr.  
 "Barnabas" .....Oscar Velasco  
 "Big AL" .....Allen Shelby  
 "Billy Bear" .....Jose Romo  
 "Blondbeard" .....Joseph Badger  
 "Blood Hound" .....Joel Sandoval  
 "BugEye" .....John Papasthatis  
 "Cookie Monster" ...Devin Vasquez  
 "Cosmo" .....Ryan McAdams  
 "Crossover" .....Fernando Ochoa  
 "Daredevil" .....Jeremiah Hall  
 "Donut" .....Don Sarver  
 "Draco" .....Julio Alvarez  
 "Fader" .....Hector Jimenez  
 "Fives" .....Miguel Herrera  
 "Flint" .....Jose Ojeda  
 "FoxLad" .....Rei Josiah Van Noort-Hinsley  
 "Freeze" .....Joseph Arrieta  
 "Gadget" .....Monica Mendoza  
 "Gri-Gri" .....Andrea Barrera  
 "Grizzly" .....Cesar Ramos

"Havoc" .....Jose Becerra  
 "Hurley" .....Jose Garcia  
 "Inso" .....Christopher Orozco  
 "Juice" .....Logan Cotton  
 "Kaido" .....Moises Garcia  
 "Kirby" .....Alberto Damian-Sanchez  
 "Lasso" .....Jordan Stern  
 "Máquina" .....Maicol Munoz Igua  
 "Matrix" .....Julio Chavez  
 "Maverick" .....Jim Uny  
 "Menace" .....Arkece Jackson  
 "Miles" .....Jose Ayala  
 "Modern" .....Rocco Fernandez  
 "Mouse" .....Isaac Luque  
 "Patriot" .....Diego Medina-Islas  
 "Peaches" .....Brandie McAdams  
 "Poseidon" .....Edgar Sandoval  
 "Presta" .....Kendra Rhodes  
 "Rapids" .....Kenneth Lubwama  
 "Raccoon" .....Andres Medina  
 "Red" .....Paul Sturmer  
 "Sarru" .....Daniel Sishi

"Seis" .....Fernando Herrera  
 "Simba" .....Jess Cobos  
 "Skip-Jack" .....Griffin Johnston  
 "Sky" .....Jessica Walter  
 "Sniper" .....Idris Gant  
 "Spirit" .....Alotl Aparicio  
 "Stripes" .....Adam Bell  
 "Takora" .....Dominic Maddan  
 "White Buffalo" ...Wyatt Wagner  
 "Yeti" .....George Medina

**R.M. Pyles Boys Camp**  
 2023 Summer Staff & Workers  
 27211 Henry Mayo Dr  
 Valencia, CA 91355  
**661- 294-1394**  
**pylescamp.org**

*Please contact the camp office if you want to connect with any staff.*







**R.M. Pyles Boys Camp**  
27211 Henry Mayo Dr.  
Valencia, CA 91355

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*A man found the cocoon of a butterfly. One day a small opening appeared. He sat and watched the butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through that little hole. Then it seemed to stop making any progress. It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could and could go no further.*

*So the man decided to help the butterfly. He took a pair of scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon. The butterfly then emerged easily. But it had a swollen body and small shriveled wings.*

*The man continued to watch the butterfly because he expected that, at any moment, the wings would enlarge and expand to be able to support the body, which would contract in time. Neither happened! In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shriveled wings. It never was able to fly.*

*What the man in his kindness and haste did not understand was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny opening was nature's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings so that it would be ready for flight once it achieved its freedom from the cocoon.*

*Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our lives. If we were allowed to go through our life without any obstacles, it would cripple us. We would not be as strong as we could have been. And we could never fly. So struggle a little, and prepare to fly.*

