

Dear Campers, Families & Friends,

I am sad to announce that after 36 years of "giving a world of good through camping" the Florida Lions Camp has officially closed due to financial strife, and will no longer be offering any of its programs.

The camp has been struggling financially as a non-profit organization for the past few years in this economy. After our Summer season 2010 numerous emergency meetings were held to come up with ideas and money to save the camp. The Lions Foundation of Florida stepped in and took over the deed, keeping the camp running until December to give the board time to try and raise the money. Unfortunately the board was not able to find a solution and as of January 1st the camp is on the market to be sold.

We will be hosting a "Farewell FLC" party on January 29th, 2011 from 1pm-4pm at the camp in the blue room. This will be a chance for our campers to say farewell to FLC as well as a chance for our staff to say farewell to you. Lions of Florida will also be invited to find out how they can help our campers with this transition. Snacks and refreshments will be served. You may bring any pictures or memories to share. Please RSVP to me by January 26th to let me know if you are attending and how many people will be joining you. Don't forget to wear your favorite FLC shirt!

We are referring our campers to Camp Thunderbird in Apopka, FL. They offer a very similar program to FLC's. Many of FLC's supporters are working with Camp Thunderbird to help prepare them for our campers. Although, they may not be prepared to accommodate all of our campers by next summer, they are working diligently to become more inclusive. Many of you may even recognize their current Camp Director, Rob Cage as our past Camp Director here at FLC. He is willing to try and work with everyone to get your needs met. He is even excited to see some of the familiar faces. To contact Rob at Camp Thunderbird you may call him at (407) 889-8088 or email him at rcage@questinc.org. You may learn more about Camp Thunderbird on their website at www.questinc.org. Rob will also be in attendance at the "Farewell FLC" party to share some information.

You may reply to my email with any concerns as well as to RSVP to the "Farewell FLC" party. Carissa will also be in the office at the camp until it is sold and will be willing to answer questions at the camp's main line (863) 696-1948 or email address as well flc@gte.net.

Barb Cage will be attending the "Farewell FLC" party and then moving to Minnesota a few days later. She would love for you to stay in touch as well at bjcage@hotmail.com.

We would like to thank all of you for playing such a special role in the life of the Florida Lions Camp. Through the years we have created many special memories. Good Luck in your future endeavors and please stay in touch!

"Though we're leaving today, our hearts will always stay!"

Sincerely yours,

Liz Cage
Program Director
Florida Lions Camp
(863) 696-1948

