



usa

building global friendship
jacksonville chapter

CISV Jacksonville

November 2008

South Regional Mini Camp (SRMC): "I Robot"

In September Jacksonville brought about 35 JBers to the minicamp to participate in activities themed around the United

The weekend wasn't all serious stuff. We had several running activities and a *crazy* dance party! We all came away tired but happy

Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child. The fun "sub theme" was Robots. First we examined the U.N. document by acting out the different parts of it in group skits. We did a simulation



Connor McClure and Cory Zhu make friends at the Minicamp.

activity about children in work camps and then watched a very explicit movie about the subject.

and with a much better understanding of how lucky we are to be children in the U.S.



Trust activity at the "Fish Have No Feet" Village



Taylor Figura and her new friends at Minicamp.

President's Message

If you have not been around CISV Jacksonville in a while, you do not know how exciting it is. We are building on our legacy of leadership. Having said that, we cannot stop and plateau, we need to develop the next generation of leaders, both for JB (Junior Branch) and for the Board. That may not sound like you, but it is! **You** have special talents that we need. We encourage

our children to take chances, to stretch and try new behaviors, and to learn from experience. I would challenge each of you to do the same yourselves.

I ask each of you to devote 12 hours to CISV Jacksonville in the coming 12 months. You could sit in on a monthly Board meeting, help take mass mailings to the Post Office, solicit items for the Extravaganza silent

auction, help at our pancake breakfast for Faces or Summer Camp, coordinate the carpool for a JB field trip. There are so many little things you can do and they are all important and need to be done. Doing the little things well makes it easier for parents to understand and believe that we are a professional organization and can be trusted to protect and to care for their children.

I guarantee that each contact with our programs will give you a broader understanding of what CISV is about. You may find that you end up getting more out of the experience than your children! Want to help but don't know where to start? Give Patty Pritchard a call at the CISV Jacksonville office at 360-0820. She will take care of you.

Tom Price

Junior Branch News

Letter from the JB Co-Presidents

The year started off with a bang for the JB with the 3rd Annual South Regional Mini-camp in Hampton, Georgia. One highlight of the weekend was that the JB elected to continue the “Shakedown!” project. “Shakedown!” is a fundraiser that was created two years ago. At each JB/Chapter function, a pot is passed and any loose change that anyone has is put inside. The idea is that the little amounts of money that we don’t think about can go a long way. Over the past two years, the JB raised

over \$750 that was used to rehabilitate child soldiers in



Africa. The JBers present at SRMC decided that this year they wanted to choose to benefit something closer to home, so they decided that we should raise money for the CISV Jacksonville Scholarship Fund. We look forward to this new challenge.

At the end of October, we sent four JB Board

members to the CISV National Board Meeting.

The weekend was a great way to see what other chapters are doing and identify new, creative ways to improve our own JB.

Lastly, due to the overwhelming success of last year’s multi-cultural **Holiday Party**, we are planning another for December 12 at the South Jacksonville Presbyterian Church. We are looking for families with interesting holiday traditions who would like to share them at

the party. If you are interested please contact Kenzie Crane (Kenzie.crane@us.cisv.org). Also, this year we want to incorporate a service component, so we will be putting together gift bags for the children at the Sulzbacher Center. Up until the party we will be collecting packages of children’s socks.

We are so excited about this upcoming year! Check the JB page on the CISV Jacksonville website for information. Can’t wait to see you soon!

Your ever-loving co-presidents,
Shannon Novakoski and Kenzie Crane

Junior Branch is A-Mazed at Cornfield

By Marie-Claire Levi

On a cool but sunny October morning, over 30 JBers and chaperones piled into cars to go to Conner’s Cornfield. Once there, we did energizers, ate some farm-style lunch and checked out a cow train and a cornbox (instead of a sandbox). Afterwards, we

went through the maze with half the group blind and half mute. Afterwards, we had a group discussion on how anyone can become disabled no matter their social class. Finally, it was time to go home and we all left, tired and happy and wishing we could have stayed longer!



Above: JB board enjoys the Conner’s Cornfield Maize.

From L-R Savannah Durden, Kelsey Jiminez, Andrew Daw, Chase Divertie (member of planning group), Marie Clair Levy, Helen Parker.

Left: JBers await instruction before entering the Maze.

National Board Meeting 2008

By Val Chritton

CISV USA held its annual board meeting, youth meeting and national adult meeting again this year at the Drawbridge Inn in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky, right outside Cincinnati, October 23-26. The following members of the Jacksonville Chapter were in attendance in various capacities: Val Chritton, Trustee, Tom Price, President, Viky Divertie, Immediate Past President, Alixe Stam, Local Interchange Committee Chair, Leah Donelan, National Expanded Executive Committee-Chapter Development Co-Chair, Patty Pritchard, National NBM Chair, Sadie Blanton, National Expansion Committee Chair, Vanessa Celis-Mata, Adrienne Divertie, Ben Blackshear,

Mackenzie Crane, Shannon Novakowski, Kelsey

approved the hiring of a full-time staff person.



JB co-presidents Shannon Novakowski and MacKenzie Crane, Katie Stewart and other JB friends.

Jimenez, Katie Stewart and Kyle Mikals.

Some highlights of the meetings:

· CISV USA followed CISV Jacksonville's lead as the Board of Trustees

· Adrienne Divertie, former CISV Jacksonville JB President, did a wonderful job in her position as Committee Youth Trustee-Elect, taking time off from her semester abroad in Paris to attend NBM.

· Ben Blackshear, a

freshman at Middlebury College and CISV Jacksonville JB Immediate Past President, was elected Executive Youth Trustee.

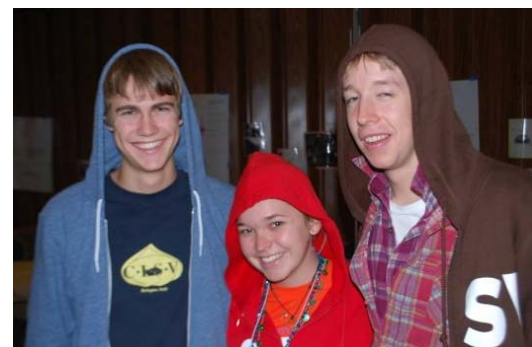
· Kenzie Crane, current CISV Jacksonville JB Co-President, was elected to the National Youth Committee.

· CISV Moments - At intervals throughout the weekend, 11 people shared what CISV has meant to them.

· Six Billion Paths to Peace: Representatives of Six Billion Paths to Peace, an effort of the Shinnyo-En Foundation, conducted an

amazing workshop for those attending NBM. Six Billion Paths to Peace is "an effort to focus on our interconnectedness and reflect upon the daily contributions we are making to a more harmonious world." For more information, go to www.sixbillionpaths.org or www.sef.org.

· Leah Donelan, Sadie Blanton and Patty Pritchard made the Jacksonville Chapter look good as they served in their National roles.



Ben Blackshear and Adrienne Divertie with Daniel Pritti at NBM.

Sadie's term as Expansion Chair is at an end. Leah and Patty's roles as National Chapter Development Co-Chair and NBM Planning Chair, respectively, have been extended for another year.

As always, NBM was a lot of fun and a huge success! Attending NBM is a great way to learn more about CISV and to meet kindred spirits from other US Chapters.

Come join the Junior Branch
for their
Holiday Traditions Party
December 12, 2008
6-9pm

Harvin Hall of South Jacksonville Presbyterian Church.

Bring a new pair of socks and any hotel soaps, shampoos or toothpaste for gift bags to be given at the Salzbacher Center for the Homeless. Bring a holiday traditional dish to share.

Maine Village

By Amanda LeClere

“I can honestly say that being a Village Leader has been one of the most rewarding decisions of my adult life. There is something incredibly unique about working together with 70+ adults and children to create a sort of Utopia. I bonded so quickly and naturally with my delegation in the beginning of Village. They already trusted me. I have always been an idealist but it seemed silly to think, “I really just want world peace” until I became involved with CISV. I often struggled with peace organizations, activism, and certain volunteer work

because I couldn't see any thing about results of my actions. I would t h i s spend six months organizing organization



If you trust us you can run FAST through the hands

a benefit only to break even in the end, raising no funds for the cause. The beautiful

children. Over this month, they began to realize how small our world really is, how

to overcome differences, and how easy it is to work together. It is easy for me to think that peace is possible knowing that there are people like me all over the world... in CISV. I still wear nine multicolored bracelets hand-made by the children to remind me daily.”



Belly Laughing Circle



Minicamp had one CRAZY dance party.



We were all so sad to leave minicamp!



Some of the JB girls enjoying minicamp.



Alex Stam can do it too!

Norway Interchange

By Sara Leuthold

This year CISV Jacksonville did something a little different – a 2 week/2 week Interchange with Norway with both the hosting and travel phases taking place in the same summer. Although this necessitated a lot of planning in a short amount of time, the families came together and focused on their task.

The Norwegian delegation arrived in Jacksonville in time to have a picture perfect Welcome Party in Neptune Beach complete with surfing, swimming, a typical 4th of July cookout and of course fireworks. During their whirlwind 2 week visit, the group tubed the Ichetucknee, did the Orlando theme parks, had pool parties, a shopping day, a birthday party, visited the Village Open Day, mini-camp, National Night.

Some families even managed to squeeze in a couple “down” days.

The day after dropping off the Norwegian delegation at the airport, the Jax delegation was back at JIA to take flight to Kristiansand, which is along the southern coast of Norway and, with its 3 famous palm trees, known as the Norwegian Riviera. After a lengthy flight delay in Detroit and sprinting through the Amsterdam

airport to barely make the next flight, the delegation arrived sans luggage to a warm welcoming crowd of Norwegian families.

The summer days in Norway are long. And this

allowed for all day outings, usually 10 to 12 hours.

As a Floridian it was hard to keep track of time - when it felt like 2:00, it would really be

5:00 which lengthened our days even more. We visited

their version of a theme park and had numerous activities on or around the cold waters of the North Atlantic – and yes we all went swimming! Mini-camp was at an old military complex on its own

center which we were able to tour.

As parents of CISVers, we know that our children come back changed from their experiences. As a parent it was an interesting

perspective to lead a group and see how these trips transform our children. From the first moment of leaving the airport, it is with lots of courage they leave the safety of their home delegation and go to fit themselves

into their new family. They are constantly dealing with their relationships with their partner, the other delegation and their hosting families. At the same time they learn about a new country and its culture and values. Away from the influence and expectations of their parents and families, they are able to make their own decisions and to have experiences they might not otherwise encounter. While Interchange is mostly a lot of fun, it is not always easy. However, this unique experience gives them an opportunity of a lifetime to grow and mature.



Top Photo: Norwegian theme park

Bottom Photo: Norway Interchange at the Viking Museum

“Fish Have No Feet” Village

Children from 17 countries were the all affected by the village program content to a greater their countries feeling that Americans were friendly, you helped by volunteering in some way as well. Thank



“Fish Have No Feet” participants show Team Spirit.



Team Building is an important skill for all Villagers to learn.

recipients of CISV Jacksonville’s hospitality this summer at the “Fish Have No Feet” Village. Children and leaders were

or lesser extent. The group visited St. Augustine, the Alligator Farm, Blizzard Beach and went to the beach a lot. They all went back to

welcoming and generous. The month long camp was paid for by YOU through your donations and most of

you! You should feel good about the experience that you helped create for our international friends.

Welcome CISV Jacksonville’s First Managing Director: Patty Pritchard

By Val Chritton

At its June 2008 meeting, the Board of CISV Jacksonville took the unprecedented step of approving a plan to hire a full-time Managing Director for the Chapter. For over 50 years, neither the CISV USA National Organization nor any of the local Chapters has had a full time staff person. But the reality of how our lives have changed since CISV was founded – with a large majority of men and women working outside the home and thus having much more limited time to volunteer to charitable organizations – convinced the Board that now is the time to take this step.

In no way does our having a full-time staff person change the fact that C I S V Jacksonville continues to be primarily a volunteer run organization. Volunteers are our life blood, and one full-time staff member can never replace all the time and energy that our volunteers invest in CISV Jacksonville. That being said, we are tremendously fortunate to have been able to fill the position, which was advertised last June and July,



with one of our most dedicated long-time members, P a t t y Pritchard. P a t t y brings a wealth of C I S V experience to the position. Patty has been involved with CISV since 1991 when her son Josh became a village delegate. Since then, she has served as Chapter President, Vice President, Trustee, Village Chair, Village Planner, Village Leader, Seminar Camp Chair,

Seminar Camp Planner and Local Work Chair. Nationally, Patty has served as the National Board Meeting Store Chair and currently serves as the National Board Meeting Planning Chair, a huge (volunteer) job. Patty was selected as an Honorary Life Member of CISV Jacksonville in fall 2006, in recognition of her many years of outstanding service to CISV Jacksonville. Patty brings to us not only her extensive CISV experience, but also more than 30 years of business experience, most recently as the President and Owner of Draw Point Steel. WELCOME, PATTY!

CISV Opportunities 2009

Interchange

Guangzhou, China

July 2009 (host first and then travel in summer 2010)

3 boys and 3 girls, ages 13 and 14

Leader, Female, 21 or older

International Youth Meeting

Maine, USA

4/18-26/2009

Male or Female, age 16 -18

Seminar Camp

Campinas, Brazil

7/5 - 7/25/2009

Female, age 17 or 18

Junior Counselors

Guangzhou, China

July 20 - August 16, 2009

Female, age 16 or 17

Sao Paulo, Brazil

June 29 - July 26, 2009

Female, age 16 or 17

Faces of Jacksonville Village

Jacksonville, Florida USA

June 2009

8 youth (Male or Female), ages 16-18

Staff

Faces of Jacksonville

Jacksonville, Florida USA

June 2009

Villages

Dallas Ft. Worth, Texas, USA

July 6 - August 2, 2009

2 boys and 2 girls, age 11

Leader (male or female), 21 or older

Jacksonville, Florida USA

June 2009

2 boys and 2 girls, rising

6th graders in Fall of 2008

Leader (male or female), 21 or older

North East, Great Britain

July 25 - August 21, 2009

2 boys and 2 girls, age 11

Leader (male), 21 or older

Sao Paulo, Brazil

[FILLED]

December 27, 2008 -

January 23, 2009

2 boys and 2 girls, age 11

Leader (female), 21 or older

Summer Camps

Kiel, Germany

July 31 - August 22, 2009

2 boys and 2 girls, age 15

Leader (male or female), 21 or older

Dear CISV Member,

You are the most important recruiter we have! We need YOU to identify friends, neighbors and co workers who might be interested in our programs. We are recruiting for children ages 11-15, Junior Counselors ages 16-17 and Adult Leaders age 21 and over. You can find all the application materials on the website at www.jax.cisvusa.org. If you would like to refer likely participants or would like more information please call Terry Yip at 620-8191, Patty Pritchard at the office at 306-0820, email at jaxcisv@bellsouth.net.

Faces Presentation

Faces of Jacksonville presented a poster and gifts to board members of Lutheran Social Services to recognize their participation in the camp and all through the year. CISV was invited to their Annual Meeting for the report on the year and election of board members. Kem Siddons, Vice

Faces every year and has also furnished a site for Play Days. It was a great opportunity to recognize the



Tom Price, Carol Daniels and

Chairman, introduced CISV's Carol Daniels and Tom Price, as well as acknowledging his own child's participation in an International Village several years ago. Lutheran Social Services has participated in

networking that has gone on between the two organizations. After the meeting as well the father of Fred Ramsburg, an Interchange participant to Portugal in the 80's, introduced himself and will

send Fred's address for our alumnae list. Tom and I agreed that it is a small world!!

Handicapped Day*

By: Manav Sthali School,
Pusa Road, Delhi, INDIA

Some people can't see,
For them life has no glee!
Some people can't hear,
That's how- life they bear!
Some people can't speak,
Can't express what they feel!
This is a handicap life,
Nobody cares whether they laugh or cry!
People who understand them are very few,
Can't they be me and you?
For them day by day life get's duller,
They can never see or imagine life multi-colored!
Helping them is not about making fun,
But taking them under the bright yellow sun!
Let's try to be with them, their way,
Come on let's try on this handicapped day!

*Apoem by a delegate at our Fish Village after Handicapped Day

**CHECK OUT THE
NEW CISV
OPPORTUNITIES FOR
2009 ON
PAGE 7**



*Minicamp
is always
a great
place to
learn and
laugh!*



*Jacksonville JB secret....SHHHH! Don't
Tell! "Schnitzel" is the secret code for
group hug.*

Thank You to Village Volunteers

A very special thank you to Nicole Novakowski who was our village planner and Leah Donelan (super star), Ravi Sanka, and Steve Durden for their help with the "planning" as well. Thank you to Suzi Morrow for organizing transportation and homestays. Thank you to Andrea Spadafora for organizing the Open Day. Thank you to our local staff Vanessa Celis-Mata, Adrienne and Viky Divertie for all of their work to make the camp happen. A big thank you to Kyle Michels for living on site and being available for any and every job.

**Come Join the Fun at the
JBers Holiday Tradition Party
December 12
and Help the
Homeless at Sulzbacher**

**Don't forget to visit Patty at the office!
M-Th 9-5.
2148 Mango Place (behind South
Jacksonville Presbyterian Church)
306-0820**

Children's International Summer Village
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