



great outdoor adventure trips

spring 2011 newsletter

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Christmas morning



It's about that time. You know, the time of year when the smell of dirty life-jackets is in the air like the sweet smell of a frasier fir and you can't sleep at night because the excitement of a new group of students is like presents under the tree. Spring is like Christmastime around here. All of the preparation, the paperwork, the book-

ing, the training, and meeting interns and volunteers culminating into the start of the summer season is like Christmas morning, just without the white-bearded fat guy (it's probably better that we don't have one of those around from a liability standpoint). We're really excited to see what the Lord has in store for this summer,

and we hope you are also. There are nearly 400 students in Greenville who know something exciting is happening this summer but have no idea how awesome it really will be. We hope you'll join us in supporting them in prayer and financially as we challenge them to live the adventure that God has planned for them.

Meet the Interns



We've got a fresh (for the most part) group of interns joining us this summer and we couldn't be more excited to introduce them to you all.

Part of the internship experience involves raising support to cover their summer expenses. If you would like to support a specific intern, just put their name on your check or donation slip.



Steve Gallant

We somehow talked Steve into coming back and working with us for a second summer. Steve was our intern last year and is the best looking guide we've ever had. He's been off getting smart at the Honors College at Greenville Tech and is leaving us for the College of Charleston this fall.



Robbie Gilson

Robbie comes to us for the summer from Furman University where he is studying Music and Religion. Originally from Norcross, Georgia, Robbie is a nasty (that means really good) whitewater kayaker and one of three people actually allowed to kayak in Furman Lake.

Rachael Holst

Rachel is a senior at Furman and is leaving in the fall to begin nursing school at Samford. Rachael is actually from Wyoming and is a horse whisperer (that's the proper term for someone who has a horse, right?)



Alex Smith

Alex is a junior in the Outdoor Leadership program at North Greenville University and probably knows more about all of our jobs than we do. Alex has a ton of energy and passion for what we do and a big redneck truck.





Last December, we hired another full-time staff member, Joey Short, as our Program Coordinator. We asked Joey to reflect on his short time here and introduce himself a little bit. We asked him to leave out the scary parts of working here.

Don't forget that you can keep up with us by our blog this summer for more stuff like this along with photos, videos, stories and embarrassing details about the interns (not really).

» blog.goatrips.org

I'm about to start my fifth month here at GOAT, and as I look back on the past few months it is hard to believe all of the things that I have learned and how much I have fallen in love with the work we are doing. I've realized that GOAT is a whole lot bigger than just the humble few who work here. I've had the chance to see how many people are actually a part of what the Lord is doing here—giving their time and money to bless these kids with an amazing experience! I've also seen what a blessing GOAT is to the many different groups that we work with. Part of my job has been meeting with new groups to tell them about GOAT and the experience we want to give their kids. Often one of the responses we get from group leaders is, "I know our kids would love to do something like this, but we just can't afford it." Needless to say, its pretty amazing to see their reaction when we tell them that they do not have to pay to go on the trip, thanks to our donor sponsorships! I can't tell you enough how thankful I am for getting to be a part of the work God is doing through GOAT. We've got a busy summer of trips coming up, but if its going to be anything like the stories I have heard from the last few summers, then it can't get here soon enough! God is moving over here at GOAT. He's got some pretty big things he wants to share with these kids this summer, and I know so many of y'all are praying in hopefully anticipating for what he has in store as well.

—Joey Short