

To Whom It May Concern, this is an unsolicited recommendation,

I was asked by Steve Featherstone to participate at the Reptile Store's summer camp a couple of years ago. I have a large assortment of exotic birds, parrots. I am the founding member of the Parrot Club of Southwestern Ontario. I met Steve at one of the shows where he asked me to participate in his annual fund raiser Steel Safari. Since the charity was for the children I agreed and brought the members of the Parrot Club of Southwestern Ontario with me. I was impressed with Steve's knowledge, presentation and care of the animals.

Steve started talking about expanding his Summer Camp and inviting other speakers in to do presentations for the children. Since I had been doing presentation to the Middlesex School Board of Education I was prepared and could do presentations to various age groups. I like to take every opportunity to educate children on the merits of conservation and understanding these animals that share our world.

I was impressed with the camp. It is a spacious facility that is clean, organized and interesting .It is set up like an exciting labyrinth with murals and displays and charts to educate and entertain. I was amazed as to how attentive the children are but I think that is because there is so much for them to see and learn and there seem s to be adventures at every turn. The counselors are amazing. They are not only knowledgeable they are great at handling the children. They are courteous and understanding yet have a quiet authority about them. They maintain order and redirect the children if they become distracted. They never insist or push the children to do any thing they are not comfortable with. They are sensitive to some of the fears the smaller children exhibit when in close proximity to animals. They don't allow any bullying or rough housing. This is important when dealing with wild animals because too much excitement, noise, aggression can trigger a defense mode in the animals and they may exhibit aggressive protective behavior. The safety of the children is a priority.They also has enough counselors for the number of children they are teaching that day.

I was able to have my girlfriend's children attend camp for a week they are twin 11yr. olds and originally they hesitated."Reptile "didn't hold a lot of fascination and their mother wondered what they would do for an entire week. I told it would be the most fun they would have! There was doubt when she went to pick them up but she said the girls could not stop talking about everything they experienced that day! She knew then it was a hit. She also admitted it was the "most fun they have ever had!" and they still can't stop talking about it.

I am envious I wish I had a camp where I could meet lions, and tigers, spiders and snakes, wolves and vultures, and parrots and alligators! Not only is it educational it is an experience of a lifetime! Memories and adventures they will remember for years to come. It makes all the adventures they see in books and TV real. Steve and his team do an amazing job at Summer Camp. There level of professionalism is exceptional. Steve's standards are very high and to that end he provides a safe, educational, exciting, adventure for children of all ages.

If fact I believe and trust in what and how they do things to such a degree that I leave my parrots there at the camp for the summer knowing that they are in great hands. . Would I recommend the Summer Camp .....Without hesitation they have my whole hearted endorsement.

Sincerely

*Kathy Davey*

President and Director the London and Kitchener/Waterloo Chapter

Parrot Club of Southwestern Ontario