



AATSP Georgia Chapter
2010 Immersion Camp

December 11, 2009

Dear Fellow Members of AATSP,

It is that time of year again when we begin planning for Immersion Camp. This year's camp will be March 19-21, 2010 at Camp Fortson in Hampton, Georgia. We are looking forward to a successful camp experience for volunteers and campers alike.

Please note that camp is a one of a kind experience for students and we have a multitude of activities for them to participate in while they are at camp. Students are organized into *familias* and are given a *madre* or *padre* to help them stay *en español* and to enjoy the camp. Students stay in large residential style dormitories and are asked to maintain the immersion whether in or out of the residential areas. Upon arriving to camp students will go through the *aduana* and have their bags searched for items in English as well as other things that are discouraged at camp. Students are issued a passport and an ID as well as a schedule of activities and a roster of who is in their families. Families will meet on Friday night, organize a family banner, meet and greet each other and play games. Saturday families travel as a group through 6 *talleres* which give them a taste of culture, games, dance, music and the like. At the end of Saturday evening all convene for a *Carnaval*. Students dress in a *traje tipico* that they have brought from home and there are a *desfile* of costumes as well as dance contests and at the end of the evening a King and Queen are crowned for the event.

Sunday morning there is a *mercado* where students can spend their pesos that they have earned along the way. Vendors will peddle their wares as students try and get the most for their "money." At the end there is a chance for each family to present a skit that they have created and awards are given out. Parents are invited to attend this part of the camp to appreciate how much has been accomplished over the weekend.

This year it is important to note that all schools sending students should send a chaperone as well who can act as a volunteer and help with camp. If a chaperone does not want to volunteer to help, they will be charged the standard camp fee.

If you are interested in coming and bringing students to camp, please send an email to heather_young@bellsouth.net. The fee for campers is \$85 which covers meals for the weekend, the dorm and all activities. Small amounts of cash may be brought to buy snacks at the *carnaval* or in-between different *talleres*. Students who register will receive confirmation in early March. Teachers will receive confirmation for their students as well.

We look forward to having you and your students at camp this year.

¡Todos a una!

Heather Young

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