



SARATOGA ACADEMY

Prescott, AZ
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SaratogaAcademy.org

To anyone considering using Independence Training and Glen Stilson as a youth mentor:

I want to share with you my experience with Glen.

Our first experience was when my son attended a Boy Scout camp which Glen put together. He raved about it, saying it was one of his greatest experiences. This is coming from a kid who's had some phenomenal mentors and he's also a harsh critic.

When I started creating Saratoga Academy, I contacted Glen about the possibility of creating an Outdoors Class. Even with our limitations of a budget and sparse resources in the way of transportation, etc., Glen came up with a brilliant plan that kept the kids excited and engaged at every class, and that trend continues now. There is something magic about a mentor who can have a group of 13 girls and boys of various ages keep coming - excited - to 7am classes week after week! You don't find these kinds of mentors too often, as they are all too rare.

In fact, Glen is becoming a legend in our town; the kids talk about him so much that I keep having people ask me about his Outdoor Mastery class - they want their kids to have what our kids are experiencing. The kids love and respect him even though he expects hard things of them; he doesn't merely entertain. He teaches real-life skills that help the kids build their confidence and increase their excitement for life in general, helping them excel in other areas as well.

When I approached Glen I told him I was hoping for a class that used the outdoors and adventure experiences to help the kids discover the greatness within them. My own two teenage boys are a part of his class and they tell me that he's done just that. I am so grateful for Glen and his Outdoor Mastery class! I am grateful for his generosity in time and his generosity in spirit. He's giving them a gift that will keep giving, instilling them with strengths that will bless them throughout their lives.

Sincerely,

Elice Smith
Director
Saratoga Academy