



60th Anniversary for RMMC

THEN



On Sunday, July 29th we celebrated the 60th Anniversary of the founding of Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp. Guests had the opportunity to share stories and memories of their camp experiences. There was also a timeline of camp's history displayed in the chapel which illustrated the major changes over the last six decades. The photos showed how the initial vision of RMMC has grown over the years, creating a place for hundreds of people to enjoy. Thank you to all the volunteers and staff who have made RMMC a special place over the last 60 years.

Here's an excerpt from the 1955 Trail Call. Things have certainly changed over the last 60 years:

"Thanks to several friends of the Rocky Mountain Camp who have made possible the purchase of a 5000 watt diesel powered light plant that will be installed by June 1, and be in use for this camping season. This will replace the small 1500 watt that has been used up to this time. This added capacity will mean that lights can be installed in the tents and the tent areas. There has been some discussion as to whether lights in the tents are desirable for our situation, so some of you readers may be happy about this, and others not so happy. At any rate, lights around the camp are going to enhance it for the many families who come with children. The camp hostess will no longer need to clean lantern chimneys and fill the lanterns with kerosene. Our chance of fires will also be reduced with this change. Because the power unit is diesel, it will be possible to have it in operation all the time, and thus give the cooks the break of power in the kitchen for appliances that have not been possible heretofore -- and we can press our clothes!"

NOW



With The Help Of Volunteers



Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) partnered with RMMC again this summer to help with a variety of maintenance projects to keep camp safe for guests and campers. With the MDS leadership of Paul Unruh and Marc Yoder, and Hesston College Disaster Management students, Krista Rittenhouse and Logan Rierson, a church group joined us for each of four weeks in June and July. The groups came from Grace Mennonite Chapel (Hadley, PA), Hopedale Mennonite (Hopedale, IL), Olive Mennonite (Elkhart, IN), and Steinbach Sommerfeld Mennonite (Steinbach, Manitoba). In addition to the MDS groups, Maple Grove Mennonite youth group (Atglen, PA) volunteered for a week to complete more projects before the end of the summer.

Here's the amazing list of things these folks accomplished this summer:

- Graded in a new water line from the springs
- Installed a rail fence around the ball field
- Replaced roofs on Park Ridge lodge and cabins
- Stained exteriors of Park Ridge lodge and cabins
- Reglazed and painted Park Ridge lodge window frames
- Replaced a wood shake roof with fire rated shingles on Grindewald (Head Cook's Residence)
- Installed repurposed metal roofing on two Staffville cabins
- Constructed new tank house entrance and roof
- Did trail maintenance on Park Ridge and Baldy trails
- Removed ladder fuels and hazard trees from wooded areas for fire mitigation
- Removed two problem boulders from camp road
- Painted exterior Chapel beams
- Built rock retaining walls at the tank house and Head Cook's Residence
- Refinished benches at Inspiration Point and Goldmine
- Processed and delivered fire wood



2012 Volunteers

Thanks to all of our volunteers who have helped us this year (so far!). We really appreciate you! We counted up the hours that have been given to camp so far in 2012. Volunteers' contribution of time is a valuable thing. Thank you!

- | | |
|---|--|
| - Maintenance projects
<i>(40 people, 867 hours)</i> | - Housekeeping duties
<i>(15 people, 264 hours)</i> |
| - Program resource people
<i>(27 people, 172 hours)</i> | - Food Service assistance
<i>(35 people, 765 hours)</i> |
| - Capital projects
<i>(8 people, 50 hours)</i> | - Men's Retreat participants
<i>(12 people, 42 hours)</i> |
| - Work & Play Retreat participants
<i>(57 people, 426 hours)</i> | |
| - Mennonite Voluntary Service participants
<i>(17 people, 51 hours)</i> | |
| - Iowa Mennonite School Cross Country Team
<i>(10 people, 40 hours)</i> | |
| - Mennonite Disaster Service crews
<i>(74 people, 2,960 hours)</i> | |
| - Maple Grove Mennonite Church youth group
<i>(21 people, 756 hours)</i> | |



For the past 15 years, Mary Yoder has made and donated a quilt each year to camp. A silent auction has been held each year to find a home for the quilt. In total the auctions have raised \$24,500 for capital projects. When asked about her quilt donations, Mary responded, "Making quilts is something I enjoy and is something I can do to give back to camp."

Record Numbers for 3rd Grade Resident Camp



This summer, a record number of 3rd Grade Resident campers attended RMMC. We welcomed 31 new campers to RMMC, second highest camper count in the history of the camp session. The highest count was in 1999 when 36 campers attended. The average for Grade 3 over the last 5 years has been around 15 campers. So we were pleasantly surprised when the number doubled this year. Many of the campers came on a recommendation from older siblings who also attended camp here. The crew of kids had lots of energy and were eager to experience their first Resident Camp with us. The weekend was filled with stories, singing, the boat race, short hikes, s'mores, and more! We hope this group of campers returns for many more fun years at camp!

Waldo Canyon Fire

Saturday, June 23 brought news of the Waldo Canyon fire located near Colorado Springs. As the fire grew more serious, the main road to camp (Hwy 24) was closed for a week during the fire.

Throughout the fire, we were ready to evacuate if authorities had placed camp in a pre-evacuation status. Thankfully due to our elevation and location related to the fire, camp only saw one afternoon of light smoke and odor. So we carried on mindful of the fire AND continued on with our camp ministry day.

Thankfully, an afternoon rain the following Wednesday and favorable weather conditions (minimal wind, overcast, etc.) allowed firefighting efforts to make significant gains in containment.

Still keeping aware of dry conditions, we continued serving guest groups, resident campers, wilderness campers and volunteers who came and enjoyed their time of retreat at RMMC!

We greatly appreciated the calls, emails, postings on Facebook and personal well wishes made by so many. The extra effort in daily webpage and Facebook updates proved valuable in communicating the circumstances as they were happening. At all times, the safety of campers and guests remained our top priority. The challenges we faced as a result of the fire paled in comparison to those directly impacted in Colorado Springs.

Through it all, we embraced God's love and presence in the joys and struggles that are part of this life on earth and were glad we weren't more affected than we were and for that we give thanks!

- Corbin Graber, Executive Director



Dave Foncannon, camp pastor during the Waldo Canyon fire, talks with campers in front of an electronic fire thanks to the use of a fireplace app on a laptop. Looks just like the real thing!

You've Been Spotted

In each edition of our monthly newsletter, we feature someone in a RMMC shirt, sweatshirt, hat, or something else with the RMMC logo. We like to see where all of our apparel travels to. If you are planning a trip and have an RMMC shirt packed, make sure to take a picture when you're wearing it and send it to us! Or if you're at home and doing something special, pass that along to us as well. We hope this will be a fun portion to see each month in our newsletter. When you have a picture to share, email it to jenelle@rmmc.org.

We spotted summer staff members Lauren Weaver and Kara Stutzman enjoying the lake at Camp Friedenswald (Cassopolis, MI) in their RMMC t-shirts. Thanks ladies, for sharing RMMC with Michigan!





Thank you Summer Staff 2012!

Staff Reflections

"Camp is a very special place because it refreshes me and reminds me of what is truly important in life: Adoring God's beauty by dwelling in His creation, building meaningful relationships with those around me, and learning to use my gifts to bless others." - Jenna Stutzman (Summer Program Director)

"This summer I had the pleasure of working at RMMC for my second summer. Now I consider myself a "veteran" of RMMC. I've been attending summer camps every year since I was in 3rd grade and I always knew I was going to work there. Looking back at all those years, this summer stood out as the best of all of them. What really made this summer unique and special were my fellow staffers. Going into the summer I knew I was going to have a great time with the staff, a couple were close friends from attending Camp and others were people I knew from college, yet I didn't expect how close I would become with the entire group. The staff bonded on a level I had not experienced with that size of a group and I felt truly at home with them. Now, as I get back into the swing of college life again, I often see the people who worked at RMMC with me, and I know that Camp has become a special place for them as well. It was incredible to be among such amazing people this summer and be able to share with them a place which has meant so much to my life."

- Seth Miller (Counselor & Support Staff)

A Camper's Reflection

"When I came to RMMC this summer for the first time I was pretty scared of what everyone would think of me, but in the end I had the best summer I ever had. I thank you for that. I never would have guessed that you guys were that devoted to God and I appreciate it. You guys really actually changed my life. You made me realize that I'm better than what I think or let alone what others think and that God truly loves us for who we are. Thank you for that. I also heard about the fires up in Colorado, hope everyone's ok. I'm always prayin' for you guys. Thanks so so much for a great summer that I will never forget!!"

- 8th & 9th Grade resident camper

2012 Summer Staff

Brooke Banning	Lenexa, KS
Christian Bergren-Aragon	Glenwood Springs, CO
Grace Boehm	Merriam, KS
Micah Detweiler	Kokomo, IN
Becca Erb	Hesston, KS
Taylor Ermoian	Hays, KS
Kendall Friesen	Newton, KS
Gretchen Geyer	Parnell, IA
Elsa Goossen	Topeka, KS
Daniel Graber	Hesston, KS
Emily Harder	Newton, KS
Hillary Harder	Wichita, KS
Jonathan Harnish	Colorado Springs, CO
Alicia Hofer	Freeman, SD
Mariah Hostetler	Dodge City, KS
Jacob Landis	Sterling, IL
Kaedi LeFevre	Hesston, KS
Caleb Longenecker	Goshen, IN
Mariah Martin	Glenwood Springs, CO
Seth Miller	Colorado Springs, CO
Lindsey Reed	Denver, CO
Roxanne Reimer	Walton, KS
Jeremy Rittenhouse	East Earl, PA
Mary Schrag	Galva, KS
Jenna Stutzman	Kutztown, PA
Nate Tyson	Barto, PA
Anna Unruh	Walton, KS
Dorothy Voth	Hesston, KS
Lauren Weaver	Hesston, KS
Samantha Weaver	Lititz, PA

The theme for this year's Nature Study was "What Crawls in the Forest?". Campers received handouts of the top 12 mammals likely to be seen at RMMC complete with pictures, physical descriptions, and fun facts about each mammal. For example, did you know that a Chipmunk's cheeks can expand to three times its head size; that a Mule Deer's antlers can grow as much as 1 inch per day; and that a Coyote "sings" to keep track of its family? The program included information about the best places to see these animals at camp or to find evidence (scat,



footprints, dens, etc.) of an animal's presence. Later in the summer, as part of Family Camp, we also offered a wildflower walk. In this picture, Jill White shows campers a new type of plant found at camp this year - a "*Phacelia glandulosa*".

PROGRAM CALENDAR 2013

WINTER / SPRING

January 18-20	Scrapbook Retreat
January 25-27	Jr. High Snow Camp
February 15-17	Senior High Snow Camp I
February 22-24	Young Adult Snow Camp
March 1-3	Men's Retreat
March 15-17	Senior High Snow Camp II
April 18-21	Mennonite Quilter's Retreat
May 24-27	Memorial Day Work & Play Retreat

SUMMER

June 2-8	Staff Orientation
June 2-8	Colorado Roots Music Camp (guest group)
June 9-15	Sr. High Resident
June 9-15	Grade 6&7 Wilderness I
June 16-22	Grade 8&9 Resident
June 16-22	Grade 6&7 Wilderness II
June 23-29	Grade 6&7 Resident
June 23-29	Grade 8&9 Wilderness I
June 30-July 6	Grade 4&5 Resident
June 30-July 6	Grade 8&9 Wilderness II
July 7-13	Parent & Child Wilderness
July 7-13	Camp Rocky (guest group)
July 13-19	Camp Pike (guest group)
July 19-21	Grade 3 Resident
July 21-26	Family Camp I
July 21-27	Sr. High Wilderness I
July 28-August 2	Family Camp II
July 28-August 3	Sr. High Wilderness II

FALL

August 16-18	Emmanuel Mennonite Retreat
August 30-Sept 1	Peace Community Mennonite Retreat
August 30-Sept 2	Labor Day Work & Play Retreat
September 6-8	Glennon Heights Mennonite Retreat
September 13-15	Beth-El Mennonite Retreat
September 20-22	First Mennonite Denver Retreat
September 27-29	Mountain Community Mennonite Retreat
October 4-6	Greeley Mennonite Retreat
October 10-13	UFO Quilter's Retreat
October 31-Nov. 3	Mennonite Quilter's Retreat
November 8-10	Pastor's Retreat



Colin & Jenelle Roynon (Program Director) welcomed Cara Jean into their family on October 29. We can already tell that Cara will make a great summer staff member in about 18 years.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN MENNONITE CAMP

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STAFF MEMBERS

Corbin Graber, Executive Director

Mary Yoder, Head Cook

Jenelle Roynon, Program Director

Tom Unruh, Facilities/Special Projects Dir.

Jill White, Nature/Special Projects Dir.

BOARD MEMBERS

Ardell Swartzendruber, President

Jodi Miller, Vice President

Jean Spicher, Secretary

Dennis LeFevre, Treasurer

Diane Fowler

Lisa Longacher

Dave Miller

Ed Shirk

Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp is a ministry of the Mennonite Church with the purpose of providing a place of retreat which encourages holistic Christian growth by fostering the spiritual, social, physical, and intellectual growth of each guest.



Esther Nafziger works on her quilt during a Quilter's Retreat. Ladies from all over Colorado come together to work on their quilt projects. They always enjoy good conversations, great quilting tips, and love sharing their finished projects!

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MENNONITE CAMP



RENEWAL AND RESTORATION

CELEBRATING VISION 2012 ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

Acquire 3 Acre Feet of Water Rights

☑ Purchased 2003

New roof for Eiger, Jungfrau & Heidi

☑ Completed 2003

Water truck

☑ Purchased 2003

Wilderness Vehicle

☑ Purchased 2005

New Eagles Nest Cabin

☑ Completed 2005

Chapel Roof

☑ Completed 2006

Chalet Emmental Renovation

☑ Completed 2006

Well Drilled on Chapel side

☑ Completed 2006

Eiger Bathhouse Renovation

☑ Completed 2008

Chapel Renovations

☑ Completed 2009

Surprise Septic System for Main Camp

☑ Completed 2010

Pond Dredging

☑ Completed 2011

Well Drilled near Dir. Res.

☑ Completed 2011

Water Treatment improvements

☑ Completing 2012



The Chapel is well suited to serving as a meaningful place of worship for all!

TIME FOR A NEW VISION!

Wow folks, we're almost there. Can you believe that the 10 years have come and gone! A good amount of water and water rights under the "bridge" for sure. Help us reach the finish line of the Vision 2012 campaign with your help for the following:

- \$14,000 for new wilderness program vehicle
- \$10,000 for Staffville improvements
- \$6,000 for water treatment project)

I am filled with gratitude for the abundant generosity that has been demonstrated by God through so many. An amazing \$790,000 has been raised thus far, and an amazing amount of volunteer time has been offered. God is surely saying "Well done good and faithful servants."

Rocky Mountain Mennonite now looks to what God has in store for us down the road. Join with us again or for the first time in serving God's kingdom here in this special place of retreat.

- Corbin Graber, Executive Director

VISION 2020 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

2020 PROJECTS



- ☐ Rebuild Infirmary (below left) and Pleiades facilities (below right - under construction in 1963) and includes a permanent staff residence addition. \$300k



Original camp buildings from the early 60's, these structures have faithfully served countless staff and guests as part of this ministry for the past 50 years. We now look to replace them with a two story structure offering individual rooms and shared bath facilities similar to Chalet Emmental. Assessible bedrooms and bathrooms will be available. Drawings are currently being finalized for this important and anticipated project with hopes of beginning construction in 2014!

- ☐ Boys side Bathhouse Renovation. \$200k
- ☐ Ongoing water system improvements and infrastructure (drill wells at Eagles Nest, Park Ridge, etc). \$160k (20k per year)
- ☐ Replace aging camp vehicles. \$80k
- ☐ New Playground for more ages. \$20k
- ☐ Bern Dining Hall Renovation (refinish walls, new windows, increase insulation, etc.). \$40k



TOTAL FUNDS NEEDED \$800K