



THANKS TO OUR GREAT VOLUNTEERS

January to April 2013



- Easton Camp
- Anja Franz
- Jerry Gerber
- Gretchen Geyer
- Anita Goertzen
- Arlen Goertzen
- Charissa Graham
- Kay Gusler
- Spike Hostetler
- Gloria Hostetler
- Caleb Longenecker
- Hannah Martin
- Les Miller
- Jeff Spicher
- Jean Spicher
- Daniel Spicher
- Ethan Spicher
- Dorothy Voth
- Roger White
- Men's Retreat participants



IN MEMORY OF FRANK BRUNK

It is with great sadness that we learned about the recent passing of Frank Brunk. Frank faithfully served as executive director of RMMC from January 1, 1965 to September 1, 1982. As we reflect on his life and service to this ministry we can see his fingerprints all over camp. In his early years as executive director, Frank was hired on a less-than-full-time basis. His wife, Bea, administered the food service for camp. He performed plaster work on the side when possible and put his skills to work on camp buildings. Frank also initiated the idea of a "Swiss Village" theme (style and names) for the cabins.



"Under his leadership, the camping program had undergone significant expansion; the camp's chronic indebtedness had been retired; and its structures and infrastructure had been modernized and upgraded. Indeed, much of the present-day layout and landscape appearance of the camp had been completed. Under Bea's direction, the camp's food service operations had gained well-deserved renown." (A History of RMMC, Unrau, p. 134).

The Brunk family has designated a memorial fund in Frank's memory to RMMC and welcome you to send your gift to camp. To read more about Frank Brunk and his years in ministry at RMMC visit our website, click the "Newsletter" link and select the January 2013 monthly newsletter option.

FIRST SIGNS OF SPRING



After a cold, if not overly snowy winter, we gratefully welcome the first signs of spring at RMMC. First it was the chipmunks, emerging from their winter burrows. Then it was the aspen and willow catkins. A migratory flock of Pine Siskins visited our feeders as did a pair of Pine Grosbeaks and Evening Grosbeaks (pictured). But for us spring seems more surely on its way when we see the first flower of the season blooming, the diminutive beautiful Candytuft. We spotted the first one this year on April 7 while hiking the Aspen Ridge

Nature Trail. The flowers are only 1/8th to 1/4th inches and grow in small clumps that may reach 5-6 inches high. Candytuft is a member of the mustard family, and although it was once used as a cheap condiment and sometimes even called "treacle mustard", its sugary name actually reflects the country from which it was imported, Crete (Candia). Still, for us, it is certainly "eye-candy" and we hope it portends a season of beautiful wildflowers at camp.



COME STAY WITH US!

Available dates for the Ridge Cabin rentals and Emmental Retreat Center

Dates listed are available nights.

Please contact camp to confirm availability.

MAY 2013

Eagle's Nest: 1-15, 19-31

Sky-Hi-View: 1-9, 12-23, 28-31

Rocky Ridge: closed for winter

Solitude Center: 1-21, 28-31

Emmental: 1-8, 12-15, 19-23, 27-31

JUNE 2013

Eagle's Nest: 1, 19-20, 26-30

Sky-Hi-View: 1, 8-9, 12

Rocky Ridge: 1, 8, 18-30

Solitude Center: 1, 8-20, 24-29

Emmental: 1, 16-20, 28-30

JULY 2013

Eagle's Nest: 18, 21

Sky-Hi-View: 4, 10-11, 16-18, 26-27

Rocky Ridge: 10-11, 14-17

Solitude Center: 4-8, 11, 17-18, 21-31

Emmental: 6, 10-11, 18

AUGUST 2013

Eagle's Nest: 2-3, 18-31

Sky-Hi-View: 1, 9-22, 25-31

Rocky Ridge: 15-31

Solitude Center: 1-31

Emmental: 7, 11-15, 18-22, 25-29



In the spring and fall, quilters gather to sew, stitch, and chat together. They bring their own projects with some quilts ending up at the MCC sale in Rocky Ford, CO. Quilters from the camp sponsored retreats have spread the word and we now host three additional quilt retreats throughout the year!



SCRAPBOOKING RETREAT

Twenty-one ladies gathered over Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend to put their photos into creative scrapbooks. Many still do the traditional style of printed photos into a book, but others have taken the leap and create digital photo albums. Pictures of family trips, children's school days, birthday celebrations, anniversary trips, and much more were preserved for years to come.

MEN'S RETREAT

The annual Mountain States Mennonite Conference Men's Retreat's theme this year was worshipping God through song. Greg Bontrager, leader of the Kansas Mennonite Men's Choir and a high school music teacher, led the group of men in numerous choral arrangements and hymns. They also made time for many competitive rounds of human curling on the pond and a great snow shoe hike on the Ring the Peak trail. The men helped with various maintenance projects including changing locks on the office doors, moving a donated table to Emmental, and replacing broken casters on beds in Emmental. We are always appreciative of the work the men accomplish during the weekend. Shown in this photo to the left are Lynn Horner and John Lamman installing new speakers in the Zurich Dining Room.



SNOW CAMPS

Even with less than average snowfall, the youth that attended snow camps this year still enjoyed playing broomball, going on hikes, playing ping pong and foosball, and even challenging each other to Human Dutch Blitz. Our Junior High Snow Camp worship was led by Mike Martin (Colorado Springs, CO). He spoke on "Walking with Christ" based on Colossians and creatively explained to the youth what walking with Christ can look like. The Senior High Snow Camp worship was led by Ryan Kopper (Hesston, KS) talking about "The Genesis Gospel" and how Genesis shows us a beautiful picture of Jesus. At the Young Adult Snow Camp they enjoyed some fresh snowfall and had a great time discussing the book "The Naked Anabaptist," led by Gordon Miller and Roxanne Reimer from Alamosa's MVS unit.



Here are a few responses we got from Snow Camp evaluations:

- ❑ *Regarding worship times:* "It was more meaningful than anything I've seen."
- ❑ *Suggestions for future camps:* "I hope they learn as much if not more than me about how amazing God truly is."
- ❑ *Appreciated about the weekend:* "Everyone coming here and helping me get closer to God."



A snowy day on the mountain in March was a welcome sight after a very dry winter. Although we still have snow on the ground, we are at half of our annual average. Let's pray for rain this summer!



ROCKY MOUNTAIN MENNONITE CAMP

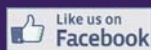
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BOARD MEMBERS

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.



If you haven't heard yet, a new and exciting eight year capital campaign began this year! With your help, Vision 2020 is anticipating the improvements for how this ministry fulfills its mission statement in being a place of retreat to all who come here. Please look over the campaign projects below and see what the future holds here at Rocky Mountain.

Is this vision bold? Absolutely. Will it be a challenge? Absolutely! Thanks to the camp board, Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp is looking again to the future for these important projects to ensure that current and future generations will be able to enjoy what God has to offer in this special place. We hope you will join us by sharing your gifts of time, talents, and resources to make Vision 2020 a success!

CAMPAIGN PROJECTS

Listed in the proposed order to be accomplished:

- ❑ \$300k - New Pleiades Facility: Replace Infirmary (below left) and Pleiades facilities (below right - under construction in 1963) and include a permanent staff residence.
- ❑ \$200k - Replace boys side bathhouse.
- ❑ \$160k (20k per year) - Ongoing water system improvements (new wells at Eagles Nest, Park Ridge, etc.).
- ❑ \$80k - Replace aging camp vehicles.
- ❑ \$20k - New Playground for more ages.
- ❑ \$40 - Bern Dining Hall Renovation (refinish walls, new windows, increase insulation, etc.).



\$800,000 - TOTAL FUNDS NEEDED

NEW PLEIADES FACILITY

Tackling the biggest and most needed project first requires boldness and faith! This new structure will meet the following needs:

- ❑ One or two person rooms for growing demand of church groups, adult retreats and volunteers.
- ❑ Accessible rooms and bathroom facilities for guests year around under the same roof.
- ❑ Provide a clean and comfortable infirmary as required by our child care license.
- ❑ Adds necessary permanent staff housing.
- ❑ Save money with improved energy efficiency (insulation, windows, foundation).



The proposed draft above is an idea being considered. Special thanks to Lyonell Unruh for his architectural talents in working with the camp board toward a final design. Please visit our web page (www.rmmc.org) for Vision 2020 project information and updates which includes additional drawings of the proposed floor plan ideas.

TRAIL CALL

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MENNONITE CAMP

709 County Road 62, Divide, CO 80814

719-687-9506

www.mmmc.org



YOU'VE BEEN SPOTTED!

We spotted 2012 summer staffer Emily Harder (far right) in her RMMC shirt. She is pictured here with other 2012 summer staffers at the annual Music Festival in Winfield, KS. Thanks, Emily, for sharing RMMC with the crowds at Winfield! Have a photo you would like to share? Email it to Jenelle@rmmc.org.

To update your contact information or to be removed from our mailing list, please contact us by phone (719-687-9506) or email (info@rmmc.org)

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 24-27

Memorial Day Work & Play Retreat

June 2-8

Summer Staff Orientation & Colorado Roots Music Camp

June 9-15

Sr. High Resident Camp
Grade 6&7 Wilderness I

June 16-22

Grade 8&9 Resident Camp
Grade 6&7 Wilderness II

June 23-29

Grade 6&7 Resident Camp
Grade 8&9 Wilderness I

June 30-July 6

Grade 4&5 Resident Camp
Grade 8&9 Wilderness II

July 7-13

Parent & Child Wilderness
Camp Rocky (guest group)

July 13-19

Camp Pike (guest group)

July 19-21

Grade 3 Resident Camp

July 21-26

Family Camp I
Sr. High Wilderness I (ends the 27th)

July 28-August 2

Family Camp II
Sr. High Wilderness II (ends the 3rd)



A SPRING TRAIL CALL?

You might be wondering why you are getting our Trail Call in the spring instead of the usual month of December. Well we have so much going on at camp the news doesn't all fit in one annual newsletter anymore! So we (the staff and board) decided to let you know what's happening at camp more often. Trail Calls will be printed and mailed to you in the Spring/Summer, Fall, and Winter. We do hope you like hearing about camp as much as we like sharing our stories with you.

REGISTER NOW for Memorial Day Work & Play Retreat. We work together Saturday on various projects that need to be completed before the summer season. Then we play together on Sunday (hiking, kayaking, exploring, etc). Your hard work on Saturday covers your cost for the weekend! For more info or to register, go to rmmc.org or call us 719-687-9506!