

A newsletter from Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp

Winter 2010

Volunteer Groups Make a Difference

Not only was it another great season of summer camps for resident, wilderness and family camp participants, camp was also busy landscaping after many holes and trenches were made last fall from the surprise septic system project. New restoration water diversions, mulching and seeding and plantings were made around the parking lot, Dining Hall/Lodge, and on the ridge above & below Emmental. The installation of the septic system by the Jungfrau Chalet also required a new bridge, steps and infrastructure improvements (gas, electric).

Franconia Mennonite Church's young adult group (Souderton, PA) of thirty volunteers came for a week this summer and made a significant impact by replacing the roof on the Dining Hall/Lodge and giving it a new coat of paint. Additonal projects they helped with included drywall repair in Aspen, a new roof for the Pine Cone quonset, wiring for new area lights and land-scaping around the Dining Hall/Lodge.

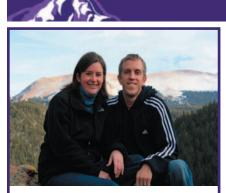
If one large group wasn't help enough, Yellow Creek Mennonite Church came with a tour bus full of 40 high school youth and sponsors. They volunteered by thinning trees and cutting low branches around the Chapel. This material was then used to make mulch for use in reclaiming disturbed ground from the surprise septic system project. Other groups worked on erosion control along the roads, retrenching a water line that had frozen, and a variety of painting projects. Some play was had as the camp offered an opportunity to go rock climbing and rappelling on Monkey Rock. Special thanks to Tom Unruh, Spike Hostetler, Rich Thomas and Ed Shirk for their important part as leaders & teachers.



Young adults from Franconia Mennonite



Church worked, played and worshipped together during their full week at Rocky Mountain. Volunteer help is a vital part of caring for guests and facilities.



Jenelle and Colin, are both Youth Ministry and Recreation graduates from Bluffton University, and have been serving in ministry the past 4 years in Westover, MD.

Addition of New Staff Position

Part of the VISION 2012 Campaign goals established in 2002 was to maximize the use of Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp as a year-around place of retreat to program participants and guest groups. Over the past eight years through the addition of new programs (more campers) and improvement in facilities (more guest groups), the Camp Board decided last January the time had come to add an additional full time staff position to join Corbin & Mary in the work of this ministry.

Jenelle Roynon has been selected to serve as the year around Program Director. Jenelle will assist Corbin with program planning, summer staff/volunteer coordination, marketing and communications, and help Mary with food service and house keeping as needed. We welcome Jenelle and her husband, Colin to the RMMC family and look forward to the contributions of their gifts and talents.

While the addition of this position is a financial leap of faith, this significant step is motivated by fulfilling the mission statement of the camp. RMMC 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.



Rocky Mountain is blessed each summer with staff members who come from near and far to serve this ministry. Their willingness to share of their time, talents and energy makes the busy summer camping season possible.

2010 Summer Staff

Ben Baumgartner Andrea Birky Ravy Chin Tammy Duvanel Unruh Asher Fast Megan Fowler Ali Fretz Kevin Goering Ben Goossen Daniel Graber Nathan Graber Annalisa Harder John Harder Jonathan Harnish Mariah Hostetler Amanda Koch Meredith Lehman Selvia Malak Chloe Martin Indigo Miller Rachel Nafziger Shannon Neuenschwander Chad Newcomer Kris Rath Ethan Rempel Benjamin Rittenhouse Sarah Rutt Stephanie Shenk Chris Snyder Anna Unruh Dorothy Voth Lauren Weaver

Hesston KS Co. Springs CO Cambodia Newton KS Boulder CO La Junta CO Lakewood CO Topeka KS Topeka KS Hesston KS Denver CO Bluffton OH Bluffton OH Co. Springs CO Dodge City KS Co.Springs CO Bluffton OH Egypt Hesston KS Co. Springs CO Harrisonburg VA Dalton OH Mt Joy PA Moundridge KS Wichita KS East Earl PA Lancaster PA Hamburg PA Akron PA Walton KS Hesston KS Hesston KS



In your words...

Quotes from 2010 Family Camp Participants

"We love this camp. We feel so spoiled and look forward to it every year. There is no other vacation we love more!"

"Our family does not live in a Mennonite Community and the Camp allows us to connect with our heritage and values."

"It's like coming home."

"The best part of camp are the friendships we make. I love exposing my children to good Christian experiences."

"Love it every time we come! Wish there were more days in the week."

My Favorite Place

My favorite place to be is Rocky Mountain Camp. I hear the running creek, playing kids, and the nice and cool creek. I also hear the trees blowing. I smell the damp and cool air, the sweat on my face, and the wonderful food. I see the running creek, the kids playing, and the chipmunks chattering. I feel the damp air as it cools me off and I also feel the foosball handle and the vibration from hitting the ball. I hope you visit Rocky Mountain Camp soon.

By Lucas Bontrager-Waite, age 8, from Moundridge KS description assignment from school

8&9 grade Wilderness campers & counselors pose for a picture at the summit of Pike's Peak (14,110 feet).

Select Wilderness and Resident camps offer a hike to the Peak. Many enthusiastic campers sign up for the challenge. The expansive view at the sum-



mit is well worth the breath lost along the way. Plus the accomplishment of hiking to the top is also very rewarding. Many campers comment that the hike to Pike's Peak is a highlight of their week at camp.

PROGRAM CALENDAR 2011

WINTER / SPRING

January 21-23 January 21-23 February 18-20 February 25-27 March 4-6 March 18-20 April 14-17 May 27-30 Scrapbook Retreat Jr. High Snow Camp Senior High Snow Camp I Young Adult Snow Camp Men's Retreat Senior High Snow Camp II Spring Quilter's Retreat Memorial Day Work & Play Retreat

SUMMER

FALL

August 19–21 September 2–4 September 2–5 September 9–11 September 16–18 September 30–Oct 2 October 7–9 October 27–30 November 4–6 Emmanuel Mennonite Retreat Peace Community Mennonite Retreat Labor Day Work & Play Retreat Glennon Heights Mennonite Retreat Beth-El Mennonite Retreat First Mennonite Denver Retreat Greeley Mennonite Retreat Mountain Community Mennonite Retreat Fall Quilter's Retreat Pastor/Spouse Retreat



Campers sing songs to our Creator around a campfire at Inspiration Point.



During MennOlympics, resident campers race to help their team during the relay.

Trail Call is published each winter by Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN MENNONITE CAMP

709 County Rd 62 Divide, Colorado 80814 phone: 719-687-9506 fax: 719-687-2582 email: info@rmmc.org online: WWW.rmmc.org

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 Mark Bechler Diane Fowler Lisa Longacher Dave Miller

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Christian Camp and Conference Association

Mennonite Camping Association

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MENNONITE CAMP



ARE WE THERE YET?

A favorite Bible verse of mine is from Hebrew 12:1-2 "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith."

Most days, perseverance is a necessary part of our faith, our vocations and our relationships. It certainly applies to capital campaigns! Thus far, we have certainly seen our share of planned and unplanned challenges since we began this journey in 2002. What has remained steady however, is the faithfulness of God and God's people who have generously offered their time (volunteers) and resources (\$660,000 campaign total thus far). May God bless each gift and each giver. So a word of THANKS to all who have gone the extra mile especially with the surprise septic system project and we welcome those who would like begin their support.



The area around Trading Post received new stairs and seating for campers and guests to enjoy. The lids to the new grease traps are seen at bottom in the path.

True to any race, there is still a little farther to go with the VISION 2012 campaign and we ask for your help in finishing the campaign goals yet to be accomplished. May the cloud of witnesses of this ministry inspire and encourage us to the finish line.

-Corbin Graber, Executive Dir.

CAMPAIGN PROJECTS

- 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



Sowers of the seed volunteers and staff worked together to reclaim the disturbed ground above and below Emmental Retreat Center. Shovels, rakes, mulch, seed and determination were the key ingredients in covering the dug up ground from the installation of the surprise septic system.

CAMPAIGN PROJECT GOALS (REVISED)

Improve Pond (\$15K) Dredge pond of sediment build-up for water activities and year around fish habitat (scheduled fall 2011)

Improve Beaver Hogan Location (\$20K) □ Purchase and place manufactured home (from our neighbor at the bottom of the hill) to make space for the new staff family. Until completed, Jenelle & Colin will stay in the upstairs apartment of Aspen

- Replace Aging Vehicles (\$20K) □ Replace Wilderness program Suburbans with van
- Improve Staffville male summer staff accommodations (\$25K)
 □ Add insulation to cabins
 □ New roofs for cabins
 □ Provide bathroom facility

Join in as we "race" toward the finish line of our Vision 2012 Campaign!