



A Newsletter From
Rocky Mountain
Mennonite Camp

Winter 2002

50th Anniversary Celebrated!



Sunday morning worship with participants encircling the pond

Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp celebrated 50 years of Christian camping this summer. In 1952 the location south of Divide, CO hosted youth camps for the first time. Summer youth camps had previously been hosted by Rocky Mountain area Mennonite Churches in state parks or rented facilities. The purchase of several mining claims in 1951 gave RMMCamp a setting that has been enjoyed for 50 years.

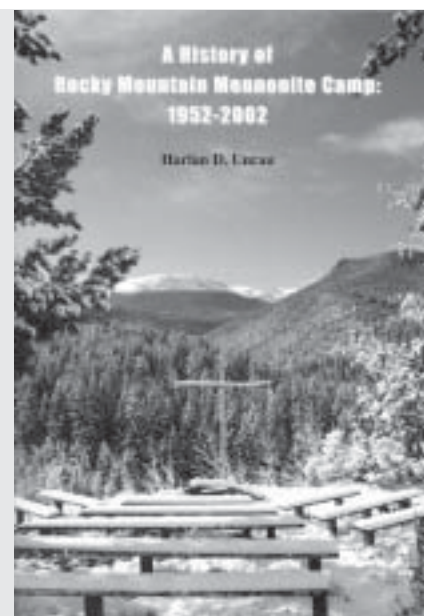
The weekend of July 26-28, 2002 was set aside to celebrate, tell stories, and look toward the future. Activities included story telling by former Executive Directors. Ivan Kauffman spoke for his father, Jess Kauffman (1951-1961), who served as the first director. Elbert Detwiler (1961-1962), Cliff King (1963-1964), Frank Brunk (1965-1982), Allan Bartel (1982-2001), and Corbin Graber (2001-present) were all present and shared their memories.

All the guests enjoyed a BBQ Chicken dinner, the sharing of pictures, worshipping in song and meditation, children's stories, hiking, and sharing the memories. Rev. Wallace Jantz, a long time advocate of Christian camping, delivered the Sunday morning message. The worship service came to a joyous end as the RMMCamp family surrounded the pond and sang "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" (606). The anniversary event gave a hearty affirmation to RMMCamp and to all Mennonite camping programs.

-Arlin Buller, Board President

Camp History In Print

During the Anniversary Celebration the Camp released the recently published book "A History of Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp" authored by Harlan Unrau. Special thanks to Harlan and others for making this significant project a reality. The book can be purchased for \$15 by contacting the Camp.



Strategic Plan for the Future!

With the successful completion of the Vision 2002 program from the past 10 years, Rocky Mountain is looking again to the future with a new strategic plan. Through the work of facilitator Jerry Kennell (Advancement Associates), Strategic Plan Committee members, Board members and Camp Advocates, a new strategic plan has been developed. The plan will help guide the direction of programs and facilities at Rocky Mountain for the future.

Some program items included building on the success of current camps and retreats, developing an integrated curriculum for all ages, exploring the possibility of offsite programs, and accommodating special populations.

When looking at facilities, securing more water rights was a top priority along with the renovation of Eagles Nest, Chalet Emmental, Eiger Bathhouse, and other facilities. No new construction is part of the strategic plan, unlike the Vision 2002 campaign. The goal is to simply improve existing facilities to better serve the needs of guests and program events.



Overnight campout during resident camp



Wilderness campers enjoy the view

Reflections from Nurse "Neuf"

I have been blessed and privileged to work at Rocky Mountain as the camp nurse for the past two years. As the camp nurse, I have experienced how I can serve and minister to these kids, just by being real, open and caring. To show my Christianity simply by being a support system for them, whether it be by healing physical ailments, or being a neutral ground; someone these kids feel comfortable coming to with problems or troubles. Being sick, hurt, emotionally confused or drained can be tough to deal with away from home, and I feel blessed to be able to help/heal in any way I can (physically, emotionally or spiritually).

I have seen a week at camp challenge campers to step out of comfort zones, and do things they probably would never do otherwise. They learn to get along with other campers from every walk of life, learning to accept them, and even create tight friendships with them. Many conquer fears, or push themselves just that much farther than they thought they could go. I've also seen how the peace of the surroundings and time away from life's MANY distractions has helped campers to really focus on their faith, whether it's a first exposure, questioning their faith, or growing closer to Christ. These kids come to us from every step in the faith journey, and are given the chance to forget their everyday life, and really personalize their God and faith, learning how God can be PERSONALLY involved in each one's life.

-Rachel Neufeld, Camp Nurse

Web & Email Updates for Rocky Mountain

A new domain name (rmmcamp.org) has been acquired for your convenience to contact camp. When using the camper email address, please include the name of the recipient in the subject field for proper delivery.

Web Address:
www.rmmcamp.org

Email Addresses:

info@rmmcamp.org	Camp Office
corbin@rmmcamp.org	Executive Director
mary@rmmcamp.org	Head Cook
camper@rmmcamp.org	Campers & Guests



**Great Job!
Summer Staff of 2002**

Megan Bartel - Colorado Springs CO
 J. J. Birky - Colorado Springs CO
 Meredith Carpenter - Marshfield WI
 Emily Classen - Beatrice NE
 Kyle Detweiler - Lebanon OR
 Will Eichelberger - Colorado Springs CO
 Amanda Friesen - Goshen IN
 Nathan Gillis - Colorado Springs CO
 Seth Goetzke - Winnipeg MB CANADA
 Katherine Harnish - Colorado Springs CO
 Jared Hawkey - Homewood IL
 Martin Hstand - Corvallis OR
 Sean McConaghay - Lancaster PA
 Jacob Miller - Lakewood CO
 Rachel Neufeld - Edmonton AB CANADA
 Katherine Olson - Marshfield WI
 Zachary Sawatzky - Buhler KS
 Emily Shirk - Harper KS
 Kim Slabach - Sugarcreek OH
 Rachel Slatter - Star ID
 Jessica Stoltzfus - Golden CO
 Jeremy Stoltzfus - Golden CO
 Chad Stoltzfus - Colorado Springs CO
 Jeap Suttidetch - Bangkok THAI LAND
 Abbey Trollinger - Bluffton OH
 Thomas Unruh - Green Cove Springs FL
 Kim Venhuizen - South Hutchinson KS
 Marie Voth - Hesston KS
 Jill White - Green Cove Springs FL
 Lowell Wyse - Camden MI

The “Elements” of Camping at RMMC

Earth, air, fire and water offered themselves as teachable moments (especially for first year Directors) here at Rocky Mountain this summer. Reflecting on the listed elements, we all quickly got a lesson in water conservation as the water that serves the camp was significantly reduced as a result of a lack of rain and snow over the past year. Then everyone got a lesson in fire and fire safety as the largest fire in Colorado’s history burned 12 miles to the northwest of Camp. Luckily the camp was never in any danger from this fire unlike many other camps forced to close for the entire summer.



Corbin & the newest RMMC resident, Andrew born Sept 8

We also learned not to take clean air for granted even though the camp enjoyed clear skies throughout the summer with only two brief encounters with smoke. And lastly, we learned about the earth represented by the boundaries of the camp property as the National Forest (which surrounds the camp) was closed to us for a week. A new hike was added (The Boundary Hike) as a creative response to the situation seeking boundary markers.

The 50th Anniversary Celebration helped put these challenges into perspective. What an amazing achievement for God’s ministry here at Rocky Mountain and the impact it has had on so many lives. It is a tribute to all of the people with vision, faith and perseverance (overcoming their own challenges) who led this place to what it is today. Many special people carried on that legacy this summer.



The summer staff of 2002

A passage from Hebrews has been a great encouragement for me. “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. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus . . .” (Hebrews 12:1-2).

What a wonderful inspiration to imagine the past and present cloud of witnesses here at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp encouraging us to throw off the challenges we face and to focus on Jesus in serving the Kingdom of God. It is a blessing that even with the challenges from the elements this summer, campers, guests, staff (and first year Directors) were able to have a fun and meaningful experience during their time in this special place of retreat.

- Corbin Graber, Executive Director

PROGRAM CALENDAR 2003

Winter / Spring

Feb. 14-16	MYF Snowcamp I
Feb. 21-23	Young Adult
Feb. 28-Mar. 2	Mens Retreat
Mar. 14-16	MYF Snowcamp II
Apr. 4-6	Womens Retreat

Summer

June 2-7	Staff Orientation
June 8-14	Sr. High Resident
June 8-14	Grade 8&9 Wilderness
June 15-21	Grade 8&9 Resident
June 15-21	Grade 6&7 Wilderness I
June 22-28	Grade 6&7 Resident
June 22-28	Grade 8&9 Peak Wilderness
Jun. 29-Jul. 5	Grade 4&5 Resident
Jun. 29-Jul. 5	Grade 6&7 Wilderness II
July 6-16	Sr. High Peak Wilderness
July 18-20	Grade 3 Resident
July 20-26	Sr. High Wilderness
July 21-25	Family Camp I
Jul. 27-Aug. 1	Family Camp II
Aug. 3-8	Family Camp III

Fall

Aug. 15-17	Emmanuel Mennonite Retreat
Aug. 29-Sep. 1	Peace Mennonite Retreat
Sep. 6-7	Glennon Heights Mennonite Retreat
Sep. 12-14	Beth-El Mennonite Retreat
Sep. 20-21	Mountain Community Mennonite Retreat
Sep. 27-28	First Mennonite Denver Retreat
Oct. 4-5	Greeley Mennonite Retreat
Oct. 24-26	RMMC Annual Board & Advocate Retreat
Nov. 7-9	Ministers In Retreat



Family Camp I Pikes Peak climbers at the top!



Rappelling on Monkey Rock

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



Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp

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Divide Colorado 80814

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web: www.rmmcamp.org

Staff Members

Corbin Graber, Executive Director
Mary Yoder, Head Cook

Board Members

Arlin Buller, President
Ardell Swartzendruber, Vice President
Loren Unruh, Secretary
Kay Gusler, Treasurer
Mark Bechler
Lynn Horner
Betty Jantzen
Ed Shirk

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

Member

CCI/USA
The Association of Christian
Camps and Conferences

Member

**Mennonite
Camping
Association**