

TEXOMA CHRISTIAN CAMP NEWS

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 2009

BY: KARMYN REIMER

2009 has flown by here at Texoma Camp. It has been a year of learning, working, and processes. The camp was completely booked for the summer and well into the fall.

The camp was booked by new and old groups alike this year, and all have been amazed. Those groups who have been coming for several years, some as long as 45 years, could not believe the improvements that had been made in the short time Gene and Marsha had been here. A County 4-H leader came down to view the improvements. It is a group that has traditionally come to TCC for summer camp, but chose not to this past summer due to the deteriorating conditions of the camp. The leader took photos, and will be back in the next few weeks with others from her groups to possibly re-book their event. We have also had many new groups this year, and they have all commented that the camp looks vastly different than when they came in to preview and book the previous year. We are already booked for every week in the summer except one week in July.

With our Disciples Summer Camps, we took a leap of faith

and planned and executed them all on our own this year. The Commission on Children Youth and Young Adults made the decision last year in October to not hold Regionally sponsored camps here at Texoma due to some safety issues. I am pleased to tell you that ALL of those safety issues were repaired and completed by the end of March. However, the CCYYA has once again decided not to sponsor camps here at Texoma for Summer 2010. We at Texoma will continue to provide quality camping experiences to our disciples' youth in the SE and SW areas.

This summer we had a total of 82 Disciples campers come through our gates. We also created a new event for our younger campers. Discovery/Junior Mid-Winter was held in January of this year, and we had a record turn out. We accepted youth as young as 1st grade to experience camp for the first time. We opened up Discovery summer camp to 1st and 2nd graders, and made Junior camp for 3rd-5th graders. We combined our Chi Rho and CYF age for summer camp, and it was great. We look

forward to many more seasons of camping here at TCC.

We started the year with a list of must get accomplished, and followed the American Camping Association Standards at a Glance for guidance. I am pleased to tell you of the more than 160 standards that we would have to meet, we only have 20 left to fix. With this new year starting, we will focus on those 20 standards, and have them checked off very soon. We have many plans for the future, but we can not do it alone. It will take the support of you, your churches, and the communities. We plan for an Outdoor classroom, new Playground equipment, a REC center, and many more things. We can make these things happen.

There is a new center piece above the mantle of the fireplace. A long time member of this board, and supporter of the camp, Walter H. Start passed away this last year. His children presented this flag and plaque to the camp that Walter so dearly loved. His passion for the camp was unending; I hope that that passion spreads to all our churches and congregations. We look forward to another great year for TCC, and many the new challenges ahead.

DONATIONS CAN BE SENT TO:

Larry Jones
P.O. Box 460
Sulphur, OK 73086

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

REC center news	2
Mid-Winter	2
Board Members	3
Camping Program Committee	3
Projects 2010	3
Events	4
Information Updates	4

CAMP MANAGER'S UPDATE

BY: GENE BINAU

News from camp to share as we have completed a few more projects on the campus. At the Cook's Cabin, the skirting is now complete, and the shower in the Master Bathroom has been remodeled. A new thermostat was installed in Cabin C. A lockable security gate has been installed at the front entrance of the camp, as well as speed limit signs are now posted. We will appreciate your cooperation in following the speed limits at the camp.

David Earsom from FCC Sulphur brought his tractor and cleared a fireguard at the SE corner of the property. Nelson Mueller, also from FCC Sulphur, came with a small crew and worked for a day cutting cedar trees. A big Thank You to all the guys for your time and hard work!!

T.J. McCrite from FCC Ardmore came and laid out the area for the low ropes course. A Big Thanks goes to T.J. for his on-going work

on the "Outdoor Adventure" possibilities for the camp. We would also like to thank David Hand from FCC Healdton for providing a much needed copy machine to the camp. We appreciate all the volunteers and thank them for the time they spend at the camp.

We are working on installing the new windows as the weather permits, and would appreciate any help you could give in this project.

We hope that all are well and enjoying the holidays. We have enjoyed our first year here at the camp and look forward to many more.

Wishing you a very Happy New Year to come.

Gene and Marsha Binau

REC CENTER NEWS

BY: BRENA NEELEY; FCC FREDERICK

Year after year, people come and go from Texoma Christian Camp. People come, and say "What a fine little camp!" then the next year end up going somewhere else for camp. It surely puzzles the people who come every year, but I think we've figured it out. The key word in the sentence would really be "little".

Texoma Christian camp volunteers and yearly campers always say "Sure, we're small, but it's so fun!" Yet, like the song Step off the map and float says, "Your existence is a pin-prick on a paper continent." Which, if you didn't catch that, it means that no one will know how *fun* our little camp is if they don't know about it! We need to get the word out about our camp and I think a good way to do this is this new building!

Now, if you've been to camp recently you know that the Ada cabin is no longer there! So, we're planning to build a recreational center there. How awesome would that be, huh? A bigger building and games galore are just the beginning! It's going to be heated AND air conditioned! I mean I know that we just did that to the Lodge, but come on, think about how awesome a new building would be.

I mean of course, this building will take money, \$30,000 to be exact. In the time we've been given to raise this money, which was 7 months, it seems like an impossible task! Yet, I think that if we all pull together and build our fundraising forces up, we can do it! Of course, with just the people that come to camp now, sadly we won't be able to earn enough. Going to visit other churches and getting their support, even if we can't raise enough money, will get the word out about our awesome church camp! Fundraising ideas include "Prescription for Change." and several others.

Let's think of some advantages of this new recreational center. It could bring new people to our camp, which would be a great plus! It would be a more comfortable and appealing environment for the campers, which would keep them coming back! It would make the ugly space that the Ada cabin being torn down left into a beautiful building that would probably become the focal point of the camp! Of course we would be having keynote, canteen, and other activities in it, so it would be what everyone most remembers about camp when they go home!

Now, you may say even with all this

help that it's an impossible task and we shouldn't even try! You know what I say to that? I say that you should probably think more deeply about it. If we shoot for the stars and miss, even though it would be sad, we'd still have raised probably thousands of dollars for camp, but if it's God's will that we should have this new building for camp, we'll get it!

I want to challenge you to think and pray on this, and hopefully decide that this building is totally worth it (which it is, in my opinion). Get your church and other churches in your area involved! Shoot for the stars, don't be afraid to miss! If everyone shoots for the stars and prays about it, we could totally accomplish anything we want to! So, pray about it and go out into your community and go for it!

For more information about the fundraising programs going on for the REC center at TCC, contact:

Colton Lott, FCC Ada
greencolt11@hotmail.com

MID-WINTER RETREATS

Finding Beauty within the Beast

Discovery and Junior Midwinter will be held January 15th-17th. This is for ages 1st grade to 5th grade. We will be delving into a discovery of our identity as Christians and how that brings out the beauty of Christ out of the beast of humanity. We will be having a character scavenger hunt, tea time with Jesus, be our guest for a fabulous dinner and pjs with watching Beauty and the Beast.

Things to bring:

Clothes for two days, bathroom stuff, bedding, pillow, pjs, Bible, smile, friends.

Things not to bring:

Fireworks, knives, pets, baby brother or sister, frowns.

Identity Crisis!!!!

Chi Rho and CYF Mid-winter will be held February 19-21. This is for ages 6th grade to 12th grade. We will also be delving into the discovery of our identity as Christians. We will be playing Bible Jeopardy and doing a photo scavenger hunt, pending the weather of course. We will have a different approach to the weekend, so come with an open mind. See you all very soon.

Be prepared for a great time of fellowship and fun. We will provide opportunities for worship, making new friends, fun activities, and much more at both events.

*****Deadline for all ages forms is January 15, 2010*****

2010 OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

We have elected a full slate of officers and Trustees to start the 2010 year.

Chairman: Karmyn Reimer, FCC Ada

Vice Chairman: Jane Worden, FCC Lindsey

Secretary: Mary Mueller, FCC Sulphur

Treasurer: Larry Jones, FCC Sulphur

Trustees: 2010 Class

T.J. McCrite, FCC Ardmore

Carla Hudson, FCC Marietta

Jonathan Kolarik, FCC Tecumseh

Trustees: 2011 Class

Paul Spradlin, FCC Chickasha

Jeanene Potter, FCC Purcell

Jeanette Riggs, FCC Purcell

Trustees: 2012 Class

David Earsom, FCC Sulphur

Marilyn Custer, FCC Hugo

Megan Doner, FCC Moore

CAMPING PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Just an update to let you know a little about the members that are working on the camps for Texoma. Karmyn refers to us as "Pioneers" on this new committee and we are for sure. Our goal of course, is that each and every camper enjoys a safe and memorable experience. We want each child to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and go home being able to verbalize to their family what they learned. Quality staffing, curriculum, scheduling and counseling will make this a reality.

So that you know us...there are only three of us so far. Vicki Crooks, Linda Marcotte, and Randy Martin. Vicki is the Pastor of FCC in Ada Oklahoma, Linda Marcotte is a member of Midwest Boulevard in OKC, and was the director of Girl Scout camps for 20 years, and Randy Martin is a member of FCC of Ada, and was the youth director for 18 years.

We have been working with the curriculum this week, and think we have a source that will pay for that. We

BY: REV. VICKI CROOKS

also have changed up the Director assignments a bit to be inclusive of all and to let those that have worked tirelessly have a break.

We would request your prayers as this committee works toward the best camps ever for this summer, and welcome any of your comments or questions. My number at the church is 580-332-0246, and cell number 580-399-3706.

UP COMING PROJECTS FOR 2010

In 2010 at Texoma Christian Camp, we are planning BIG! The youth have already started fundraising for a new 2400 ft² REC center. We will also be working to install at least 6 more Full RV hook-ups on the East side of the grounds. There will be updates to the electrical in all buildings. The new dishwasher is being installed as you are reading this issue. We also plan for some major improvements to happen to the inside of the Lodge to help it be

more user friendly and energy efficient. Cabin A is slated to under go some major renovations in 2010. We are working towards new playground equipment and a new low elements ropes course. We will continue to clear Eastern Red Cedar and the grounds from the table top South to the Lake front of trees and undergrowth. The Life-guard's Cabin will also get a

much needed bathroom renovation this spring. We will need each and every person to support the camp in any way they can. We are very thankful for the support we have been shown in 2009. We look forward to a great 2010.

TEXOMA CHRISTIAN CAMP

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Kingston, OK 73439

580-564-2630
580-564-1358 fax

We're on the Web:

texomachristiancamp@yahoo.com

www.texomachristiancamp.org



UP COMING EVENTS TEXOMA CHRISTIAN CAMP

Work Days:

Contact Gene @ the camp to schedule your group, or to see what projects he needs help with.

Mid-Winter Retreats:

“Havin’ a Blast with Christ”

\$80 for youth and adults

Discovery/Junior:

January 22-24, 2010.....1st-5th grades

Chi Rho/CYF:

Feb. 19-21, 2010.....6th-12th grade

Deadline for all ages forms is January 15, 2010.

You can find forms and more info on the camp website.

Information and updates

To be sure that you are staying up to date with the latest and greatest of happenings at Texoma Christian Camp, please send an email to the camp email address so that you can be put onto the camp email list. This is the newest and best way for you to get up to date information. This also helps to keep the mailing list up to date.

If you are a church pastor, or secretary, and you currently receive things through snail mail, please send the church email to the camp email. This will help keep you current with meetings and events happening at the camp.

The new camp email address is:

texomachristiancamp@yahoo.com

Thanks for your help and continued support.