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Smoky Mountain Christian Camp

MAY 2009

The Newsletter Beginning in June

Starting with the June Newsletter, I will begin doing the newsletter by email to the ones who expressed they would be glad to just receive theirs by way of email. I will try to just do the churches through email as well. The rest of you will be receiving a simpler version of the newsletter through regular mail. We will continue to do these higher quality newsletters, but only about every 4 months. Mission Services is doing a great job with these newsletters, and do it at a reasonable cost, but in order to cut costs what we can, we will use their services on a less regular basis. We appreciate your support and will continue to keep you informed either through email or mail on a monthly basis.



Summer Camp is fast approaching. The first week begins June 6th, so please sign up. Let me take the opportunity to promote the first camp week of the summer.

West Virginia Trip - June 6-12

Tim Ellis is packing a lot into this week and I'm very excited about it. We will be staying in the New River Gorge.

- 1st day: mountain biking;
- 2nd day: hiking;
- 3rd day: climbing;
- 4th day: missions project;
- 5th day: white water rafting;
- 6th day: mile long all day zip line course.

At least, this is my memory of the order of things. It will be a total blast, and Tim Ellis is the right one to lead the week.

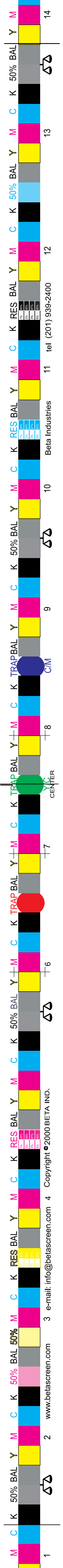
May Called Camp Board Meeting

A reminder that our June board meeting has been moved to

May 19 at 7:30 p.m.
at WTCC

and has been called for the purpose of voting on the lease agreement between the camp and the ranch. There are 27 supporting churches and we need 16 in attendance to conduct the meeting. A supporting church is one which gave at least \$200 last year.

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Welcome to Our Summer Staff

Full Time Staff

Bill Clark: Our longest lasting staff member in the history of SMCC. He came in 1990 which makes this summer his 20th summer. He makes sure everything runs smoothly for the regular camp program. He has gone from being the camp manager to self-proclaimed camp flunky. He has the capabilities to do anything the camp needs done and the servanthood of doing even the tasks nobody would want to do. As a licensed life guard, he guards at the lake every day of summer camp.

Billy Clark: He basically started and grew the Wilderness Camp program. He still helps lead it. He has a school bus license so he drives the campers where they need to go. He has been certified in high and low ropes courses, as well as being trained in facilitating initiative games. He loves the outdoors and sports and his favorite activity is backpacking. He loves to lead campers to God through the experience of being in God's creation.

Part Time Staff

Jenni Clark: Married Billy in 1999. She has worked as camp secretary since that time. Her Grandfather, Jim Gaither, was a previous camp manager. One of her strengths is hospitality and many campers and faculty have felt welcome in her home not only during the summer but throughout the year. People go in and out like it was their own home, and she is very gracious about that.

Christana Tucker: Christana does a great job of balancing family, the children's ranch, and being the camp cook. She does this both during the rental season and during summer camp. Chris does all the menu planning, food ordering, and kitchen staff organization, as well as most of the cooking. She is a very ambitious person, with a heart for God and a strong will. Chris is also a part-time licensed lifeguard. She does a very good job for the camp.

Regular Camp Staff

Vicki Brown: Vicki lives at the camp in our Retirement Community area. Her specialty is growing greens and vegetables for our tables. She is a loving Christian who cares about God and the kids. This will be her second summer working in the kitchen with us.

Ken Duncan: Ken also lives in the Retirement Community here at SMCC. Ken helps in the kitchen, does all the trash removal and trips to Tellico, and any other odd jobs necessary. Ken is an experienced carpenter who loves God and loves to serve. This is Ken's second year at the camp.

Marsha Brown: Marsha has been cleaning camps in this area for a long time, and loves serving the Lord in this way. This will be our first year having someone working full-time leading cleaning efforts in the dorms, dining hall, and other parts of the camp. Marsha is a great Christian with a servant's heart.

Shelby Reaves: Shelby is graduating from high school this year and has been living here at the camp with the Children's Ranch for four years. This will be Shelby's third summer working in the kitchen. She always has a smile for everyone.

Greg Fugunt: Greg has been a long time camper. He has come to many Wilderness Camp weeks the last several years. He has a servant's heart. He is graduating high school and will help us this summer in keeping the grounds as well as many other camp functions.

Wilderness Staff

Jordan Harliss: Jordan has worked the last few years at wilderness camp. He does a great job. He leads worship and is great with the kids. He is an outdoor enthusiast, so this job continues to suit him well. He is the lone returning Wilderness staff person, besides Billy Clark. To help keep costs down in this tough time, we will be getting volunteers to help with all the weeks instead of hiring more wilderness staff.