



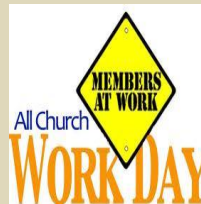
## Welcome to Smoky Mountain Christian Camp

### Dear Friends of the Camp

Maybe you always open this newsletter. Maybe you opened this newsletter because I put "Great News" as the subject of your email. I will try to make this newsletter worthy of your opening it. Right now I have about 650 people that this email goes to and about 130 that it is sent to by regular mail. However, only about 180 open the ones by email; I have no way of knowing how many open their regular mail. We have about 130 individuals who actually give. Imagine what we would have if 700 people gave \$10 per month to the camp. That would be \$7,000 per month, not counting the ones who give way beyond that. I hope you consider giving \$10 per month if you are not already giving, especially this year, when we have at least one and possibly two sources willing to match any extra giving to the camp this year... more to come.

## October 23 Work Day

We have a couple of groups wanting to come and do a work day at the camp and we are still needing to re-shingle the roof of the lodge. We already have the shingles to do it. We just need the hands to try to get it done in a day. Please let me know if you or a group of you can come and help with that day. Obviously, a roofing job depends on having a day of no rain; so we will be praying for sunshine and go forward with the project if no rain is in the forecast. Contact me at [clarkbnj9@aol.com](mailto:clarkbnj9@aol.com) or 423-261-2197 to let me know if you are coming out.



## Money Found

You want to know some great news. Over the summer I was getting really concerned about our money situation. Our business credit card was maxed out, we had other bills we had not paid; I was really wondering if I was doing the job I needed to do and if someone else would be better. I was just holding on as long as I could and doing the best job I knew how. I was praying that God would just somehow help us and provide for us. Well, He answered that prayer. We found out that all money that had been paid through paypal had not been deposited into the bank. I assumed it all went directly into the camp's bank account, but found out I have to withdraw it out of the paypal account and into the camp's account. We had \$27,000 in that paypal account. We are not rich by any means, but we no longer have outstanding



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### One Last Major Building Project

Log Gymnasium to be Built Next Year



The camp board has approved moving ahead with my last major building project: a new log gymnasium to take the place of the roof over the basketball court. We put a roof up 18 years ago by cutting down 20 pine trees and building the trusses ourselves, at a total cost of \$3000. We used all volunteer labor from among the churches to both build the trusses and put them up. Hurricane Hugo came through here a couple of months after we finished, and the holes for the telephone poles were fresh enough that the 80 mile per hour winds caused it to lean to the west a few degrees. It has stayed that way for 18 years and served us well.

bills we haven't paid. Thank you to all the churches that helped out in the spring to allow us to be on course with our annual budget. We fall short on a monthly basis, but because of extra gifts by churches and a couple of individuals, we have stayed to the positive overall.

## What Happens In the Off-Season

Many people wonder what happens and what we do at the camp when the summer camp season is over. So I'll let you know. Dad and I have done all the mowing and weed-eating (thankfully, that has now slowed way down); we have had retreat groups almost every weekend and some during the week this fall; we clean up before and after those groups and help with some of those groups. We work on getting ready for next summer; we do the newsletters; we work on the web site (I have not yet worked on it, but need to really badly and hopefully will begin to have time for. We do fundraising and schedule for camp promotions at the churches... so it's been a really busy "off-season." I did manage to take a week's vacation in the middle of August. That was nice.



## Camp Board Meeting

December 9 is set as our next camp board meeting. Anyone is welcome to attend. It will be at Farragut Christian Church at 7:30. We have a budget committee that is meeting twice before that meeting to be prepared for the budget proposal at that meeting

But now we have a unique opportunity to replace the roof with a permanent, all-weather, year-round building. It appears that we have the beginnings of the funding and a commitment from a volunteer group for construction to make this possible next year. More information on both the funding and the construction in next month's newsletter, along with a picture of what the gym will look like. There are some exciting things in the works to make all this possible.

When I came to the camp 21 years ago, one of my major tasks was new construction and upgrading of the facilities. As I approach retirement age (62 next summer!) I look forward to this last major building project of my work here at the camp. This log gymnasium will make year-round usage of the camp even more possible for our retreat groups and expanded camp programming. I'm thankful to God for this opportunity. Thanks for all your support and help.

Billy Clark  
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