



CAMP TALK

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Workshop Reflections

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Special Edition...

Attendees share what they learned from the National Christian Camping Workshop!

I want to thank David (Ward) for the things presented at the last workshop (Camp Deer Run, Texas). We always come away from these meetings with so much information. This year, I came away with a lot of group games. This became very useful to me in the directing the Teenagers session at Strawberry Point Christian Camp. As some of you know, we are in a primitive setting. Our weather was very good and very bad at times. Rains came through the north with such force, that at times during these storms, we could not see down a trail or hear each other talk. I do not care how old you may be, this is scary and disheartening. So, to keep campers busy and minds from wandering, many of the games and activities were utilized.

Wondering if a session has been successful has crossed my mind in times like these. Every activity that was planned to help the mind and body to grow could not be used in some cases. Having a desire to share with these young people is deep seated in all who work at youth camps. Wanting to make this the best experience possible is always a challenge. I was reminded once again, that God is in control, *"all things work together for good to them that love the*

Lord" (Rom. 8:28) – *"if you ask believing, you shall receive"* (Mt. 21:22). Prayer and sincere love of God will accomplish much through His servants. Let's pray for each other and especially the young people we share with.

I hope you are planning on attending our next meeting in Wisconsin. **Its Good Stuff!!**

Marc Addison
Strawberry Point Christian Camp
Canada



The most valuable thought I received in recent years from a Camping Workshop was from Vance Crowe of Camp Blue Haven. Vance told us something like, "Your camp needs to be the best camp in the world! If it's not then you either need to:

- 1) Make it the best, or
- 2) Find another camp!

John Grinnell
Central Florida Bible Camp



**2003 National Christian Camping Workshop
at Wisconsin Christian Youth Camp**

April 29-30 ~ May 1-2

Theme: VORACITY

.....what they learned from the National Christian Camping Workshop!

“Meet Me Outside The Gate” *(A great way to start your camp)*

(Adapted from the Texas Workshop) The first activity after registration is to meet the Camp Director outside the gate of camp. Campers and staff are encouraged to look out over the camp grounds while Exodus 3 is read. Here God tells Moses to “remove his sandals” because he is standing on “holy ground.” All are asked to view the camp site as “holy ground” because God is there and great things are going to happen during the week of camp. Prayer is offered, asking God to fill the camp with His presence. Everyone then steps just inside the gate. We sing two songs, “We Are Standing On Holy Ground” and “This Is Holy Ground.” Another prayer is offered asking again for God’s presence to fill the camp. This sets a high spiritual tone for the week and helps campers and staff to focus on their individual spiritual walk with God.

Hal James
Midwest Bible Camp
Iowa



I learned of the "Second Harvest" Food Bank and the USDA Food Program at the first workshop I attended. I followed up and got our camp registered. We now use a significant amount of food from these programs every year.

Dan Knight
Palmetto Bible Camp
South Carolina



The best idea I took and used from the 2002 workshop was the devotional using a car battery, a 12 volt auto light, and 3 foot long connecting wires. I used it for 7 Sundays for the opening staff devo with the new weekly staff. It was very effective about letting our light shine and how much more effective we all are when our lights shine together. Thanks, David (Ward) for a great devo.

Jerry Brackney
Michigan Christian Youth Camp

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.....an idea that is working!

At Strawberry Point, one of the neatest things we have added to our Teen week schedule over the past couple of years is an item called "Camper Improv". We do it after evening snack and before our evening campfire - each evening. Campers and staff are encouraged to sign up and share some "talent" - and I use that term loosely. Some get up and sing, some do silly skits, others do acrobatic feats - you name it - if it is wholesome - we have probably seen it. What is neat about it, in my opinion, is that campers who otherwise do not stand out - or shine on the ball field, in the canoe, are the most popular - most athletic, most beautiful, etc (as teens are quick to categorize themselves and others) - have an opportunity to shine. To our campers' credit - Camper Improv is 'safe'. We had a camper get up and sing a Broadway musical, another taught us to sing a song in his native French language, another sang to us in Latin - and in every case - our campers responded with respect and affirmation.

Teresa Keffe
Strawberry Point Christian Camp
Canada

Benefits that I have received through the workshops:

- Staff Recruiting ideas
- Food planning ideas
- Summer Camp Themes
- Great object lessons for Bible Devo's
- Ideas for Staff Training & Staff Safety Handbooks

Most of all, the greatest benefit I have received is the making of friendships, and the camaraderie I share with like minded servants in the Christian Camping Ministry.

David Ward
Camp Deer Run
Texas



I really enjoy going to the camp workshops. I always gain much more than I'm expecting. I really enjoyed being part of the chain with the car battery and wire links that made the light shine. The singing of new and old songs are wonderful. The fellowship is so refreshing.

Pat Rains
Short Mt Bible Camp
Tennessee

2003 Workshop Preview

**Where: Wisconsin Christian Youth Camp
Black River Falls, Wisconsin
At Fallhall Glen on the banks of Robinson Creek**

When: APRIL 29, 30, MAY 1, 2, 2003

Theme: VORACITY

Greetings from Fallhall Glen, Wisconsin,

This is the home of Wisconsin Christian Youth Camp and the site for the 2003 NACC Workshop. We are getting more excited as the months go by and we prepare for seeing our 'camping friends' again and meeting new representatives of Christian camp organizations. We are enlisting all thirteen of our Board of Directors to help make you all feel welcomed and comfortable.

JoAnn and I have made such good friends and learned from such turned-on camp directors and staff. The NACC continues to be a resource for ideas and the Workshops are a time of rededication to our ministry here at our camp. We come home each time, fired up and encouraged to change and improve.

Although not yet implemented, ideas from past workshops we are incorporating include:

—The Land-Lease development of Blue Haven. We have identified twenty-two 1.6 acre sites on which our supporters will someday build their getaway cabins. We hope to have this fundraiser underway by our 50th anniversary in 2005.

—From Camp Deer Run the All-Weather Pavilion. Our rainy day activities will soon be held on our new basketball court under-roof—possibly as soon as 2004.

—The central mechanical/service corridor of Michigan Christian Youth Camp is now under construction in our new Bath House. It will be ready in time for the April beginning of the workshop. As Operations Manager of WCYC I am always snooping around at the workshops for caretaker, grounds, buildings ideas as well as fundraising and insurance ideas that members share during free-time or around-the-table time. I have passed new program ideas on to our session directors and Board qualifications on to our Board of Directors.

We hope to have a big turnout for the last two days of April and the first two days of May next Spring. We are planning our lessons and activities around the topic of **TRUTH**. Not the 'Your Word is Truth', rather, why it is important to tell the truth in a world that promotes *The Lie*. ***The world has a voracious appetite for the lie. Our youth need natural appetites for the truth!***

Come to Fallhall Glen and go home with a new commitment for teaching your campers that truth matters.

For Christian Youth,

LeRoy Latham



Workshop Hosts
LeRoy & JoAnn Latham

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Never Attended A Christian Camping Workshop?

Then you missed...

- **An opportunity to meet brethren involved in the ministry of Christian Camping**
- **An opportunity to gain new insights into why Christian Camping is such an effective ministry**
- **An opportunity to learn new songs to take home and teach at your camp**
- **An opportunity to learn new ideas about camp activities that you can adapt in your camp**
- **An opportunity to learn about resources that can help save your camp time and money**
- **An opportunity to learn about some of the do's and don'ts of Christian Camping**
- **An opportunity to learn from other's experiences. What has worked, not worked, and why**
- **An opportunity to learn about areas of Christian Camping your camp may have overlooked**
- **An opportunity to be encouraged and edified in the ministry of Christian Camping**

We encourage every camp to send at least one representative to the workshop!