



CAMP TALK

Published by The National Association of Christian Camps among churches of Christ in America

Plan Ahead!



1999

National
Christian
Camping
Workshop

Blue Haven
Youth Camp

Las Vegas

New Mexico

April 13-16

WE'LL BE
LOOK! 'N
FOR YOU!

'98 Workshop Deemed Success

THANK YOU ROLLING HILLS CHRISTIAN CAMP FOR AN OUTSTANDING WORKSHOP!

Twenty-three Christian camps were represented by forty-two attendees at the 1998 National Christian Camping Workshop hosted by Rolling Hills Christian Camp in Mt. Sterling, Kentucky this past April.

Many of the Rolling Hills folks from the area swelled attendance on Thursday night to over 100. The theme of the workshop was "TEACH ME" and focused on our responsibility to teach God and His truth.

Workshop sessions included:

- ◆ Enthusiasm in our teaching at camp
- ◆ Unique teaching opportunities at camp

- ◆ The challenge of teaching at camp
- ◆ Staffing and organization of teachers
- ◆ Rules and discipline that teach at camp
- ◆ Song presentation by Rolling Hills campers
- ◆ Sharing sessions of ideas and challenges

Tapes of all the sessions are available for \$2.50 each + \$2.00 shipping for any quantity.

Send your request for a tape order form to our e-mail or mailing address.

camptalk@se-iowa.net

1413 N Iowa Ave
Washington IA 52353



What Others
Are Saying...

"The camp workshops are always a spiritually battery charging blessing to us. Just the fellowship of fellow camp workers lift us up. The sharing of information and ideas get our minds envisioning possibilities for our camp. Camp workshops are the highlight of the spring for us."

Jerry & Rita Brackney
Michigan Christian Youth Camp

"It's times like this that I truly wish I were a writer so I could express the

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What Others Are Saying.....continued

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time spent at the workshop. When I got home I told everyone that it was "like going to hear your favorite speaker talk on your favorite topic." But it was so much more because everyone there spoke truly from the heart. Every speaker had my attention because of their love for camp, the kids, and the Lord. The time spent sharing ideas and experiences was so good also. I think we all went away wishing camp would start the next day and that we could visit each other's camp. I hope I can make next years workshop because this one was so great and many friendships were just started. I just can't wait to talk camp again."

Gary Minser
Pennsylvania Christian Camp

"The one thing that struck me the most as I left the workshop was how refreshing it was to spend time with a group of camp operators, directors, etc. that are of the

same religious conviction as mine. To have been able to spend time with this group of people was very rewarding and I look forward to next years meeting."

Eddie McKenzie
Valley View Christian Camp - TN

Since this was my first workshop, one of the greatest benefits was the fellowship of those who have a similar interest in Christian Camping. I cherish the new friends.

The talks were very good and helpful. But I also received as much benefit "picking the brains" of others to see how their camps function in areas of special interest to me. The question and answer sessions after each talk were very helpful in this area, as well as the material that was handed out.

Lloyd Cain
Gander Brook Christian Camp - MA

Christian Camping...a spiritual investment in today's youth!

The Sharing Corner
(Send us ideas you would like to share with fellow camp leaders)

Camps on the WWW



Midwest Bible Camp - IA
www.angelfire.com/ia/mwbc/home

Nebraska Youth Camp
www.tcgcs.com

Michigan Christian Youth Camp
www.mcycc.org

Idlewild Christian Youth Camp - VA
<http://host2.shortpump.com/idlewild/index.html>

Ganderbrook Christian Camp - MA
<http://members.aol.com/newengcoc/ganderbrook.htm>

Indian Creek Youth Camp - AL
<http://www.airnet.dpettus/bible-camp.html>

Copper Basin Bible Camp - AZ
<http://aztec.asu.edu/worship/tcc/cbbc.html>

Gulf Coast Bible Camp - MS
<http://home.earthlink.net/~paulasdo/gcbc>

Camp Ch-Yo-Ca - LA
<http://www.ch-yo-ca.com>

National Association of Christian Camps
www.angelfire.com/ia/nacchome

(Sharing Corner continued on bottom of Page 3)

CAMP Profile

Michigan Christian Youth Camp
Bible based camping for ages 8 to 18 since 1952

Located in eastern Michigan east of Lapeer, MCYC occupies 154 acres of the great outdoors providing an ideal classroom for nature and outdoor studies. A modern lodge and dorms provide comfortable lodging.

MCYC uses the exciting environment of summer camp to encourage growth in a young person while having a great time. Each child is placed in a counseling group with an adult Christian counselor. As the counselor gets to know each child, they strive to make them feel accepted and an important part of the group. They grow socially as they make new friends and are encouraged to participate together as a team. They develop physically and mentally as they participate in all the activities, learning new skills and successfully applying them. Activities include swimming, athletic competition, horseback riding, boating, ropes course, archery or riflery, and arts and crafts. Spiritual growth takes place through observing the Christian staff and having a daily chapel and Bible Class. Religion is never pushed upon the children. They learn that in the positive atmosphere of having fun and learning new things, they can also talk about God. The goal is to help young people see that Christianity is a total way of life that can be fun & exciting!

Bible Camp: A Team Effort

John Grinnell - Central Florida Bible Camp

(In this excerpt from a CFBC Newsletter, John shares some history and vision for the future that should encourage us all.)

Surround yourself with good people and good things happen! Over 1,200 Christian volunteers have worked with more than 5,000 young people during CFBC's summer programs. Children from 15 religions, four countries, 21 states, and 34 counties have been a part of the team. Volunteers have counseled, cooked, cleaned, constructed and contributed. They have wiped tears from eyes of little people as well as grownups. They are on God's team. Only God grasps **all** the good done. Scores have put on Christ as well as returned to their first love.

CFBC is a camp with a purpose: the spiritual, physical, and social development of youth and others. One person does not make this happen. Individuals who make up God's team do!!!

There is a challenge on the horizon. Will we accept it? Our agenda is to keep our hearts focussed on Christ and help our children do likewise. Improvement begins with me. I must think deeply, speak gently, love much, laugh often, work hard, give freely, pay promptly, pray earnestly, and be kind. The Psalmist says, "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and He will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun. Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him" (Psa. 37:5-7).

Lord willing, the coming decade will see an even deeper commitment in you and me to maintain: High Values, Awesome Quality, Extraordinary Service, and Team Work. The challenge is to be who the Lord wants us to be, to surround our children with great Christian examples and wait patiently for the Lord to give the increase.

Hands-On Board Members

Genn Olbricht - Camp Hunt, New York

A Christian Camp Board of Directors should be composed of dedicated Christian people actively involved in the operation of the camp. Here are 10 suggested responsibilities of Board Members.

1. Chosen by the Corporation, Board Members conduct camp business for the Corporation.
2. The purpose of the Board is to guide the Corporation and the camp in the proper direction by encouraging programs that provide physical, spiritual, mental, and social growth.
3. They are to make decisions based on the goal of ensuring the smooth operation of the camp.
4. Each Board Member should be actively serving on a committee.
5. Board members should select experienced and competent Camp Directors.
6. Board members should be flexible to meet the special needs and possible changes in the camping program.
7. Board Members, when possible, should be involved in some in-camp function, such as Directing, teaching, counseling, etc.
8. Board Members should see that facilities are properly maintained and expanded when needed.
9. Board Members should take seriously the financial needs of the camp by personally helping with fund raising efforts.
10. Board Members should consider themselves ambassadors of the camp by promoting camp at every opportunity.

Remember, a camp is only as viable and spiritually productive as its leaders!

(Sharing Corner continued)

T-shirts are a popular item for resale and promotion for camps. If you are looking for a resorce for T-shirts contact the following company for information.

Solid Light Company
7469 A-2 Worthington-
Galena Road
Worthington, OH 43085
1-800-726-9606

(Not an endorsement-info only)

Biscuits for 100

Mix together:

30 cups flour
1 cup baking powder
7 1/2 cups lard
2 1/2 quarts milk

Bake until brown
(375-400° - 15-20 minutes)

Cornbread for 90

Mix together:

6 quarts cornmeal
3 quarts flour
1 cup baking powder
2 cups sugar (optional)
5 1/3 tbsps salt
Then add & mix
2 2/3 cups beaten eggs
4 quarts milk
4 cups melted fat

Bake @425° - 25 minutes



Both recipes
Contributed by:

Kathleen Jeffries
Ranchester, WY



Legal Issues Page

Child abuse in America is a significant problem. Camp leaders are increasingly finding themselves faced with the question of "what to do" when they discover it at camp. We share with you here the policies adopted by Michigan Christian Youth Camp in hopes that it will guide other camps in the process of adopting their own. PLEASE consult your local and state authorities before officially placing your policies into effect.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN TO REPORT CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT

1. Michigan Christian Youth Camp Director shall make an oral report within 8 hours.
2. Within 72 hours a written report shall be made to the Department of Social Services. A written report shall contain the name of the child and a description of the abuse or neglect. If possible, the report shall contain the names and addresses of the child's parents/guardian, or the persons with whom the child resides and the child's age. The report shall contain other information available to the Department of Social Services which might establish the cause of abuse or neglect and the manner in which it occurred.
3. If camper seems to be injured, medical treatment will be given by appropriate medical personnel.

CHILD ABUSE POLICY AND PROCEDURE

1. Upon arrival of camper, the nurse shall screen all campers as to their physical condition. Note any bruises, cuts or markings on the child's body.
 2. The counselor shall also watch for any signs of child abuse or neglect.
 3. The waterfront staff shall also watch for any signs of child abuse or neglect.
 4. If child abuse is suspected, follow the chain of command in reporting. Counselor to Weekly Manager to Director to Camp Committee.
 5. Take camper to nurse to document bruises, cuts or markings on the child's body.
 6. If camper confides in you of having been abused or neglected, only relate this information to those in authority. DO NOT tell any camper or other staff member!
 7. Camper's records and applications shall be kept confidential. No one shall have access to the camp and the camper's files except the Camp Committee, Director, Weekly Manager and Camp Secretary.
 8. The camper has a right to review and screen their own record.
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Become a Charter Member Camp

National Association of Christian Camps

(Charter Membership available until end of May 1999)

Camp Name _____

Camp Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Association Membership for Camps: The annual fee is \$25.00 per year plus 10¢ for each paid youth camper. Example: If your camp had a total of 500 campers this past summer your fee would be \$50.00 plus the \$25.00 base fee - Total \$75.00. Checks should be made out to NACC and mailed to:

National Association of Christian Camps
1413 North Iowa Avenue
Washington IA 52353

Each Member Camp will receive a handsome Charter Member Certificate and active workers in each camp will be placed on the CAMPTALK mailing list. Send your list as soon as possible. This list should include your Board Members, Trustees, Managers, Caretakers, and key staff workers.

Association membership for individuals: An Associate Membership is \$25 per year. This category is for those whose home camp is not a member of the association. You will receive CAMPTALK and other Association benefits as they become available.

CAMPTALK will be one of the primary benefits of belonging to the association. Through this newsletter, information will be shared on the many facets of Christian Camping. CAMPTALK will be **your** newsletter. With reader contributed articles, CAMPTALK will be a resource for information and ideas that you can use in your home camp. Articles may be submitted in any form, paper or electronic to:

Editor ~ CAMPTALK
1413 North Iowa Avenue
Washington IA 52353
319/653-4164
camptalk@se-iowa.net

Here is a short list of some of the subjects that are planned for CAMPTALK:

- Bible Class themes
- Craft projects
- Fund-raisers
- Camp Profiles
- Counselor Training
- New songs
- Food service
- Camp safety
- Camp games
- Camp traditions
- First Aid
- Board of Directors
- Camp Directors
- Renting vs owning
- Legal issues
- Liability issues
- Specialty camps
- Budgets
- Insurance
- Equipment suppliers

CAMPTALK

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OBJECTIVES OF CHRISTIAN CAMPING



- ☐ To help provide an experience of Christian living through which campers may come to a better understanding of Christian principles and teachings as revealed in the Bible.
- ☐ To help provide an experience in living in the out-of doors, and to gain new knowledge of its resources and opportunities.
- ☐ To help give campers a new perspective on life, through the experience of being away from home.
- ☐ To help campers in their understanding of God, and His purposes as they make discoveries about His work in nature.
- ☐ To help provide time for meditation and contemplation—not always possible in other activities of Christianity.
- ☐ To help campers in learning to worship God in fresh and effective ways in the out-of-doors.
- ☐ To help campers develop self reliance and responsibility as cooperative citizens in a Christian community.
- ☐ To help campers have a wholesome, happy, and fun time in a Christian environment.

- ☐ To help campers relate Christian growth in camp—to life at home and in the church.
- ☐ To help in the process of developing genuine Christian fellowship based on respect for others.

Nurturing Self-Esteem In Campers

Treat others with respect

Listen actively

Give eye contact

Recognize the potential in others

Be patient and understanding with those who are struggling with a problem

Practice using nurture words

Be compassionate, kind, and loving

Recognize and nurture the strengths of others

Give acceptance and friendship

Communicate encouragement to others

(Selected and adapted)