

# The Wilderness Way

Wilderness Way Girls' Camp

Volume 19, Number 3

## Camp is an Opportunity

August 2010

Introducing girls and their families to our camp is usually an interesting experience. There are commonly a number of questions, both spoken and unspoken. A girl is curious about peers and their response to her. Parents are looking at how the girl will be cared for. All are usually intrigued by the hand crafted shelters and structures that compose a campsite. Our interest is that a girl and her family be able to make an informed decision about joining with us.

This visit to camp is usually a girl's first direct contact with the camp proper, but follows an initial visit or phone conversation from one or two camp staff. It is also the time a girl and her family, and camp staff come to a firm decision about enrolling the girl. This is a crucial time for all. We help a girl identify goals- areas in which she would like to grow or change. These become the basis for our commitment to each other. A girl agrees to come to camp with two purposes: to receive help with her problems and to help others.

Camp is an extremely people oriented program. Our groups build things and develop skills. They plan and take neat adventures. However, the most important thing group members do is invest in caring for each other and helping each other to live responsibly. Conflicts are resolved, encouragement is given, time is taken to listen, limits are defined, personalities and character are refined.

We try to keep rules to a minimum. Many of the girls that come to us have seen them more as something to break rather than keep. Instead, we seek to help a girl understand the need and importance of limits, and foster a respect for internal limit setting. This is not easy. Groups must contemplate how they will develop daily plans to meet needs. Group members must consider time and sequence when preparing for projects. They must agree upon meals to prepare and eat each week. These are times for some members to tone down and others to speak up. Everyone's thoughts and voice are important.

Evaluations are times of shared input from a camper, her family, and staff. A girl grows in her ability to identify emerging strengths as well as areas of needed growth. Her goals are revisited and refined, but usually with increased ownership. We evaluate home visits and how to draw closer in a better relationship with family.

All of this takes time. Usually more time than figuring out how to conform to a program. We like to see a girl stick with camp long enough to develop a new attitude and outlook on life. Our camp is grateful for the opportunity to provide girls the opportunity for tremendous growth.

Bill Collins, Executive Director



## Camp Happenings...

The heat is on! Wow, summer is definitely here! While some people are hiding in their air conditioning, the groups at camp are out making good memories. The Pathfinders made their mark on one of the most well known trails in America—the AT, short for the Appalachian Trail! They started in Damascus, Virginia and hiked 50 miles to Dickey Gap, Virginia. The two week trip taught them endurance, teamwork, as well as information about geography, history, weather, and other natural sciences.



Trailblazers have been busy with their own adventures. They enjoyed a relaxing week long trip on a huge island in Lake Russel. This beautiful lake in Georgia was every kid's dream! The group swam, canoed, played games, went fishing, built sand-

castles, and explored the island. They even took the time to create their own landfill! The group collected large trash bags full of garbage, and separated it out by glass, plastic, and aluminum.

The calendar is full of fun summer activities that groups have planned: days trips to waterfalls, lakes, museums, and farms; churning homemade ice cream, getting chiefs to try the slip 'n slide, as well as new building projects. Both groups finished shelters to keep themselves dry when they're not swimming. The staff members don't want to feel left out, so they've been making soft pretzels, planning a 50's dinner, and harvesting fruits and veggies from the camp garden.

Produce isn't the only thing that's been growing around here. Camp had at one point 22 campers! God has truly had his hand in directing the right girls to camp. We've made a few staff changes as well. Chief Abby joined the Trailblazer group and is doing an excellent

job; she has them laughing and having a lot of fun. Chief Amber joined the supervising staff and Miss Amy moved to a jack-of-all-trades position. Camp welcomed in Miss Sara Wood to the kitchen, and she's been responsible for us putting on some more pounds with her good cooking.

Camp is full of excitement this time of year. It's our hope that we make good memories that our girls will remember their whole lives.



-Amber Grayford



# What do campers have to say...

## What's up, Down trail!

This has been a pretty eventful week in Pathfinders. We've had a graduation, saw quite a bit of nature, and worked hard. We also have exciting things coming up!

Tyrene K., a good pal of mine, graduated this past Sunday. It was an example of what an honest graduation is. I saw how hard she worked, and I admired her growth and change. It was sad to see her go, but I know she'll do great.

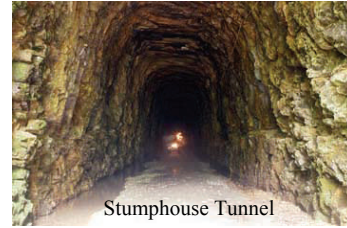
Nature-wise, I've seen quite a few animals I've never interacted with before. I got to pick up and play with a baby snake. Madison told me it was a ring neck snake. It was so thin and tiny. Chief Rosie brought a small mouse-looking thing down to our campsite during our work time of skinning trees. It was very soft and fluffy. Then, on our way back from showers, Pathfinders spotted an owl in a tree. It just sat there and stared at us. The owl was so beautiful with its big, alert eyes. It just watched our every move. We also watched a cicada come out of its shell over cookout. It was so cool!

Coming up in Pathfinders, we're having Chief Ken and Chief Flora over to our campsite for a spaghetti dinner! I can't wait to hear their camp stories. Pathfinders are always experiencing new things. Being down trail, I learn something new every week.

*Dakota M. -PF*

## A Fun Week!

Hi, it's me again and I am here to tell you a story. Now let's begin. Once upon a time there was a group called the Trailblazers. They lived with each other on Camp property. Their campsite is called Trailblazerland. They are really cool and funny. This week they went to a tunnel called Stumphouse Tunnel. They also went to Issaqueena Falls. Tomorrow they are going swimming at Glenn's Ferry, a swim-



Stumphouse Tunnel

ming area we like to go on Lake Hartwell. Wow, won't it be fun?! They had a fun time in share-time when they ate in chuckwagon. They played a couple of group games with the other group, their name is Pathfinders. Both groups played circle tag.

## Skiing with Mr. Black!

I had so much fun at Mr. Black's yesterday. Mr. Black showed us how to slalom. To slalom is to ski with one ski. It was really cool. We went around the lake while he slalomed and when we got closer to the dock he let go of the rope. He didn't fall though. He kind of slid right into the dock. Mr. Black was telling us about his skiing competition coming up in October. He said it was being held in Miami, FL. I am thankful for camp and Mr. Black allowing us to come and water ski!

*Kaylan H.-PF*



Kaylee G. learning to ski

## Swimming

We are going to swim today and I like to swim! I have fun swimming. The group will go swimming and we will have a good time doing it. We will leave in the morning and probably stay till after lunch. I will enjoy the cool water compared to the hot summer sun!

*Alisha M. -TB*



## Our Week in Trailblazers

Friday, we had a good library time on different time eras. We also worked on our latrine shelter. We got five rafters skinned so all the bark is off, did some ties on our tent tarp and even readjusted some other rafters on our tent. That is really super awesome! All we have to do is put in logs along the trail, add some more rafters, and a side rail too.

Saturday, we had a nice singing work time. I learned how to do kindling. Hope showed me a few times and I finally got it. By the end of the work time I had fifty-seven pieces of kindling! That was one of the best work times I've had since I've been here.

Sunday, we went to chapel. Samantha was graduating so she led chapel. She led chapel on being a woman of integrity. Her family seemed awesome and fun to be around. Samantha's family also apparently likes to sing, because they have seventy-two tapes in their car!

Monday, our group worked through problems all day. We learned how to talk out problems. Also to stand up for what is right. We know to back up Chief and not other campers who are in the wrong. We grew a lot as a group on Monday, and now we're stronger because of it!



*Deanna A. -TB*

## Cicadas

Recently in Pathfinders, the lovely cicada bugs have been huge hits! Kaylan found a couple of them in the last few weeks in a not so good state. Chief Carol likes putting the shells on her shirt, they have small claws that hang onto the fabric. So here it is: the life cycle of a cicada, how they call a mate, and where they live.

A cicada starts out sort of abnormally. Their mothers drop them as eggs. Once they hatch, they bury themselves in the ground and stay buried anywhere from 1 to 17 years. It all depends on the species of the cicada. They are called nymphs at this stage. They live off the liquids from the roots. After they are full grown, they shed their skin on a tree. That is why we often see cicada skins on trees. After this process, they darken in color, their wings form, and they go find a mate. After cicadas have become adults, they live only a few weeks. These few weeks are long enough to mate and lay eggs. In order to find a mate, the male cicada makes a buzzing sound. He does this by making drum like layers of skin on his chest or stomach area vibrate. This sound attracts the female.

After a cicada begins and ends his/her life, finds a mate, and buzzes in the trees for just a short time, it all seems pointless. It seems like a waste, but really having gotten the experience that Pathfinders were able to get this morning, it is so cool! We watched a cicada come out of its shell and form into an adult. The next time you see a cicada just think that it could be older than some Trailblazers and Pathfinders!

*Madison G.-PF*

## Church Support

This summer we have received financial support from twenty churches and Sunday school classes. This has been much appreciated at a time when other sources have dwindled. If your congregation would like to consider supporting a high impact ministry on an ongoing basis or support specific projects please contact us. Thanks again to all supporters.

Mercy Class of Life Community Church,  
Oakway Wesleyan,  
Earles Grove Baptist,  
Sharon Mennonite Church,  
Friendship SS Class of Mt. Pleasant Baptist,  
Rock Hill Baptist of Fair Play,  
River Church of Juanita County  
St. Marks United Methodist,  
Presbyterian Women of Seneca Presbyterian,  
Foothills Fellowship Church,  
East Union Conservative Mennonite,  
Oakdale Baptist,  
Ladies Class 6 of Oakdale Baptist,  
Open Door Baptist,  
Pendleton United Methodist,  
Mt. Pleasant Baptist,  
First Baptist Westminster,  
Crossgate PCA,  
Cornerstone Baptist of Goldston,  
New Holland Mennonite

# Will you pray daily for Wilderness Way?

## Sunday

### Campers (*Isaiah 32:17*)

- Their Salvation / Spiritual growth
- Accomplish their goals
- Make lasting change

## Monday

### Staff (*Colossians 3:23*)

- Growth in relationship with God
- Strength for the difficult situations
- Wisdom in making decisions
- Unity

## Tuesday

### Future of Camp (*Proverbs 29:18*)

- Vision and resources for growth
- Preservation of camp
- Staffing needs
- Larger property

## Wednesday

### Families of campers (*Joshua 24:15*)

- Their Salvation / Spiritual growth
- Desire for change
- Willingness to work with camp

## Thursday

### State Agencies

### (*Matt.5:13a,14a,and16*)

- A good working relationship
- That they will see the value of our ministry
- Spiritual growth / Salvation

## Friday

### Finances (*Philippians 4:19*)

- Scholarships for families in need
- For every day expenses at camp
- Donations / Sales at our Thrift Stores
- For expansion and growth

## Saturday

### The Groups (*Proverbs 27:17*)

- Safety in their various activities
- Accomplish their goals
- Maintain a healthy group culture
- Build healthy relationships in the group
- Take care of each other in the group



We graciously appreciate your overflow of fresh fruits and vegetables at camp.



Tuesday Pick-Up  
Thrift Store donations: please  
Call 864-985-3194 for large item  
pick-up

## Wilderness Wheels is on a roll!

Early this summer a small group of local businessmen began thinking of a way to financially assist the two year-round camping programs in Oconee County, South Carolina. Wilderness Wheels was created. The first main project at hand was to develop a fundraiser. That has become a two day, 190 mile round trip bicycle ride from Fair Play Boys' Camp in Westminster to Greenwood, South Carolina. Raised scholarship funds will be shared equally between Wilderness Way Girls' Camp and Fair Play Boys' Camp. Check out more information at:  
[www.wildernesswheels.org](http://www.wildernesswheels.org).



## UPCOMING EVENTS CONCERNING CAMP

- September 3-5 Girls' Camp Staff at Bald Eagle Boys' Camp in PA for the Wilderness Road Therapeutic Camping Association's 16th annual Conference
- September 19 Families Day
- September 24-25 Wilderness Wheels Ride. Fundraiser for our camp and Fair Play Boys' Camp.
- October Hosting Oconee County Chamber of Commerce

## NEEDS AND NEEDS MET

God has blessed us with new staff who have joined us this summer

**SARAH WOOD** is now helping Kaylene cook up some great dishes in the kitchen.

Sarah is from Ohio.

**MEGHAN ENGEL** has just joined the Pathfinders as group chief. Meghan comes from Indiana. Chief Rachel is now a groupwork supervisor.

**GRACE SHOWALTER** has descended from Ontario, Canada to help us in a much needed support role. We are thrilled to gain the assistance from these fine young ladies.

We are retiring an old singlewide that has been used for staff housing. Soon we will have a doublewide in its place. We would welcome financial help with replenishing the approximately \$20,000 it is taking to make the change.

## Wilderness Way Girls' Camp School

175 Camp School Lane

Fair Play, SC 29643

Phone : (864)972-0611

[www.wildernesswaycamp.org](http://www.wildernesswaycamp.org)

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If there are any corrections to your name or address please call us so we can correct it for the future. Also please notify us if you would like to be taken off our mailing list.

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU !!!

Here are our financial backers for April to August of 2010. Thanks. This helps pay the bills. Please let us know if we missed your name. Many others are praying for us. We are grateful for all support. (Churches are listed on page 3)

Fred & Kathy Kuhman, Robert & Karen Stevens, Earl & Myra Miller, Sharon Mennonite Church, Don & Peggy Moore, Bobby & Edna Collins, Donald & Michelle Fox, Arthur & Margaret Breedlove, Terry & Wanda Yoder, Bob & Jackie Brown, Ed Pekarek, , John & Esther Weaver, Sam & Katrina Henry, Tribble Foundation, Louise Carter, Mike Powell, John & Evamae McKnight, Donn & Barb Nilsson, Richard & Norma Gettings, Jean Jackson, Robert Krieger, Tim & Elaine Carver, Patricia Huber, Alpha Delta Kappa, James & Carolyn Black, Freddie & Lindsay Blanton, Nita Brown, Marie Strack, Frank & Carolyn Quinn, A Jay International, Bruce & Marilyn Norton, Steve & Abby Ashton, Dale & Jean Hackman, Guenter & Solveig Weisse, Robert & Mary Nell Whittington, First Baptist Westminster, Steve & Betty Kolarich, Judy Stoner, Joyce Stoner, Jeanne Bowman, Crossgate PCA, Raymond & Mary Calabria, Titus & Erma Stoner, Craig & Cindy Littlefield, Evelyn Grogan, Garland & Margaret Smith, Creighton & Anna Mary Forrest, Lee & Marian Rogers, J. P. & Mary Beth Pacholke, Martin & Harriet Schneider, Grace Freeman, Anne Cramer Trust, Anita Weaver

### Our Commitment to You

We consider your financial support a sacred trust, and regard ourselves as ultimately accountable to God for the good stewardship of funds you have entrusted to us. We also believe we must be fully accountable to the public, and so:

- We carefully follow accounting procedures established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and we are audited annually.
- We publish an annual report or financial statement in which administrative and fund-raising expenses are identified.

*The identity of all names on our mailing list is kept confidential; we do not rent, sell or exchange mailing lists, and we will always strive to be responsible in our management, truthful in our communication, and cost-effective in our fund raising.*

### In Memory of:

Johnny Blackwell by Marcia Collins  
Beatrice Wilburn by Marcia Collins  
Linda Bearden by Marcia Collins  
James Bowen by Don & Peggy Moore  
Adele McGuffin by Marcia Collins  
Geneva Smith by Marcia Collins  
Ruby Price & Margaret Feltman by James & Sarah Feltman

Billy R. Owens by Marcia Collins  
Waymon DeFoor by Don & Peggy Moore  
Waymon DeFoor by Sarah DeFoor  
Cindy Wortz by Marcia Collins  
Bridget Cooper by Marcia Collins  
Bill Arve by Louise Carter  
Jennie Cobb by Marcia Collins  
Hazel Jeanette Brown by Marcia Collins

### In Honor of:

