

MINUTES OF TREE OF LIFE BIBLE CAMP BOARD/POST CAMP MEETING
(3 August 2008)

OPENING: The meeting was opened at 2:50 PM by Steve Pechin with a prayer by Pastor Hochmuth.

ROLL: Five board members attended: Steve Pechin, Brian Bitcon, Tim Mann, Pastor Hochmuth, and Greg Pluckhan. Others in attendance included Pastor Mueller, Mrs. Steve Pechin, Steve, Kevin, Alan, and Rosemarie Boushek, Larry and Marcie Arnold, Vaughn Klebig, Faye Baker, Lisa Bitcon, Lisa Duschane, Jeanice James, and Brandy Rittmann.

MINUTES: The minutes for 29 June 2008 were not available for presentation.

FINANCIAL & CAMPERS: Tim Mann reported there is \$1621.00 in the account which is not enough to cover insurance cost of \$2100.00. The final camper count was 93 to begin camp and 91 at the end of camp. The breakdown was 5(-1) little lambs, 23(-1) junior girls, 9 junior boys, 15 intermediate girls, 10 intermediate boys, 15 senior girls, and 16 senior boys

FINAL STAFF

Instructors – Seniors, Rev. Michael Carr, Vicar Ben Schaefer; Intermediates, Rev. William Kant, Rev. Jonathan Kehren; Juniors, Carol Heyn, Kathy Lee.

Counselors – Junior girls, Vicki Rimmel, Gloria Thurein, and Sarah Harrison; Junior boys, Steven Boushek; Intermediate girls, Lisa Dushane/Rosemarie Boushek, Alison Reichert, and Sarah Grigas; Intermediate boys, Kevin Boushek and Larry Arnold; Senior girls, Jenny Ledermann and Faye Baker; Senior boys, Noel Ledermann and Greg Pluckhan.

Little Lambs/Handcrafts – Jeanice James and Brandi Rittmann

Nurse - Kathy Tonge-Copley

Activities Directors – Mike and Brian Bitcon

Camp Directors – Rev. Paul Mueller and Steve Pechin

POST CAMP COMMENTS

Pastor Hochmuth opened with prayer

Steve Pechin shared comments received by E-mail

1. Provide counselors with cheat sheets.
2. Change Wednesday's free-time for seniors.
3. Avoid use of "OMG" text phrase.

Pastor Mueller's Report - Things went great and only minor problems were observed.

Pastor Kant's comment to him was to provide healthier snacks. Vicar Schaefer observed campers being respectful to each other.

Steve Pechin's Report – Next year Capitol Mountain will provide fresh fruit for at least one meal. Capitol Mountain proposed a cost increase of 3 – 4 % for the snack bar items.

Open Comments

1. More access to drinking water. Counselors could encourage campers to use their water bottles more often.
2. No macaroni and cheese.
3. Junior quiet time difficult to carry out.
4. Less time allotted to changing clothes before swimming.
5. Evening devotion too long for juniors and can create a backup in the schedule.

6. More free time for seniors.
7. More choices of activities at any period for seniors.
 - a. Counselors are allowed to let campers participate in an activity not scheduled as long as it is properly supervised.
 - b. Some activities need the whole group to participate.
8. Safety handbooks need to be updated.
9. Saturday's outdoor devotion worked well.
10. Senior dance needs more advance preparation so it can start sooner.
11. Play list for senior dance needs to be reviewed beforehand.
12. Ipods were brought to camp even though they are not allowed. Let the Camp Director be the "bad" guy and confiscate them.
13. New location for Senior Overnighter is better overall.
14. Vicar was injured in water sport but reported he is OK.
15. Senior age group of 13 –18 is too wide of spread. Younger Seniors are grouped together in cabins.
16. Advise Seniors that they are role modeling for younger campers. That is the goal of the "All Camp" activity.
17. Leadership bible study at the beginning of camp.
18. Bathrooms in poor shape by Friday.
19. Bathroom buddy rule necessary? Yes, for accountability.
20. Senior Cabin Contest successful.
21. Make soccer goal kick an Olympic event.
22. Add wall climbing.
23. Some after meal activities too strenuous? Cause for child to vomit? Was that really the cause? It will be reviewed.
24. New location for evening devotions was uncomfortable, difficult for juniors. Can devotions be in Chapel? Not enough chairs and it would require a lot of time for set-up before and after devotion.
25. Tire swing is dangerous and unsupervised.
26. Crafts were well liked.
27. Staff should know their job at the pre-camp meeting to avoid confusion. They do.
28. "All camp" slow in some spots.
29. No problems transitioning one counselor to another in the cabin.
30. Intermediate group very well behaved.
31. There are five hours of video footage of camp. Need to decide who the audience should be. Preview in November 2nd meeting.

Director's comments

1. Keep quiet time for juniors the same. Quiet time for seniors and intermediates needs to be modified or dropped? Perhaps, provide suggested readings? Camper questions were addressed by random draw. Allow for 15 minutes for devotion and 15 minutes to prepare for next activity? Original intent was for rest only. Personal bible study added later.
2. For later thoughts, send additional comments by E-mail.
3. Counselors should agree beforehand on schedule for Staff party.

4. Senior counselors should be able to attend the Staff party at the same time as the other counselors.

5. Counselors did good job keeping campers from becoming homesick.

6. Saturday morning activities went very well.

7. Good camp and no major problems.

8. Next year camp will be July 12 – 18, 2009

Question for directors – Low grades for senior cabin inspections, okay? Cabin inspections are for fun and to help lessen the work needed for cleanup on Saturday.

Summary of Camp Evaluations Forms – Of the 32 senior responses and 42 junior and intermediate responses, the overall camp rating was good to excellent. The majority of the responders want to return to camp. Two seniors indicated they would like to return as counselors. Sign them up Steve.

2008 MEETING SCHEDULE

First Meeting 2008/2009 2 November 2008

Second Meeting 1 March 2009

Third Meeting 3 May 2009

Counselor's Meeting 28 June 2009

Post-Camp Meeting 2 August 2009

First Meeting 2009/2010 8 November 2009

NEXT MEETING: 2 November 2008 in Livermore at 2:30 PM.

CLOSING: The meeting was closed at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted _____ A. J. Bitcon
Secretary

(My thanks to Lisa Bitcon for taking great notes, Michael Bitcon for digging out the final camper/staff info from his shed where he had already stored the camp remains, and to all for your patience.)

[Correction 8/11/08: added Greg Pluckhan to attendee list. – T. Mann, webmaster]