



## Drift Creek Camp

# Currents

Lincoln City - Oregon

FALL 2007

## Summer Camp 2007

By Mervin Kropf

Camp is over, and what do we have to show for it? Some of us have gravel in our hands, cuts on our knees, and a sprained ankle, actually, that all happened to the same person but those of us who are less accident prone have things that are less tangible to show for a week of camp. We have made new friendships, and we have deepened old ones. We have developed our relationship with Christ and discovered a little more about God's goodness, but now the end is here. It is the end of a week of camp, but it is the beginning of the rest of our lives. My hope and prayer, as program director of Drift Creek Camp, is that this week of camp has been a formative experience for you spiritually and socially. Take the lessons you have learned here with you as you finish out the summer and get ready for another school year, and I hope to see you all at the same place and same time in 2008.

That is what I wrote to the high school campers at the end of their week of camp. At that point we (the summer staff) were facing the rest of the summer and didn't know what was in store for us. I am writing this today with a sense of satisfaction and a big smile on my face as I reflect back on a summer that was almost everything I want a summer camp to be (there's always room for some improvement).

We had hilarious moments and serious moments, occasions when we were covered with mud and others when we were covered with food, but the best times were when we were covered with the special sense of God's presence that only comes at summer camp while you are surrounded by special friends and the stunning natural beauty of Drift Creek Camp.



## Traditions

By Brenda Kauffman

As a lover of both type-faces and coffee, it is no surprise that I took notice of the coffeehouse that opened in our small town last week. The name of the cozy little shop, "Traditions," proudly written in a classic art nouveau font, got me thinking.

First, in this time of personal transition, even writing "our little town" feels awkward. We have only been back in the area for a month. It has been surreal to be in a place that feels both familiar and foreign. Maybe it is the place that has changed, maybe it is the people; perhaps it is simply me. I am acutely aware that I do not yet have traditions linked to this town we now call home.

(continued on last page)

### Inside:

- Annual Meeting
- Well Project update
- More Summer Camp
- Art and Drama Camp
- Quilt and Scrapbooking Retreat



# Art and Drama Camp

## 2008 Camp Schedule

|             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| Orientation | June 15-19     |
| Parent & Me | June 20-22     |
| Grade 9-12  | June 22-27     |
| Grade 7-8   | June 29-July 4 |
| Grade 5-6   | July 6-11      |
| Grade 3-4   | July 13-18     |

Drift Creek Camp is pleased to introduce a new program for 2008. And that program (if the title didn't give it away) is Art and Drama Camp! This camp will be March 24-28 and will be for 5-6 grade campers. Dynamic leaders will facilitate both art and drama activities. Campers will then exhibit their art and demonstrate their theatric skills to their families on Friday. Don't miss this chance to do something productive and fun with your spring break. Registration isn't open yet, but more information and a registration form will be posted on the website soon.



## Highlights from the Summer Camp Slug



Pastor's Corner...  
In arrogance and fear, we fell away from our intended divine purpose and distanced ourselves from God and from one another. Yet, God in his amazing love, the world's most beautiful love story, provided a way for this relationship to be restored and for our union with God to be made possible again. "What

Abraham was asked to do, God has done; He has offered his only son, a new age of trusting the Lord is born." Now we can go back to what we were intended to be from the beginning, to be in union with God and to be

good stewards of his beautiful creation.  
—your friendly camp pastor, Carlos Sequeira.



What a great week...

17 counselors, 8 cabins, 10 teen volunteers, 1820 plates of food, and 91 happy campers! If bigger is better than this was the best week of the summer, but it wasn't just the size that made this a great camp. Along with the usual things like tubing, fireside, and polar bearing we also got to experience eating our spaghetti with our hands tied together and the "Gorilla Hunt." The talent show was filled with a good mix of songs, skits, and silliness. Kate's performance of "Popular" from *Wicked* was a highlight, as were the piano stylings of Bethany and Joanna and the thorough dousing of "Snow Merv." Thanks to everyone who helped make this a successful week, we'll see ya next year.



(This is from the 5-6 Grade slug)

## Common Threads

Quilters and scrapbookers gathered September 14 through 16 to dedicate time to work on projects among the company of like-minded friends. Women from Oregon and Washington towed their sewing machines, yards of fabric, photo albums and cardstock out to camp in order to start, finish or continue work on projects of their choosing. Fueled by fresh hot espresso drinks, the participants worked until the generator went off each evening and were up bright and early each morning, coffee cups in hand.



It was a lovely time to reunite with familiar faces and to meet new friends. People generously shared ideas and techniques as participants came with varied skill levels. The hours were occasionally interrupted with door prize drawings from local businesses as well as specialty quilt and paper stores from the Willamette Valley.

Some participants tore themselves away from their work for a nature hike on Saturday afternoon to stretch their backs and spirits while others remained dedicated to the task at hand. On Sunday morning the group gathered for devotions and singing in front of the fireplace before enjoying the last of the weekend's delicious meals. The weekend was delightful and we hope to extend the event by a day or possibly two for 2008.

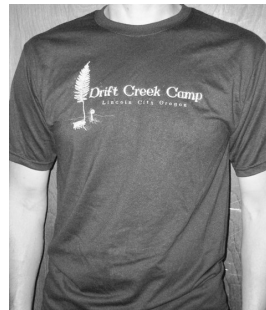


## Well Project Update

After months of shuffling paperwork, it appears that we are in the final stages of the well drilling project. The process of obtaining the proper permit took longer than first anticipated, but we are now in the home stretch. Drilling should begin soon!



Big thanks to Anna Williams for her hard work on the summer camp brochure and the new DCC T-shirts. Everyone loves the design and the kids' t-shirt (on left) was so popular that adult sizes had to be ordered as well. Get one while they're hot!



### Program Director wish list:

- Big backpacks for overnight and multi-day trips
- Surfboards
- Archery equipment

### Camp Wish List:

- LP Grill for Yamhill
- 20-40 foot extension ladder and 12-14 foot stand-up ladder
- Tractor with tiller and other attachments

If you have any of these items to donate, or if you want to make a special gift so that we can purchase one of these items, send a check to the camp address, or contact us and we can pick it up (camp contact info. on right).

## Drift Creek Camp

is owned and operated by the Mennonite Camp Association of Oregon, Inc. It is authorized under a special use permit from the Siuslaw National Forest. DCC is a member of the Mennonite Camping Association and the Christian Camp and Conference Association.

### Board Members

John & Louise Gingerich

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Tori McKee

Bob Nice

Charlene Schrag

Ken Snyder

### Camp Staff

#### Caretakers

Steve & Ann Ogg and Family

#### Program Director

Mervin Kropf

#### Administrators

Tony and Brenda Kauffman

*Please pray for the Board and staff as God uses their gifts for His glory.*

## Currents

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## The Current at Drift Creek

### September

28- 30 Young Adult Fellowship Retreat

### October

1-5 Oregon State Extension

5-7 Trinity Fellowship

12-14 Sellwood Baptist

26-28 Albany Mennonite Church

### November

2-4 Annual Meeting

### December

26-29 Zehr Family

30-January 1 New Year's Youth Retreat

### January

18-20 Albany Nazarene Women

25-27 Zion Mennonite Church

### February

1-3 Fishing Retreat

8-10 Newport Nazarene Women

15-17 Corvallis Mennonite Fellowship

22-24 Coast Vineyard

### March

1-2 PCNW Young Adult Retreat

13-16 Spring Quilting Retreat

24-28 Drama Camp

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(Continued from 1) As a kid, I thought my family struggled from “tradition deficit disorder,” especially around the holidays. My parents were Christmas tree farmers so harvest time left us energy-depleted with little left for celebrating Christ’s birth. Ironically, it was an exceptional year if a tree actually made it into our living room!

Most of the traditions I remember most fondly are related to camp. I loved the familiarity of singing around the fire or the initial shock of stepping into the creek. I looked forward to playing capture the flag, 5-puck, mingle and soccer. I recall working with my cabin in hopes of earning the coveted Golden Axe Award. On a deeper level, but through some of those traditions, Drift Creek was the host of many of life’s milestones socially, emotionally and spiritually. The camp culture fit like a well-loved pair of shoes. For me, it has been those camp experiences that have evoked fond memories rather than an association with a town. The Drift Creek Camp community was a familiar home, and to this day, I just can’t part with my childhood camp craft projects.

Now that Tony and I face the tough job of parenting, we are thinking more about traditions. We ask, “What is important? What do we want to pass down?” Meanwhile, as we learn to fill these giant camp director shoes, we are aware that other parents may be asking the same questions. To participate in the DCC tradition is of priceless value for it creates memories that last a lifetime. In a world that is rapidly changing, is it not comforting that multiple generations can have parallel memories and feel ownership of the same camp experience?