



Chatter!

VOLUME 60 NO.2

Highlights of Summer 2007

By Jessica Henderson

The trees around Crystal Lake are now glowing gold and red, and there is a peaceful silence on the top of the mountain. But not long ago there were a hundred campers joyously running from one activity to the next, and laughter ringing throughout the property.

It was another perfect summer at camp! Looking back at the season in retrospect, what is perhaps most striking is how truly we lived our metaphysical theme "With one Father, even God, the whole family of man would be brethren..." (Science & Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy) With campers and staff from 23 states and 8 countries, we made up a diverse family that loved living and learning together for seven weeks.



Continued on Page 3

Announcing the Acquisition of the CLC Property

The long time site of Crystal Lake Camps comprising over 900 acres of lush forest, 25 miles of trails, 24 camp buildings and three lakes now belongs to Crystal Lakes Camps. The CLC Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the completion of the acquisition of the camp's property from Dottie Alford, whose husband Joe and his parents had owned the property for over 50 years. The Board was formed in 1984 by then CLC Camp Director's and Trustees Joe and Dottie Alford to provide for the future ownership and preservation of CLC.



Now Crystal Lake Camps has a permanent place in its long term home. CLC will be able to extend its program to include activities for the whole family, including singles, couples, and young adults. New programs will be offered throughout the year, to take advantage of the snow in winter for cross country skiing, the brilliant colors of fall for hiking and biking and the freshness of

spring in the mountains for canoeing and kayaking.

This acquisition was made with the timely help of a generous supporter of CLC who advanced the initial mortgage. Now Crystal Lake Camps is appealing to all CLC alumni, supporters and friends to help us pay down this \$1.3 million loan as soon as possible. Currently the interest payments are consuming over 25% of the camp fees.

CLC will recognize contributors to our Capital Campaign on granite blocks surrounding a new fire pit at our lakeside council fire site, where generations of campers have gathered to compete in clan competitions, learn Native American songs and dances and watch the moon rise and stars come out over Crystal Lake.

For details how you can be part of the CLC Capital Campaign- Keep the Fire Alight, turn to page 3

Introducing our new Camp Director

We'd like to introduce you to Nathan Bowen, Crystal Lake Camps' incoming Camp Director. He served as CLC's Assistant Director this past summer. Nathan has just taken on the leadership role for our camp programs, as our previous Camp Director Jessica Henderson resigned this fall to spend more time with her growing family.

We've asked Nathan a few questions so you can get to know him a little better:

Nathan, what is your background with Christian Science camps?

I started attending camp, as a camper, at the age of 8, and went for 10 summers as a camper at A/U. I participated in just about every program they offered over the years - from horseback riding to rock climbing, rafting to mountaineering.

Continued on Page 2

Kids' Chatter

My Home Away From Home

By Serkie Carper, Age 12

CLC has been my second home for four years. It is a place where I can get away from things like the computer and the TV and enjoy the nature that surrounds me. Every summer I go back, I feel a little closer to God because there aren't lots of distractions.

When you step into CLC you feel this love that you have never felt before in your life and it's awesome. Every kid that comes is your sister and brother. You get to bond with everyone so much that you become one big family. There are kids from all over the world like Kenya, England, Australia, Mexico, Russia and India. We also learn about the Native American Indians that lived in this particular place long ago.

At camp there are so many wonderful healings! It is so easy to be one with God and listen to the still small voice. When you are

not feeling well you can turn to God any time of the day. There is always someone by your side letting you know who you are and letting you know that God is there with you.

There is plenty to do at Crystal Lake! Some of my favorite activities are the classes I take: arts and crafts, step, cooking, and soccer. But the most exciting part of camp is the camp out! You go hiking or go rock climbing for two or three nights. My favorite one is the twelve mile round-trip hike to Rock Run. There is a waterfall there where you can jump off a fifteen foot high rock. It is fun and challenging, just like a lot of the activities at CLC.

I hope my story has inspired you – now you have to come and see for yourselves!



See if you can decipher this word scramble:

Yatlsr Kale si a tilconerfe fo voel!

Answers are on Page 4.

Camper Profile



NAME: Rachel Fenton

AGE: 13

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Kalamazoo, MI

YEARS AT CLC: 2

FAVORITE FOOD: Sushi

FAVORITE HOBBIES:

Photography, volleyball, watching movies and chatting with friends

Pets: Two cockatiel birds named Bert and Harriet and a dog named Charey

FAVORITE CAMP ACTIVITY:

Overnight camping trips – because you get a chance to bond with your cabin mates and laugh a lot!

WHAT SHE SAYS ABOUT CLC:

I love the people! Everyone is extremely genuine. You will make some of the best friends you can find at CLC and just have so much fun with them!

Introducing Our New Camp Director, continued from Page 1

I spent 12 years on staff at A/U in a variety of roles, including Program Staff, Program Head, Asst. Camp Director, and Camp Director. I also spent 4 years on the full-time, year-round staff as Enrollment Coordinator which included the coordination of marketing and promotional efforts. Thrown in there, over the course of 4 summers I was CIT Trainer. All in all, I spent 26 summers at A/U; then I had the pleasure of joining CLC this past summer as Assistant Director.

What's your favorite camp activity?

At CLC, my favorite activity is either Vespers or Banquet Night - or a combination of the two. I love to see all the skills, talents, and

growth people show in these events through their honest desire to humbly share with the camp community. It's a really expressive way to share God's talents in each of us!

What are some of the things you hope to contribute to CLC in the coming years?

I see myself contributing my knowledge and supporting the introduction of some new, progressive steps to the CLC programs, while maintaining the valued sense of history and tradition that runs strong in CLC. Often, a new face can bring a refreshing sense of energy and movement to an organization. I'm really open to hearing where people want CLC and its programs to be in 5 or 10 years down the road.

And now for the important stuff: what's your favorite camp meal?

Breakfast! I like just about all the breakfast foods, but culturally being Danish, I do have a deep love for a good pastry!



From the first day, strong friendships were forged across the generations and between girls and boys of all ages, creating an atmosphere of strong trust and respect. And as it seems to do each summer, this made for the perfect setting in which each individual could explore his or her own spiritual journey, rejoicing in the inspirations, deep questions, and many healings that happened along the way.

Of course, in addition to the grand spiritual lessons transforming each and every person at camp, there was a whole lot of pure fun in the activities each day this summer! Under sunny skies nearly every day, campers enjoyed favorite outdoor classes such as archery, horseback riding, fishing, kayaking, and mountain biking as well as the creative indoor classes of pottery, dance, and School of Rock.

This summer we also re-introduced our exciting space explorers program, in which campers learn to work together as a team through launching a space shuttle in a technology-equipped simulator. One team sits in a 'base station' and is connected via walkie talkie and video streaming to another group located in the control room of a mock shuttle. Through good communication and teamwork they are able to utilize special software to simulate a blast-off of the space shuttle!

Other highlights of the summer include our first-ever camp-wide horse show, a splendid Yule Ball banquet, and Fourth of



Camp Director Transition

By Bonnie Turrentine

After another successful season at Crystal Lake Camps, it is with sadness that we announce that Jessica Henderson, our Camp Director for the last six summers, is resigning to spend more time in Seattle with her growing family. But at the same time we are pleased to announce that Nathan Bowen, our Assistant Director this summer, has accepted the full-time position of Camp Director.



As you will see in the article on page one, Nathan comes to Crystal Lake Camps with a wealth of experience working with youth. He served for many years on the staff at the Adventure Unlimited Ranches in Colorado, and most recently he worked during the school year at the Fox River Country Day School in Elgin, IL, as Boy's Dormitory Director and After Care Supervisor.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Jessica for all her hard work on behalf of camp, since she came on board in

2002. She brought energy, spirit, and a fresh vision to the camp. As a musician, artist, and athlete, she set a wonderful example for staff and campers, and under her leadership the camp experienced significant progress in many areas. Enrollment increased, staff retention rates rose and many of our programs were strengthened.

We are confident that Nathan will continue this tradition of excellence. With the support of our dedicated staff, alumni and friends, Crystal Lake Camps will continue to bless many children and young people with its family-oriented, culturally-diverse environment which encourages each child's creativity and uniqueness.

Please join us in wishing Jessica much happiness with her growing family and offering a warm welcome to Nathan, as our new Camp Director.

~Crystal Lake Camps Board of Trustees

July fireworks over the lake. The overnights were also tremendously successful, and several new campsite locations were added this year.

But what really made this summer special was the high caliber of the staff. It takes a strong team to provide the leadership for all of this wonderful activity, and this year's group was perfectly suited, making it a harmonious and safe season. We had a total of 72 on the crew, including waterfront, equestrian, kitchen, and facilities staff, counselors, camp moms, and practitioners. We also had our largest CIT group in recent history, which means we have many strong future staff members in the works!

The season concluded on a spectacular clear evening with the traditional procession

down the camp road and candle-lighting ceremony at Laughlin Lodge. As each camper added their own tiny candle to those already placed on the stone wall of the porch, the light grew and grew until it lit up the faces of all the campers and staff below. The collective voice of a unified family lifted in song up through the trees and out into the starry night:

Symbol of serenity, Crystal Lake
Mirror of eternity, Crystal Lake
Reflected in thy waters are the heavens
above
To make thy sons and daughters
reflections of love.

The summer was full of memories that will glow in many hearts for years to come!

We would like to help Keep the Fire Alight at Crystal Lake Camps!

Please find enclosed our tax deductible contribution to the 2007 CLC Capital Campaign! Make checks payable to "Crystal Lake Camps, Inc." and mark on them Capital Campaign

All contributions over \$100 are eligible for permanent recognition around the Council Fire

- Please add our name(s) to the new Council Fire Pit
- Please omit our names, we prefer to remain anonymous
- Please send a receipt for this tax deductible contribution to the following:

Name _____
Email _____
Address _____



Thank you for helping us Keep the Fire Alight for future generations of CLC campers!

Announcing Dates for Summer '08

We are pleased to announce the dates for summer camp 2008:

DATES:

new >> Session I: June 21 – June 27 (one-week session)
Session II: June 28 – July 12
Session III: July 12 – July 26
Session IV: July 26 – August 9
Family Camp: August 10 – 16

Introducing for the first time a new one-week session for all ages! This one week session will be a great opportunity for first-time campers to try camp for a shorter period of time. Busy campers will also be able fit camp into a packed summer schedule. Any camper has the option to combine this one week session with later sessions and come for 3, 5, or 7 weeks.

This one week session will be packed with the 'best of the best' camp activities, such as horseback riding, a barn dance, council fire, cabin cookouts, and a talent show. There will also be a full-week adventure program for teens who would like to challenge themselves in the great outdoors.

We have a special introductory rate of \$550 for this one week session. If you have any questions, or would like to enroll a camper in any of our sessions, please contact us at 877-252-5437 or camp@crystallakecamps.org.



Crystal Lake Camps: A great fall, winter and spring destination.

Crystal Lake Camps is open year round. Every season has its special activities and unique beauty. Visit CLC for the colors of autumn in September through October and watch the mist rising off the lakes in the first brisk days of fall. In the winter from December through March you can enjoy cross country skiing and snow shoeing on our extensive groomed trail system. As spring comes to the mountains, hike or bike the trails and catch the long views over the hills before the trees bud out and shield the view. Our cabins are available for daily, weekly or seasonal reservations. Many of our cabins are equipped to be self catering. We have rooms and cabins that can comfortably accommodate singles, couples, families and larger groups.

For additional information about these and other CLC activities, check out our web site www.crystallakecamps.org or call 877-CLC-KIDS (252-5437) or email camp@crystallakecamps.org

Work Weekend, Memorial Day Weekend and Open House Weekend

Don't forget these three weekend opportunities coming up in Spring 2008:

Work Weekend May 16 - 18, 2008

Come help us get camp spruced up for the summer! Projects will include setting up the Arts & Crafts center, a few small building projects, putting up the teepees, and preparing the waterfront. We'll put you up in one of our heated cabins or Laughlin Lodge and we feed you well from Friday dinner to Sunday lunch. Hope you can join us!

Open House Weekend May 30 - June 1, 2008

Thinking about camp for the first time, bring your children to CLC for our Open House Weekend and get a taste of summer camp! The weekend includes a sampling of camp activities for all ages, including canoeing, biking, arts and crafts, the climbing wall, and more. This is a great way for kids to get comfortable with camp before attending on their own, as summer campers. This weekend is free for families considering enrolling their children for this first time at Crystal Lake.

Memorial Day Weekend May 23 - 26, 2008

Come and enjoy a long weekend at Crystal Lake, a time for relaxation and inspiration with the whole family. All the fun of Family Camp in a single long weekend! As this is a new program in 2008, we invite you to come and help us start a new CLC tradition!

(Crystal Lake is a reflection of love!)
Answer:

Crystal Lake Camps
1676 Crystal Lake Road
Hughesville, PA 17737

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