

Reaching New Heights

There are interesting sounds around camp but they mostly go unheard and draw little or no attention. Unlike the clamor of excited campers that soon will be heard across camp, these noises require near stillness and quiet to be noticed. They're subtle sounds; a drip dropping, a rivulet of water running, two small surfaces rubbing together and tiny bubbles popping. It is the sound of the sun prying loose the frost of winter on the ground beneath my feet. The snow is melting and the ground is swelling. Soon life will emerge from the constraints of winter's frozen grip. And I am remarkably excited!

In my last letter I wrote about the challenges of establishing a camp in Montana and used the illustration of a camp greenhouse to provide a successful environment. Since that time, I have been overwhelmed with all the people who are entering in and committing to the process of creating a vibrant climate in which YAA can flourish.

- ✱ Volunteers are stepping up, seeking ways to serve, and developing camp into a magnificent facility



- ✱ People are praying and God's storehouses are opening and allowing us to enter into new ministry opportunities
- ✱ Year end donations came in to completely erase the \$57,000 shortfall we had last November
- ✱ New individuals are signing up to support on a regular monthly basis
- ✱ And the \$175,000 needed to complete our new lodge is now reduced to \$85,000!

This year we are headed to new heights as we discover that circumstances that seemed to be constraints were only momentary challenges and are now emerging into God-given opportunities. We are expanding into new facilities that adults are going to enjoy thoroughly. Our

Joshua leadership team is increasing by 50%. And we're testing the waters on a year-round practicum for emerging leaders.

I am thrilled to acknowledge how God is building the "greenhouse" for this camp property to now produce ministries of a great variety. Along with continuing to provide excellent Christian summer camps and youth retreats, we now have fostered multiple inroads with the leadership development programs of

our state university and public schools. We are hosting men's and women's retreats, family reunions and providing a stellar setting for executive level board training.

If it has been awhile since you have been on our property, you need to plan a visit for this summer. You will be astonished at how this ministry is physically "growing up" and you will be inspired by the stories of how lives are being changed and filled with hope.

For those of you who are still waiting to engage with us and become a part of the greenhouse that provides the healthy climate for our growth, now just might be the time. As you read the rest of this newsletter, please pray about how you can get involved. I can't wait to hear from you personally and hopefully see you this year.

JIM HAWTHORNE • Director



What better way to make lasting memories?

Family Camps

Strengthening families is one of our greatest desires. Yellowstone Alliance Adventures wants to invest in you as a whole family and we are providing a great way for you to vacation and make it purposeful in the process. What better way to make memories and leave a lasting legacy than bringing your family to camp. YAA offers two Family Camps this summer: On July 5-8, Pastor Jason & Anne Siebert will be teaching God's word to us. Then later in the summer over the Labor Day weekend, (Aug. 30-Sept. 2), Ken and Lorinda Simon from Lander, Wyoming, will be inspiring us to stay on target!

With solid Bible teaching, numerous activities for all ages, great food and plenty of time to reconnect and rest, you don't want to miss this opportunity to strengthen your family while enjoying great fellowship and God's beautiful creation. Contact YAA for more information and go to www.yaacamp.org to register for Family Camp.

Classifieds

Wanted: High school students who desire to have God work in their lives and in the lives of those around them. Must be fun, energetic, loving, and have a desire to grow! Currently we are accepting applications for our Timothy Program! Acceptance into this program allows you to be a part of our summer team for six weeks. YAA will invest in training you towards servant leadership and you will be expected to step into greater and greater levels of responsibility. Dates are June 13th–July 27th.

Wanted: Electrician who can trouble shoot a donated generator and install it as a back up when our power goes out.

Wanted: John Deere Gator for on-site service vehicle.

Wanted: Volunteers for our Spring Work Week. May 10th – 18th. Come for part or all of it.

Wanted: 20 Camp Scholarships – each one costs \$270. How many campers can you sponsor?

Wanted: Prayer Partners who will diligently uphold our ministry on a consistent basis. You can begin by holding up our summer staff as they make preparations to lead this summer. Also include all the campers and their families that will be impacted by camp and pray that we will get full attendance in each of our programs.

Wanted: Volunteers who will serve on various advisory teams and assist with development and program initiatives.

Spring Mission Project

May 10-18

Reserve the date and start assembling your team!

This year we will be focusing on:

- Siding the new lodge and staff home addition
- Staining bunk beds & laying tile
- Transplanting trees and landscaping
- Building an activities hut
- Fencing, painting, and deep cleaning
- Changing our program areas over from winter usage to summer.
- Clearing debris from our trails

We will provide you with:

- A rewarding opportunity to serve with your time and talents
- A place to stay and superb food
- Fellowship, evening recreation, time in the Word together and a rewarding experience
- Necessary supplies and tools to do the jobs

Volunteer Hours Count

As a 501c3 Non-Profit, YAA depends greatly on financial gifts, gifts-in-kind and literally thousands of hours of volunteer labor each year. If it were not for the tremendous generosity of faithful supporters we would never have developed the outstanding facilities and programs that we currently provide.

Thank you in advance for getting involved with us. Please mark your calendars so you can join us, and then begin spreading the word to help us build our teams and raise additional funds for these projects.

In addition to these scheduled Mission Trips, we are establishing a base of volunteers that make themselves available for a minimum of 8 hours per month. This is our GO-TO team that makes it possible for us to keep up with all the large number of projects and events that our staff can't possibly keep up with on their own.

Please consider joining this extremely important base of volunteers. We depend on your partnership.

Contact Jon Hayter
406-763-4727 • jhayter@yaacamp.org



The Upper Room

January 1st, YAA opened our Upper Room Ministry to people in full-time ministry. Some folks have already begun to take advantage of this special program and have come to enjoy a few days of solitude, rest and study. Many are inquiring about dates both for themselves and for their pastors. Please contact us to learn more or to schedule a time when you can come and be refreshed..

Building Updates

8-Cabin Lodge

Things are really starting to take shape with the new 8-Cabin Lodge.

Here is the progress that has been made to date:

- ⦿ Interior painting is complete except accent colors
- ⦿ All the doors have been installed and trimming the doors has begun
- ⦿ Wainscot is complete.

The remaining areas in need of completion:

- ⦿ Accent painting and trim work
- ⦿ Installation of kitchen cabinetry
- ⦿ Flooring
- ⦿ Fireplace stone work
- ⦿ Siding
- ⦿ Landscaping
- ⦿ Construction and staining of new furniture

A-Frame Addition

The electrical work is almost ready for inspection. After this is done, the interior work on drywall and flooring can be completed, allowing the bedrooms and mudroom to be useable.

Additional Funding Needs

8-Cabin Lodge	
Concrete apron	\$ 4,000
Interior flooring	\$40,000
Furnishings	\$25,000
Technology	\$10,000
Lighting fixtures	\$ 6,000
Landscaping	\$ 2,500
Cabinetry/appliances	\$15,000
8-Cabin expenses	\$102,500
Less cash on hand	\$ 15,000
\$ to complete Lodge.\$87,500
\$ for A-Frame addition	\$10,000
Total needed\$97,500

Imagine....

- sharing life for an extended, focused coming together of your group.
- playing together, eating together and worshipping together with no outside distractions.
- introducing your group to “living life together”.

Retreats are worth the time, effort and finances and YAA is ready to help. We can equip you with everything you need to plan a successful retreat. YAA staff can offer many years

of experience to help every step of the way from simply supplying the buildings and food service to planning the entire event.

Call to discuss ways we can be of assistance. We promise—it is worth it! What groups are saying about YAA Retreats:

“Excellent facilities. Beautiful, clean and well kept.”

“Food service had tons of options for all tastes.”

“The staff was exceptional! Very friendly and personable.”

Why Retreat?



The Years Teach Us Much

“The years teach us much that the days never knew” (quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson). What a profound statement. So often in our Christian walk we wonder if we are really making a difference. Are we living a life that God can use to reach people around us or are we just drudging through the days, hoping that something we do somewhere along the way will impact someone, somehow, in some way, someday?

Camping ministry at times can be like that. We plot and we plan, we hire and advertise, we prepare and repair and pray that the Lord will bring people whose lives will be changed. We learn new techniques to get the word out; all the while hoping that God does something big in the lives of the campers.

Hundreds of thousands of kids have been touched by camping over the years all over the world. Many have made life changing decisions to follow Jesus and many have fallen by the way side. How painful it is to watch these precious lives chase after the things of the world as they get older, seeming to forget all they did and learned at camp. How sad it is to “follow someone on facebook” and know that they are seeking empty things instead of living a surrendered, abundant life seeking after Jesus. It’s enough to break your heart.

Probably the most important lesson I have learned in my life is that you just never know. You never know how God is working. You never know what someone has to go through to get to the foot of the cross in true surrender. You never know what someone will remember when they are all alone at night wondering how their life ended up here and you never know the plans that God has to use that person to impact others for His kingdom.

The years teach us much that the days never knew. The years teach us that there are no lost causes. The years teach us that God is faithful through the journey. The years teach us that things take time and patience and diligence and our part is to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, faithfully walking with Him, doing His work and leaving the days and the years in His capable hands.

—LISA BEEDY • Administration Director

SNOW CRAZE

in review

“It may be cold on the outside but I am burning up on the inside.” That was the theme for our 2013 Snow Craze, which comes from the Prophet Jeremiah. Jeremiah has just suffered under the Chief Priest Pashhur and is crying out to the Lord, stating that no matter what happens or how hard he tries he cannot remain quiet: “If I say, ‘I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name,’ there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.” Jeremiah 20:9. (ESV)

Ernie DeWitt, our speaker from Toccoa Falls College, spoke about Experiential Christianity. He brought to life the word and works of Christ through his messages, encouraging us to experience Christianity. Hopefully none of us will need to experience Christianity the way Jeremiah did but through some suffering, trials and temptations we will experience God and His Word. We will not be able to keep quiet about Him or His work within us!

The retreat was a successful weekend with nine different churches sending students and leaders, a great speaker, a live worship band from Crown College, snow skiing, tubing, building snow men, playing broom ball, enjoying the hot springs and being together in fellowship!

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2013 Camp Dates

Residential Camps

3rd – 4th Grade Camp	Sunday June 16 – Friday June 21
Day Camp 1	Monday June 17 – Friday June 21
5th – 6th Grade Camp	Sunday June 23 – Friday June 28
Day Camp 2	Monday June 24 – Friday June 28
7th – 9th Grade Camp	Sunday June 30 – Friday July 5
9th – 12th Grade Camp	Tuesday July 9 – Saturday July 13
3rd – 5th Grade Camp	Sunday July 14 – Friday July 19
6th – 8th Grade Camp	Sunday July 21 – Friday July 26

Wilderness Camping and Backpacking

Wilderness Adventures Camp (6th-8th Grade)	Sunday June 30 – Friday July 5
Wilderness Backpacking Camp (9th-12th Grade)	Sunday July 14 – Friday July 19

Family Camps

Family Camp 1	Friday July 5 – Monday July 8
Family Camp 2	Friday August 30 – Monday Sept 2

Leadership Programs

Joshua Project	Tuesday May 28 – Monday July 29
Timothy Program	Thursday June 13 – Saturday July 27

The theme for this summer is **ON TARGET FOR CHRIST** - Are you hitting the mark? This theme is built around John 14: 6 "He is the way the truth and the life" and Philippians 3:14: "Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." Come with us as we hone our skills to hit our mark, a Christ-centered life!



**ON TARGET
FOR CHRIST**

