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Save the Date!

Spring Celebration

DATE:

Monday, April 20, 2015

TIME:

6:00 PM appetizers
6:30 PM Dinner & Program

PLACE:

Shady Maple Banquet Center

Call by April 13 deadline

STEPS FORWARD

by Gregg Horst, Administrator

2015 is before us and we are excited to see what God is going to do in the lives of thousands of children and adults through the ministry of Tel Hai Camp. This is the 65th year of ministry, and we continue to see both lives being changed today, and hear stories of lives that have been deeply transformed in the past. May God be Praised!

I hope you will mark your calendar with the dates on the right. So many opportunities to be engaged. Homeschool classes, mother/daughter, dad/lad, scrap & craft, Spring Celebration, Golfing, Adventure camp, or finding ways to volunteer. We also appreciate, and are so dependent upon your prayer and faithful financial support of this ministry. You blessed us this last year with being able to pay down the mortgage by over \$120,000. Isn't God good!

Pray with us as we are hard at work making improvements to our 2 oldest cabins that are long overdue and had reached a critical stage. If you would like to know more about this project, and if God has laid it on your heart to be a part of these endeavors, give me a call. We would love to visit and share the exciting things God is doing.

For 65 years, God has blessed this "hill of life" and we look forward to seeing what lay ahead this year. **Thank you** for your partnership in the ministry of Tel Hai Camp & Retreat!

COMING EVENTS

SAVE THESE DATES!

April-May

Homeschool Classes

April 17-19

Scrap & Craft Weekend

April 20

Spring Celebration

May 9

Work Day

May 15-17

Mother & Daughter Spring Getaway

June 4

Golf Tournament

June 17-20

Dad & Lad Camp

July 27-31

Adventure Camp

September 18

Benefit Spaghetti Dinner

October 27

Association Dinner/Meeting

November 26

Turkey Bowl 5K Race

Visit telhaicamp.org for more details about these events

The HAI LIGHTS

Winter 2015
A Publication of Tel Hai Camp & Retreat

The Call To Camp Ministry Continues! by Norman Wray

The year was 1980 when I attended my first week of youth camp at Camp Sonshine, a Bible Centered Ministries camp. I was eleven years old. The camp was situated next to an active corrections facility with a lake located between us and the prison guards who watched over the corrections facility. Each morning they raised the American flag in full view of each camper. The shower facilities at the camp provided no privacy which was just as scary to an 11 year old as the prison next door. Did I mention that the cabins had canvas sides, and no doors or mattresses? Yes I was homesick! My counselor told me EACH DAY that I could call my mom TOMORROW. At that point in my life I was not dreaming of becoming the director of camp – but I have not missed a year since! Who knew? The call of God to camping ministry has remained clear through all these years.

In 1981 camp director, Miss Eleanor Marzullo, announced that we would be attending a beautiful camp (Tel Hai Camp) out in the country with horses, a safer lake, and private bathing facilities! I was a camper for two more years (three total) before I became a counselor in training in my fourth year. Over the years I worked my way up to counseling in the teen boy's cabin where my skills for teaching youth began to develop. I learned a lot of life lessons on teamwork and in lifelong friendships which continue to this day. I did a lot of growing up under the wings of Bible Centered Ministries (BCM) and Tel Hai Camp.

Lots of Friends



a boost in my spiritual growth from camp. I tell our staff that we as adults are the lucky ones. We can still attend youth camp which gets both us and the campers away from work, school, and for some "time away" from tough neighborhoods and rough family situations. I have seen so many lives — including both youth and adults — changed because they came to camp and surrendered their lives to Jesus. Camp is a major reason I left the HVAC trade after 25 years and started pursuing a degree in Christian Counseling. Camp is the

reason I have filled in for several youth pastors over the years.

The endless list of activities at Tel Hai Camp is great for growing new friendships. The relationships develop while *Camp in full Swing*



enjoying great activities such as swimming, boating, archery, shooting air rifles, mini golf, wall climbing, zip line, boating, and more. The outdoor chapel is a place no camper ever forgets because singing praises to the Lord echo all the way up the ridge to where the cook's quarters is located.

One of the highlights of our week at camp is our time at the camp fire on Friday night after our talent show. I do not remember the specific year, but our speaker really gripped the youth that night. The Holy Spirit was preparing our camp for the main reason we are at camp. Usually, after the campfire, everyone goes back to their cabins to enjoy a farewell snack time which tends to be a very noisy time! On this night the whole camp was calm and quiet and as the teen boys returned to their cabins they sat in their bunks considering the challenge they heard from the preacher. The cook and his sons came and joined us as we all started a prayer meeting. Three teen boys prayed to receive Jesus as their Savior that night!

This story is one of many I could share, and the main reason I accepted the appointment from BCM to direct Camp Sonshine. Partnering with Tel Hai Camp is like adding twice the staff to your camp. It is an honor and a privilege to serve the Lord together with the staff at Tel Hai. We have a core staff who return each year, and like me, they began as campers, became CIT's (counselors-in-training), then counselors, and some have grown into assistant director positions as well - all because their lives were changed when

(Continued on page 2)



www.telhaicamp.org

TEL HAI CAMP & RETREAT

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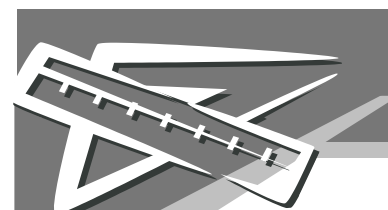
The Call Continues (from page 1)

they surrendered to God at camp. Last year Camp Sonshine celebrated 35 years (34 were held at Tel Hai Camp). Again, this summer we look forward to partnering once more with Tel Hai Camp in youth ministry for the 35th year! Thank you to all who support Tel Hai Camp and for partnering with camps through your prayers, and gifts.

An exciting week together



Visit our website @ www.telhaicamp.org



Measurement from the Camp Board

by Dean Weiler Board President

Living Fearlessly

As a New Year is upon us there is certainly no shortage of things one could be anxious about. Each day more horrific news seems to erupt before us. At times like these it is good to remember the words our Lord spoke to His disciples in John 14:27, "Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid". I believe He is still calling us to live fearless lives in these seemingly uncertain times. Jesus also gave us the commission in Matthew 28:19, "Go and make disciple of all nations..." He desires us to partner with Him to see change come about on earth. Real change... a new birth in the hearts of all people. I believe Tel Hai Camp has an integral part in helping to facilitate this commission, as many have given testimony to the positive impact camp ministry has had in their lives. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all who have given so graciously to this ministry throughout the last year. There are many challenges to be met in the New Year. But as Joshua told the people of Israel, "Tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you". This same God is compelling us to live fearlessly in 2015. May we continue to persevere to see His will done on earth as it is in heaven.

Cabin Challenge - ALMOST, BUT NOT QUITE.

Last April the cabin match challenge was set with \$135,000 balance remaining on the cabin mortgage. The matching donors have notified me that they will graciously release the unmatched portion of their gift to be applied to the balance. This means that a total of \$120,545 has been able to be applied leaving only \$14,455 on the note. We are so thankful to these donors and each of you have played a part in this endeavor. We praise God for this provision!

While we are still seeking to lay aside this remaining amount, the camp board has moved to approve some critical and necessary capital improvements. We are moving forward with significant remodeling of Pine and Elm dormitories. The urgency of this need was caused by insect damage as well as the aging of the cabins—both of which have been hindering their usage by groups. Also, the gym roof has been leaking terribly and had to be re-stored. These projects and a couple smaller items are anticipated to cost @ \$100,000. We ask that you stand with us in seeking God's provision in meeting this need. Will you join us?

Thank you for your partnership!

ORIGINAL
GOAL:
\$135,000
REMAINING
BALANCE
\$14,455

BETWEEN the LINES

by guest writer s Andy & Linda Bolyen (for Bruce Gregory—Program Director)



For the past seven years, our family has had the awesome blessing of attending both the Mother/Daughter Weekend and Dad & Lad Camp. Our visits to Tel Hai have made for some wonderful memories. We've watched our children take on new experiences and have seen them grow in character as a result.

We've been renewed and recharged with each trip. Coming from western Pennsylvania, Tel Hai has been the ideal place to get away from it all—to enjoy the peaceful surroundings, delicious food, and great fellowship. We've been able to focus on our children and come away from camp with deeper bonds.

Our time at Tel Hai has taught us to be intentional as a family and to seek opportunities to connect with each other and ,as a family, with Jesus. Early morning devotions, group worship, and campfire experiences, encourage us to reflect on Christ's great love for us.

Tel Hai Camp gets it. They understand how important the parent-child relationship is and have provided a great atmosphere to build it up in the Lord. At Tel Hai, we get to invest the time to nurture our relationship with our children and grow closer to Christ together. The legacy of love that results from this level of personal investment is priceless.

We're looking forward to year number eight!

Andy wrote the following poem to celebrate a special memory at Tel Hai:

The Zip Line

The pole stood tall upon the hill
Waiting for one to be raised on high
Knowing that once one climbs up
To get down, you must zip the line.

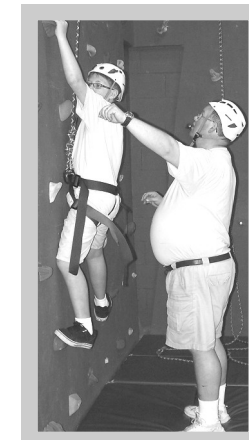
The pole stood tall at 43 feet
And up and up he climbed
The fear was clear upon his face
Would he zip the line?

Atop that pole he called out to me
"Daddy, I don't think I can."
The fear was clear upon his face
And then he zipped the line

He faced his fear of the unknown
When up and up he climbed
He showed the courage within his heart
When he zipped the line

My Savior once did climb the hill
To be raised up on a pole
That day he died my sins to take
In three, he zipped the line.

My Savior calls to each of you
To climb the pole with him
Die to yourself and live for Christ
For that's the true zip line.



On Sale Now!

Wawa Hoagie coupons are available for \$5.00. Proceeds from the purchase of a coupon, help Tel Hai Camp & Retreat fund capital improvement projects. Available in the Camp Office or call 610.273.3969

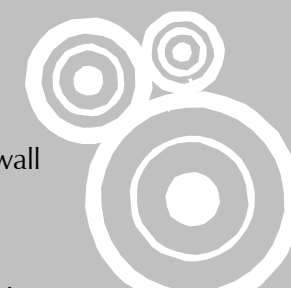


WISH LIST

STILL NEEDED: We are putting significant amounts of money into maintaining the 2 vehicles we own :

- Our 2002 van is showing its age. Significant rust is taking its toll. and it would be nice to find another mini van for the larger pickups from the food bank, BJ's wholesale, etc.
- Our 1997 pickup is getting to be quite costly. We need to replace it with a newer 4X4 (with a plow preferably). It gets a lot of usage and is one of only 2 vehicles we keep road worthy.
- Also, it would be nice to find a small car with good MPG that can be used by staff for running errands to the hardware store, market, and for other business.
- Expense of Multimedia projectors for meeting rooms (cost, \$729 each)
- A new paddle boat to replace one damaged beyond repair (est. \$800)
- BUILDERS—VOLUNTEERS!!!!!!
- Volunteers, willing to be trained to help on the zip line, challenge course, and rock climbing wall
- Volunteers to help in the kitchen on Saturdays and Sundays during retreat season
- Volunteers willing to help in the office periodically.

If you can provide any of these items or services, please contact the Tel Hai Camp office by phone (610-273-3969) or e-mail (admin@telhaicamp.org). **Thanks** to those who have already given toward these specific needs.



Our mission is to encourage all to be followers of Jesus Christ and to provide a special place where people can meet with God and God can meet with people.