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Save the Date! Spaghetti Supper

DATE:
Friday, September 13, 2013
TIME:
4:00-7:30 PM
PLACE:
The Tel Hai Camp Dining Hall

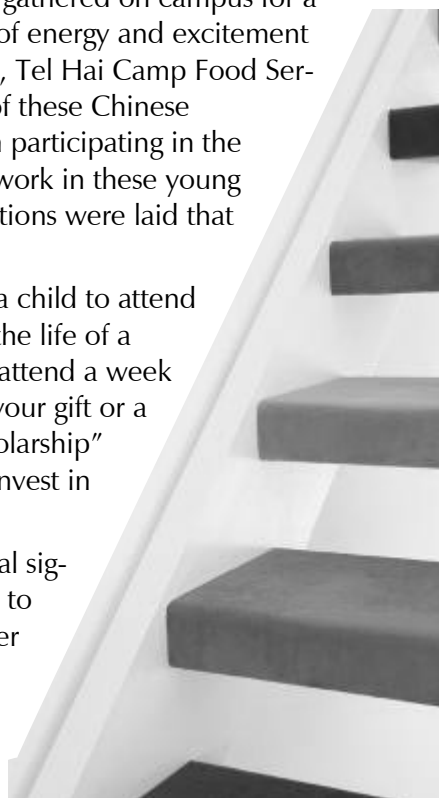


STEPS FORWARD by Gregg Horst, Administrator

I wish you could have all joined us a couple of months ago when over 200 enthusiastic Chinese youth gathered on campus for a retreat! It was a tremendous display of energy and excitement over Valentines' weekend! Lucas Ho, Tel Hai Camp Food Services Director, has served with one of these Chinese churches, and it was a joy to see him participating in the retreat. It is humbling to see God at work in these young lives. Our prayer is that good foundations were laid that will be firm for a lifetime.

Have you ever wanted to sponsor a child to attend camp? If you would like to invest in the life of a young person by helping him or her attend a week of Christian camp, please designate your gift or a part of your giving to the "CARE Scholarship" program. What a wonderful way to invest in the "eternities" of many children!

Pray with us as we are facing several significant financial burdens in addition to our ongoing needs. We have had over \$25,000 in unbudgeted expenses already this year. God is able, and we thank you so much for your partnership with us!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

July 29—Aug 2

Adventure Camp

Sept 13

Benefit Spaghetti Dinner

October 22

Association Dinner and Meeting

November 28

Turkey Bowl 5K & Fun Run



Visit telhaicamp.org for more details about these events

COMING EVENTS

The HAI LIGHTS

Summer 2013
A Publication of Tel Hai Camp & Retreat

Transitions and Changes

by Gregg Horst

For 63 years, Tel Hai Camp, this "hill of life," has offered hope and life through Jesus Christ. Many of you have seen changes in facilities and the staff changes, and you've witnessed the boundless bundles of energy as each new group of children come through the entrance for their own unique time in the "special place." SIXTY-THREE years! Yet the mission has remained constant: "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." Christian camping continues to be one of the most powerful and effective means of reaching into the hearts of young people and seeing God transform young lives (and older lives, too).

Again this year, close to 6,000 different people were blessed through the ministry of Tel Hai Camp. Again, try to grasp that number—6000! Think about all the tens of thousands of meals provided; the countless bumps on horseback; the many pieces of ceramic sanded and painted; the numerous verse memorized; the hundreds of songs sung and commitments to Christ made. God alone knows the depth of impact and change brought into the lives of so many young people, but I have seen it written on the faces, heard it from their mouths, and been assured that God has etched on their hearts the Good News of Jesus Christ! God has continued to bless our desire to keep our mission as stated above the core focus of this ministry.

We have had a lot of transition in the past few years. We said goodbye to two housekeepers and welcomed a new one. We have seen God bring in a new Facilities Director,

Dave Porter, and his family as we said goodbye to another: Ken Sweigart and his family. We said farewell to our Food Services Director, José Escalera, and his family as they moved to another camp, but we have seen God provide by bringing in another man, Lucas Ho, to serve as our new Food Services Director. Adjustments, changes, modifications. Just like God does in our personal lives, we have seen Him provide for the camp, and we GIVE THANKS!



Lucas Ho (right) giving instruction

CHANGES

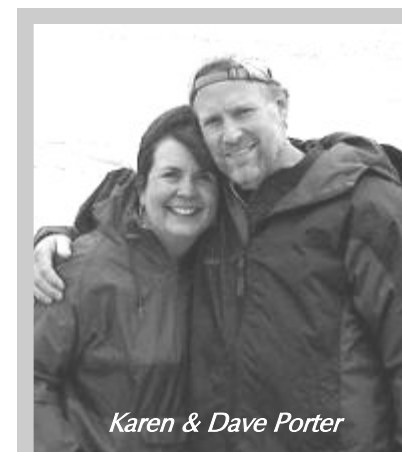
Elm Dormitory has been remodeled, including a totally remade bathroom facility inside.

The Lake & Bridge Renovation is visible to all. See the article on the next page for more details.

The Dining Hall Remodeling: This significant project began as many hours were invested by our staff and some volunteers. The results are very satisfying! As God provides the resources, we hope to make further improvements in the kitchen to provide better storage, clean-up, and prep areas.

Around Campus: Volunteers and board members made new trash bins. A board member built two new carpet pool tables and a ladder ball game. A rifle range shed was built. The beginning of the upgrade to our mini-golf course has begun as members from one of our founding churches, Conestoga

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Karen & Dave Porter



www.telhaicamp.org

TEL HAI CAMP & RETREAT

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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.

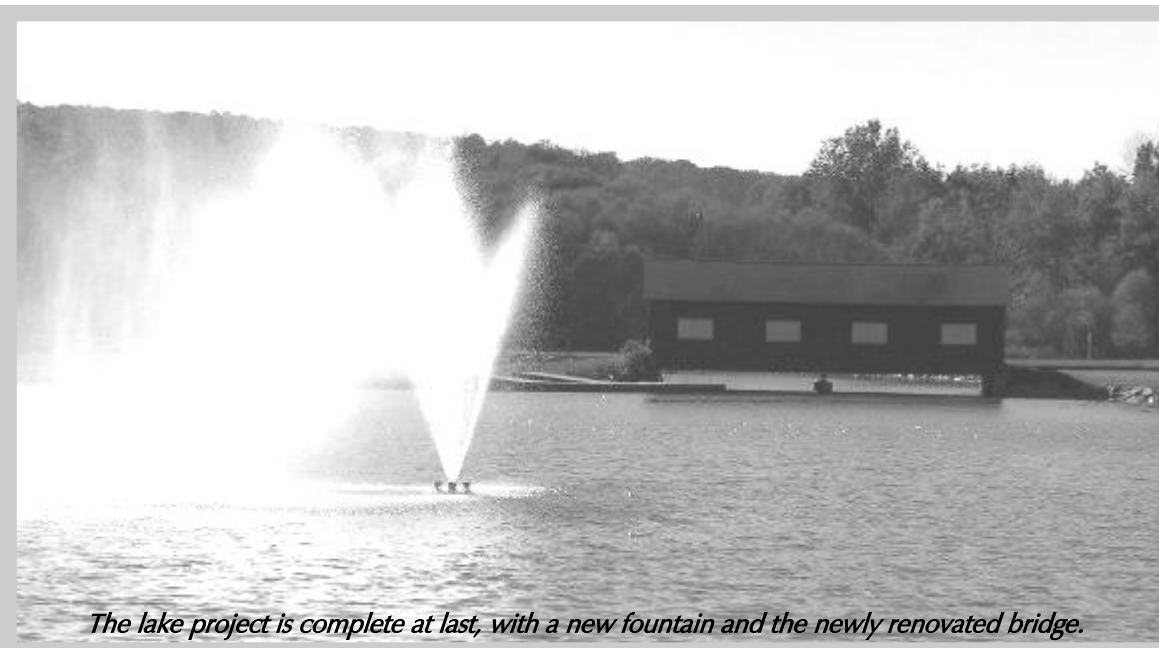


THE LAKE GETS A MAKEOVER

Many of you have driven past our lake over the past year and have seen the changes as they took place. The project began with a magnificent gift to the camp from the Tel Hai Retirement Center. As part of their own expansion projects, they blessed us by paying for the monumental job of relining the lake and island with native rock from the site. The need for this work was critical in order to inhibit the radical erosion that was taking a se-

vere toll on the shoreline and jeopardizing the survival of the lake itself. The lake is a key aspect of the camp's program and its beauty serves well as a "front door" to the retirement community and the camp. We are so thankful for this generous gift from the retirement community!

In receiving this gift, Tel Hai Camp agreed to complete the lake project by repairing the covered bridge and installing a fountain, which would aerate the lake and add to its beauty. We removed the rotting wooden center support beam on the bridge and replaced it with a steel one. The bridge, which was sagging like a swayback horse and was becoming structurally unsound, is attractive and safe for use again. Hopefully you have noticed the new fountain in the lake. At night, the fountain is lit, and many of our neighbors at the retirement community have commented on how beautiful it is.



The lake project is complete at last, with a new fountain and the newly renovated bridge.

Cabin Challenge Update

We are only at the halfway point in laying to rest the mortgage for the log cabins. We still have two more cabins that need to be paid for. If there is a family or individual who would like to invest in these wonderful additions to Tel Hai ministry, please let us know.

We praise God that the mortgage has been reduced to \$152,054. We have other significant building needs we would like to address, but until we are able to settle this mortgage, we are unable to move forward on other large projects. Would you prayerfully consider being a part of this project?

Thank you for your partnership!

Mortgage
Balance:
\$152,054

BETWEEN the LINES

by Bruce Gregory, Program Director

Did you ever wonder what the animals think about camp? I was walking through the woods one day, when I heard a multitude of birds singing away, each to their own unique song. I stopped and just listened for a moment, till the thought crossed my mind that maybe they were plotting with each other on how to get me. On a hot day during



When skunks swim, people don't!

abundance of animals around this summer, or maybe God has just opened my eyes to remind me of all the beauty He has created. We had a big snake on the office porch, chipmunks sneaking in and out of cabins, a great horned owl landing in the woods in front of me, hawks,

Dad & Lad Camp last year, we had a skunk jump in the pool and swim around. I had to use my lifeguard training to rescue him. We seem to have an

blue herons, snapping turtles, and yes, even the pesky mosquitoes and horseflies. They're all doing what God created them to do. The Bible says that if we don't praise God, His creation will praise Him.

Fortunately, I have been blessed at camp to not just hear the animals, but also the counselors and campers as they praise God. I love to hear the campers singing and worshipping at the chapel times. Each group has their unique format and it is so inspiring, especially during those late nights in the office. Sometimes the groups will stand on either side of the dining hall, and one group will sing, "We love Jesus, yes we do, we love Jesus, how about you?" and they will respond back and forth till one group finally shouts, "We love Jesus more!"

Oh, that that would be the true cry of each camper's heart, not that they love Jesus more than another person, but that they love Jesus more and more each day as they grow in their knowledge and faith. To me that is what being at camp is all about: knowing and loving Jesus more. Our camp groups help campers to experience that, not only through Bible teaching and worship, but also through the relationships with counselors, through nature, and through fun and play and laughter. To experience that firsthand is truly a blessing. May the Lord be praised in all that we do here at camp.

WISH LIST

- 3 kayaks (\$250 each),
- 4 hockey goalie Sticks (\$25 each)
- 5 basketballs and 5 volleyballs
- 10 practice putters for mini-golf (\$20 each)
- Volunteers, willing to be trained to help on the zip line, challenge course, and rock climbing wall
- gas-powered pole pruner
- a small car with good MPG that can be used by staff for running errands to the hardware store, market, and for other business
- 12" bandsaw (\$250)
- a box scraper with 3-point hitch for use in upkeep for the gravel roads.
- 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.*

Transitions and Changes

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Mennonite, built a beautiful new obstacle for one of the holes. (If you are a woodworker and are interested in participating in the mini-golf upgrade project, please let me know.) There are several other items that are newly built that you likely will not see unless you decide to go down the zip line or help with paper supplies, but each improvement aids the operation of Tel Hai Camp.