



31 Lasso Drive, Honey Brook, PA 19344-9261

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

5K TURKEY BOWL RUN
20TH ANNUAL
THANKSGIVING DAY—NOV 24

STEPS FORWARD by Gregg Horst, Administrator

"God, what are You doing?!" I confess I asked that question more than once when difficult challenges began to "stack up," beginning in early spring and continuing through the summer camp season: several costly repairs to camp vehicles, extremely busy personal schedules, unexpected staff changes. It just seemed like the "Adversary" was working overtime to discourage the staff and thwart our plans for a productive summer.

We often find adversity chasing at our feet when we are heading into times of real victory and the promise of deep impact in lives. This summer was a clear example. We have so many stories of lives being transformed. Dozens came to faith in Christ during their week at camp and many others faced life-changing decisions and chose to follow after the Savior. One week this summer, parents were called in to witness the baptism of 25 campers from that week!

Praise God from Whom ALL blessings flow! He is good...all the time.

The Hai Lights is published three times a year by Tel Hai Camp & Retreat, 31 Lasso Dr., Honey Brook, PA 19344
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The HAI LIGHTS

Fall 2011
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Looking Back, Moving Forward

by Josh Gregory

As I write this, I am sitting on the front porch of House 35 at Tel Hai Camp with about two and a half days left in my ninth summer on summer staff. Over my nine years I have grown a lot and my life has changed drastically. Now that this summer is coming to a close, I am starting to become nostalgic about my time here as a summer staffer. However, looking back on it, my ministry here started long before I even joined the summer staff. It started as a little kid.

My family has been involved with Tel Hai Camp for a few generations. My parents instilled in me and my sisters from a young age that serving others is one of the most important things in life. Tel Hai was a great place to put that into action as a family. We started helping in the kitchen as little kids and grew to love the camp and the relationships we made.

I decided to attend camp here at Tel Hai as a camper with Adventure Camp. I can vividly remember sitting in the chapel praising God in our worship sessions and thinking, "Man, this is GREAT!" There was something very real and very close to God about being in an outdoor chapel with 100 other kids my age jamming out to "Grin Again Gang" for God. That is one of my first memories of Tel Hai Camp.

Three years later I was *finally* old enough to work at camp as summer staff in the kitchen! God sure knows what He's doing because it couldn't have come at a better time in my life. I was really struggling with my faith before I came to work here. That first summer transformed my life in ways I could never have anticipated. It was here at camp that summer that I made my faith my own and re-dedicated my life to the Lord. It was a night-and-day difference between the beginning and end of that summer. God is good.

Now, looking back on nine years as a staff member, I see how much things have changed. I started here after my freshman year of high school. I have since moved from being a kitchen "slave," to a lifeguard and boating instructor, to an instructor for the challenge course, zip line, and climbing wall, then on to Bruce's "lackey" as Staff Director. Since starting here, I graduated from high school, got married, and graduated from college this past spring. (Yes, for you math wizards, it took five years for college. Some of us just enjoy it that much!) I have now spent the last 15 months living at camp full-time with my beautiful wife Jamie (whom I met at camp).

At the closing of this summer, it is bittersweet for me and Jamie. We are excited about all the positive things that happened at camp this summer. We know that many kids have come to know Christ here over the years, including my baby sister, who is now on summer staff. We also believe that we have had a big impact on the summer staff that we have worked with. However, we are also sad that this will be our last summer serving Tel Hai in this capacity. God has called us to move on for my continuing education in Upstate New York. While we are excited about the upcoming adventures, we are both sad to be closing the curtain on this stage of our lives. Tel Hai has meant so much to both of us and we have poured ourselves into this ministry for so long that we both truly feel that the camp is a large part of who we are. We hope to be involved with the camp in the future in different capacities when we return to the area, but for now, we are content to continue on as prayer warriors for the camp. We both know first hand the impact that this wonderful ministry has. We also would like to thank you all for your continued support of the camp and the staff as they pour their lives into this ministry.



COMING EVENTS

September 2011 – June 2012
Retreat Season

November 24, 2011

5K Turkey Bowl Run

April-May 2012

Homeschool Classes

April 20-22, 2012

Tel Hai Scrapbooking Weekend

May 12, 2012

Tel Hai Camp Work Day

May 18-20, 2012

Mother & Daughter Spring Getaway

June 7, 2012

Tel Hai Golf Tournament

June 20-23, 2012

Dad & Lad Camp

Visit telhaicamp.org for more
details about these events



www.telhaicamp.org

TEL HAI CAMP & RETREAT

31 Lasso Drive, Honey Brook, PA 19344-9261, tel: 610-273-3969

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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 letter below was written by a counselor after our third week of summer camp. Praise God for the impact in the lives of children and adults here at Tel Hai Camp!

Much of this ministry is made possible through the donations—big and small—of faithful believers who invest in lives through this ministry. **Would you consider** sharing in

this way? We too have been hit by the difficult economy and increases in utility costs. We've also faced a significant number of costly repairs to our aging equipment. Thank you for your prayerful consideration, and thank you in advance for your partnership with us in ministry.

Tel Hai
If I could only find words to express exactly how I feel here and how much I love spending time here. It's gorgeous and so perfect. When I walk around here I feel this hedge of protection whenever I go, and it feels like there is no room for evil. Jose and the rest of the staff here. Your character has been an enormous inspiration. I have no doubt or question who it is you serve. Thank you so much for making this all possible for us. I know the spirit is upon these grounds, because of what I see happening in the hearts of the people that come here. It is awesome. Bless this place and all who dwell here.
Emmaleppn

WISH LIST

- One "stable" rowboat
- Resin or vinyl-coated outdoor pool chairs
- Gas-powered pole pruner
- Golf cart/utility vehicle for campus use (Because of the size of our campus, we could make effective use of one in our programming)
- A car (small, good MPG) that can be used by staff for running errands to the hardware store, market, and for other business
- Large air compressor, large rolling tool box.

Finish nail gun, Chain saw.

- Volunteers to help in kitchen on Saturdays and Sundays during retreat season and volunteers willing to help mow lawns

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

BETWEEN the LINES

by Bruce Gregory, Program Director



"I will go," "Chase the Light," "Custom Built," and "Feel the Weight," are some of the themes used this summer to challenge campers and staff to seek and follow Christ. Themes can be a great way to

connect children and youth to God's Word and to bring the Scripture to life. Campers love to hear stories, sing crazy songs and praise songs, watch dramas, and will even sometimes sit long enough to hear the messages. However, in my almost 30 years of working at camp, I have found that one of

the most important components of connecting with the campers is a great counselor.

Counselors are so important in the life of campers and to their experience at camp. From chasing frogs and butterflies, talking as they walk to an activity, yelling group

cheers, wrestling in the pool and finally being big enough to beat their counselor, to the quiet moments on the porch of their cabin or around a campfire—these are all moments etched in the memories of these young ones. These kids will often remember more about what their counselor says and does than anything else they learn at camp—both good and bad. As a counselor I experienced both sides. When I became program director and had the privilege of working with staff who had once been my campers, I was both embarrassed and also proud of the things they remembered.

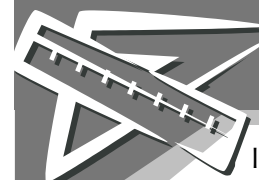
I am both encouraged and appreciative of the many counselors who come each week and serve with the summer camp groups. Each week has a unique ministry with the children, and the counselors and staff who come play a big part. Their excitement, love, and care for the children, and their commitment to serve give the campers an experience they will always remember.

So, I would like to say thank you to all the counselors and staff who served this summer, volunteering their time, many giving up their vacation week, all to make a difference in the lives of the campers.

Know that your service has touched a life for eternity.

A Measurement from the Camp Board

by Herb Benner, Board President



I hope you were able to attend our October Association Membership dinner and meeting on October 18 at the camp.

This year we heard from Jon Henson, Associate Pastor at Maple Grove Mennonite Church. Maple Grove is one of our founding churches, and Jon attended camp at Tel Hai during which time he experienced his call to full-time ministry. It is great to fellowship with each of you during these gatherings.

I would like to encourage you once again to consider association membership at Tel Hai. This is a key way to demonstrate your standing with this ministry and to have a voice in its continuation. Have you considered taking this step of support? We welcome your inquiry. For more information on becoming an association member, contact Gregg Horst by e-mail at admin@telhaicamp.org or call 610.273.3969.

Cabin Challenge Update

Rejoice with us in the completion of payments on one of our new cabins. In honor of the Byler family and their service both past and present, various family members committed to making donations sufficient to cover the cost of one of the new cabins. Praise the Lord for these gifts and the hearts that drove this investment in the ministry of Tel Hai Camp & Retreat!

We praise God that the mortgage has been reduced to \$190,954. Would you prayerfully consider being a part of this project?

Thank you for your Partnership!

Mortgage
Balance:
\$190,954

