



September/October 2017 Monthly Newsletter

CAMP APPANOOSE ADVENTURES

Thunder reverberated down the canyon as rain pelted the dry ground. Perhaps nothing is more awesome than a thunderstorm in the Colorado Rockies. Over many years we have set out countless thunderstorms in small tents, under dense forest canopies, or even in a cleft of a rugged granite cliff. I have often wondered, yes even worried, that weather could place more than a physical damper on a challenging and outstanding week of backpacking. This summer was no exception.

From my vantage point at basecamp, having just completed several months of youth programs, in the hot and drought-ridden climate of Iowa, the cooler temperatures of Colorado's high country were a welcomed relief. Even so, as the adventurers said "good-bye" at the trailhead the threat of rain was present. Every one of the available weather reports called for precipitation. When the rain finally came it greatly exceeded the usual early afternoon shower so common in the Rocky Mountains.

Challenge is one of three elements designed into each program at Camp Appanoose. It is through challenge that a young person is stretched, and grows. We look for challenge in the four primary areas of life. (1) On Rocky High campers are challenged socially as they function in a small group, carrying a load, participating in meal preparation and even sharing a rather small tent space. (2) Physical challenges are abundant as campers carry quite a few extra pounds on their backs over rugged high country trails all the while functioning as a team, sensitive to the needs of others. Another part of the physical challenge is learning to eat and

remain well hydrated in order to survive and even thrive in a ruggedly beautiful environment which can be physically draining. (3) Intellectual challenges are at every turn in the trail as each camper is faced with the practical issues of wilderness ecology, the awesome power of natural forces, the fascinating patterns of wildlife into whose environment they are visitors. Underlying all, is the spiritual challenge (4) as each young person learns to relate to God who is really there, has purpose, is relational, and has spoken through His Word. Bible programs at Camp Appanoose are written "in house," led by well qualified persons, designed to relate to all of life and be interactive within a small group.

Now, back to my account of Rocky High 2017! On Monday afternoon, August 7th the return group of campers exited the trailhead mid-afternoon tired but bubbling over with stories of the past week's adventures. Challenges had been met, friendships forged, leadership reinforced, and --oh yes before we forget—it had rained, even hailed! Each had grown through the challenges, faith had deepened its roots in each soul, physical exhaustion had melted into great anticipation of the year to follow back home in the Midwest. Visit www.Campappanoose.org for more information regarding Rocky High program options.

SEVERAL (Short term) PROJECTS FOR FALL:

- Complete the restroom in the camp store
- Complete infirmary – Cabinets, electrical, countertops
- Treehouse repair, craft shop repair
- Tractor repairs
- Trim trails
- Tune up horses (experienced adult riders only)
- Wash all windows on campground
- Paint wagons
- Remove dead trees
- 2X6 across top of arena gate
- Barn fascia
- Poster mounting boards for the Pavilion

FALL 2017 CALENDAR

SURF Club Saturdays for teens, 6:00-9:00 p.m. – 9/23, 10/14, 10/28, 11/11, 12/09 (visit www.campappanoose.org)

GO Team Meeting, 9:00 a.m., October 3, November 7

FOCAS (Friends of Camp Appanoose in Service) October 17, November 21, 9:00-4:00 (lunch is provided)

Fall Volunteer Retreat – October 6-7, lodging and meals provided

Fall Camp, 10-16 year olds, October 13-15 (register at www.campappanoose.org)

Fall Roundup, November 4, 3:30-6:00 – an opportunity (for adults to support camp), RSVP on-line at www.campappanoose.org

SURF Club Christmas Party, December 9, 6:00-9:00

VOLUNTEER RETREAT – October 6-7, Friday at 9:00 a.m. – Saturday at 4:00

An outstanding opportunity for the entire family to serve together in ministry. This is our bi-annual, retreat for volunteers to use their skills and gift of time for the maintenance of the facilities. Volunteers can come for all or any part of the retreat. Great meals are provided and for those who stay overnight, a hayrack ride and/or a movie is planned (Friday night.) Lodging is available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

FALL CAMP – October 13-15 for 10-16 year old for Fall Camp!

Fall camp begins on Friday, October 13 at 6:00 pm (5:00 pm check in) through Sunday, October 15 at 4:00 p.m. This is a classic camp experience with BTT (Bible Talk Time,) games, camping, horses, archery, great camp food, fishing, Capture the Flag and so much more! Cost 120.00. Register on-line at www.campappanoose.org or download registration materials and mail into the camp with your check.

FALL ROUNDUP – November 4, 3:30-6:00. Don't miss the Fall Roundup! An opportunity to benefit the ministry of Camp Appanoose including an auction, program, music, and complimentary progressive dinner. Guests encouraged to bring others interested in this very important ministry to the young people of the next generation. Guests will register for prizes in the following areas: best dressed cowboy or cowgirl, bringing new friends to this ministry. More details and RSVP on-line at www.campappanoose.org.

TOP TEN MOST WANTED ITEMS!

1. Sturdy, fold-able risers for a stage in camp's activity center (fold & store when not in use)
2. Overhead door and opener for the new equipment building \$2500.00
3. Tires needed on a camp vehicle and the skidsteer \$1400.00
4. Ceiling for new infirmary, restroom, and waiting area \$600.00
5. New lighting at Filling Station \$150.00
6. An authentic appearing bear costume
7. Wood Chipper (Heavy duty, industrial quality)
8. Archery backstop
10. Stump grinder

PROJECTS PENDING

*Pond Aerator – Excessive aquatic growth seems to quickly invade our swimming area. Pond Aeration would be a major step in resolving this problem - \$2000.00.

*Remodel of camp administrative building restroom to accommodate persons of limited mobility, addition of an infirmary (\$5,700.00), installation of an egress window in the infirmary area (\$2000.00). Installation of sink and equipment for the infirmary area (\$2000.00 approximately). This project would need to be completed during the winter months. Total cost - \$9,700.

*Four of our six Conestoga Sleeper wagons are in need of being re-built. They have served us well but are in need of new covers and in some cases, new wheels. The wood boxes are deteriorating and will need to be rebuilt. Our plan has been to rebuild two per year, during the winter season using volunteers and probably the new equipment building for a work area. Estimated cost will be around \$4500.00 each. Last winter the first two were rebuilt. We will begin work on the next two when funds become available -- \$9000.00 for two wagon cabins.



PLEASE PRAY

- Praises for new staff members on our team, for God's faithfulness, for sweet campers and summer staff provided in 2017, for a successful (and fun!) Family Camp
- Pray for fall retreats and events, for the young people we serve and love
- Fall Roundup, for great attendance by new (and old) friends of this ministry
- God's provision in many needs and challenges before us at this time

- *Camp Appanoose is running a significant budgetary deficit at this time (around \$47,000). Thankfully, due to staff and friends of the camp who have been willing to wait on reimbursements and even postpone salary, payments, all bills are being paid on time allowing the ministry to maintain an honorable relationship with vendors and our business friends. Approximately half of the deficit would bring salaries up to date and pay most reimbursements. Pray about what part you may have in this.*

- We are thankful for the donor who recently provided for a communication tower. This will greatly enhance our internet access while significantly cutting costs. Terry is working to assemble and design the new system.

WE ARE THANKFUL for a number of equipment items which have been donated recently, and for the work of the Martensdale Community Church youth in constructing 24 Leopold benches to be used around our fire-rings and elsewhere. They even raised the funds to provide materials. Way to go, Martensdale youth!

THANK YOU TO OUR SUMMER VOLUNTEERS (we couldn't do camp without you!)

Each summer, many volunteers step forward to provide nutritious and enjoyable meals for campers and staff, mow acres of camp grounds and miles of trails, provide maintenance and facility repairs and upkeep, bulk mailing and office tasks, and cleaning, and much more. Thank you to so many who work behind the scenes of camp to help make things run smoothly.

THANK YOU FOR REMEMBERING CAMP APPANOOSE IN YOUR WILL. Contact the camp office, 641.649.2491 or cabar@campappanoose.org for information and suggested wording in doing so.