

Camp Nathanael News - Fall/Winter 2008



2008 Camping Season Recap

The 2008 camping season saw a number of scheduling changes in response to our recent attendance trends. Our two Father/Son weeks at the end of the season have quickly filled to capacity in recent years. In 2008, we replaced one of our less attended Stockade weeks with a third Father/Son camp tucked in at the beginning of the camping season. The response was great. Not only did the Dads and Sons have a wonderful experience, our staff and non-coms found it a great way to ease into the summer.



Mixed Weeks have also become more popular as they offer flexibility for brothers, cousins, and friends of all ages to attend camp together. In 2009, an additional Mixed Week will be added to the schedule. The 2009 Camp Schedule is listed on the back; look for registration information online and by mail in January.

Board of Directors News

2008 was a year of change for the Board of Directors. Dean VanDerWerf, Russ Liljedahl and Pat Fries all retired from the Board. The combined years of service, wisdom and experience provided can not be adequately described. Our deepest thanks go out to all three of them for their incredible service to Camp over the past years. And while they will be missed greatly, these retirements provide a new opportunity for someone else to step up and help govern Camp Nathanael. In addition to these open Board positions, Dean's departure has left us in a search someone to assume the bookkeeping, reporting and compliance duties of Treasurer. If you or someone you know is interested in applying for any of these open positions, please contact any one of the Camp Board members or email Steve at BoardofDirectors@CampNathanael.com.

Camp Communication

Help Camp Nathanael transition to online only newsletters. In 2009, we will be working toward updating our contact list with current e-mail addresses as part of our goal to continue to be good stewards of the resources God has given us. If you would like to receive this newsletter and other information electronically, please send an e-mail to News@CampNathanael.com with your name and address. In the future we will send an e-mail to you announcing that the newsletter is posted on the CampNathanael.com website. This is the best way to insure you receive information from and about Camp Nathanael.

Our website is another great way to keep current with Camp Nathanael news. Click on the newsletter tab for the latest updates. We also post news articles on the right side of the home page. The "How Can I Help" button typically has a listing of upcoming work dates. Check the website regularly for the latest Camp news.

What's New – Camp Store

The Camp Store online is a great place to shop for those hard to buy for guys that love Camp Nathanael. There is a variety of quality clothing, stocking stuffers, as well novelties. Check out the camp store tab on our website: www.campnathanael.com



Camp Finance Corner

A special thanks to all that have so generously supported Camp Nathanael, both in time, talents, material items and money. In 2008 we received a new Quartermaster Shack, a new (used) van, trail biking gear, a sailboat, and as this newsletter goes to press we are almost done re-constructing a pole building at Camp from two buildings that were donated. All these gifts and many, many more were provided to fulfill needs that once met, allow us to continue to support and improve our ministry, and we are grateful for each and every one of them.

We are grateful for those that support Camp financially. Often this support comes to us in \$10 and \$20 increments, either as a one-time gift or as a monthly donation. Every dollar is appreciated and put to good use. Giving in 2008 is down 30% over last year and less than 50% of our current budget is being met. Given the current economic conditions, this is hardly unexpected. As you consider your own financial picture for the coming year, please consider Camp. If you can offer financial support, know that we do understand that a sacrifice is being made with each donation and we promise to use the money in the best way possible to further this great ministry we call Camp Nathanael.

Donations can be made online or to the address listed below. Thank you for your continued support of Camp Nathanael.

Donations to Camp Nathanael can be sent to:
MN Brigade Camping Association
6736 Regent Ave. No.
Minneapolis, MN 55429
Camp Nathanael, Hinckley, MN is an IRS 501C(3) non profit

Camp Nathanael Reflections

This issue features reflections from Steve Nelson, Board Director and 'new' Chair. Steve is married to Anne, they have two young sons and are active members of Cambridge Lutheran Church, Cambridge, Minnesota.

Camp Nathanael has been in the business of winning and training men and boys for Christ for over 45 years. As we have been doing God's business at Camp over the last 10 years, we have also been maintaining and building buildings, upgrading electrical services, revising programs and organizing the Board of Directors to meet the every-changing needs of our summer program.

My involvement with Camp began in 1981, but my service on the Board of Directors began just 5 short years ago. While some of the landmark buildings remain the same, many others have been moved, remodeled or replaced. On my first anniversary as Chairman of the Board, I honestly feel like we can start to ask the question, "What's next?" Camp Nathanael is now poised to explore new crafts, revisit old trips and consider other programs outside of our traditional summer program. What can we do to improve the experience the boys already have at Camp, or what can we do to reach out to more boys in new and exciting ways? Where the next decade leads, only God can tell, but we will keep you posted as we embark upon this journey to bring Christ to the next generation.

This update is brought to you by the Board of Directors of Camp Nathanael.
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2009 Camp Schedule

Father-Son I
Father-Son II
Mixed Week I & Back Pack Base Camp
Battalion I & Canoe Base Camp
Stockade I & Splash Base Camp
Mixed Week II
Battalion II & Horse Base Camp
Mixed Week III
Father-Son III



Sunday, June 28 to Wednesday, July 1
Wednesday, July 1 to Saturday, July 4
Sunday, July 5 to Saturday, July 11
Sunday, July 12 to Saturday, July 18
Sunday, July 19 to Saturday, July 25
Sunday, July 26 to Saturday, Aug. 1
Sunday, Aug. 2 to Saturday, Aug. 8
Sunday, Aug. 9 to Saturday, Aug. 15
Sunday, Aug. 16 to Wednesday, Aug. 19

Mixed Week camps serve all ages; Stockade is for grades 3-6; Battalion is for grades 7-12; Base Camp age requirements vary.