



2005 Camp Season Recap

The Camp Nathanael attendance in 2005 was 606, our second-biggest year ever, which included two full Father/Son sessions and a full Battalion II. We noted 15 boys who accepted Christ as their Savior, another 13 who re-dedicated their lives and more than 70 camper who remained after campfire seeking spiritual counsel of some sort. Only God knows the precise numbers, but it clearly indicates the Lord at work in the lives of our campers.

1 Peter 3:15 tells us to "set apart Christ as Lord" and to "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."

One of our objectives at Camp is the training of high school and college age young men to not only share the plan of Salvation, but also to give their reason for hope in Jesus Christ through their testimony, how the Lord has been working in their lives and causing them to grow in a deeper relationship with Christ. We are truly blessed to see young men sharing the Gospel, their faith and their very lives as they grew significantly in Christian leadership. These non-coms and staff are the future leaders of our churches and of Camp Nathanael. We thank God for their dedication and willingness to serve.

Camp Store – Inaugural Year



If you were at Camp this summer you saw the newest fundraising venture, The Camp Store. It opened with the arrival of the first campers of 2005 and closed as the last campers of the year left. In between we sold lots of 2005 Retro T's, sweatshirts, hats, water bottles, cara beaners, and cold drinks from the cooler. We also listened carefully to the items being requested. Flashlights and New Testaments were at the top of the list.

Included with this newsletter is a list of items from the Camp Store and an order form. We will gladly ship your Nathanael gear to you year round. Camp Nathanael accepts payment in the form of check and now we offer VISA/Mastercard options. Camp Nathanael branded gear make great gifts for all who know and love Camp!

Proceeds from Camp Store sales go to the Dining Hall Renovation Project.

Camp Nathanael News

Fall 2005



What's Happening

Work Days – The Fall 2005 Work and Fellowship Days schedule has been set.

They are Saturdays,

October 8 and 22, November 5 and 19.

The weather of the day will determine the projects. There are many indoor and outdoor projects to do including mowing, painting, window replacement, brush removal, fencing and more.

Join the fun and bring the entire family for a day of service!

Contact Jim Schroeder at 612-625-4448 if you can help.

Lunch and hot coffee will be provided.



Camp Needs THE NATHANAEL FUND

Each year we are dependent upon receiving your gifts for Camp Nathanael. The Lord keeps blessing Camp through your faithful support. We continue to be debt free. In the next several weeks the board of directors will put together a new budget for the 2006 season. Your sacrificial gifts and prayers make it possible to maintain our camp and expand it.

Many of you have used our new registration building this summer. Most of the funds came from a large memorial gift. This is another example of how the Lord provides.

We have about \$16,000 for our dining hall remodeling project, which is scheduled for 2007. Until then we need to raise more funds. The cost of this project is yet to be determined.

We will give you more details about our needs in our next newsletter. Please continue to mail your tax-deductible gifts to MN Brigade Camping Association, 6736 Regent Ave N, Minneapolis, MN 55429

Feel free to call me at 612-386-8395.

Dean Van Der Werf
Treasurer

Camp Nathanael Reflections



This issue features reflections from Diana Rogers, Board Director and Vice Chair. Diana is the mother of two grown children and is an active member at Church of the Open Door in Maple Grove, MN.

In January 2005, the Camp Nathanael Board of Directors had a day away to envision what Camp will look like in 5 years, 10 years, 20 years. Where do we want to go? What does God have for the future?

The Board looked at a number of categories from staffing to promotions, from facilities to programming. Each topic brought out the potential visionary in all of us. We talked for almost 8 hours and left with a renewed feeling of excitement for what God has done and might have in store for Camp Nathanael in the future.

The first focus must be the dining hall. At over 40 years of age, it needs renovating. The Camp will not be able to grow the number of campers it serves until we have room to feed them. The capacity now allows for around 100 which includes campers, staff, noncoms and visitors. The kitchen needs to be updated to be in compliance with new health codes. This is the biggest project we have attempted since the wash house almost 10 years ago. We need to raise in excess of \$75,000. There is currently just short of \$14,000 in the Dining Hall fund. We hope to begin the multi-phase construction in the fall of 2006. Planning is underway for Phase I.

Currently the Camp facilities operate for 9 weeks a year, including 2 weeks for training of the staff and noncoms followed by 7 weeks of scheduled camp. What would it be like to offer a retreat season? Men's Retreat at Camp Nathanael? Construction Retreat at Camp Nathanael? Young Men's Retreat at Camp Nathanael? We are not ready to offer retreats at this time, but this is the direction we would like to consider. This will be kept in mind as we make decisions in other areas, such as buildings, grounds, and equipment.

The staff and non-com housing is located all over camp. We have old cabins being used. We have old mobile homes being used. What would it look like to have a 'lodge' on staff corner across the road from the new dining hall? The new nurses' cabin is a wonderful footprint and fits in beautifully to the look and proportions of camp. That footprint could be used for senior staff cabins. We have already created a Master Site Plan to allow for this potential future growth.

Much of the Camp vision is longer range. But, there are some short range goals as well. Reevaluating our current camp programs is at the top of the list. What is working really well? How do we support those programs more effectively? What may not be working well? Can they be improved or should they be replaced? Do we need to add additional age specific programs? Where can we find additional expertise in specific areas?

The Board of Directors had a great time talking about what could happen, what it might look like, and a bit about how we might get there. I hope you have caught a glimpse of our vision. Now the hard work starts as well as the excitement of seeing where God will take Camp Nathanael in the future. Please remember to pray for Camp and pray for wisdom and guidance for the Board of Directors as we move forward.

"Our history gives us our root, but our dreams give us wings." Chuck Swindoll speaking on moving the church forward to reach the next generation.

Diana Rogers
Vice Chair – Camp Nathanael Board of Directors

Donations to Camp Nathanael can be sent to:
MN Brigade Camping Association
6736 Regent Ave. No.
Minneapolis, MN 55429
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