

# Outdoor Ministries News



Outdoor Ministries Association of the Church of the Brethren  
September 2009

*"OMA: Connecting, enlivening and supporting the dynamic ministry of Church of the Brethren camps."*

## ***Around the Campfire... news bits from Brethren camps:***

**OMA at NOAC!** OMA member and Camp Mack director, Rex Miller, will present a workshop highlighting volunteer opportunities at Brethren camps. Come and find out how you can get involved and make a difference.

**Camp Carmel** (Southeastern) thanks the 25 volunteers who replaced the roof on Hilltop Lodge!

**Camp Pine Lake** is under new management! (See article on page 4.)

**Shepherd's Spring OMC** (Mid-Atlantic) hired Junior Cornell as the new Maintenance Manager.

**Camp Blue Diamond** (Middle PA) is building a Hammock Village, (a great way for campers to sleep out under the stars) consisting of two units of 8 hammocks, each in a pinwheel design. There will be a strong center post supporting the hammocks. Camp needs 16 hammock sponsors at \$200 each. Sponsor's names will be put on the hammock support post.

**Camp Bethel** (Virilina) built a new, state-of-the-art water treatment facility and a new kitchen addition to their Ark Dining Hall. Virilina also greatly enjoyed the FUN camp-wedding of Susan Chapman and Patrick Starkey on June 6.

**Camp Brethren Heights** (Michigan) & The Michigan District generously made available some funds for those suffering job loss and having trouble paying their bills. These funds are given as a gift from the district, and those wishing to give back have been spending a week volunteering at the camp, getting BH ready for the summer. It's been rewarding developing new relationships with adults in the district, many who had not been to camp for years, and a few who'd never been here at all! In all our focus on ministry for kids, it's interesting to be reminded that adults need time out to hear God's call in nature as well!

**Camp Ithiel** (Atlantic Southeast) Venture Fun(d) Day was held March 14. Proceeds from the camp's event went to the Church Development Council of Atlantic Southeast District. The day featured a Silent Auction of items offered by congregations, a Pie Auction, a food booth, games and contests including a "Pastors Crawl," and a fishing tournament for children. A praise band from the churches in Puerto Rico played, as well as the praise team from Clay County Church of the Brethren. The event was opened to surrounding community as "an opportunity to demonstrate our faith and love to what we hope will be many more people."



*YOU TOO can visit all our camps at <http://www.brethren.org/links/camps.htm>.*

*So what's going on around YOUR camp's campfire? Submit newsletter info to [camp\\_bethel@yahoo.com](mailto:camp_bethel@yahoo.com).*

### **IMPORTANT DATES!**

October 26-28, 2009: OMA Steering Committee Meeting at Camp Brethren Heights (Michigan), Rodney, MI.

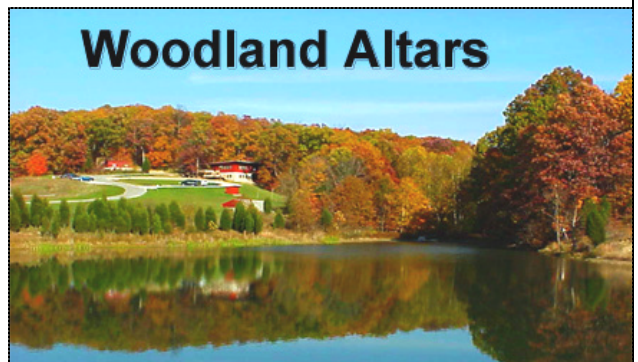
November 13-15, 2009: OMA National Conference at Woodland Altars (Southern Ohio).

November 15-19, 2009: OMA Director/Manager/Staff Retreat at Woodland Altars (Southern Ohio).

### **OMA Nat'l Conference, Nov. 13-15 at Woodland Altars: "CHRIST AS CORNERSTONE"**

Every three years, the Outdoor Ministries Association of the Church of the Brethren holds its national conference. The 2009 National Conference will be held at Woodland Altars, near Peebles, OH, Nov. 13-15. The keynote speaker for the event will be Richard Dawson, Executive Director of Camp Highroad in Virginia. Rick will speak on the 'Seven Foundations of Christian Camping', and give a presentation on EcoEternity Forests, environmentally friendly memorial parks, one of which has been established at Camp Highroad.

The OMA National Conference is a great opportunity for camp staff, board members, other interested camp volunteers to learn, network, share and relax. In addition to the Mr. Dawson's sessions there will be a Friday evening concert, the Saturday evening OMA auction, and recreational sessions featuring Woodland Altar's Challenge Course, a Nature Hike led by an Outdoor School teachers, and a camp craft.



### **OMA Directors/Managers/Staff Retreat, November 15-19 at Woodland Altars**

***For info about either event, contact Gene Karn, 937-417-1184 or [OMCdirector@yahoo.com](mailto:OMCdirector@yahoo.com)***

# OMA is proud to support the Youth Peace Travel Team!

*"Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called sons of God." - Matthew 5:9*

**Calling 2010 Youth Peace Travel Team Members:** Anyone 18-23 who is passionate about camping and committed to sharing Christ's call to "love our enemies" (Matthew 5:44) is eligible to apply for the Youth Peace Travel Team. From early June through mid-August the Peace Team visits different camps, providing leadership (campfires, morning watch, vespers, Bible study, games, etc), engaging campers and counselors with peace and justice issues, and working on being a team. Applications become available in September and are due in January. For more information or an application go to the YPPT webpage under Programs and Projects at: [www.onearthpeace.org](http://www.onearthpeace.org) or contact Steering Committee member Margo Royer-Miller at [royermillers@yahoo.com](mailto:royermillers@yahoo.com).

## 2009 Youth Peace Travel Team:

This year's Youth Peace Travel Team brought a wealth of expertise and enthusiasm! Together they brought notable musical ability, ministry experience, leadership and teacher skills and training, passion for running and exercise, loads of energy, and several years of camp experience. Incidentally, they are all students at Bridgewater College.



**Jessica Flory-Steuery**—a senior Music Education major and member of Mack Memorial COB, from Kettering OH in the Southern Ohio District. Her home camp is Woodland Altars. Her specific interest in forgiveness and reconciliation.

**Bethany Funkhouser**—a member of Columbia Furnace COB from Strasburg, VA and a senior English major, Communications minor with a passion for Human Rights journalism. Her home camp is Brethren Woods where she was challenged and inspired by a previous Youth Peace Travel Team.

**Chelsea Goss**—a Liberal Studies major focusing on Elementary Education from Mechanicsville, VA and the West Richmond COB and a fifth-year senior. Her home camp is Camp Bethel. She brings a passion for the environment and social justice.

**Marianne Houff**—a Music Education major focusing on Church music from the Palmyra COB and Bethel PA. Her home camp (literally) is Camp Swatara. She brings passion for the environment and approaching peace through both prayer and lifestyle.

This vibrant and dedicated group of young women shared their leadership with the following host camps and events this summer: Camp Mack, Camp Mardela, Inspiration Hills, Camp Swatara, Camp Galilee, Camp Eder, Camp Blue Diamond, National Junior High Conference, Annual Conference, and a New Windsor Work Camp.

For pictures and more from the 2009 Peace Team checkout the Youth Peace Travel Team webpage under Programs and Projects at [www.onearthpeace.org](http://www.onearthpeace.org). The Youth Peace Travel Team is a joint project of OMA, On Earth Peace, Brethren Volunteer Service, and Youth and Young Adult Ministry. If your camp wants the opportunity to host the Youth Peace Travel Team, contact OMA Steering Committee member, Margo Royer-Miller at [royermillers@yahoo.com](mailto:royermillers@yahoo.com).

## Youth Peace Travel Teams, 1991-Present

1991: Andy Loomis, Chris Brown, Joy Kraybill, Audrey Osborne. Camps: Bethel, Brethren Woods, Carmel, Ithiel, Swatara; Training: Bethel

1992: Chris Forney, Darin Keith Bowman, Erin Kramer, Demetra Heckman. Camps: Eder, Mon-Dak, Shepherd's Spring, Inspiration Hills, Emmanuel, Harmony; Training: Woodland Altars

1993: Jenn Ungemach, Jessica Eller, Jeff Carter, Andrew Brunk. Camps: Mack, Stover, La Verne, Peaceful Pines, Myrtlewood; Training: Mack

1994: Brian Kruschwitz, Rhonda Mellinger, Becki Whittaker, Matt Guynn. Camps: Emmanuel (1 week of training, 2 weeks of camp), Pine Lake, Colorado (2 weeks of camp), National Youth Conference, Annual Conference (Wichita, KS)

1995: Steve Brady, Sarah Stafford, Melissa Bennett, Matthew Miller. Camps: Inspiration Hills, Blue Diamond, Bethel, Shepherd's Spring, Ithiel; Training: Inspiration Hills

1996: Heidi Beck, Rebekah Helsel, Sarah Marie Hendricks. Camps: Woodland Altars, Carmel, Mack, Emmaus, Emmanuel, Bethel; Training: Woodland Altars

1997: Jacki Hartley, Jessica Lehman, Nathan Musselman, Mike Brinkmeyer. Camps: Inspiration Hills, Harmony, Shepherd's Spring, Mardela, Brethren Woods, Ithiel, Hammond Mill, Swatara; Training: Brethren Woods

1998: Lori Van Order, Linetta Alley, Rachel Carroll, Liz Geisewite. Camps: LaVerne, Stover, Pine Lake, Peaceful Pines, National Youth Conference, spent time at churches in CAB San Diego, Shalom Ministries (Tijuana), Modesto; Training: Mack

1999: Chanda Edwards, Amy Rhoades, Erica Sweitzer, Wendy Matheny. Camps: Brethren Woods, Camp Mack, Blue Diamond, Emmaus, Emmanuel; Training: Brethren Woods

2000: Myra Martin-Adkins, Peter Dobberstein, Dan Royer, Marshall Camden, Meghan Sheller. Camps: Camp Swatara, Shepherd's Spring, Annual Conference (Kansas City), Brethren Woods, Bethel, Eder, Brethren Heights; Training: Camp Swatara; Debriefing: Brethren Heights

## **Youth Peace Travel Teams, 1991-Present, continued from page 2:**

2001: Katie Best, Susan Chapman, Rachel Long. Camps: Shepherd's Spring, Song and Story Fest (Shepherd's Spring), Baltimore (A.C.), Blue Diamond, Galilee, Emmaus, Eder, Mack; Training: Shepherd's Spring; Debriefing: Mack

2002: Carle Gaier, Ben Kreider, Chris Palsgrove, Daniel Radcliff. Camps: Inspiration Hills; Annual Conference B Louisville, KY; Stover; National Youth Conference B Ft. Collins, CO; LaVerne; Myrtlewood; Peaceful Pines; Koinonia; Training: Inspiration Hills; Debriefing: Elgin (David Radcliff)

2003: Erica Schatz, Laura Sweitzer, Mandy Wampler. Camps: Woodland Altars, Brethren Heights, Annual Conference B Boise, ID, Camp Mack, Pine Lake, Emmaus, Hammond's Mill; Training: Woodland Altars; Debriefing: Elgin (Kim Stuckey)

2004: Tiffany Carty, Carrie Fry-Miller, Jeff McAvoy, Matt Witkovsky. Camps: National Young Adult Conference (Snow Mountain Ranch, CO), Shepherd's Spring (twice), Brethren Woods, Annual Conference - Charleston, WV, Camp Blue Diamond, Camp Bethel, Camp Harmony, Camp Swatara, Waynesboro Church of the Brethren; Training: Richmond, IN & Northview COB, Indianapolis, IN; Debriefing: New Windsor, MD

2005: Benjamin Bear, Nicole Fowler, Benjamin Ritchey Martin, Rachel McFadden. Camps: Camp Inspiration Hills, Camp Brethren Heights, Camp Ithiel, Annual Conference - Peoria, IL, Camp Mack, Woodland Altars, Camp Emmaus, Camp Blue Diamond, Shepherd's Spring; Training: Richmond, IN & Camp Inspiration Hills; Debriefing: Brethren Service Center

2006: Karen Duhai, Christina McPherson, Corrine Lipscomb  
Camps: Camp Mack, Camp Mt. Hermon, Pine Lake, Annual Conference - Boise, ID, Camp Stover, Myrtlewood, National Youth Conference, Camp LaVerne, Camp Peaceful Pines, Camp Koinonia  
Training: Richmond, IN & Camp Mack

2007: Audrey Hollenberg, Amanda Glover, Emily LaPrade. Camps: Woodland Altars, Eder, Harmony, Annual Conference - Cleveland, OH, Shepherd's Spring, Mardela, Camp Blue Diamond, Camp Swatara and LaVerne CoB Peace Camp; Training: Elgin, IL & Camp Woodland Altars

2008: Gabriel Dodd, Samantha Carwile, Melisa Grandison, John-Michael Pickens. Camps: Camp Pine Lake, Bethel, Ithiel, Mack, Camp Blue Diamond, Annual Conference - Richmond, VA, Brethren Heights, Camp Emmaus, Peaceful Pines, Young Adult Conference (Estes Park, CO); Training: Elgin, IL

2009: Jessica Flory-Steury, Bethany Funkhouser, Chelsea Goss, Marianne Houff, (see article on page 2).

### **Leadership Development, Brethren Style: "The Four Horsemen"**

In the late 1920s a team of roving camp leaders (**Perry Rohrer, Dan West, Chauncey Shamberger, and Alvin Brightbill**) jokingly called themselves the "Four Horsemen." Chauncey Shamberger was the national young people's director for the Church of the Brethren and the others were secured with funding by the Board of Religious Education.

The four team members traveled together in Shamberger's old Studebaker, dubbed "Sweet Chariot". This quartet carried the camping vision across the country to camps each summer during these early formative years. One report called the four the "Traveling Salesman" for Brethren camping. The work these men did for Brethren camping was amazing!

These "Four Horsemen" set the stage for Outdoor Ministries in the church. Their leadership set a pattern not only for camping but also a pattern of leadership development for the church.

In honor of these youth leaders and those who followed in their footsteps, the Four Horsemen Fund was set up for leadership development opportunities for camp leaders. These funds help provide scholarships for events and training, for professional growth, and other opportunities to help strengthen leadership. Your gift to the Four Horsemen Fund would be a welcome addition to this resource for leaders in Outdoor Ministries. Send contributions memo "4 Horsemen" to: Outdoor Ministries Association, P O Box 229, Bethel, PA 19507



### **2009 OMA Staff & Volunteer Awards & Environmental Grants Awarded:**

The 2009 OMA Staff of the Year Award was presented to **Bob Patalano of Inspiration Hills**.

The 2009 OMA Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to **Leroy Lapp of Camp LaVerne** and posthumously to **Lloyd Lapp of Camp LaVerne**.

2009 OMA Environmental Grants were awarded as follows:

**Brethren Woods:** \$500.00 matching grant to construct dual system composting and rain water collection system.

**Camp Carmel:** \$1000.00 one time grant for demonstrative erosion control.

**Shepherds Spring:** \$500.00 one time grant for a rain barrel system for their heifer global village.

\*Forms for 2010 Volunteer & Staff Award Nominations AND 2010 Environmental Grants are posted at [www.campbethelvirginia.org/2010OMastaff-vol-enviroPacket.pdf](http://www.campbethelvirginia.org/2010OMastaff-vol-enviroPacket.pdf) OR contact [camp\\_bethel@yahoo.com](mailto:camp_bethel@yahoo.com).

## Camp Pine Lake Under New Management

Matt and Betsy Kuecker joined the Camp Pine Lake staff as managers beginning April 1, 2009. Camp Pine Lake, owned and operated by the Northern Plains District, is located adjacent to Pine Lake State Park outside Eldora, Iowa. Matt and Betsy's appointment follows the retirement of longtime manager Larry Dreesman along with his wife Joyce and sister-in-law Rachel Bakker, who both served as camp cooks.



Matt and Betsy grew up in the Prairie City Church of the Brethren outside Prairie City, Iowa and attended Camp Pine Lake. The Kueckers are graduates of Central College in Pella, Iowa and come to the camp with prior fundraising, marketing and maintenance experience.

Barbara Wise-Lewczak returned to Camp Pine Lake for her second season as program director. In addition to her duties at camp, Barbara also works as a para-educator and is a student in the TRIM program as she pastors the Stover Memorial Church of the Brethren in Des Moines, Iowa.

Camp Pine Lake seeks to help youth and adults:

- come to know God as Creator and Sustainer
- develop a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ
- develop knowledge by exploring the Bible
- develop an appreciation for the Church
- foster relationship in a Christ-like community
- desire to share with others the good news of God's love

To learn more about Camp Pine Lake, please visit [www.camppinelake.com](http://www.camppinelake.com) or contact Betsy & Matt directly at [camppinelake@heartofiowa.net](mailto:camppinelake@heartofiowa.net).

## ATTENTION ALL OMA MEMBERS AND CAMPS!

### 2010 OMA Environmental Grant Applications AND 2010 OMA Staff & Volunteer Award Applications

are posted on line at

[www.campbethelvirginia.org/2010OMastaff-vol-enviroPacket.pdf](http://www.campbethelvirginia.org/2010OMastaff-vol-enviroPacket.pdf)

Also, e-mail or paper copies are available from: [camp\\_bethel@yahoo.com](mailto:camp_bethel@yahoo.com).



## Facility Administration Manual FREE to OMA/CoB Camps by Rex Miller, [rex@campmack.org](mailto:rex@campmack.org)

Sometimes there are resources that are developed that we miss that can provide a wealth of information for us as we operate our camps. One such resource is the **Outdoor Ministries Facility Administration Manual**. This manual in CD format was produced by the Committee on Outdoor Ministries of the National Council of Churches in 2004. This resource was designed to provide basic information for persons new in the industry as well as new information for those who have been in the industry for a while. There are four major areas covered with many topics under each of those areas. These four areas include Mission, Governance, Daily Operations and Long Range Planning.

The Outdoor Ministries Steering Committee has made a decision to provide a copy of this resource to each camp in the denomination who would like a copy. Each camp will receive a letter introducing the resource with an order form. The Outdoor Ministries Association will pay for this resource as a way to provide support to each of the camps in the denomination. This gift is being funded through the Four Horseman Endowment Fund that is designed to support leadership development in Outdoor Ministries. All you will need to do is take the action to order the resource. Don't miss this great opportunity! For direct information about the Manual, contact Rex Miller at [rex@campmack.org](mailto:rex@campmack.org).

# FREE!

## Green Camp and Conference Center Covenant

At the spring 2009 meeting of the Steering Committee of the Outdoor Ministries Association a covenant statement drafted by the Committee on Outdoor Ministries and the Eco-justice Program, both part of the National Council of Churches was presented and reviewed. The covenant recognizes that camps and conference centers have a special responsibility to play in protecting God's creation and maintaining places where people of faith come to experience God. The covenant can be read and signed at [www.ncecojustice.org/campcovenant.html](http://www.ncecojustice.org/campcovenant.html).

"Camp and conference centers have a unique role to play in the protection of, and education about, God's Creation", said Jordan Blevins, Assistant Director of the Eco-Justice Program of the National Council of Churches and a Church of the Brethren camper who came through Shepherd's Spring. "This covenant gives them the opportunity to put words and commitments to the values many of them have been living out for generations, and to be recognized for and supported in doing so."



The Committee on Outdoor Ministries has long maintained Creation Care as one of their main priorities, writing in their Theological Mission Statement, "Outdoor ministry settings provide space and time to encounter God, others, and creation. The sacred place apart, intentional programs of study, recreation, worship, and sustained time together offer opportunities for Christian community. The natural environment reminds campers of the richness and variety God creates, the call to praise God, and the charge to care for all creation."

Jeff Puhmann-Becker, chair of the Committee on Outdoor Ministries, explained, "This covenant was developed with the hopes that a wide variety of participants, leaders, camps and denominations will sign on as individuals and collective groups.

Camps across the denomination are encouraged to review this document and sign on as a supporter of this covenant.

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God created the Earth and all that is in it, and declared it good. God's creation is marked by wondrous complexity, interdependence, and beauty. Human beings are called to the task of stewardship – to care for the Earth as created by God, and to maintain this blessing for future generations to enjoy. Furthermore, the protection of Creation is an issue of justice, as its degradation of the Earth often disproportionately affects the "least of these".

Places of wilderness and solitude are places where we often experience the sacredness of Creation most clearly, and are places where God meets us, sometimes most powerfully. Whether as the site of Moses' call, the Israelites' freedom and consecration, the inspiration of prophets, the testing of Jesus, or our own experiences today, the solitude of being with God in the midst of Creation often reacquaints us with our interdependence with that Creation. Specifically, we commit ourselves to the following:

1. When making decisions about how to use the lands we have been blessed with, consider the sacred nature of land and wilderness as a part of God's Creation
2. To conserve energy in as many ways as possible, recognizing that our use of energy is a justice issue, as the impacts of energy's overuse falls on those living in poverty first, and relates to our call to care for all of God's children, especially the most vulnerable, and to protect and restore God's creation.
3. To practice conservation in our use of water, recognizing that good water management plays a vital role in realizing the importance of water for all communities around God's Earth.
4. To recycle our waste in as many ways as possible, seeking to achieve sustainability. Recycling is a tangible action that reminds us of the interdependence of the world, and seeks to sustain the ongoing capacity of natural and social system to thrive together.
5. To purchase environmentally sustainable products (products made seeking the sustainability defined above), as recognition that how we live our lives and make purchasing decisions have profound environmental and justice impacts on God's creation.
6. To continue to educate those who use our camp and conference centers to the sacred nature of the Creation they are experiencing, and to teach them how to lead lives in recognition of this sacredness.

We recognize that as a camp and conference center of the faith community, we have a unique role and responsibility to play in protecting God's creation and maintaining places where people of faith come to experience God.

## 2010 Camp Curriculum, "Be a Hero: Living Like Jesus" Available Now!

The 2010 summer camp curriculum "Be A Hero: Living Like Jesus" from New Earth Resources is now available at Brethren Press.

To "Be a Hero" for God means recognizing a need, realizing that something can be done to address that need, and taking the risk to act. Each day campers will hear a story of a biblical hero who followed God in a brave and amazing way. God's heroes act in ways big and small as they welcome, befriend, and include others, as they give, rejoice, and share the good news. Campers will learn that they can live like Jesus in simple ways, with everyday things as ordinary people. Campers will leave camp ready to use their courage and faith to "Be a Hero" for God.



- **Discovery 1: Welcome Others:** John 6:1-15. Campers will hear the story of a boy sharing his lunch for Jesus to use to feed the five thousand and then explore ways they can show hospitality to others.
- **Discovery 2: Be a Friend:** Samuel 20:1-42. Campers will hear the story of Jonathan's friendship with David and consider what it means to be a loyal friend.
- **Discovery 3: Accept Others:** Acts 10:24-35, 44-48. Campers will hear the story of Peter and Cornelius, and be inspired to relate to those who are different from them, because it is God who determines who is acceptable.
- **Discovery 4: Give:** Luke 21:1-3. Campers will hear the story of the widow in the temple and be inspired by her sacrifice to go and do likewise.
- **Discovery 5: Rejoice:** Exodus 15:19-21. Campers will hear the story of Miriam and rejoice in the goodness of God.
- **Discovery 6: Share the Good News:** 2 Timothy 1:3-7. Campers will hear the story of Timothy, Lois, and Eunice and the way they faithfully passed on the story of Jesus.

The curriculum package includes plans for all camper age groups including intergenerational/family camps, activities for Bible study, worship, nature study, recreation, crafts, camper pages, in print AND on CD-ROM, music and artwork.

To order, visit [www.brethrenpress.com](http://www.brethrenpress.com) or call 1-800-441-3712.

### Are YOU part of the Camp & Retreat Leaders' Network? (aka, the CRLN)

This e-mail network is organized by Kevin Witt, the camp/conference staff person for the United Methodist Church AND the Religiously Affiliated Camps coordinator for the American Camp Association. All denominations and camps may participate. To sign-up, visit <http://www.gbod.org/camping/> and find the link for the "Camp/Retreat Leader E-mail Network."

## OMA Membership

If you would like to renew your membership now or if you would like to join for the very first time, please feel free to fill out the form below and mail it along with your dues to: **Outdoor Ministries Association, PO Box 229, Bethel, PA 19507**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Camp \_\_\_\_\_



### Annual Membership Levels for Individuals (Please Choose One)

Individual, \$30     Family, \$50     Annual Sustaining, \$120     Camp Professional, \$150     Lifetime, \$500

### Annual Membership for Camps (Maximum fee paid is \$500.00)

Camp Name \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your budget: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /1000 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (your membership fee).

*NOTE: Remember that an annual camp membership includes one professional membership in OMA.*

**Make Checks Payable to Outdoor Ministries Association**

## YOUR OUTDOOR MINISTRIES ASSOCIATION STEERING COMMITTEE:



### Directors/Managers:

CRISPIN, Jennifer (1) '11, 9478 Brethren Heights Rd., Rodney, MI 49342, (231) 867-3618  
[brethrenheights@gmail.com](mailto:brethrenheights@gmail.com)

PHILLIPS, Doug (Secretary), (2) '10, 5390 Armentrout Path, Keezletown, VA 22832, (540) 269-2741,  
[camp@brethrenwoods.org](mailto:camp@brethrenwoods.org)

LENOIR, Barry, (2) '10, 328 Bethel Road, Fincastle, VA 24090, (540) 992-2940, [camp.bethel@juno.com](mailto:camp.bethel@juno.com)

### Associate Staff:

STERN, Natasha (Chair), (2) '11, 2905 Camp Swatara Rd, Bethel, PA 19507, (717) 933-8510,  
[nstern@campswatara.org](mailto:nstern@campswatara.org)

### Pastor/Theologian:

EISENBISE, Debbie, (1) '10, 394 S. Drake Rd, Kalamazoo, MI 49009, (269) 375-3939, [eisenbised@aol.com](mailto:eisenbised@aol.com)

### District Executive:

ROUDEBUSH, Pete (appointed), 847 Cobblestone Place, Kingsport, TN 37660, (423) 378-6027,  
[roudebushsd@earthlink.net](mailto:roudebushsd@earthlink.net)

### Volunteers:

GUYER, Wayne (2) '09, PO Box 75, 172 Main Street, Woodbury, PA 16695, (814) 766-2528, [guyer4@gmail.com](mailto:guyer4@gmail.com)

ROYER-MILLER, Margo (1) '10, 16200 North Highway 101, Willets, CA 95490, (707) 456-9705  
[royermillers@yahoo.com](mailto:royermillers@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer:** MILLER, Rex, PO Box 158, Milford, IN 46542-0158, (574) 658-4831, [rex@campmack.org](mailto:rex@campmack.org)

*Send your ideas, questions and concerns to an OMA Steering Committee member for consideration and discussion.*

**Submissions for this biannual OMA Newsletter** can be sent for consideration to Barry LeNoir at [camp\\_bethel@yahoo.com](mailto:camp_bethel@yahoo.com). We always need more news bits for "Around the Campfire" and we would like to include news and photos from EVERY CoB camp.

## WANTED: All Outdoor Ministry Association (OMA) documents and photos:

OMA is establishing an archive collection to keep historical documents together, in a safe environment, and accessible for denominational use and research. Items needed: minutes of national conferences and Director/Manager retreats, environmental grant projects, Annual Conference insight sessions, OMA staff and volunteer award recipients, etc., originals or copies. OMA will organize materials collected, then will forward them to the Brethren Historical Library and Archives in Elgin, Illinois. Thank you for helping in this important endeavor. Please send archival items to OMA Board member, **Wayne Guyer, PO Box 75, 172 Main Street, Woodbury, PA 16695.**

### IMPORTANT DATES!

October 26-28, 2009: OMA Steering Committee Meeting at Camp Brethren Heights (Michigan), Rodney, MI.

November 13-15, 2009: OMA National Conference at Woodland Altars (Southern Ohio).

November 15-19, 2009: OMA Director/Manager/Staff Retreat at Woodland Altars (Southern Ohio).

**Due February 20, 2010:** Nomination forms for 2010 Staff & Volunteer Awards -AND- Environmental Grant Applications. \*Forms for 2010 Volunteer & Staff Award Nominations AND 2009 Environmental Grants are posted at [www.campbethelvirginia.org/2010OMASTAFF-VOL-ENVIROPACKET.pdf](http://www.campbethelvirginia.org/2010OMASTAFF-VOL-ENVIROPACKET.pdf)

## My Back Pages... Just for fun?

**MATCH the 2009 Summer Staff Member (pictured below) to their description:**

\_\_\_ **Kathryn**, Junior Counselor, filled by a summer of Leadership Training; NOT pregnant.

\_\_\_ **Julie**, Adventure Counselor, filled by a summer of backpacking, biking, canoeing, climbing, rafting and caving; NOT pregnant.

\_\_\_ **Alli**, Crafts Coordinator, filled by a banquet of artistic creativity; NOT pregnant.

\_\_\_ **Aly**, Music & Worship Coord, filled by a feast of glorious praise/camp songs; NOT pregnant.

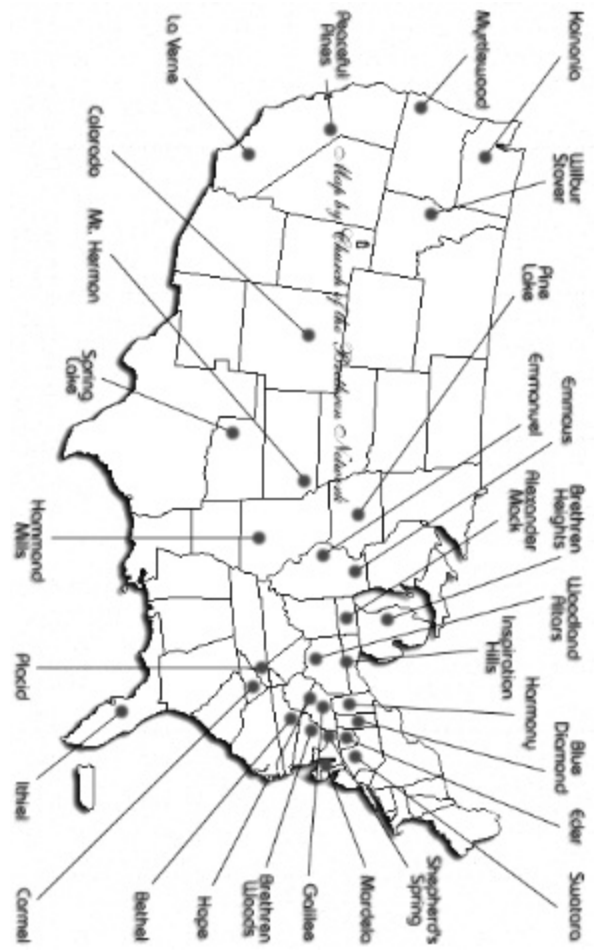
\_\_\_ **Aaron**, Pool Coord, filled by ingesting too much pool water; definitely NOT pregnant.

\_\_\_ **Jenny**, Camp Bethel's new Assistant Director, filled by a GREAT first summer working for the Church of the Brethren; PREGNANT, due November 17! *Best wishes to Jenny & Raphael!*



Register today at one of thirty Church of the Brethren summer camps.  
 Connect at the **GROW** page of [www.brethren.org](http://www.brethren.org)  
 or contact your district camp leaders.  
 Sponsored by camps in your Outdoor Ministries Association.

**CAMP: LOVE grows here.**



**Outdoor Ministries Association News**  
 c/o Camp Bethel  
 328 Bethel Road  
 Fincastle, Virginia 24090

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 Troutville, VA  
 24175

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

- In this September 2009 issue:**
- '09 OMA Nat'l Retreat & Dir/Mgr/Staff Retreat
  - Links to find '09 OMA Staff & Volunteer awards & Environmental Grant info
  - New staff at OMA camps; YPTT '09 report
  - Around the Campfire news bits from camps
  - Summer 2010 curriculum
  - OMA Membership Info and **much more!**