



Chumstick Newsletter

Washington Mennonite Fellowship (WMF)
doing business as Camp Camrec

January 2019

Camp Camrec Updates

Instead of the typical December Year End newsletter, you'll get to enjoy updates in January and February! Good snow fall has come in spurts but overall this winter has been much milder so far. Last week brought some fresh powder to the ground, blanketing the sheet of ice on the road bed. We're enjoying the clean look. ☺ Below are some recaps of the recent Men's Retreat and Senior High Snow Camp that happened in December.



Above is a picture of one of the group hikes that happened at Men's Retreat 2018.

Men's Retreat this year brought in 15 folks the first night and 17 the second. It was great to have a variety of regular attendees, new friends, and faces we haven't seen in a while. The typical feasts were held throughout the weekend in between lots of ping pong, table games, hikes, and socializing. The fire kept the lodge warm and certainly no one went hungry. Sunday morning wrapped up the weekend with some songs and Gary Jewell leading a reflection with input from others in the group.



Senior High Snow Camp 2018 was our biggest turn out yet. We were excited to host 15 campers, with a few new faces welcomed. Krista Rittenhouse was our guest speaker this year, coming from Lancaster, PA. She shared different spiritual practices that can be meaningful to connect with God. With the extended weekend we fit in lots of games, group activities, snow fun, and were able to be more intentional with our sessions. Though we lost electricity Sunday early morning, everyone was able to be flexible and we still got a hot breakfast on the table. The electricity came back on in time for mid-morning games and lunch! Following the pictures is a little recap from Else Gerber, one of the campers from Seattle Mennonite Church.



"Although it's called snow camp, this year a majority of our time was spent in the lodge by the fire. Making it a day longer allowed for more games, relaxation, and a somewhat ill-fated skiing adventure. On New Year's Eve we piled into three vehicles to begin a winding trip up to Mission Ridge. Upon arriving, we carried all the ski gear up to get tickets, walking through a very full parking lot. Once everyone gathered all their belongings, the people (around ten of us) who didn't have skis went to go try and rent equipment. Unfortunately, the ski shop was wiped out. There was no gear left in common sizes and a group this big had no hope in getting everyone outfitted, even after lunch. However, we went upstairs to the lodge and ate the pizzas we had picked up for lunch. The decision was made at that point to abandon the ski idea and instead drive to Wenatchee to go bowling. Luckily, nobody had actually made it onto a ski lift yet, and everyone seemed to be happy, or at least not opposed to the idea, to bowl instead. Part of the joy of Camrec is being with a group of people who you are able to connect with on multiple levels, and bowling was just another activity we could do together. We finally got back to camp early evening, just in time to shower and get ready to watch a movie after dinner. Even if we weren't able to ski, the journey embodied the mindset around snow camp: go with the flow, and keep your mind open to new things; it's going to be fun regardless!" – Else Gerber

As we reflect on the past year, we are *thankful* for..

...God's provision through volunteers, finances, and connections to make another successful year of Camrec operations and programs. It's been full of blessings that have come through examples like: the donation and purchases of new equipment, volunteers during summer camp and special projects, firefighters helping to protect this beautiful space, the budget being met through major donations, and all the donations coming in for the new staff housing campaign. These big things and all the little things add up to be success. And we, on behalf of Camp Camrec, thank each of you for your involvement! Thank you for giving of yourselves for the betterment of this place and the benefit of others through it.

Calendar of Camrec Events

SMC Snow Camp:	January 18 - 21, 2019
EMC Snow Camp:	January 25 - 27, 2019
Quilt Retreat:	March 14 - 17, 2019
WMF Annual Meeting:	May 3 - 5, 2019
Birds, Blossoms, Bikes, & Beyond:	May 31 - June 2, 2019
Summer Camps 2019:	see Summer Camp Schedule
Annual Fundraiser:	August 30 - September 2, 2019
Fall Work Weekend:	October 25 - 27, 2019
WMF Men's Retreat:	December 6 - 7, 2019
Senior High Snow Camp:	December 29, 2018 - January 1, 2019

Summer Camp Schedule 2019

Orientation (<i>summer counselors</i>):	July 8-11
Pre-Junior Camp (<i>completed grades K-2</i>):	July 12-14
Junior Camp (<i>completed grades 3-5</i>):	July 16-20
Junior High Camp (<i>completed grades 6-8</i>):	July 22-27
Senior High Camp (<i>completed grades 9-11</i>):	July 29-August 3

Quilt Retreat – March 14-17, 2019

The Quilt Retreat is coming right up! Utilize this long weekend to work on current projects, old projects that need to be finished up, and start new projects. Don't worry about preparing food or cleaning up; just sew to your

heart's desire! To register and for questions about this weekend please contact: Debbie Shank Miller, dsm56@comcast.net or Ann Marchand, marchand.ann@gmail.com



Birds, Blossoms, Bikes, & Beyond – May 31-June 2, 2019

Birds, Blossoms, Bikes, & Beyond is a weekend for all ages and has potential for various kinds of activities: biking, hiking, taking photographs, bird watching, searching for flowers, doing crafts, contemplative activities, etc.

June is also a great time to explore the mountains, rivers, lakes, forests, and roads in the Cascades around Camp Camrec. And, what better way to do it than by bike! At 2500' elevation and plenty of hills to climb, Camp Camrec is a great base camp to kick your bike fitness into high gear. Carl Lind and Ric Troyer will serve as your tour guides. Please visit camrec.org for more information.



Job Openings

Camrec is seeking someone with multi-faceted maintenance skills to fill a year-round position. Job includes managing camp facilities, equipment, grounds, and forest resources. Hosting responsibilities are shared with other staff. More info at www.camrec.org/staff-volunteer-opportunities. Contact David and Saralyn Jantzi at director@camrec.org, or 509-548-7245, with questions.

Staff Housing Fundraising Update

The building plans are progressing! We are through the schematic design phase and are excited to share what has been developing. The WMF Annual Meeting on May 4 will be a good time to see pictures and hear a description of what is to come. *Thank you* for all the support that has already come in!

If you are interested in helping us reach our goal of \$250,000.00 checks can be made out to Camp Camrec with "staff housing" in the memo line. Donations are tax-deductible.

Camrec Wish List

- Rake for three point hitch
- ATV for use on grounds and trail maintenance (current golf cart died)
- Metal carport to create much needed space to efficiently store equipment

Camrec Mission Statement

At Camp Camrec, in thanks for all the gifts we receive from God, we will:

- Nurture children in the love of God, the love of others, and the love of Creation.
- Welcome adults to a place and spiritual framework for rest and restoration.
- Care for this beautiful part of Creation and the extended landscape around us.
- Embody Anabaptist/Mennonite values of peacemaking, simple living, service, and community.