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For more information about Hemlock Wilderness Brigade Camp visit our website at camphemlock.org.

SUMMER OF THE LYIN' AND THE LAMB

It is a time honored tradition to have a theme each camp season. Themes help us distinguish years, they unify our many camp offerings, and they give staff an opportunity to share the Gospel in ways that are relatable to campers of all ages and backgrounds.

This year's theme for boy's camps is Spies! Like spies, we live in places where our mission is contrary to the way those around us live their lives. Jesus prays that we be protected in that mission, "My prayer is not that you take them out of the world, but that you protect them from the evil one" (John 15:17). With that charge, it's no secret that as Christians, we



have a job to do. So grab your magnifying glass and make your way to Camp Hemlock for a summer of interest and intrigue!

For more information about the girl's theme, see the article below by Wildflower's Director, Mss. Posie.

WOOL WE SEE EWE AT CAMP WILDFLOWERS?

Looking forward to Camp Wildflowers with Mss. Posie

It's that time of year again! But while it was still cold outside my thoughts started turning to Wildflowers! The days are already getting longer. The weather is warming. And that means- It's time to get ready for camp!

I have daffodils in my yard every spring. Then they disappear. All winter they lay quietly, sleeping, unseen. But, they are not dead. They are still alive, by God's Design and in His Hand, as are those of us in camp ministry. What goes on in the off-season is unseen by campers and others. Some things are seen only by God and His people in their prayers, plans, and vision. When the place of camp is closed up for the winter the ministry of camp still goes on. And in the same way that daffodils poke through the cold dreary ground in spring, the plans for camp start to

blossom. One such plan is our Camp Wildflowers theme: **The Lamb of God.**

Jesus as the "Lamb" is a hard concept for any of us to grasp, but it is essential. It relates to sin, guilt and innocence, the blood, the substitution, the forgiveness, the ultimate justice and love of God, the Father!

Since lambs have a central role in Old Testament times, we'll learn a traditional Hebrew dance, and put it with the song "Jehovah Jireh" (God provides; as when God provided a ram for Abraham and Isaac).

One of our Nature Skills activity will include noticing how a picture of a tree (without leaves) is designed so similarly to the system of blood vessels in the human body! And why God and science both say that

the life is in the blood!

We'll sew cute little, stuffed lambs pillows or puppets for our craft! We also believe God will provide a real lamb (or two) at camp!

In our Bible Explorations we'll see that the shedding of blood to cover sin, starts at the very beginning, in Genesis 3:21, when "The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them." And concludes in Rev. 19:9 when the angel said to John, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the Wedding Supper of the Lamb!"

We likewise, will conclude camp with a joyous "wedding supper" on our last night! So girls, Cabin Moms & Grammas, and Dads, please bring dresses and shirts & ties suitable for a wedding reception!

RUN DOWN OF RAMP UP TO IMPROVED CAMP CAMPUS

Accessibility improvements by Severna Park Battalion #7117

We've all done it countless times, and never even realized we were doing it. If you're reading this, there's a pretty good chance that you've visited Camp Hemlock sometime in the past. When you visited, you probably got out of your vehicle, walked up to the lodge, opened the door, and walked in to sign the Big Book. What you probably never noticed was the small curb from the driveway to the porch, and the step up at the main lodge door.

While these may seem like small bumps to navigate around, they can seem to others insurmountable barriers to individuals with special mobility needs. These previously unnoticed hurdles exist all around camp; on the screened in porch, in the cabins, and at the bathhouses- to name a few. They make a trip to camp quite problematic for any

potential camper who uses a wheelchair or other assistive technologies. Therefore, these little obstacles are a big problem. Or, at least, they were until the Severna Park Battalion took action.

On April 7, 2018 Battalion #7117 completed several small projects around camp to improve accessibility. Outside the lodge, they laid crushed gravel to fill and re-grade the way up to the porch. They also created a wooden ramp that is positioned under the Camp Hemlock welcome mat. The young men of Battalion #7117 also re-graded the entrance to the screened in porch.

After taking care of the main buildings, their focus transitioned to the cabins and bathhouse. The bathhouse now has a stall with a door that swings out and handrails.

Lastly, the Battalion installed a ramp and widened the doorway of Cabin 3.

In addressing these mobility obstacles, Severna Park Battalion #7117 created a beautiful analogy for how God loves all of us. God does not invite us into areas in which we cannot go. He invites us into His most high places and then accommodates for our needs. God calls us to be holy, a goal that is impossible for us to reach, then build a ramp, lays gravel, and re-works doors so that we can enter into His perfect places.

A sincere thank you to the young men and leaders of Battalion #7117 for the hard work and care put into this project. The Severna Park team showed Honor, Chivalry, and Dedication in their actions. For that Camp Hemlock is truly thankful.



BEFORE & AFTER



Photos provided by Carl Hoover



Photo provided by Jason Hodges



FROM BUD TO FULL BLOOM

A behind the scenes look from Sea Oats

Being a bud, or first year staff member at Camp Wildflowers, places you in a whole new side of camp life, but one no less amazing.

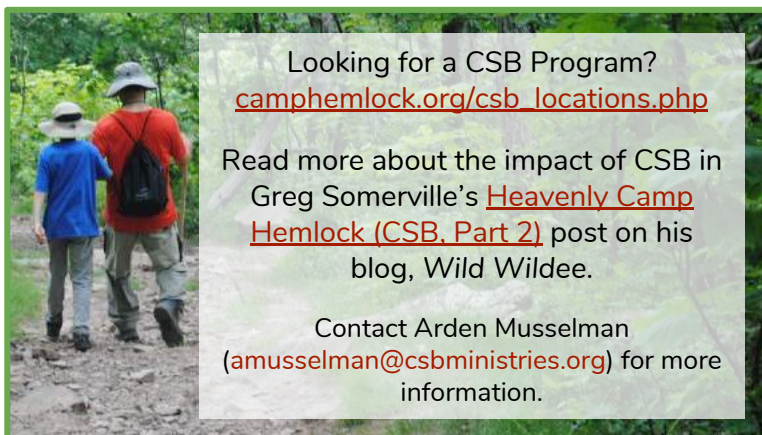
The first feeling that I had after realizing that I was really going to be counselor at Camp Wildflowers was a mixture of extreme excitement and nervousness. Excitement because I was going to help out at the camp that has drawn me so much closer to God. Nervousness because I was worried that I would not be able to lead the girls in their walk with God, and because I did not know any of the other counselors.

Upon arriving at training, I found the most wonderful and supportive group of girls I have ever met. I found the other staff of be quite welcoming and encouraging in both walking with God and learning how to be a good counselor. Truly, without that community I would not have been able to carry out half of what I had to do as a staff member.

When I arrived for camp I expected that I would have to work hard and teach campers about God. What I did not expect was how much I learned, and, while I did not enjoy every single task that was asked of me, the sense of joy and fulfilment I had with everything I undertook. I never expected to learn so much.

Looking back, during the short time I was at Camp Wildflowers I learned so much. From how camp operates and the proper way of sweeping the dining hall to learning big lessons about God and myself.

Being a Bud at camp this summer has forever changed me for the better. I cannot describe in words exactly what it is like to be a counselor at Camp Wildflowers, all I can say is that it has been one of the best decisions I have made in my life.



Looking for a CSB Program?
camphemlock.org/csb_locations.php
 Read more about the impact of CSB in
 Greg Somerville's [Heavenly Camp
 Hemlock \(CSB, Part 2\)](#) post on his
 blog, *Wild Wildee*.

Contact Arden Musselman
 (amusselman@csbministries.org) for more
 information.



STATUS THROUGH SERVICE

News from Camp-O-Rama 2018 delivered by Mark Shoger



The Lord was very gracious to us this year for an outstanding Camp-O-Rama! We had 156 participants (101 brigadiers, 55 leaders) and the best weather we've had in years. Events included archery, orienteering, tomahawks, fire building, scripture memory and a service project. Saturday's events culminated in the annual Ultimate Frisbee game, played by all of the present Battalions.

This year's theme was Service, and Columbia Presbyterian Church's Pastor John Song delivered two excellent devotions on that theme. He challenged brigadiers and leaders alike to rethink the things men and young men view as status symbols and to view service to Christ and others as more important.

The service project was the construction of a 12-man human Foosball arena, which will be ready for use this camp season. Each team spent time working on this project and we know it will be popular with campers!

We were privileged to have a full color guard present, complete with bugler and 2 riflemen. Competition was fierce and we had a great showing from the 11 Battalions represented. Our farthest traveling Battalion, Trinity (unit 2733) from South Carolina, took the 1st place spot this year.

Many thanks to all of the leaders who helped make this year's Camp-O-Rama a success! If your Battalion is interested in or has any questions about hosting Camp-O-Rama next year, please reach out to Mark Shoger (mshoger@gmail.com).

FIXED, PAINTED, SOLDERED, AND SCRUBBED

Pictures from the April 14 Spring Cleaning Day and other work weekends this Spring



Top Right: Ginger, Snowy, and Pat learned that cutting in the walls had its ups and downs. **Top Left:** After Pretzel (not pictured) and Matt finished three rounds of scrubbing down the walls, our paint roller extraordinaire, Dan, primed and painted the walls. **Bottom Left:** Angie likes to call this picture Before and After. **Bottom Center:** A small group of volunteers helped clean up one of our new properties - they filled a whole dumpster! **Bottom Right:** Pat all suited up to finish painting the bathhouse.

Not Pictured: 1) Jerrod Brunk made herculean efforts updating in the main bathhouses (Moose Side). Shower stalls with changing areas have been created and all the pipes fitted. 2) Joe rented a skid steer to pull down some trees that were growing too close to cabins and dig out the back of the range. 3) Joe, Pat, Dan, and Jerrod masterminded the set-up of a new gate to keep camp secure in the off-season. 4) Ben, Glenn, and others have been working to repair broken or cracked windows around the lodge and dining hall. 5) Cage, Jerrod Beuker, and Ben soldered pipes around the bathhouses that had burst over the winter. 6) Mark and members of Battalion 6381 raked massive amounts of leaves and sticks away from buildings. 7) Mss. Posie sorted and organized all the books and sundry items in the lodge as we prepared to paint.

Special thanks to all our work day volunteers! Your time and energy is truly appreciated!

CAMPER C⁺ORNER

* * A PICTURE IS WORTH 1,000 WORDS!

What do you see when you envision camp? Do you have a favorite photo or do you want to draw a picture that represents camp? If you do, submit it to Newsletter@camphemlock.org and you might see it featured on the Camp Hemlock Facebook Page!



Junior staff lead by serving - their campers, and each other!



This is not a caption, it is a hint- ↑ is d



Summer 2017 basket weaving!



Wildflowers staff and campers enjoying day at Trout Pond

SECRET CYPHER

Alright super-sleuths, can you use the clues hidden on this page to crack the code below?

B9☆ + L↑ 8☆9 L⊕MB + 1 G + ↑ W☆ +
8⊕K9* ⊕W⊕Y 8☆9 *57* + 1 8☆9
W + RL↑ J + ☆7 f2e
MY PR⊕Y9r 5* 7 + 8 8☆⊕8 Y + μ 8⊕k9
8☆9M + μ8 + 1 T☆9 W + RL↑, Bμ8 8☆⊕8
Y + μ PR + 89C8 8☆9M 1r + M 8☆9 9v5I
+ N9 J + ☆7 fnfi

NOTE: Clues are only on this page of the newsletter. Look closely and see if you can figure them out.

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CAMP HEMLOCK FACILITIES RENTAL INFORMATION

Do you know of a church, youth group, campus ministry, or other Christian group looking for a rustic location away from the busyness of daily life? Be sure to let them know that Camp Hemlock is available for retreat rental in the Spring and Fall. For more information please contact JoAnne Curran at 240-643-2981 or mssposie@gmail.com.

Camper Corner Code: "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!" -John 1:29

"My prayer is not that you take them out of the world, but that you protect them from the evil one." - John 17:15

