

Bear Lake Camp – Bear Tracks

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U.S. Postage
PAID
Columbia City, IN
Permit #306

1805 South 16th Street
Albion, IN 46701

260-799-5988
www.bearlakecamp.com
info@bearlakecamp.com

THAT THEY MAY KNOW HIM...



Bear Tracks

December 2009

Bear Lake Camp ~ 1805 South 16th Street ~ Albion, IN 46701

Merry Christmas And Happy New Year

*For to us a child is born,
To us a child is given,
And the government will be on his
shoulders.*

*And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God,
Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.*

*Of the increase of his government and
peace there will be no end...*

Isaiah 9:6-7 NIV

We Invite You To "Embrace the Vision"

The NEED IS GREAT!!!!

Bear Lake Camp's ministry and outreach has been growing as we have seen God at work in all three aspects of BLC's ministry: the Summer Camping Program, the Retreat Ministry and the Community Ministry

Summer Camp – A decade of growth which has seen our number of campers double, with the last two summers seeing our highest attendance.

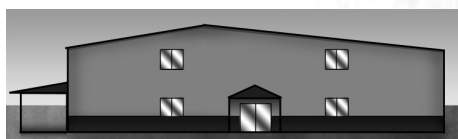
Retreat Ministry – With the addition of the Dining Hall and remodeling of the cabins the retreat ministry has also seen considerable growth – the Fall of 2009 was the busiest retreat season we have ever served.

Community Ministry – Sunday worship attendance is regularly seeing 80 people in attendance with a large number of young families with children in addition to the active weekly youth ministry. We currently max out our meeting locations.

After dreaming for many years for a Gym to aid our ministry efforts, we believe that the need has grown to a crucial point and the Lord has begun opening doors for this project to become a reality. All three areas of BLC's ministry would greatly benefit from a building that can provide space –during weather challenges, for larger groups, small group meeting areas, community worship and outreach.

THE PLAN IS SET!!!!

A facility has been decided upon that will help us meet these needs and we have embarked on BLC's next step of Faith... **A Ministry**



Activity Center . The target date for construction of this much needed facility is Fall of 2010. This new 13,500 sq. ft. facility will house a gymnasium with full size basketball court and will also include restrooms, 9 Meeting Rooms, a Lounge & Kitchen, Weight & Exercise Room, Storage Rooms, 800 sq. ft. porch.

GOD HAS BEGUN TO MOVE!!!!

The "Embrace the Vision" Campaign is in motion. People have begun to respond to this need with their donations and grant work is being pursued to also assist with this project. To God alone be the Glory!

\$93,000.00 of \$250,000.00 has already been given!

Summer 2010

CAPTIVATED

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus..."

Hebrews 12:2

Registrations are coming soon!

Camp Dates:

Primary Camp (Grades 2-3)	June 11-12
Junior 1 (Grades 4-6)	June 14-19
Jr. High 1 (Grades 7-9)	June 21-26
Junior 2 (Grades 4-6)	June 28 – July 3
Day Camp (Grades K-5)	July 6-9
Sr. High (Grades 10-12)	July 12-17
Jr. High 2 (Grades 7-9)	July 19-24
Junior 3 (Grades 3-5)	July 26-30

The registration fee for 2010 will remain the same as last year: \$225.00 for week long residential camps; \$30.00 for Primary Camp.

Day Camp will be a non-residential camp for all kids entering grades K-5. Watch the BLC web-site, www.bearlakecamp.com and the 2010 Camp Registration form for more details.

Your Year-End-Giving to Bear Lake Camp can make a difference in the lives of kids!

At a time when investments seem uncertain, you can be certain that God will use the investment you make in the lives of kids through the ministry of Bear Lake Camp. There are a number of ways you can give:

Camp Scholarship Fund: A gift of \$225.00 to the Scholarship Fund will pay a camper registration fee. Any amount will help.

Camp Improvement Fund: Provide for the continual need to maintain and update facilities

Ministry Activity Center: Help us reach our goal of \$250,000 by Fall of 2010 All tax-deductible gifts can be made payable to and mailed to: Bear Lake Camp, 1805 S. 16th Street, Albion, IN 46701. If you have questions about giving, please contact Monty Harlan at 260-799-5988 or monty@bearlakecamp.com



Personal Retreats

*O God, you are my God,
earnestly I seek you; my soul
thirsts for you, my body longs
for you, in a dry and weary land
where there is no water.
Psalm 63:1*

Is the rush of the holidays a bit overwhelming?
Is it hard to hear God's voice with all the noise of life?
Are you longing for some silence and solitude?
Is your soul thirsty and tired?
Want to spend time with God as you begin a new year?

A quiet day away to rest and reflect can invigorate your
body and soul.

*Give ear and come to me; hear me,
that your soul may live. - Isaiah 55:3a*

Call the camp office (260-799-5988) now to schedule
your personal one day retreat. There is no charge for
personal, one-day retreats. Personal retreat guides
available upon request.

Sr. Project – Replacing BLC's 21 Year Old Fleet of Canoes



Each year the Sr. Day Away Group adopts a project that is a current
need here at the camp. This year the group decided to help raise
money to purchase 6 new canoes. Our current ones have been
heavily used and need replaced. About half of the \$2,500 needed has
already been given. If you'd like to help with this project just mark
Sr. Project in the memo of your check. Past projects that this group
has funded include: Rocking Chairs for the Porch, Cabinets in the
Camp Kitchen and new Chairs for the Chapel.



Celebrating and Honoring a Life Well Lived

*I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my
prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of
your partnership in the gospel from the first day until
now, being confident of this, that he who began a good
work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of
Christ Jesus. (Philippians 1:2-6)*

A Special Tribute to and Challenge on behalf of One of BLC's Faithful Partners – Richard E. Guiff (1925 - 2009)

There's no question BLC lost a partner-in-ministry on September 27,
2009. It is with great thankfulness and appreciation that we
remember Richard's life and ministry – lived for the glory of God!!!
Richard Guiff lived in Churubusco, IN., was a member and leader in
the Ari Church of God and a strong supporter of the ministry of Bear
Lake Camp. In fact he has been assisting Bear Lake Camp for over
50 years since 1953 when he was asked to repair the doors on the
Dining Hall. That was the beginning of him becoming our number
one repair, fix it, and buildings resource person for the next 56 years.

There is no question God gifted Richard in Craftsmanship as he was a
master carpenter with a high standard of
excellence in his work. Richard believed in the
value of Christian Camping and in having a place
set aside for young people to “get away” and
experience Christ without all of life's distractions.
In fact Richard, himself, lived a simple life –
valuing most of all his family and work for the
Kingdom. He gave generously of his time and
resources to help with the ongoing development of
Bear Lake Camp into a quality well-maintained
Christian Camp.

As we remember and appreciate Richard's life we
see many reminders of Richard's craftsmanship
around the campgrounds. These are “Standing
Stones” that remind us of Richard's passion, service and dedication to
building God's Kingdom here on earth. We are amazed at how God
used his gifts to help us create a safe and quality facility in



which to help kids better come to know Jesus Christ. Throughout the years Richard was heavily involved with most of the building projects and improvements that took place at the camp. Whenever he saw a need he did what he could to help and allowed God to use his gift of service. He always was very contented and satisfied to witness how God would multiply anything he willingly gave. Below are evidences of his ministry during the last 17 years while Monty Harlan has been the Director at Bear Lake Camp.

40 New Bunkbeds for the Cabins (80 beds!!!!!!)	New Amphitheater
7 Double / Single Bunkbeds for Staff Cabin	Remodeled Staff Cabin
Dropped Ceiling in Old Dining Hall	Sided the Director's House
New Windows in Old Dining Hall	New Ceiling in Cabin # 2
New Windows in all 5 Cabins and Chapel	Designed Boat House
Remodeled Bathrooms in Director's House	Repaired Screen Doors
New Kitchen in Director's House	Sided Cabin #2
Plumbing in New Dining Hall	Tiled Floors in Cabins
Installed New Cabinets in Present Dining Hall	Designed Snack Shack
Numerous Electrical and Building Repairs	Carpetball Table
Tiled Floors in Present Dining Hall	(Last Project –Spring 2009)
Countertops for all bathrooms in Cabins	*Richard also served on
Mentored Present Camp Manager	the Camp Board in the
Countertops for Present Dining Hall Kitchen	80's and 90's

The Guiff Challenge

The family of Richard Guiff, at the request of their father, is giving one final gift from their father in the amount of \$26,000 which Richard specifically requested go toward the **Embrace the Vision - Ministry Activity Center Project**. Richard's children, Cheryl Guiff and Darren and Dawn Guiff along with the BLC Board of Directors would like to invite you to be a part of **a challenge to help double Richard's final gift to BLC** and to watch God work as another much needed facility becomes a reality in the growing ministry of BLC. Richard gave out of a love for his Lord. Let us see what God will do as we give of the gifts and resources God as given us.

We invite you to consider this challenge and partner with us as we continue to take steps of faith in building God's Kingdom here on earth and for eternity through the tool of Christian Camping.

“THAT THEY MAY KNOW HIM”!!!!!!

Please use the enclosed giving envelope to give toward the Guiff Challenge - mark *Embrace the Vision –Ministry Activity Center*. All gifts are tax-deductible.



CUB CLUB - Bear Lake Camp

www.bearlakecamp.com

cubclub@bearlakecamp.com

“Thanks so much for your encouragement to the clubbers to do their ‘adventures’. We make this a part of her Bible time and quiet time each day, thus becoming a ‘piece of cake’. Thank you for your ministry”. A Clubber's Mom

Several campers are continuing their camp experience by being actively involved with **CUB CLUB**. Each month they receive a Bible Adventure that helps them explore the Bible and connect with God.

They have explored what the Bible says about God, Jesus, The Holy Spirit, The Bible, and People. They will also explore Salvation, Growing in Christ, and Heaven.

BENEFITS OF CUB CLUB

- Discovering more about God and His word.
- Each completed Adventure earns Cub Points which can be used in the camp store during summer camp. 1 point = 50¢
- Completing all the Adventures earns a \$20.00 discount on your 2010 Camp Registration.
- Every Discovery Page returned puts your name in a drawing to win a paid camp registration.
- You have until April 2010 to complete all the Adventures.

Want to see one of the Adventures?

Go to www.bearlakecamp.com, click on **Summer Program** under the main menu, then click on **Cub Club** and open the available Adventures.

BLC Need Becomes Camper's Eagle Scout Project

Brice Elder, a Bear Lake Camper and Senior in High School, has recently completed his Eagle Scout project at Bear Lake Camp. A warm fall weekend gave Brice and his fellow scouts a wonderful opportunity to build a new swing set at the camp.



One of a scout's last steps to Eagle is to plan, develop, and give leadership to others in a service project helpful to his religious institution, school, or community. The Eagle Scout candidate must accept responsibility for planning, directing, and following through to its successful completion.



Brice raised the funds needed to complete the project, recruited a team to do the work, and completed the project.



Thank you, Brice for thinking about BLC and for a job well done. Congratulations on completion of your Eagle Scout project.

Very Busy Fall Retreat Season

We are please that more groups took advantage of BLC Retreat facilities this fall. We hosted 17 different groups over the last 5 months. They include a couple of week long rental camps, a college group, a pastor's prayer group, 3 family reunions, a 5th grade field trip, 2 church picnics, a men's retreat and 6 youth retreats. If you're planning a retreat give the camp office a call and let us assist you.

CHRISTMAS GIVING....



Your kids and grandkids are wondering what you are going to give them for Christmas....

Give them the gift of **CAMP!**

Let them know their week of camp will be paid for. For \$225.00 you can give them a gift that will make a real difference in their lives – one they will remember forever. Registrations will be available soon. Call the camp at 260-799-5788 for details.

KIDS TO CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND Give a kid a chance. You can provide the funds needed to give at-risk and underprivileged kids the opportunity of a life time to attend a week of camp. A gift of \$225.00 can change a life forever. For details call the camp at 260-799-5988 or send a check, earmarked "K2C" to Bear Lake Camp, 1805 S. 16th St., Albion, IN 46701.



Giving Gift Cards this Christmas?

You can give two gifts for the price of one! Visit www.bearlakecamp.com – click on the "Support Us" link at the bottom of our home page – purchase your gift cards. With every gift card your purchase you are also donating to BLC at **no additional cost to you**. Free shipping and handling!



Many more to choose from.....

BLC Wish List

Thank you for the generous donations that allow us to take items off our wish list and add more items to it!

Programming:

Canoes/Paddles
Compasses
Big Inner Tubes
Soccer Goals
Fishing Poles
8-10 Person Tents

Camp Improvement:

Camper Scholarship
Donations (\$225)
Volunteer work teams
Retired Persons
(willing to assist a day each week or 1 or 2 times a month)

Technology:

Adobe Premier Profession Software
CD/DVD Multi Duplicator
Pro-sumer Grade Video Camera

Facilitates and Grounds:

Hammer Drill	Generator
Top Soil	Refrigerator
Shovels	Log Splitter
Push Mowers	Microwaves
Woodchips	Sweepers
Stackable washer/dryer	
Compactor tractor w/front loader	
Road-worthy pick-up truck	

If you can donate one or more items on this list, please call Monty at 260-799-5988

E-News...

- Introducing e-news from BLC!
- Monthly, one-page updates of BLC news and events
- Free subscription

Not receiving BLC E-news? Register by sending an e-mail to susan@bearlakecamp.com; simply type E-News as the subject.

Newsletters such as the one you are reading will continue to be sent 2-3 times a year.

Ready to Experience More at BLC?

Summer Staff:

Have you completed at least one year of college and are looking for meaningful summer employment? Several summer positions are available:

Counselor,
Recreation Director, Lifeguard, Computer Tech, Cooks...
Applications are now available at www.bearlakecamp.com.
Required Staff training begins June 7, 2010.



Captivated – Summer 2010

Service Crew: Have you completed at least one year of

high school and want to do something this summer that allows you to serve others and build God's Kingdom? Volunteer Service Crew positions are available.



Applications are now available at www.bearlakecamp.com