



HEMLOCK HAPPENINGS

Pre-Camp Spring 2010 Issue

May 1, 2010

Greetings campers: thanks for your positive feedback about last Spring's Hemlock Happenings e-issue. Contained within this issue are many new activities as well as tips for making the best out of your camp experience in 2010. (P.S. comics at the end!) *Terri McCulloch, Editor*

Hello from the President!

Greetings to each of you as you read this, our second edition of the Pre-Camp Hemlock Happenings e-Issue. I bet everyone is saying to his or herself: "where has the year gone?" Well, it has flown but the good news is that we are only a short 12 weeks from the start of Berwick 139. Our theme this year, "Settling into the Promise", is sure to inspire our hearts and minds as we gather once again under those magnificent Hemlocks. God's promise of unconditional love is revealed to us in many, many ways including in the collective gift of Berwick Camp.

As I pen this message from our winter retreat here in Punta Gorda, Florida, I'm reminded of that which joins us as children of God. While here Maureen and I have been attending various churches: Baptist, United Methodist and Lutheran. While, from time to time, we are reminded to celebrate our differences these experiences have demonstrated to us that we need to also celebrate our commonality: a loving, abiding belief in God. As Christians we have experienced our common bond with folks from far and wide and from every walk of life. In this regard, we have the same feeling when we gather each year with our Berwick family. The rest of the year Berwick is never very far from our minds. We have told many of our new-found friends here about Berwick Camp. We have extended a Christian invitation to all to visit us back in Canada whenever they are in our vicinity so we could show them our beautiful encampment.

This edition is intended to provide you with helpful information about our upcoming encampment **July 23rd to August 1st** inclusive. I commend its contents to you and, on your behalf, I thank all who have contributed to its preparation and distribution. If you know of anyone who may not have received a copy, please forward it to them. Let's all prepare to "Settle into the Promise."

Peter Woods, Camp President

Registrar's Ramblings

Frequently I'm asked about our waiting list for cottages and apartments. It's a fluid list and I do try to make it clear in the registration letter.

1. Staff (as defined by the Program Committee; Long-service staff returning as campers are treated as # 3 below.)
2. Returning campers who have occupied the same (full camp) accommodation for the past two years wishing the same accommodation.
3. Returning campers after a one-year absence.
4. Returning campers wishing different accommodation.
5. New campers
6. Senior citizens have priority for the seniors' apartments until May 15th.

Many folks ask to be on the waiting list each year and some will not even attend camp unless they have a cottage. I do keep track of those requests but I also take into consideration a campers commitment to Berwick Camp. Campers, who volunteer their time, participate in programs and demonstrate their commitment by taking less than desirable accommodations move up the list more quickly.

You might be surprised that families have squeezed into dorm rooms or with relatives and friends in already overcrowded cottages. Still others have shared cottages with strangers, rented travel trailers at costly rates, booked hotel rooms, purchased camping equipment and tented with young children and grandparents just to be at Berwick.

So be patient, volunteer and participate and before you know it you too will enjoy cottage life at Berwick Camp.

Just a reminder: Returning campers requesting the same accommodation must register before May 15. **FULL FEES MUST BE PAID by July 9. Cottage and apartment accommodations not paid for by this date will be made available to others on the waiting list.** ~ Margaret Robertson, Registrar

June 2010 Work Week

You are invited to participate in Camp Work Week this year. It starts on Friday June 4 and finishes on Saturday June 12. We have many projects to undertake this year with four major ones:

1. We are building a new duplex accommodation where 2 units will share a joint bath room between the one large room for each of 2 accommodations. The entire front will be a covered deck area 30 feet by 6 feet, for lots of sitting and chatting area. This building will be added just inside the Main Gate, and up the hill and across the road from the end of the Kitchen and Dining Hall.

2. A new 20' by 24' extension to the Dining Room will be added on the front. It will have lots of screened windows, will be accessed by a door replacing 1 of the windows just to the right as you enter the Dining Hall. It will seat an additional 45 to 50 people. Perhaps this will be a quieter and cooler area for you to enjoy your meal.

3. An 18' by 14' extension will be built on the canteen end of the Kitchen to consolidate the fridges and freezers into one spot.

4. The fourth project is the replacement of the existing Wheel Chair Ramp with a new one, and building of a 2nd one at the other end of the Dining Hall. The corner of the Dining Hall where the stairs used to be, will be utilized for family dining where if you have children in strollers you will be able to roll it right into the Dining Hall and be seated at one of the new tables. Also it will provide a choice to someone using a wheel chair as to which end of the Dining Hall they would prefer to eat.

Come for one day, or 2, or 3, or whatever time your schedule will permit. We will provide meals and accommodations (all at no cost to you) but please bring your own bedding. Bring a friend or 2 or 4, even 6 or more. Perhaps you might look at coming early one morning, fill your car and invite another carload to come along, work for the day, spend the night, work the next day, we will feed you up at the end of the day and then get you home before dark. If you are really excited about the experience, extensions to 3, 4 or more days could be easily arranged.

We need your help! Let me know when and how many are coming at leswood@eastlink.ca so we can ensure we have adequate meals prepared, and accommodations arranged. Also please contact me with any questions you may have. Sharon Bent will be cooking for us and if you wanted to assist her, it would be appreciated. We have scrapping & painting, raking, cleaning leaves and branches off cottage roofs, screens to be replaced, curtains to make, clean up of cottages, so lots of hands will make a lighter load for all. We look forward to welcoming you to this event in 2010. *Les Wood*

2010 Program Preview

Note that all 2010 program leaders were introduced in your camp registration kit. If you'd like to be reminded about who is leading which programs, please visit the [Berwick Camp Website](#).

A Message From "The Message"

Campers of all ages will be pleased to welcome "The Message" as our camp music team this year. "The Message" invites campers to bring drums and any other instruments they play to camp to join in the music ministry. "The Message" (a contemporary Christian Band from the Maritimes) is a versatile, powerful group of entertainers dedicated to music ministry and Christian music education. Its members include: Stephen Spencer (former Berwick camp prez), Sara Wilson, Nathan Beeler and Vikki Reid. Flexible, creative and positive, "The Message" brings an intensity to worship, to sharing music, and to following the Spirit. 'The Message' will also be hosting at least one jam session for youth so bring instruments & voice!

First Sunday Concert: Sherri & Eric Ogden

Sherri and Eric Ogden have performed Christian, Classical, Jazz and Contemporary music together for over seven years. They have a combined total of over 20 years of classical training and have played in church choirs, coffee houses, at weddings, anniversary parties and special occasions.

They are both actively involved in the ministry of music at Bedford United Church. Sherri sings and plays guitar in "Sacred Souls" a group of musicians and singers that perform once every 6 weeks at the 9:00 service at BUC. Eric is not part of a group at the moment due to his teaching schedule but has enjoyed singing baritone in the 11:00 choir and often ads his

cello playing to other groups upon request.

Eric is a music teacher with the Halifax school board and the Dartmouth city music program. He teaches young musicians from elementary to high school how to play the cello and violin. He currently plays his cello in the Chebucto Orchestra. He is not only a cellist but a pianist as well and has studied over the years but really enjoys dabbling in pop and jazz music and learning chord structures.

Sherri is a vocalist first and has studied classical music, music theatre and choral music for over 8 years with three separate teachers at the Maritime Conservatory and the Canadian Conservatory. She also plays guitar and initially was self taught from the age of 12, but has taken classical guitar lessons to build on that. Sherri has performed in musical theatre and as a lead soprano soloist in church and as part of choral groups. She also enjoys song writing and is working on a third CD, but this will be the first CD with original tunes.

Together they bring their blend of guitar, cello and voice to create beautiful soothing music that is enjoyable and interactive. They really enjoy the contemporary feel of the songs in More Voices and as well as the traditional feel of the beautiful songs in Voices United. They have both been actively involved in the United Church for many years and enjoy the opportunities and blessings they have received by being part of the church. They look forward to performing at Berwick on the first Sunday of the 2010 Camp.

Monday & Tuesday afternoon program: "Christianity: A New Look at Ancient Wisdom"

You are invited to two afternoons of in-depth spiritual exploration, rooted in the Christian tradition, but with eyes firmly set on the 21st century and beyond. Led by Rev. David Hart, spiritual leader of Bedford United Church, speaker, author and a human being passionately in love with God, this promises to be a lively, free wheeling and totally inspiring conversation about the future of Christianity. David will explore themes discussed in his book, *Christianity: A New Look at Ancient Wisdom*. Questions regarding how to be true to one's Christian heritage in a multi-faith world; how to make sense of suffering and evil in life; and even looking at our ultimate destiny in the hereafter. Come and explore the cutting edge of the new paradigm of spirituality in the world today, an all-encompassing vision that makes sense of all the ambiguities and questions in life and which leads in the end to the gifts of peace and joy. David's book is available at Chapters for those who want to read ahead of time.

The Berwick Bookclub

This year's study for the Berwick Book Club is "The Book of Negroes" by Lawrence Hill. This book is available through the library systems, on line at amazon.ca, or at bookstores across the country. The book will lead us into many wonderful and deeply spiritual topics beginning Monday morning and continuing through to Thursday morning. On Friday, come prepared to present your recommendation for next year's book or books. We hope those of you who attend will cast your vote Friday and make 2011 "your" bookclub. Your hosts again for 2010 will be Jennifer Johnson, Terry Milne, Sue Reid and Jocelyn Tingley. We meet from 9:30 to 11:30 at the Labrynth. Participants must bring a lawn chair.

2010 Communion Services

Just a reminder that our Communion services will be held as part of the community worship on both Sundays, this year, starting both days at 10:30 am. Spread the word and use the mantra: We've always done it this way! *Kate Crawford, Worship Superintendent.*

Yoga Under the Hemlocks

Join Jenny and Kim for Yoga Under the Hemlocks! All sessions will be held in the former parking lot up from the dining hall. Please bring a mat or towel. No previous experience necessary. In the event of rainy weather, yoga will be held in the tent in front of the Oxley. Daily from 1-2pm.

Monday: Awaken the Flow

Tuesday: Finding God in Practice

Wednesday: Learn to Fly

Thursday: Finding God in Practice

Friday: Partner Yoga

A Musical at Berwick This Summer?

Be part of the Berwick 2010 musical production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat!! If you are between the ages of 7 and 18, we would love to have you be part of this fun production. The musical Joseph is based on the Bible story from Genesis about Joseph and his coat of many colors. It is a wonderful story about perseverance and forgiveness. The music is wonderful and the lyrics are funny.

In order to pull off a special performance like this in just a week, participants would be sent the music and the lyrics by e-mail to learn **before** camp. Although we will be doing a condensed version, there will still be numerous songs to learn. There are solo singing parts (both large and small), acting (speaking) roles, silent acting roles, and lots of spots for kids in the chorus.

All participants must attend practice for 60-90 minutes a day from Sunday through Friday and be available for the performance on the final Saturday. We will arrange practice times around the afternoon crafts program and the trip to Upper Clements Park.

We need to find out how many children and youth would be interested in being involved, in order to decide whether to proceed or not. If you are interested in taking part (and don't mind learning the songs before camp and attending the daily practices) please let us know. Please e-mail Sue Cuthbertson **by May 15th** at cccuthbertson@hotmail.com with your name, age and how you might want to be involved. We need at least 35 kids to do this show.

Vacation Bible School 2010 Program

Baobab Blast Shakes Up VBS

This summer Vacation Bible School invites children to discover the wonders of God's world under the towering branches of Africa's gigantic Baobab tree. Explore four exciting Christian themed mornings filled with games, stories, songs and crafts. Daily snacks are provided.

Friday is Fun Day! Please bring a swim suit, towel and waterproof shoes. There will be loads of great outdoor games. Saturday is our closing concert in the Pavillion. This show is special to campers young and old..... so many memories are made here.

VBS plans on tie dying t-shirts for the children. Please bring to camp one or two white t-shirts for this project.

Hemlocks or Baobabs..... just can't wait to get under those trees! see you this summer ~
The Volunteer Staff of VBS

Help Needed

Kids Craft Coordinator

Do you love crafts & kids? Yes? Well, then do we have the job for you!!! The program committee is looking for someone to plan and run three afternoons of kid's crafts. You would plan the craft, purchase the supplies (and be reimbursed, of course) and then lead the activities with the kids. This has always been a highlight to many of the children who attend Berwick so please consider volunteering your time. CONTACT Shannon MacLean (Cabin #57) shannonmaclean@msn.com for more information

Kitchen Volunteers Needed at Camp

Kitchen Coordinator - We have been blessed with great legwork by Mary Lynn Cameron for the past several years as she developed a suburb list of volunteers to assist with work in the Kitchen. Mary Lynn has asked to be relieved of this task now, and we are seeking a person to take on this job. The list exists and all her work will mean a much easier task for the person willing to replace her. If you would be the person who might be willing to undertake this task, drop me an email at leswood@eastlink.ca or give me a call at (902) 889-9020.

Worker Bees - We as well need the "worker bees" to work one of the 3 time slots each day. Early morning 7:30 to 9:30, morning 10:00 to 1:30, and afternoon 2:30 to 6:00. There are some nutritious perks in participating in this volunteer job. If you would like to book some time slots, send me your preferences and I will pass them along to the new volunteer coordinator when that person is found.

Runner - One addition person is needed each day to do what we call the "Runner". This person will check in in the morning and again in the afternoon and run to the store, etc. as needed to pick up supplies.

Hemlock Happenings Production Team

After a 6 year run, the Production Team of the Hemlock Happenings camp newsletter is retiring after this year. The core team consists of one editor, two typists and one electronic gestetner operator. This is a fun job that takes place (except for this issue) entirely at camp. The team has successfully streamlined the job by templating the newsletter's production. Computer skills are a must.

The commitment is flexible (can be an hour or two in the evenings for one typist, or mornings for another) but production normally takes place in the mornings (no issues on either Sunday). Please contact [Terri McCulloch, Editor](#), to apprentice for any of these positions this summer.

Dining Hall Menu News

Kid's Menu

Do you have young children and have looked at the daily menu in the Dining Hall and wished you might go, but the kid's wouldn't eat that meal. During the 2010 camp, we will provide a solution for that problem, with a special menu just for them. You will purchase a Kid's Meal Ticket for \$4.00 and they will custom pick their own meal, made especially for them, and served to them while you enjoy being waited on without a worry of what they are not eating. Once they have finished their meal they will get to tell us what they liked or didn't like about that meal. We mean to provide a family solution at noon and/or supper for you. Good idea?

Here's what we think the kids menu & feedback form will look like:

KID'S MEAL

Special Order (12 & Under)

PICK ANY 4 ITEMS

1. DRINK - Milk White _____
 - Milk Chocolate _____
 - Lemonade _____
 - Fruit Punch _____
 - Orange Drink _____
2. Peanut Butter and/or Jam _____
3. Hot Dog K M R _____
4. Hamburg K M R _____
5. French Fries K _____
6. Pizza Slice, Pepperoni _____
7. Pizza Pocket _____
8. Kraft Dinner _____
9. 2 each 2 Bite Brownies _____
10. Apple Pie & Ice Cream _____
11. Banana Split _____
12. Jello & Whipped Cream _____

K=Ketchup, M=Mustard, R=Relish

Circle your choice please

Name: _____ Table# _____

KID'S SURVEY

Did you like your meal? Yes ___ No ___

Will you have it again? Yes ___ NO ___

What would you add/remove to this menu?

Other Announcements

Talents & Treasures Auction

The Annual Talents and Treasures Auction will be held on a NEW DATE this year: FRIDAY afternoon. It's time to start thinking about what you will contribute. It could be a

handmade craft, baking, a good used treasure, or a new treasure you want to donate. The more contributions we have the more fun we have and of course, the more money we raise for the camp. See you at Camp. *Janet Sollows, Auction co-ordinator C-114*

Drama Nights 2010

Last year, there was Drama Night in the youth center, and we had a great turn out with the older youth, but I would also like to have Drama Night for the younger children of Berwick. So this year there will be two Drama Nights: one again for the older youth (aged 12-18) and a new Drama Night will be for children age 11 and under, with a parent (if the parent wants to sit through 1hr and 45 minutes of Drama games).

There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board the first Saturday of Camp. For children 8 and under, they MUST have a parent attend. For children between 9 and 11, they don't have to have a parent attend. The Drama Nights program will take place Monday July 26 for the Junior Drama Night Group (the younger group) and the Senior Drama Night Group will take place Tuesday July 27.

You can sign up in advance by contacting me at actor.fan@hotmail.com, and I will put you onto the list. It is first come, first serve as there are 25 spots open for people to attend for the Junior Drama Night Group and there are 35 spots open for the Senior Drama Night group.

Attention Youth: I need some volunteers to help run the younger Drama Nights, if you are interested please email me, Jakob Creighton, at actor.fan@hotmail.com, we will meet 30 minutes prior to the Drama Nights in the New Youth Centre.

Closing Celebration

I realize the last thing we want to think about in our exciting new PRE-Berwick Hemlock Happenings is the last night of Berwick.... but I have received some great feedback on the last night celebration from Berwick 2009. We congregated in the Open Pavilion, watched thousands of photos in a slideshow from our camp, enjoyed music from a variety of performers and karaoke while mingling with friends both new and old. Then we feasted at Midnight when the Roast began. The plan is to hold the same casual event again this year... so bring your musical talents to camp and drop off your digital photos to cabin #57 so we can have a great celebration! We are still looking for a perfect name for this event.... e-mail your ideas to shannonmaclean@msn.com. Thank you, Shannon (cabin #57)

Pop Tabs

Campers please continue to collect your pop tabs and bring them to camp this summer. Last year three Sobey's bags full of tabs were collected and redeemed for much needed items for Cerebral Palsy. Very much appreciated. Laurie Naugler. C-74

Editor's Note

The first printed version of this camp newsletter will be available on the first Saturday of camp. If you have any notices or information for the first issue, [please email it to me](#) by mid-July. *Terri McCulloch, Hemlock Happenings Editor*



The feeding of the Mc5000.

