



Rhodes Grove

Camp & Conference Center Est 1917

RHODES GROVE – News in a Nutshell

Spring/Summer 2010

From the Directors Desk



As I write this, Family Camp has just ended. We had a wonderful opportunity to sit under the teaching of Bill Mummert, pastor of Gettysburg Baptist Church. He spoke of vision, recognizing a vision for ourselves individually, for our families generationally, and for our churches corporately. I was inspired to reflect on the vision for Rhodes Grove and what that means for all of us who know and love this ministry. Rhodes Grove has a mission of advancing our Christian community through offering experiential camping programs, Biblically based educational opportunities and full service retreats all in a naturally pleasing environment. At Rhodes Grove we value being Biblically Based, Family Focused, Community Connected and Ministry Minded.

Since Family Camp has ended cabins have been cleaned, bathhouses scoured, litter picked up, and firewood has been replenished. The Ga-Ga pit has been raked along with the volleyball courts, the pool has been vacuumed, the gym cleaned and the game room quieted. The hustle and bustle of the kitchen serving 845 meals has subsided, hotel rooms have been cleaned and meeting rooms emptied. We will serve a few weekend guest groups as we anxiously await for June 27 to arrive as this is our first registration day for summer camp and our opportunity to re-engage the first element of our mission statement. Rhodes Grove is offering 9 camping program opportunities over the course of 4 weeks and we are excited about the number of students who have registered so far. We have a young, vibrant, energetic staff to minister to the many souls that will be on our campus this summer. I am pleased to report that many of our summer staff members are returning from last year and we have hired a few new counselors as well! We will be encouraging our campers to “flee evil desires ...and to pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.” - 2 Timothy 2:22

As we wait for the blessed first day of summer camp to arrive, we will continue to prepare by readying our staff for registration day and the abundance of campers that will be arriving. We will continue to train leaders, prepare devotions, cite memory verses, plan worship sets, buy crafts and rockets and pinewood derby cars, organize tack for the horses, check equipment, test the pool water, count the pieces in our board games, check the air in the basketballs.....we are going to have so much fun AND we get to spread the news about Jesus!!!!

The most vital element not yet mentioned in the preparation activities above is prayer. Will you join me as I pray daily for the Rhodes Grove programs? I covet your prayers for lives to be changed and relationships with Christ created and strengthened. I pray for His kingdom to be enlarged. I pray for safety and health of all of our staff and our campers. I pray for a way to be made for every child to have a Christian camping experience and for Rhodes Grove to be able to supply that experience to all. I pray that the Lord will be glorified in all that we do, in all that we say, and that He might be pleased with us.

Blessings – Angie

Calendar of Events

Summer Camp

June 28-July 2	Day Camp (grades 2-4)
June 28-July 2	Swim Camp (grades 2-4)
July 4-9	Adventure Camp (grades 4-6)
July 11-16	Journey Camp (grades 6-8)
July 18-24	Quest Camp (grades 9-12)

Horse Camp

June 27-July 2	Wild Wind 1 (grades 8-12)
July 4-9	Mustangs & Mavericks 1 (grades 6-8)
July 11-16	Mustangs & Mavericks 2 (grades 7-9)
July 18-24	Equestrian Experience (grades 9-12)
September 10-11	Horse Lover's Weekend

Souled Out

June 26	Adventure Night – 6:15-10:00pm featuring <i>Calling Out Closer</i>
July 31	Adventure Night – 6:15-10:00pm featuring <i>Ryan Payne Band</i>
September 11	Adventure Night – 6:15-10:00pm featuring <i>Crimson Door</i>
November 6	Coffee House – 7:00-10:00pm Karaoke Night

Camp Meeting

August 22-26	Ron Cook leading services each evening at 7:00pm
August 23-26	Bible Study with Bob Conway Monday-Thursday – 9:30am-12:00pm
August 24	WMF Missions Day – 9:00am-3:00pm

Smoketoberfest

October 16 – 9:00am-5:00pm

Winter Blast

November 29 – Grades 2-3
December 4-5 – Grades 4-5
December 11-12 – Grades 6-8

Rhodes Grove

A lesson in history

In 1898 the Pennsylvania Conference of the United Brethren in Christ Church first applied for the use of the Rhodes Grove land to host a summer camp meeting. The owners of the land, Mr. & Mrs. W. Lee Rhodes, lived a short distance away to the south, along the Pennsylvania Railroad. This family also owned the farm which later housed the Milton Wright Memorial Home just across the field from the Rhodes Grove.

The first services held by the United Brethren in Christ Church at Rhodes Grove were facilitated by a simple roofed structure over the speaker's platform. The audience was seated on planks supported at either end by a short post in the ground. A few of the more enterprising folks brought tents for overnight shelter but the majority found a place to stay as best they could. Due to limited traveling options, only the few living a short distance away were able to travel home between services.

As the First World War was coming to a close, the conference decided to build permanent structures on the grounds. In 1917 they purchased the land from the Rhodes family heirs for \$4,000. That same year a 100



Historic Tabernacle 1917-2005

X 150 foot tabernacle was built along with a dining hall, both for the sum of \$6,000.

As folks caught a vision for

what the camp could be they built additional structures. Starting in 1934 summer cottages were built on the grounds. Some were privately built and owned while the camp constructed a row of cottages to the West of the Tabernacle.

Restoring a piece of history

These cottages that remain on the grounds of Rhodes Grove are in need of some tender, loving care. The Rhodes Grove Board of Directors has approved an initiative to bring restoration to this piece of Rhodes



Grove history. Our Church of the Brethren friends have come alongside of Rhodes Grove to begin the project. During the week of April 19, 2010, a mission's project was begun and the exterior of Cabins C7 and C8 were refurbished by adding a new roof and new siding. These cabins also received a new coat of paint on all other exposed surfaces. The exterior of Cabins



D8 and D9 received a few repairs and a fresh coat of paint also. The interiors of these cabins are receiving a much needed face lift in the form of updated wiring and updated furnishings when needed. The walls are being finished with insulation and an application of pine wood

wall covering to streamline the look of our cabins alongside Kauffman Lodge and the Retreat Center. These updates will allow these rarely used gems to be placed back into service for the months of April through October. There are plenty of opportunities for you to get involved with this action plan! Rhodes Grove is accepting donations of materials, labor, time and finances. Please contact our office and let us know how you would like to help! 717-375-4162.

Reflections of a Returning Staff Member

Last year was my first summer serving here at Rhodes Grove. Last summer was filled with many opportunities to learn and grow alongside my fellow brothers and sisters. One area that I grew in was learning how to see God's love in his creation. This lesson came from a camper who was so excited about seeing a walking stick bug. His general excitement and awe for this bug reminded me that you can see God's love anywhere you look. Another area I grew in last year was refining my calling to camping ministry. The summer gave me the opportunity to implement what I learned in my Christian Ministries classes.

Now this is my second year and I am really excited about the work God is going to be doing at Rhodes Grove. I know that God is going to show up in a big way; in the hearts of our campers and staff alike.

Please partner with us and pray for Rhodes Grove this summer. Begin to pray for the campers, so that their hearts will be open to His Word. Pray for the staff that they will find rest in the Word of God. Finally, please pray for the speakers that they will be a tool to glorify God.

Thank you for your support!

Brian Lutz

Summer Assistant Program Director

Most Wanted

- Rhodes Grove Prayer Partners – Please call our office to join the RG Prayer Team
- Rhodes Grove advocates at YOUR home church – Please call our office and choose to promote Rhodes Grove at your church. We will equip you with all the tools you will need to be successful!
- Staff and Camper Alumni Contact Information – We want to keep you in the “know”!
- Cabin Refurbishment Sponsors - \$7,000 per building/\$3500 per cabin (materials cost)
- 4 Wheel-Drive Snowplow or Truck – FUNDS DONATED – Thank you!
- Electronic Keyboard – FUNDS DONATED – Thank you!
- Carpet Extractor – FUNDS DONATED – Thank you!
- Pedestal Podiums – FUND DONATED – Thank you!
- New matching blankets for the hotel (75) \$12 each
- Outdoor Walk-In Freezer \$9,323
- Gas Powered Golf Cart or ATV \$2,500 +
- Meeting Room Chairs (200) \$50 each
- Dining Room Chairs (250) \$50 each
- Lightweight 8ft Tables (40) \$100 each
- New Tea Towels for the dining room
- First Class Stamps

Programs

Phil Regetta



Summer is coming quick and we are in full swing getting ready for camp. We are excited for another summer of fun, fellowship and praising Jesus Christ! We had a great summer in 2009 with 16 first-time decisions and

31 rededications for Christ. We also had the opportunity to witness four of our Quest campers be baptized. Praise the Lord! Thank you to all the summer staff and summer ministry teams who helped serve over 330 campers.

Our theme for 2010 is The Pursuit and our theme verse is 2 Timothy 2:22 which states, “Flee the evil desire of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.” We will focus on turning away from temptation and worldly desires and chase after righteousness, faith, love and peace with direction and purpose....and to do this with other believers!

Summer camp is not the only activity we have for youth! We have two programs through-out the year where

youth can come and have fun at the Grove. Souled Out spans the entire year and includes both indoor and outdoor activities. In the summer months, we have adventure nights when all of our activities are open including the zipline, big swing, pool, gym, waterslide, gaga, volleyball, camp store and concession stand. In the colder months we have a coffeehouse night with concessions, games and prizes. All events end with a band playing or karaoke. Youth and adults are welcome to come and enjoy the fun!

Winter Blast is held in November and December for our younger campers. The activities are similar to summer camp but with a cold twist. We worship, have fun and renew our relationships from the summer and build on them. More information about Winter Blast and all of our youth events can be found at www.rhodesgrove.com or www.facebook.com/rhodesgrove.

Please remember to keep the campers and the summer staff in your prayers as we continue to pursue Jesus this summer and beyond!

Camp Meeting

August 22-26, 2010

Keynote Speaker – Ron Cook



Rhodes Grove is pleased to have Ron Cook as our speaker this year for camp meeting. Ron has a long history with Rhodes Grove and it has been enjoyable to learn of his memories and experiences of years past with regards to the Rhodes Grove ministry.

Ron has also been very instrumental in forwarding the Rhodes Grove cabin refurbishment movement.

Ron was born in Chambersburg, PA and grew up on a farm near the Mt. Pleasant U. B. Church. He graduated high school in 1959 from CASHS. He graduated from Huntington College (University) in 1964 with a major in philosophy and a minor in sociology, and in 1967

with a Master of Divinity from Huntington College Theological Seminary with majors in doctrine and New Testament. He and Lois (Kurtansky) Cook have been married for 48 years, and they have three married children – Lisa, Heidi, and Amy and four grandchildren.

Ron pastored churches within a 35 mile radius of Chambersburg with the exception of a student pastorate in Van Buren, Indiana. He retired from Salem U. B. Church over two years ago after serving as a United Brethren minister for 42 years. He is currently doing some part time chaplaincy in his retirement.

Ron has several hobbies which also keep him active, namely, golf, woodworking, photography, hunting, and kayaking.

Guest Services

Chris Rotz

Have you ever been asked to plan a special event, family reunion, couples retreat, or large get-together, and feel as if you did not know where to begin? Well, do not allow the details to stress you too much, you are in good company.

As the Conference Ministry Director, I have the privilege to speak with folks just like you every day. Folks who are looking for a place to “hide” (well, not really) where they can nourish their body, soul, and spirit. God has truly blessed Rhodes Grove with facilities that allow us to serve a wide variety of organizations. Following are just a few types of organizations we serve: youth groups, ladies ministries, mens ministries, leadership ministries, day camp ministries, scrapbookers and quilters.

Our desire at Rhodes Grove has always been to serve with excellence...and we give careful attention to the comments that are submitted at the end of each conference. Recently, our ministry received a card that read, Thank you so much ... “In this busy world it’s wonderful that some people still have the art of taking time for others – of giving from the heart.” Thank you for what you did. Thanks for being you. Another group shared they love coming to Rhodes Grove for their getaways. “It is a wonderful facility with delicious food, and friendly staff. The rooms are clean and cheerful. Staff are always helpful and pleasant.

We feel so lucky to be here. Thank you so much.”

Friends...without your prayers and ongoing financial and volunteer support we would not be able to do what we do. Please continue to pray for our organization, pray for the campers who will be present over the summer and have the opportunity to learn about Jesus...some maybe for the first time. Pray for those attending conferences in the conference center that they will know that we serve a risen savior as a result of spoken words and deeds. And lastly, that souls will be saved, and God’s kingdom will be furthered here on earth as it is heaven, as a result of our staff’s daily commitment to serve Him...to the best of our ability.

And remember, the next time you are involved in a discussion regarding the planning of a special event ... be the first to your feet with your hands waving in the air ... shouting pick me, pick me. Then pick up the phone and call Chris Rotz, Rhodes Grove’s Conference Ministry director ... it truly IS that EASY! We are waiting for your call! God Bless – and have a wonderful summer!



Yahweh God of the Pentateuch

August 23-26, 2010

9:30 am-12:00 noon

Bible Study with Bob Conway

This course digs into the first five books of the Bible in a distinctive way to discover its main character – Yahweh God. Our ultimate goal should be to know God; everything else is secondary! If we want to know God, we begin at the beginning with the Pentateuch. Herein, we discover the One who is tender and terrifying. He is a friend or foe – blessing or cursing, redeeming or judging His creation man based on His promises and commands.

Yahweh God's lofty nature, character and personality soar from every page. Just when we think we have God figured out, His words or actions surprise us; yet we find that Yahweh remains consistent – true and righteous in everything He does.

The Pentateuch is a preparatory foundation for the study of Scripture with Yahweh God as the primary subject. The biblical characters (Adam, Eve, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Pharaoh, the Egyptians, Israelites and many others) provide the background for understanding and knowing Him.

Upon completion of this course, the students should be able to:

1. Identify the diverse sides of Yahweh God's character and personality.
2. Apply the foundational truths about Yahweh God to the rest of the Bible.
3. Appreciate their own relationship with Yahweh God in a deeper way.

These course objectives will be realized through interactive lectures taught by Bob Conway, graduate of Grace Theological Seminary, retired pastor, and currently a teacher at Jamaica Bible College. One CEU will be given upon completion for those who register to take the course for credit. *Yahweh God of the Pentateuch*, the study book for the course is \$10. Registration for a CEU is not necessary to participate in the study.

Remembrance Gifts

In Memory of:

John Snoke
 Wade & Janet Christophel
 Mr. & Mrs. Bowman Stoutamyer
 Rev. Timothy P. Story
 Mildred M. Coy
 John Homrighausen
 Jerry Long
 Father & Mother
 Arthur E. & H. Louise Wilson
 Samuel Musser Jr
 David & Retiza Frey-my parents
 Raymond & Mary Helman
 Don Rotz
 Rev. Jacob Stover
 Merion M. Mooney
 Rev. Dr. Clyde W. Meadows
 Norman & Catherine Martin
 Raymond Stouffer
 Edna Haupin
 Eileen Ridley – my mother
 Jim & Clara Beard
 Rosie Knepper

In Honor of:

Andrew Long
 Heith Ranch
 LeRoy Cauffman
 Kara Reeder
 The Rhodes Grove Staff & Employees
 Mary Ellen Waters
 Eleanor M. Mooney
 Mark Story
 Angela Monn
 Koinainia Sunday School Class
 Dusty Jo Shannon
 Frances Germeroth
 Franklin Germeroth

Given by:

Mary Snoke
 Henry & Ruby Carbaugh
 Glenna Michael
 Mark & Jill Story
 Walter & Janell Love
 Dolores Kissel
 Sherry Cauffman
 Phonsup Kaewviron
 Jay & Nancy Stoner & Family
 Robert Yeager
 Robert & Martha Rawley
 Frank & Faye Gaugler
 Ruth Rotz
 Mary Stover
 Deb Dice
 Mr. Harry Oyler
 William & Donna Martin
 William & Donna Martin
 Anthony & Carol Blair
 Anna Bamburg
 Jim & Linda Beard
 Richard & Linda Snurr

Given by:

Sherry Cauffman
 Sherry Cauffman
 Sherry Cauffman
 Mary Mathna
 Rich Rotz
 James S. Waters
 Deb Dice
 Burt Lange
 Burt Lange
 David & Pamela Osbaugh
 Perry and Tina Mentzer
 Frances Haines
 Frances Haines

RHODES GROVE

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www.rhodesgrove.com

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Advancing Ministry at “the Grove”

If you are interested in additional information about how God is using the ministry He initiated on this beautiful campus that we know as Rhodes Grove, I invite you to:

- Contact our Conference Ministry Director, Chris Rotz to schedule a tour of the facilities.
- E-mail our Program Director, Phil Regetta, to ask for a DVD of our activities and programs.
- Call the office to ask our Administrative Assistant, Eileen Flenner about our camps, conferences and retreats.
- Schedule a visit when our Food Service Director, Marlane Martin, is cooking and be a guest for a delicious meal.
- Ask our Maintenance Director, Rusty Gift, for a convenient date to volunteer your time and talent.

If none of these options appeal to you, then consider making an appointment to talk with me to:

- Distill the facts and figures of our 2009 Annual Report.
- Study the details of the \$790,000 budget for 2010.
- Consider the elements of our Mission and Core Values that continue to guide our decision making.
- Get a glimpse of where we have been and where we are going as we continue to serve the Lord.
- Talk specifically about how you can invest your resources in expanding this outreach ministry.
- Discuss the value of underwriting the proclamation of the gospel and discipleship of campers.
- Pray about how you can be an advocate for this life-changing ministry to youth and adults.
- See what has changed in 93 years of ministry along with what will never change.

Angie



MAKE-A-WISH.

Saturday,
October 16
9 am-5 pm

BBQ CONTEST – Anyone with a passion for BBQ is welcome to enter. Put your ‘Q where your mouth is! Get together your team today and compete on the professional BBQ circuit – just like on the Food Network! The Governor just proclaimed us a PA State Championship Contest so we invited him to taste and judge our BBQ and he just might!! Categories include: Pork, Brisket, Ribs, & Chicken. A Special Invitation to all you Volunteer Fire Departments – Braggin’ Rights! See our official Entry Form for contest rules and prizes!

CAR SHOW – Have a great Hot Rod, Rat Rod, or Custom Car – or just wish you did! Check out the Cruise-in at Smoktoberfest and have your car judged by people who know absolutely nothing about cars! Three Best of Shows will be awarded! Dash Plaques for all entries! See our official Entry Form to show off your baby!

For more info:

717-816-7252 • info@smoktoberfestbbq.com