



# Rhodes Grove

Camp & Conference Center Est 1917

RHODES GROVE – News in a Nutshell

Spring/Summer 2011



## From the Director's Desk

Rhodes Grove has had a very exciting year thus far. We have experienced some wonderful opportunities to minister to our community by providing a safe, family friendly, God honoring environment.

This year, Rhodes Grove introduced an event specifically for women. A Ladies tea was planned for May. The women present were so blessed by the opportunity to attend that a second tea was planned for September. This event saw 80 guests in May blossom into 160 women attending in September to enjoy a break from everyday life and come together with nothing more to do than be encouraged and enjoy the companionship of other women.

Family camp allowed whole family ministry. Family camp saw children cheering while learning that Jesus loves them. Family camp saw youth connecting on a personal level with their peers. Family camp witnessed the blessing of seeing a marriage restored that was a breath away from dissolving. Family camp witnessed families worshiping together, laughing together, playing together and growing together.

Rhodes Grove summer camp witnessed 350 children on campus to hear and learn more of Jesus Christ. 42 of these children made life changing decisions for Christ during their week of camp. 30 of the campers that came to Rhodes Grove came because of the benefit of the campership program. Without this subsidy, these children would not have had the opportunity to experience camp this summer.

Rhodes Grove has been the destination of choice for a large number of retreat groups this year as well. We have provided a Christian environment for a variety of ministry groups to bring their people to hear the message of Jesus Christ.

Rhodes Grove initiated a leadership training program for Senior High youth. The CLP program began in September and will continue throughout the school year. This program will allow interested youth the opportunity to be discipled while learning more about Rhodes Grove and the prospect of serving as summer camp staff.

Only the Lord knows exactly how many lives are being changed and enriched by learning Truth on the campus of Rhodes Grove. The Rhodes Grove ministry is healing marriages. The Rhodes Grove ministry is strengthening families. The Rhodes Grove ministry is changing lives. The Rhodes Grove ministry is building the Kingdom.

### **Looking ahead:**

Rhodes Grove is offering opportunities to come and worship. Call to Worship will again be convening the night of November 6. RPM ministries will be leading this opportunity to intimately connect with our creator. Plan to join us to be refreshed.

Rhodes Grove will be producing a Dinner Theater this November. Tickets are now on sale for **Family Camp**. With four presentations, you will not want to miss your opportunity to experience a Rhodes Grove meal along with some fabulous entertainment. There are some familiar faces among our cast members. Please plan to join us for this affordable, family focused night of fun and guaranteed laughter.

Rhodes Grove is embarking on a growth opportunity for the last three months of 2011. We have set a goal of filling 500 stockings with donations. We need your help to reach our goal. Rhodes Grove has felt the pinch that many ministries have felt over the past year. Our expenses have increased at a faster rate than our revenue has increased. We have been diligent in controlling what is possible to control; however, the fixed, uncontrollable expenses have led to a budgetary gap that needs to be closed. This fact, along with a hefty mortgage remaining from the Miller Lodging Wing building project of 2001, has created a need.

### **So I ask:**

- What does Rhodes Grove mean to you?
- What are your Rhodes Grove memories?
- How has Rhodes Grove impacted you and your family in your lifetime?
- Would you like others to have the opportunity to experience Rhodes Grove?
- Would you like to see Rhodes Grove continue to be relevant for the Kingdom of God?

(continued on next page)

**From the Director's Desk (continued)**

- Will you connect with our God, the owner of all things and ask Him, "What is my portion of Your blessing to share with Rhodes Grove?"

We cannot continue without the Lord working through you. If you are already a Rhodes Grove financial supporter, I thank you for being obedient to answering the Lord's call to partner with us. Would you consider an additional one time donation to meet this current, urgent need?

If you are not a regular Rhodes Grove supporter, I ask you to consider partnering with us on a regular basis. Minimally, I ask you to consider a one time donation to meet this current, urgent need.

The stocking stuffer campaign is outlined within the pages of this Nutshell. Please, prayerfully consider what your portion is in partnering with Rhodes Grove to continue life changing, God honoring ministry.

*Humbly blessed to see God at work,  
Angie*

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**Try this Hat on for Size**

For the past four years, I have had the wonderful opportunity of serving at Rhodes Grove Camp and have had the privilege of working in many different ministry areas. I started as a kitchen girl and in the housekeeping department, then I began serving in the office, preparing for summer camps and other Rhodes Grove events. I have cleaned every toilet, eaten every meal, organized dozens of camper memory packets, painted several picnic tables, ridden the Day Camp bus, set 160 tea settings, and have thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it. Needless to say that I wear many hats at camp!

This summer I was granted

the opportunity of wearing yet another hat, or helmet you might say. To complete my degree from Houghton College, I served as intern wrangler in the Equestrian Program here at Rhodes Grove Ranch. Since I was young I have had a passion for Jesus, children and horses. What a blessing it was to be able to pursue this in college as well as this past summer at camp! I served under the head wrangler Heather Conley and learned from her as I watched her teach horsemanship, as well as minister to the campers. The first two weeks were full of preparation and observation. The next four were full of an overwhelming passion for Christ,

love for the horse-crazed campers, and gratitude for willing and serving horses! I enjoyed hitting the trails with the Wild Wind cowgirls, pampering the horses with the Mustangs & Mavericks gals, playing games with the Horsemanship kids, and performing drill with the Equestrian Experience campers!! I was challenged to reveal Christ to the campers and my fellow wranglers through the horsemanship activities and challenged my campers to REFUEL by sitting in the Lord's presence. I grew in not only my instructing and leadership capabilities, but was renewed and encouraged in my personal walk with Christ as well!

This summer I served with five other wranglers, taught 93 equestrian campers, and managed 20 horses! I am so grateful for this experience and this opportunity to serve my Lord in this exciting way!! I look forward to hitting the trails again next year and sharing Christ with new and returning campers. Overall, I would say that this new hat fits me very well!!

*- Dusty Jo Cradduck*





## Conference Ministry Reflections

Chris Rotz, Conference Ministry Director



While the heat of the summer season winds down, we are treated to some of the most beautiful blue-skied, Indian Summer days. I just love the combination of crunchy leaves and cool air mixed with the warm summer sun at our backs ... yes, Fall is on its way ... and the staff at Rhodes Grove is looking forward with anticipation to what the Lord has planned for us this Fall.

In addition to our 2011 youth summer camp program....from June 17 through August 10, Rhodes Grove served 678 youth and leaders from a variety of different backgrounds and ethnicities. Numbers for youth conferences were a bit reduced this year...but the enthusiasm was not! Kids young and old love to come to Rhodes Grove. A few highlights include the use of our facilities for Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) to train the next generation to reach children with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Tuscarora Catholic, Korean Presbyterian, Capital Vietnamese Christian Fellowship, Fellowship Bible, Mid Atlantic District of the Nazarene, and Calvary Presbyterian all retreated again at Rhodes Grove and enjoyed times of great worship, great food, and lots of fun and games. Please continue to pray for the youth and staff who continue to train at Rhodes Grove to be "fishers of men".

As we move into the fall conference schedule, I thought you would enjoy hearing a recent testimony from Amy Hammond of Cedar Grove Women's Ministry. She writes .... *I stepped out of my comfort zone when I agreed to plan our women's retreat for church, but I felt God calling me to this position. After last year's retreat, we decided to return to Rhodes Grove because we enjoyed their facilities.*

*Through a series of events, I realized I was becoming prideful in my position and felt the need to lay it down and ask God to forgive me, for seeking my wants and desires and not His. Little did I know, He was going to test me. I was trying to get our sign-up sheet ready, so I emailed Chris Rotz at Rhodes Grove, asking for a layout of rooms and was shocked to find out we had misunderstood and reserved the wrong lodging. Panic took over, so I called for my prayer warriors to lift this up to God and seek His plans for our conference.*

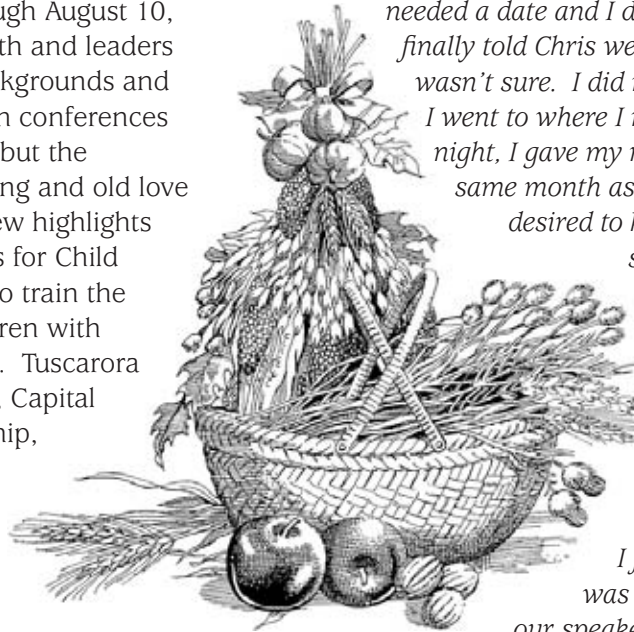
*We were having a church retreat and decided to spend time in prayer over this matter, and if I had to continually lay it down, I needed to be willing to give it up. We prayed boldly for the date that God wanted, and for it to be clearly from Him. As I was praying, I was given a month, but I did not share it with anyone because I didn't want it to come from me.*

*Chris was so willing to work with us, but Rhodes Grove needed a date and I didn't feel I had affirmation yet. I finally told Chris we would have to cancel because I just wasn't sure. I did not have any peace about this, so I went to where I needed to be and again at prayer night, I gave my request to God. Again, I saw the same month as before, so I decided to take action. I desired to know the meaning of the month,*

*so I googled the month of February and much to my surprise it means "feast of cleansing". February was the month the Romans would celebrate the festival of spiritual cleansing. How appropriate for what our ladies have been desiring for our lives.*

*I figured if everything came together it was definitely God's will, so I contacted our speaker, worship leader, and Rhodes Grove. After a couple of emails, the doors flew open, and everything worked out! "Unless the Lord builds the house, its workers labor in vain". Amy, thank you for sharing from your heart what the Lord is doing in your ministry. And thank you for considering Rhodes Grove as the venue for your retreat!*

Friends of Rhodes Grove ... as a ministry, we are struggling to meet our budget this fiscal year. If you value your relationship with Rhodes Grove and the work that God is doing in and through Rhodes Grove, will you consider showing your appreciation in a tangible way ... with a monetary gift that will help keep the doors of Rhodes Grove open for generations to come? The only area that the Lord says to "test Me" is in the area of finances. If you are currently giving to Rhodes Grove... prayerfully consider if the Lord would have you increase your giving. If you are not giving to Rhodes Grove, we ask that you prayerfully consider your role in helping Rhodes Grove. May I leave you with this statement from Mark Briggs ... *"Watching from the window will never substitute for dancing in the parade."* I look forward to celebrating with you in God's goodness.



## Rhodes Grove Welcomes a New Program Director



My name is James Reaves and I am the new Program Director at Rhodes Grove Camp. I have been married to my beautiful wife, Lorayne, for 12 years. We have 4 children, ages 10 and under (I will let that sink in for a moment...). I have been a part of Rhodes Grove for the past 20 years. I started as a camper, became a junior counselor, worked on the work crew, and I have been a camp speaker here on a semi regular basis for the past 10 years. I have 11 years of youth ministry experience, and for 5 of the 11 years I was a youth pastor at a local congregation. I have a Bachelor of Science Degree from Antietam Bible College and I have a Master's Degree in Ministry Leadership from Indiana Wesleyan University.

I am excited about serving God at Rhodes Grove. My ministry philosophy is pretty simple: Love God and love and serve others. My life verse is the first part of James 4:8, "Draw near to God and He will

draw near to you". I have seen this happen in my life over and over again. My understanding of this concept is continuing to grow on a regular basis. My Master's degree final thesis was on the concept of "Ministry Looks Like You". I believe that God has gifted all of us uniquely for the sole purpose of building His Kingdom in our uniqueness. What is it that you love to do? What are you good at? How can you use your gifting and your "uniqueness" to build God's Kingdom? Maybe it's by telling other people about how you have seen God move at Rhodes Grove Camp. Maybe it's by referring a young person you know to the CAMP LEADERSHIP PROGRAM at Rhodes Grove. Maybe it's by simply praying for us on a regular basis. Maybe it's by sending notes of encouragement to the core staff here @ RGC. Maybe it's a hug or a listening ear to your co-worker or family member. Maybe it's by volunteering some time this summer @ RGC to be a counselor, or a junior counselor, or work in our kitchen/work crew. Are you a nurse or a bus driver? Please email me at [program@rhodesgrove.com](mailto:program@rhodesgrove.com) to simply let me know if you are willing or if you currently are doing any of these items listed above. Let me know some other ways that God is using you in your current life stage.

I am excited to see what happens at Rhodes Grove. Please continue to pray for the core staff @ RGC. Please pray for my family and I as we begin this new adventure together. Thank you for partnering with us to **Build Relationships to Save Souls and Develop Leaders.**

- James

### Camp Leadership Program

It is not too late to sign up for the **CAMP LEADERSHIP PROGRAM** here at Rhodes Grove Camp.

The **CLP** program is here to: **REACH** students, **CONNECT** them with spiritual mentors, **GROW** them in their love of Jesus Christ, and help them to **SERVE** others.

#### UPCOMING DATES FOR CLP

- October 29—2-10pm
- November 18-19
- Jan 28-29 serving at the 3rd-5th grade WINTER BLAST
- March 2-4 serving at the grades 6-8 WINTER BLAST
- May 18-20

If you would like any more information about the CAMP LEADERSHIP PROGRAM please do not hesitate to contact James.



## 2011 Memorial Gifts

| In Memory of                                | Given by                 |
|---|--------------------------|
| Doris Funt                                  | Bob Funt                 |
| Jay Jones                                   | Diana Jones              |
| Allison Marie Archibald                     | Wade & Janet Archibald   |
| My Mother                                   | Anna Bamburg             |
| Dean R. Hoffman                             | Doris R. Hoffman         |
| My Mother                                   | Anna Bamburg             |
| Harry Stouffer, Sr. &<br>Ruth Stouffer Hock | Harry & Louise Stouffer  |
| Sam Shannon                                 | Ruth Shannon             |
| Esther Bender                               | Ruth Shannon             |
| Donna Hamilton                              | Ruth Shannon             |
| Sam Shannon                                 | Devin & Angie Alleman    |
| Sam Shannon                                 | Harold & Christine Ganoe |
| Sam Shannon                                 | Mickey & Bob Yeager      |
| Sam Shannon                                 | Rodney & Stacy Zeger     |

## Dinner Theatre

It is with great excitement that Rhodes Grove announces a new opportunity to come to camp. From the authors of the hit series Uncle Phil's Diner, comes ...



a new interactive dinner theatre that brings on lots of laughs and colorful characters. Set in the late 1940s, this play transports cast and audience back to an old-school Christian campground where families have gone for generations. The evening of the play is the last night of camp, when it is revealed that the Dinsdales, long-time owners of Camp Awannahkealotta, have to sell the camp due to financial troubles.... What will happen? You will have to join us to find out!

Please plan to join us for 1 of 4 evening performances. Bring your family, invite your friends, reserve a table. This is an event to be shared!

When: November 25, 26, 27, 28  
Time: 6:00pm  
Where: Rhodes Grove  
Cost: \$20 per ticket

You will not want to miss a fantastic evening of entertainment combined with Rhodes Grove's infamous dinner service.

***Tickets are on sale now.***  
**Call 717-375-4162.**






# Camp in Winter!

**January 28-29, 2012**  
**March 2-4, 2012**

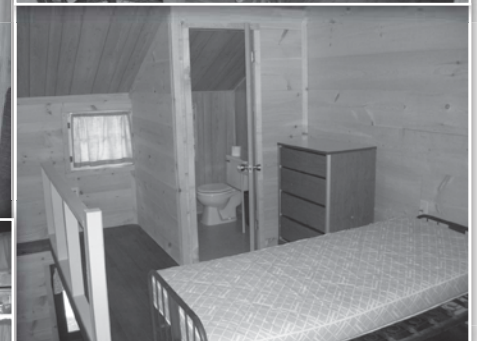
## Cabin Refurbishment Update:

In the Spring of 2010, Rhodes Grove began efforts to restore a bit of Rhodes Grove heritage. The Rhodes Grove Cabin refurbishment project began with the goal of completing 2 cabins (1 building) per year. At the moment, we are ahead of schedule in our attempts to achieve these goals. Throughout this past spring and summer, Rhodes Grove was blessed with a variety of volunteer groups that came together on campus to help with this endeavor. We currently have had the equivalent of 17 weeks of volunteer service on campus concentrating on cabin refurbishment. Thank you to Heidlersburg United Brethren Church. Thank you to the Church of the Brethren Camp Meeting Association Committee. Thank you to Mt. Pleasant Church and Sherwood and Linda Cook and friends. Thank you to our friends of RVICS (Roving Volunteers in Christian Service). Thank you to MMAP's (Mobile Missionary Assistance Program). Thank you also to the many who have undergirded this project and donated the funds to accomplish this task. All materials have been purchased with funds designated specifically for this project.

Rhodes Grove is truly reliant on this group effort to accomplish the goals of this facility improvement! Thank you so much!

The cabins are available for use from April through October. They are beautifully finished! Take time to plan a personal or family retreat for a weekend at Rhodes Grove. You can also consider sponsoring some time for your pastor to retreat at "the Grove". What a gift... the gift of retreat and refreshment, the gift of quiet and solitude. We now have 6 cabins (3 buildings) finished and available to be a blessing for those who choose to partake of the opportunity.

We hope to see you here!

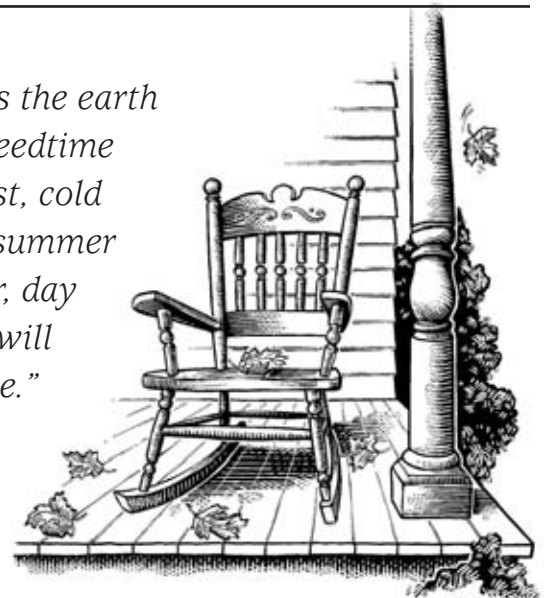


### Rhodes Grove Calendar of Events:

|                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Camp Leadership Program | October 29          |
| Call to Worship         | November 6          |
| Camp Leadership Program | November 18 - 19    |
| Dinner Theater          | November 25 - 28    |
| Winter Blast            | January 28-29, 2012 |
| Winter Blast            | March 2-4, 2012     |

*"As long as the earth  
endures, seedtime  
and harvest, cold  
and heat, summer  
and winter, day  
and night will  
never cease."*

Genesis 8:22





## Stocking Stuffer Campaign

This year we are embarking on a year end fund raising drive. We have 500 stockings that need to be filled. Call to claim your stocking now!!

Our goal of 500 stockings looks something like this: Stocking #1 will be filled with a minimum donation of \$1. Stocking #50 will be filled with a minimum donation of \$50. Stocking #127 will be filled with a minimum donation of \$127. Stocking #500 will be filled with a minimum donation of \$500...etc.

We cannot continue the Lord's work without you allowing the Lord to work through you. Will you partner with us to achieve our goal of filling 500 stockings? Please, prayerfully consider what your portion is in partnering with Rhodes Grove to continue life changing, God honoring ministry.

You may be asking, "How can I donate?"

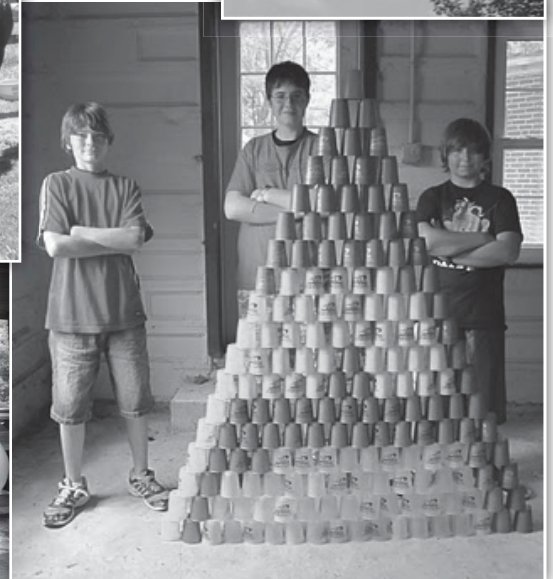
1. Mail a check to Rhodes Grove using the provided envelope.
2. Access our website, [www.rhodesgrove.com](http://www.rhodesgrove.com), and click the Donate Now button.
3. Call our office and use your credit card over the phone: 717-375-4162
4. Call our office and set up an automatic withdrawal from your checking or savings account.
5. You can donate in honor of or in memory of someone special
6. You can donate based on a special date... February 28 could translate to stocking #228.
7. When you do donate, please also check for matching funds through your employer.  
Many companies have matching programs of which you may not be aware.
8. Families can combine efforts and contribute a combined family gift.
9. Your Sunday School class can come together in the effort to donate.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to whatever support you can provide.

If you require additional information about Rhodes Grove or this campaign, please contact our office (717-375-4162) and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have. You may also

visit [www.rhodesgrove.com](http://www.rhodesgrove.com). If you are sending your donation in the form of a check, please make it payable to Rhodes Grove Camp & Conference Center.

Thank you for your consideration. We couldn't do it without the generosity of donors like you.



## RHODES GROVE

### Camp & Conference Center

7693 Browns Mill Road  
Chambersburg, PA 17202  
Phone: (717) 375-4162  
www.rhodesgrove.com

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*Rhodes Grove seeks to advance our Christian Community through personal renewal by offering experiential camping programs, Biblically enriching educational opportunities and full service retreats all in a naturally pleasing environment.*

## Most Wanted

- **Rhodes Grove Prayer Partners** – Please call our office to join the RG Prayer Team
- **Rhodes Grove ambassadors at YOUR home church** – Please call our office and choose to promote Rhodes Grove events 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”!
- **Stocking Stuffer Fund Drive Donors**
- **Cabin Refurbishment Sponsors** - \$7,000 per building/\$3500 per cabin (materials cost)
- **17 weeks of donated labor currently in 2011 schedule!! Thank you!!**
- Furniture for cabins: Sofas, Loveseats, Chairs, Dinettes, Refrigerators, Double Mattresses, Curtains, Microwave Ovens, Air Conditioners, Toasters, Coffee Makers
- Wall Mount Heater (7) Shop; Girls Bathhouse; Guys Bathhouse, 4 Youth Cabins - \$250 each **1 donated!**
- Building Materials to winterize Youth cabins
- Replacement Windows for Youth Cabins
- New Bibles for campers that do not have Bibles of their own. **\$500 Donated!! Thank you!**
- Sports Equipment – Basketballs, Footballs, Hockey Sticks, Volleyballs
- Climbing Wall
- New Vacuum Cleaner (2)
- Pressure Washer
- Small Window Airconditioners
- Outdoor Walk-In Freezer \$9,323
- Chest Freezer
- Gas Powered Golf Cart or ATV \$2,500 +
- Meeting Room Chairs (200) \$50 each – **Donated!! Thank You!!**
- Carpeting for Stairway
- Dining Room Chairs (250) \$50 each
- Kitchen Warmer \$2200
- Lightweight 8ft Tables (40) \$100 each
- Kitchen Aprons (24) \$12 each
- Soup Bowls (200) \$3 each
- Cake Plates/Pedestal Plates
- New Tea Towels for the dining room
- First Class Stamps