



*May 26, 2015*

## **President's Briefing**

CCCA Northwest Section

I am sure that the month of May is flying by as you prepare for summer with hundreds or even thousands of campers of all ages anticipating their time at your camp!



Around 40 CCCA members gathered at Tillikum for the 1<sup>st</sup> Oregon Burger Flip! It was a really fun encouraging time. It also gave people a chance to see another camp, go out on the lake in one of their giant canoes or zip across the lake on their 800' zip. A big thank you to the whole Tillikum team for hosting us!

A pastoral friend of Paul from Eagle Fern Camp in Oregon is offering lights removed from their gym to CCCA camps at half of what they are advertising. See the link if interested. <http://portland.craigslist.org/mlt/bfs/5014264931.html>

*James Richey*

CCCA NW President

# SECTION PRESIDENT'S **BRIEFING**



**May 2015 | Volume 5, Number 5**  
Your CCCA Northwest Section Newsletter

## **PRACTICAL TIP**



### **Cast a Long Vision**

As staff start to arrive for the summer, there is a lot to be done! And along with all the orientation, training, team building and myriad of other immediate tasks at hand, it's easy to lose sight of the big picture. Take a deep breath and look at the lives before you. You have the unique opportunity to cast a vision-not just a vision for the summer, but a vision for life. Working at camp is likely to be one of the most formative experiences in the lives of many summer staff members. So take a step back and help them look beyond summer. Cast a long vision for the ways that being fully engaged as a summer camp staffer can help them discover more of God's purposes in their lives, both now and far into the future.

*Read the personal stories of people whose lives were shaped at camp! Check out "Brandon Heath Knows The Power of Camp" and "My Career Was Shaped by Camp" in the April/May issue of InSite magazine.*

# FRESH IDEA



## **Funcycling**

Give recycling at your camp a fresh look! (You are recycling, right?) At the start of summer, let staff paint the trash and recycling bins to draw attention and give them a fun edge. Need some inspiration? Simply do a quick Web search for fun recycling container images. Cans with lids painted like smiley faces, cans with monster eyes and teeth or containers decorated to look like animals will catch the attention of campers and help them remember to recycle items like glass, plastic and paper. Clearly label each can with the items that should be put inside-pictures work better than words if you have young campers. And be sure every place there is a trashcan on camp property, the recycling containers are there as well. Get creative and have fun lending creation a helping hand.

# FAITH STORY



## **Camp Friendships Now-Community for Life**

Summer camp has been *the* most consistent part of my life from an early age. As an Army brat, I moved with my family all over the country throughout my childhood, experiencing different landscapes, church families and climates. In all those transitions I made and lost plenty of friends, entered and exited several different school districts, got comfortable in and then uprooted from different children and youth ministries. One thing remained constant, however, and that was the week or two I got to spend at camp each summer.

Now I didn't always go to the same camp-my parents are wonderful, but not wealthy enough to ship me

cross-country to Camp Awesome year after year. Instead, my mom would register me for whatever camp was nearby and had decent reviews. I remember taking my stuffed-animal fox to my first sleep-away camp in the first grade in upstate New York, staying for two whole weeks at a canoe camp in the Ozarks, and taking a backpacking adventure on Mt. Rainier through a summer camp in eastern Washington. Eventually my dad retired in the lush green landscape of western Washington, and I landed a little more permanently at Cascades Camp and Conference Center in Yelm, Wash. At Cascades I went through counselor training, spent multiple summers on staff and even gave a year and a half of my time during college as an intern.

I think it's safe to argue that summer camp has been one of the most formative experiences in my adolescence, if not my entire life. It was at camp that I experienced the call to ministry, felt the presence of God and witnessed lives won for salvation. Even more importantly, perhaps, is the *Christian community* I experienced at camp.

At camp I met incredible mentors, extraordinary friends-and my husband. I experienced an authenticity in relationships I have never known before, and a willingness to dig deep and experience life together as Christ calls us to. We recently hosted good friends we'd met at camp. It was so refreshing to spend time with them, because it felt like we didn't have to *try*. Despite our time apart, there was a particular freedom in our shared experience of camp that made it as if we'd been neighbors forever.

I bring all this up to remind you that **camp is life-changing**. I would not be the person I am today without the support, encouragement and company of the people I met at camp. I would not know the vastness of Christ's love if it weren't acted out by the people I met at camp. I would not keep on keeping on some days if it weren't for the prayers from my prayer partners from camp.

At Otyokwah Camp and Retreat Center in Butler, Ohio, our catch phrase is "Where Friend Meets Friend." It sounds cheesy, but the meaning is all too real-camp is where I met my friends. It's where I met my spouse, and it's where I continue to meet Jesus in the midst of His work. The relationships formed at camp create a community of Christ-like friendships that form the incarnational kingdom of God.

*By Loren Walz, former staff member of Cascades Camp and Conference Center and Otyokwah Camp and Retreat*

Center. This story originally appeared on [the Otyokwah blog](#).

**FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE**



**2015 National Conference: PANORAMA**

The excitement is growing! Join us and our special guests for the best week of the year for Christian camping professionals.

David Kinnaman, Barna

Jo Saxton, author and speaker  
Horst Schulze, Capella Hotel Group (founding COO of the Ritz Carlton)  
Peter Reid, Bible teacher, Bodensehof Bible School  
Brandon Heath, singer/songwriter  
More guests being announced soon!  
Don't miss Monday!  
This year we have a huge day planned Monday. Join us for:

#### BOARD SUMMIT

Especially for board of directors of camp and conference centers. Executive directors, bring your board members and learn how to be more effective together. Featuring Bob Andringa, an expert in building strong boards and strengthening relationships between boards and executive directors.

<http://theandringagroup.com/bob-andringa/>

#### YOUTH CULTURE SUMMIT

Learn about the challenges facing youth today and how camp can meet kids where they are. Hear about tech and culture trends and kids at risk, and dive deep into the world in which kids live today. Join youth culture experts Duffy Robbins, Walt Mueller, Crystal Kirgiss and Rich Van Pelt for a packed day of training you won't get elsewhere.

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EXCELLENCE  
TRAINING

## May EIT

### Gender Matters: Working Well With the Other Half

May 19, 2015

Noon Eastern

11 a.m. Central

10 a.m. Mountain

9 a.m. Pacific

You know men and women are different, and you may know what that means for your personal relationships. But do you know what it means on the job? Gender differences can either lead to confusion, "drama" and obstacles we don't even realize are there, or they can result in greater productivity, influence and enjoyment in carrying out the mission God has entrusted to us. In this webinar, groundbreaking social researcher Shaunti Feldhahn shares her research on men and women at work and will engage us in an ultra-practical discussion on how gender applies to the camping arena. If you want to create a positive, effective working climate for both genders at your camp or conference center, don't miss this webinar!



### [Register Today!](#)

*Have you missed some of the past EIT webinars? Find them all in the EIT archives, accessible through [My CCCA](#). From insights and tips on mentoring, leading well and ministering to young people, there's something for every member of your camp or conference staff.*

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### Notes from the April Board Meeting

The CCCA Board of Directors met in April in Colorado Springs. Members heard from the CCCA team about successes in the four key initiatives: Christian Camping Resource Library, Excellence in Training (including strategic effort NextGen Leaders), The Power of Camp and CamperProtect. The board also brainstormed about other ways to serve members and discussed some of the challenges and opportunities in the movement of Christian camping.





Ed McDowell



Tom Beaumont



Byron Hill



Cathey Prudhomme



Ken Beebe



John Davidhizar



Michael Harvey



Dale Stewart



Linda Harris



Stanton Whitling



Sue Nigh



Larry Johnston, PhD



Gregg Hunter

# the power of camp<sup>®</sup>

The Power of Camp on Fox & Friends



If you didn't see the segments on Fox & Friends, check them out [here](#).

What we thought would be a short 3-4 minutes talking about The Power of Camp turned into about 12 minutes of airtime throughout the entire broadcast, highlighting the fun kids can have at a camp. We reached over 3 million with the message of The Power of Camp!

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***Want to know more about CCCA and the resources it offers to members? Visit [www.ccca.org](http://www.ccca.org), and click on the "Maximize Ministry" graphic near the top of the page, or call our friendly membership staff at (719) 260-9400.***

***If you no longer wish to receive Section President's Briefing, simply reply to this email with your name, camp name and request.***

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STAY CONNECTED

