

President's Briefing

CCCA Northwest Section

2015 Summer Camp season is starting to wind down, with many camps finishing up during the next two to three weeks then winterizing, while others finish the summer season and prepare for the retreat season which might start right away.

My prayer and hope for you and your staff is that you finish the summer well; that you have many more opportunities to share Christ, to enjoy His creation, His people that comes through your gates, and that you have rest before the next season at your camp!

If you need any assistance from CCCA during your off or retreat season, please let me know.

James Richey
CCCA NW President



SECTION PRESIDENT'S BRIEFING



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Your CCCA Northwest Section Newsletter

PRACTICAL TIP



Building with Boards

We're not talking about a trip to Home Depot or a specialized volunteer project in the woods. We're talking about your board of directors. They have the potential to be the very best or the most challenging part of your

job. Wondering how to make your board better? Start with asking good questions. *The Nonprofit Board Answer Book: A Practical Guide for Board Members and Chief Executives* (originally written by Robert Andringa and Ted Engstrom, it's now in its third edition), is filled with 85 questions and insightful answers. This book hits a range of topics, from "What are the basic responsibilities of a non-profit board?" to more detailed issues such as, "How can e-governance improve board and committee work?"

For more about boards from Robert Andringa, Ed McDowell, Tim Elmore, John Pearson and more, don't miss the August/September issue of InSite magazine.

FRESH IDEA



Camp Animals

Do you have animals around camp? A trusted dog, a horse program or even a barn cat can enhance the camp experience for kids and adults alike. While most camp professionals would agree it's true, the question is why? A variety of scientific studies have shown that interaction with animals has many health benefits. And while your campers' immune system and susceptibility to allergies probably won't be improved by a short cuddle with Rover, other health benefits can occur in a short time. Lowered stress levels, increased social interaction, better moods and activity/energy release are all benefits that can be found spending time with an animal. Sure, pets are work and cost money to care for, but they hold benefits for you and your campers as positive changes to the body and mind can open doors to the heart. Got dogs?

FAITH STORY



Lessons Learned

Looking back over my life, I realize the lessons learned during my time at Twin Pines were a huge part of the foundation God was building in my life. A foundation of trusting God no matter what. A foundation of sharing my heart with Him. A foundation of running to Him with the inconsequential and the deep heart issues.

What were those lessons learned at camp?

I learned the importance of praying with and for others. At the beginning of each summer, we were paired with an adult camper who would be our prayer partner for the rest of the summer. This partnering in prayer continues to be of utmost importance in my life.

I learned to teach the Word of God in a meaningful way as I prepared nightly devotionals that my campers would not sleep through. I learned how to make the Bible memorable. I discovered creativity and found that I have a passion for sharing God's Word in a way that is fun and relevant.

I discovered the importance of selflessness. Being a summer camp counselor is exhausting. You don't get to determine your schedule. Gone are the lazy days of summer. In their place are jam-packed, action-filled days and often sleepless nights. I learned to deal with bedwetting, sleep walking and vomit. I learned to be excited and show love when all I wanted to do was take a nap and be alone. All those lessons prepared me for motherhood like nothing else.

I learned how to deal with difficult personalities, discovered the joys of first love and faced rejection. Camp is where God began to work on my rough edges and to teach me humility. He taught me through first romances and broken relationships that He must always be my first Love.

I learned to crave beauty and to live with my eyes open to the wonder of God. Some of my best conversations with God happened on a wooden platform under a canopy of trees. I learned that my prayers change when I am able to open my eyes and see God's goodness in the way the sun seeps through the leaves. To feel His presence in the silence. To know that he is God, because the complexities of nature proclaim it to be true. Twenty years later, my soul still craves beauty. My eyes have been opened to God's signature on the wild roses that grow outside my dining room window. I see His hand in the white tailed deer that bound across the field behind our house. I hear His heart in the laughter of my children.

Sometimes I wonder how different my life would be had I not followed God's leading in my life and worked on summer staff at Twin Pines. God has unique ways of teaching each of us the lessons He desires for us to learn, and I am incredibly grateful for the way He chose to teach me through camp.

Becky Daye served on summer staff at Twin Pines, (Stroudsburg, Pa.), in the 1990s and has continued to share with others her love for camp, family and our awesome Creator. This piece is adapted from a blog post that originally appeared on Twin Pines' [blog](#).

FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE



**EXCELLENCE
TRAINING
FIRE STARTERS**

August Fire Starters—Online Now

No time to plan meaningful and inspiring discussions for summer staff meetings? Let us help! This summer, CCCA's Excellence in Training sessions are "Fire Starters"—short, downloadable messages from some of our favorite speakers. The videos are about five minutes each and perfect for your staff meetings or personal reflection. Watch each video as a staff, and use the included discussion questions to get your staff talking and interacting.

Avoiding the Spirit of Professionalism, Embracing the Spirit of God



Bryan Lorrits — author, speaker and lead pastor

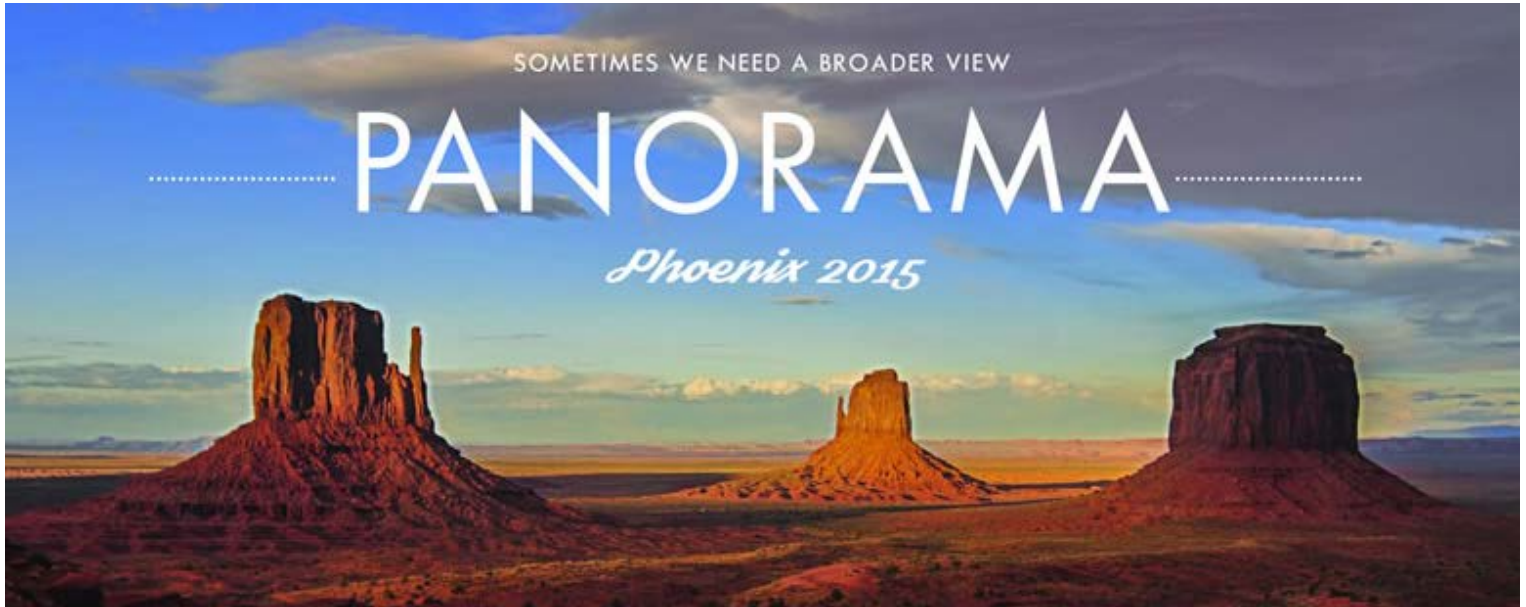
How do you engage in full-time ministry while still guarding your own walk with the Lord? Bryan Lorrits offers tips on taking a fresh approach to the Word and discusses how and why we should shift from task-driven to priority-driven time management. [Watch now](#) or use at your next staff meeting.

Are you pursuing impact or pursuing God?



Phil Vischer — writer, speaker, filmmaker and founder of JellyFish Labs

Phil Vischer addresses the critical difference between doing godly work and doing God's work and gives tips on discovering what work God has uniquely created you to do. [Watch now](#) or use at your next staff meeting.



PANORAMA

Are you coming to Panorama? Don't forget to also register for the Monday Summits:

Camp Board Summit

Especially for boards of directors of camps 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.

Following the Camp Board Summit and lunch, please take advantage of our amazing CCCA golf rate of \$50 (includes green fee and cart) for an afternoon spent enjoying the Arizona Grand's unique links course, which features panoramic views of the surrounding desert landscape. Dramatic elevation changes and breathtaking mountain vistas highlight the diverse and challenging par-71 layout. Dress code is collared shirt and no jeans. (For tee times, contact Peter Boller, Golf Sales Manager, at 602-431-6478)

REGISTER: Camp Board Summit

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.

REGISTER: Youth Culture Summit

Summit Pricing:

Camp Board Summit or Youth Culture Summit

\$25 (with full-time conference registration), includes lunch

\$50 (without full-time conference registration*), includes lunch

**Please note that camp board members can attend the Camp Board Summit at the \$25 rate with a Monday Day Rate registration of \$179 (includes Monday's Opening Dinner, General Session, Exhibit Hall Grand Opening and Dessert).*

Corners of the Field 5K Fun Run, Dec. 10

On the last morning of the National Conference is CCCA's first-ever Corners of the Field 5K Fun Run. Join your friends from around the country in a movement-wide fun run to raise money to send kids to camp. Corners of the Field is CCCA's initiative to help send impoverished kids to camp through CCCA member camps. Our inaugural Corners of the Field 5K will allow you to show your support and give more kids the opportunity to go to camp who otherwise couldn't afford it. Register for the Corners of the Field [5K Fun Run](#). The cost to participate is \$30. Once you've registered, please head over to CCCA's [CrowdRise page](#) to set up a fundraising page for your team.



- All runners will be given bibs with timing chips, and there will be prizes for the top finishers.
- Run, walk ... or anything in between! Encourage all conference attendees from your camp or conference center to participate, and start challenging other camps to meet you there. Together, let's see how many kids we can send to camp!

WIN AN APPLE WATCH

Register for Panorama by Sept. 1, 2015, and email the correct answers to these questions to be entered to win. Find answers [here](#).

Rules:

1. Register for the National Conference.

2. Email conferenceassistant@ccca.org with the correct answers to these questions:

1. Who is the daily Bible teacher for the National Conference?
2. What are the two summits being offered on Monday at the conference?
3. What contemporary Christian music artist is performing at the national conference?

3. You'll be entered to win an Apple Watch given away by random drawing on Sept. 1, 2015. You can only enter one time. You must be employed at a CCCA member camp and must be registered for the conference.

4. The watch will become the property of the individual who entered, not the camp where he or she works.

5. The prize cannot be exchanged for cash.



Links We Love and Want to Share

From Gregg Hunter's blog: "[Get the neighbor kids, let's play!](#)" Have you noticed that today's young people spend their free time very differently than previous generations? In Gregg's most recent blog post, he shares an eye-opening video about how little time kids are spending outside.

New findings from Pew Research Center on "[Teens, Technology and Friendships](#)" shed light on the role digital media plays in teen relationships, including the ways teen friendships are strengthened and challenged within social media environments.

"[A Different Way to Think About Mentorship](#)" from *Relevant* magazine.

Want to know more about CCCA and the resources it offers to members? Visit 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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