



Barren Heights Newsletter

Summer 2009
Volume 3 Issue 2

"I will make rivers flow on barren heights, and springs within the valleys... so that people may see and know, may consider and understand, that the hand of the LORD has done this."

Isaiah 41:18

All-Star Weekend at Barren Heights

Fifty Eight All-Star volunteers assembled at Barren Heights for March Madness Spring Work Days. The weekend was a tremendous success as the project teams and coaches did a fantastic job preparing the retreat center for opening. It was amazing to witness the teamwork, fun and creativity. These traits were showcased at Saturday evening's team cheer competition, where the Landscape Llamas claimed victory by the narrowest of margin. On day two, coaches began designing and implementing new facility upgrades as their assigned tasks were nearly complete. Throughout the weekend "time outs" were called, allowing the work crews to gather in the renovated Olive Pavilion, an oasis of warmth and scrumptious snacks. The Pavilion Platypus Team took good care of all the volunteers and prevailed in winning the Spirit Award. Congrats and Thank You!



2009 Family Enrichment Retreats

"FILL THIS PLACE" has been our prayer since the doors first opened at Barren Heights. It was our desire that the cabins would be filled with families and that God's presence would be felt by each retreat participant. We are happy to report that He has indeed, filled this place. The 2009 schedule is completely full. However, if you know of a family who might benefit from a weekend retreat, please encourage them to complete an application on the Barren Heights website. www.Barrenheights.com

Families who are added to the waiting list will have first opportunity if there is a cancellation, or will have an early chance to register for the 2010 season.



SAVE THIS DATE – Tuesday, October 27

Barren Heights 2009 Benefit Dinner & Silent Auction

Hosted by Scott Reynolds

The October Benefit Dinner is the only Barren Heights' fundraising event in 2009. This year, the dinner will be hosted by WAVE TV anchorman, **Scott Reynolds**, featuring family testimony and special entertainment by **Chaney Rose**. If you are interested in helping with the fundraiser or can donate an auction item, please contact Toni Rose (502)327-9495 or Kathy Lesmeister (502)426-2629.

Newest Board Members

Mike Amos, Ernie Bagley, Kathy Lesmeister

We are delighted to announce additions to the Barren Heights Board of Directors. These individuals began their two year Board term in January. They bring a wealth of knowledge, experience and passion to the ministry. **Mike Amos, Ernie Bagley** and **Kathy Lesmeister** have served behind the scenes for many years. It is so exciting to now have them in an official capacity. We are truly blessed!



Thank You Ingenix and United Health Care

Ingenix and United Health Care joined forces to provide Barren Heights with many of the items noted on the previous newsletter *wish list*. The employee and corporate support included a ping-pong table, paper products, office supplies, as well as camp games and toys. This generosity was made possible under the guidance of **Kim Emery** and **Melissa Moody**. *You rock!*



Stone Soup Partnership

In an effort to reach and serve families in the Tennessee area, Barren Heights has formed a partnership with an organization called Stone Soup. This year, a number of retreats have been designated for Stone Soup families. Our first joint effort was a beautiful weekend in May, where it became even clearer that Barren Heights and Stone Soup share common values and a similar mission.

Stone Soup – Friends of All Abilities is a movement based in Nashville, TN, that helps churches and communities build friendship with families of children and young adults with special needs. (www.StoneSoupNews.com)

Wish List

- Paper Products (paper towels, plates, cups, toilet paper, tissue, utensils, napkins)
- Commercial Grade Coffee Pot
- Asphalt or Concrete Sidewalks and Walking Trails
- Weed Warriors (volunteers willing to visit when camp is closed and work independently weeding beds and paths)
- Board Games (all ages)
- Tennis Rackets & Playground Balls
- Bottled Water (17oz or smaller)
- Cabin Décor (draperies for 15 windows)
- Basketball Court Coat & Stripe
- Items for Silent Auction
 - Gift Certificates to Restaurants and other Services
 - Autographed Sports Equipment
 - Vacation Rentals
 - Gift Baskets

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Barren Heights Retreat is a non-denominational 501c3 public charity. This Christian charity is operated **solely by volunteers**. The campus, located in Allen County, Kentucky near Barren River Lake was completed in 2005 for the primary purpose of hosting mini-vacation style retreats for families who have one or more children with a physical or developmental disability. The **family enrichment retreats** run Friday evening through Sunday afternoon, and they are free.