



# Barren Heights Newsletter

Winter 2009  
Volume 3 Issue 1

*"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*

## 2008 and Growing

As I consider this past season at Barren Heights, I am reminded of what the Apostle Paul said in his first letter to the Corinthians. "It's not the one who plants or the one who waters who is at the center of this process, **but God, who makes things grow**. Planting and watering are menial servant jobs, at minimum wages. **What makes them worth doing is the God we are serving**. You happen to be God's field in which we are working." (The Message)

God is **growing** this ministry in some incredible ways....

**Visitors** - Over 65 families were impacted at 13 retreats.

**Volunteers** - 14 new volunteer families served in 2008.

**Communications** - When a guest leaves Barren Heights after a weekend retreat, we ask that they help spread the word, pray for the ministry and provide feedback. More than 70% of our visitors came as a result of a personal referral. One of these families commented - *It's amazing how a single weekend can change a family.*

**Facilities** - Some real improvements have been made to the grounds. Most noticeably, the Olive Pavilion is now enclosed. This will enable us to serve more people, not by adding more cabins, but by lengthening the season. It is the intimacy of a weekend retreat that makes it so special and we are committed to keeping it that way - "big enough for a party, but small enough so that it's not overwhelming. By Saturday, afternoon, name tags are no longer needed."

Can't wait to see what 2009 brings. Please continue to help us get the word out to new Barren Heights families.

**The joy is in the service!**



## Mark your calendars: March 27-29 Barren Heights Spring Work Days

If you have interest in participating in this year's Spring Work Days please call us or send us an email before March 1. Food and Fun will be provided for all. Lodging will be offered on the nights of March 27 and March 28, depending on number of volunteer participants. We hope to tackle several smaller and larger projects. All skill levels and ages are welcome. We love volunteers! If you are willing to commit to 4 hours, 1 day or the whole weekend - "come on down". There will be plenty of work for everyone.



Special thanks go out to **Kathy Lesmeister** and **Kendra Dukes** and all the fantastic folks, who helped make the 2008 Benefit Dinner such a wonderful event!

## 2009 Family Enrichment Retreats

FILL THIS PLACE! Spring is just around the corner and we are now accepting reservations for the 2009 season. **Please spread the word.** You can check out the retreat calendar and contact us. Or apply online at [WWW.Barrenheights.com](http://WWW.Barrenheights.com).

Retreat A1	May 15-17
Retreat B2	May 29-31
Retreat C3	June 5-7
Retreat D4	June 12-14
Retreat E5	June 19-21
Retreat F6	June 26-28
Retreat G7	July 17-19
Retreat H8	July 24-26
Retreat I9	Aug 7-9
Retreat J10	Aug 14-16
Retreat K11	Sep 11-13
Retreat L12	Sep 18-20
Retreat M13	Oct 2-4
Retreat N14	Oct 23-25

## Corporate Match...

If your contribution to Barren Heights is eligible for an employer match we respectfully request that you apply for the available funding. Since Barren Heights has been in existence, we have received over \$25,000 in corporate funding. We have identified some larger capital projects and certainly want to take advantage of any available match. Thank you for your consideration.

**Barren Heights Christian Retreat is a qualified 501(c) 3 public charity. Tax ID # 32-0121355.**



## Kudos to former Board Member

**“This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.”**  
**-2 Corinthians 10:12**

We want to express our gratitude to former member of the Barren Heights Board of Directors, **Nick Bonura**. Nick and his entire family have served Barren Heights faithfully from the time it was just a vision. Most noticeably he has offered his giftedness by developing the Barren Heights logo, preparing banner photos for the website and giving spiritual guidance through the years. We hope and trust that he will continue to richly bless the ministry in unofficial roles.



## Service Hours

Need service hours for school or scouts?

Eight hours a day can be credited for volunteering at Barren Heights Retreat. How cool is that?

## Wish List

- Paper Products (paper towels, plates, cups, toilet paper, tissue, utensils)
- Cabin Décor (draperies for 15 windows)
- Ping Pong Table (new, in box for easy transport and assembly)
- Copy Paper and Card Stock
- Trees and Other Landscaping and Grounds Beautification
- Weed Warriors (volunteers willing to visit when camp is closed and work independently weeding beds and paths)
- Firewood (delivered)
- Baby Monitors (new or gently used)
- Hula Hoops, Tennis Rackets and Playground Balls (basketballs, kick balls, tennis)
- Bottled Water (17 oz or smaller)
- Basketball Court Coat and Stripe
- Toys for ages 0-3 (new or gently used)
- Board Games all ages

### Barren Heights Christian Retreat Scottsville, KY

#### Business Office:

3109 Brownsboro Vista Drive  
Louisville KY 40242

Phone: 502.327.9495

Website: [www.barrenheights.com](http://www.barrenheights.com)

E-mail: [info@barrenheights.com](mailto:info@barrenheights.com)

**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.