



Barren Heights Newsletter

Winter 2010
Volume 4 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

Barren Heights Review & Preview

As we enter a new decade it seems appropriate to reflect on the past while considering the future. For Barren Heights that means evaluating what's been working well and what needs to be tweaked. But more importantly, "Where is God leading the ministry?"

2009 brought numerous blessings...

Visitors - Over 70 families were impacted during 14 weekends.

Volunteers - 12 new volunteer families served at the camp.

Partnership - We joined forces with Stone Soup, a disability organization based in Nashville, with operational sites throughout Tennessee and Georgia. Several designated retreats provided Stone Soup families with a weekend get-away and an opportunity to further establish community.

Recognition - Barren Heights was named as a finalist for the *Community Impact Awards of Southern Kentucky* and founder, Toni Rose, was honored with *The Louisville Bell Award* for outstanding volunteer service.

In view of the above, and the extremely positive guest feedback, it is fair to conclude that Barren Heights is meeting needs in a big way, while demonstrating Christ's love in a unique setting.

2010, more of the same.....

Leadership - We will further develop the leadership team, allowing for expansion of the retreat season and sustainability. We have 18 retreats scheduled this year, compared to 11 and 14 the past two seasons.

Family - Barren Heights exists to love, encourage, and strengthen families. This has been and will continue to be our primary objective.

What an awesome and fun mission :)



Mark your calendars: March 26-28 Barren Heights Spring Work Days

If you have interest in participating in this year's Spring Work Days, please call or send us an email by **March 1**, so we can assign you to a work team. *Food and Fun* will be provided for all. Limited lodging will be offered on the nights of March 26 and March 27. We hope to tackle several smaller and larger projects. All skill levels and ages are welcome. We love our volunteers!



Special thanks go out to **Kathy Lesmeister, Dave Hinkle** and all the fantastic folks, who helped make the **2009 Benefit Dinner** such a wonderful event!

2010 Family Enrichment Retreats

Spring is just around the corner and we will begin accepting reservations on **January 25th**. Please help spread the word. You can check out the retreat calendar and contact us with any questions. Or apply online at:

WWW.Barrenheights.com.

A 1	Apr 30-May2	J 10	July 23-25 (SS)
B 2	May 7-9	K 11	Aug 6-8
C 3	May 14-16 (SS)	L 12	Aug 20-22
D 4	May 21-23	M 13	Aug 27-29
E 5	June 4-6	N 14	Sep 10-12
F 6	June 11-13 (SS)	O 15	Sep 24-26 (SS)
G 7	June 18-20	P 16	Oct 1-3
H 8	June 25-27	Q 17	Oct 8-10
I 9	July 16-18	R 18	Oct 15-17 (SS)

(SS) Reserved for Stone Soup Families

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 \$30,000 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 retiring 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 Barren Heights Board Member, **Kent Evans**. The entire Evans family connected with Barren Heights when it was just a vision. Most notably, Kent offered his giftedness by helping to develop the website and other marketing strategies. We have also been blessed by his biblical guidance throughout the years. We hope and trust that Kent, April, and their boys will continue to be involved with Barren Heights, in unofficial roles, for a long, long time!



Service Hours

Need service hours for school or scouts? Up to 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)
- 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)
- Area Rugs (5x8 size, neutral colors)
- Firewood (delivered)
- Hula Hoops, Tennis Rackets and Playground Balls (basketballs, kickballs, tennis)
- Bottled Water (17 oz or smaller)
- Basketball Court Coat and Stripe
- Board Games All Ages
- Bath Mats and Door Mats (5)
- Vinyl Table Cloths (60" round, 5 of each color: brown, green, white)

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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.