



Barren Heights Newsletter

FALL 2013
Volume 7 Issue 3

"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

Barn Raising Dedication, Celebration, Fun!

Please join us as we celebrate the blessings of the New Barn at Barren Heights.

We have a block of rooms reserved with a special \$89 room rate for our out of town guests or those who simply want to stay and play. Call the Barren Heights office for details. (502-327-9495)

If you do not receive a mailed invitation by September 25th, and would like to attend, visit www.Barrenheights.org as we will be accepting reservations on our website.

In case you were wondering, denim is not only welcomed but encouraged!

BARREN HEIGHTS

Benefit Dinner & Silent Auction

Festivities hosted by Scott Reynolds, Wave 3 TV

Entertainment by Fresh Cut Grass Bluegrass Band

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2013

• 5:30 PM EDT •

HOLIDAY INN HURSTBOURNE

1325 S. Hurstbourne Parkway • Louisville, KY 40222

Celebration & Dedication of Our New Barn

Wear Your Best Barn Raising Attire!



We are seeking corporate sponsorships.
What a great way to get your company's name out and support a worthy cause.

All Benefit Dinner sponsors will receive recognition in these areas:

- ✓ Listed on the Barren Heights website.
- ✓ Emailed to 1,000+ individuals highlighting your donation.
- ✓ Listed in our Barren Heights Newsletter which is sent out 3 times a year.
- ✓ Listed in our Benefit Dinner program.
- ✓ Signage at Benefit Dinner.
- ✓ Recognition and thank you in the Southeast Outlook newspaper.

PLATINUM SPONSOR - \$5,000

Sponsorship signage at the Barren Heights Retreat Center plus 8 Barren Heights T-shirts and 8 complimentary tickets to our Benefit Dinner with a reserved table.

GOLD SPONSOR - \$2,000

8 Complimentary tickets to our Benefit Dinner with a reserved table.

SILVER SPONSOR - \$1,000

4 Complimentary tickets to our Benefit Dinner with reserved seating.

BRONZE SPONSOR - \$500

2 Complimentary tickets to our Benefit Dinner with reserved seating.

<http://www.barrenheights.org/news/will-your-company-sponsor-a-great-organization>



Getting there.....a volunteer dad's perspective

By Scott Jones

"We're gonna be late," my wife said.

I was only minutes removed from the afternoon commute, staring at the bathroom mirror as I splashed my face. I hadn't yet packed a bag.

"I know," I grumbled. I headed for the closet to grab tee shirts and shorts for the weekend. My family, the five of us together, were on our way to Barren Heights to work another retreat, our ninth in seven years. Or seventh in nine years. Who knows? I didn't want to go.

I have plenty of tasks at work that could take priority, a shaggy lawn that needs mowing, golf clubs just waiting to be swung, and college football has started besides. I didn't want to go.

And that drive! I drive mile upon mile every day. Do I really have to drive ninety more today?

And who really cares if we're late? Guest families are never on time. In seven years, not once has one arrived before us.

I just don't want to go. My frame of mind isn't good. My patience is thin, my attitude weary. Worse, it's the same attitude I have before virtually every retreat I attend. That is, until the drive is over and we arrive at Barren Heights - very often late, I might add.

Anyone who's ever been here knows Barren Heights is a comforting place. I confess that as a dad blessed with healthy and happy children, I'm not the one who needs comforting - although once the weekend is over, I find I've received that comfort just the same, whether or not I was expecting it or even deserving of it.

I always hope and pray that those we serve receive the blessings of comfort they truly deserve and that we, as their hosts, have in some small measure helped provide that comfort. Their daily pressures are so different from mine and those of my family.

Every time I visit Barren Heights, after I've calmed down and accepted the overflowing grace that God gives so freely on these weekends, I try to remind my children of the reasons that brought us here. We are here to serve others. Faith demands that of us, but faith is also supposed to make us *want* to serve - and joyfully. And that we do, though reluctantly for some of us. (continued...)

Getting there (continued from page 3)

That reluctance wanes when we are reminded anew that service anywhere, but at Barren Heights in particular, requires our active participation. We aren't passive bystanders any more than are the families we meet here. Just ask the mother of seven-year old autistic twins, doing her best with minimal help and with a husband on yet another military deployment in harm's way; or the father dealing with a teen-aged autistic son who has grown strong, willful and harder to control; or the parents of a developmentally delayed daughter who doesn't quite fit in at mainstream school but isn't acute enough to warrant special attention.

Sometimes, these and other families like them move heaven and earth to come to Barren Heights, often for reasons that, beforehand, they don't completely understand. But yet they come here. And once they have, they understand why they were moved to come. If getting here costs *me* only a missed round of golf, a skipped football game or an overgrown lawn, well, none of that is too great a loss.

"Honey, did you hear me?" she said. "We're gonna be late."
"Yeah, I know," I said. So what? Being late for Barren Heights isn't important. *Getting* to Barren Heights, whatever you have to do to get here, now *that's* what's important.



“2013 Volunteer Awards”

Barren Heights would like to recognize the wonderful service of the ministry’s leaders and volunteers. Each fall we present two awards to volunteers who serve with the hands and heart of Jesus.

Recommendations may come from any guest or volunteer and should be received by October 15, 2013.

<http://www.barrenheights.org/news/nominations-2013-volunteer-awards>

Abigail’s Impact Award - Please nominate a youth (5-20 years old) who like the Abigail of the Bible, serves the ministry well and strong, capable, sensible and brings God, our Father, great joy.

Daniel’s Dream Award - Please nominate a volunteer who like the Daniel of the Bible, serves the ministry in Faith, Prayer, Courage, and Consistency.

With Gratitude

We want to express our gratitude to former Barren Heights Board Member, **Jamie Youngblood**. Jamie aka *Superman* offered his giftedness by helping with the annual ministry budget, chairing the 2012 Open House and serving on the Benefit Dinner Committee. His entire family has served faithfully hosting retreats each year since 2009. We have been blessed by his biblical guidance and passion throughout the years.



We hope and trust that the entire Youngblood family will continue to be involved with Barren Heights for a long, long time!

WISH LIST

Silent Auction Contributions

Card Stock and Copy Paper

6 Large Umbrellas

Bottled Water (17 oz or less)

Grille Brush and Gloves

6 Bibles (NIV, NLT, NKJV)

Board Games (age 8-14)

Ladder Ball Game

Corn Hole Game

Rebel EOS Camera

New Barn Furnishings

(For furniture list click below)

<http://www.barrenheights.org/news/barren-heights-barn-shower>

Barren Heights Christian Retreat Scottsville, KY

Business Office:

3109 Brownsboro Vista Drive
Louisville KY 40242

Phone: 502.327.9495

Website: www.barrenheights.org

E-mail: info@barrenheights.org



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.