



The Camp Arnes Year End Newsletter

Where has the time gone folks? We are closing out 2024 and already talking about summer 2025 and rentals for the year to come. Time to buckle up for another update on all things camp related for the past year. As we continue this journey seeking to glorify God here at Camp Arnes as "A place to Grow", our journey would not be made possible if not for your prayers and financial support. We are excited to share some things that have happened as a result of your backing this year. After reading through our update, please feel free to check out ways to continue to support us at the end of this letter. Thank you for your desire to keep up to date with things at Camp Arnes!

2024 STAFF PHOTO



75 Years Growing Strong!

This is Camp Arnes' 75th year! We enjoyed celebrating with those who were able to make it out and enjoy the day with us. As you can see below, the event was a blast (quite literally with rockets)! We received recognition, both provincially and federally, from our local representatives of government. The Bread We Break concert was the talk of the community as so many enjoyed coming out and taking part in a worship concert under the stars. The band said they are still talking about it and cannot wait to connect with us for the next

collaborative event at camp. The history museum was a focal point of the day as our amazing Kim Hartman put together a beautiful collection where visitors sat reminiscing together about their time at camp, while perusing photo albums or admiring clothing from various generations of camp. Thanks to those who donated their camp history to this marvelous collection for future generations to enjoy.





75th Summer:

We had just enough staff signed up to cover the kids just prior to summer. Our staffing needs continue to remain high in the summer, and it seems as though the workers are still few. However, our 75th summer was an absolute blast! We ran our second summer of bikes where we saw many kids coming that learned how to ride a bike for the first time, which is a privilege many seem to take for granted. We cannot thank our partners at Olympia Ski & Cycle enough for their support and are also grateful for our bike staff that whole heartedly invested in pouring into these kids day after day.



Prayer Trail:

This summer our CREW (CHRIST READILY EQUIPPED WORKERS) program built a new prayer trailer that wanders from the staff housing road, goes in behind Poplar Grove, and out to the animal farm. The first group built a bridge and the second group built benches and then laid gravel delivered generously by DJN Services. The kids enjoyed their time as they worked hard to see it to completion. They came together and built something that will be enjoyed by many of our guests. We have already had rental groups in the fall compliment the hard work and we are all amazed at what CREW has accomplished through their tremendous efforts that have not gone unseen.



Horses?!?:

Are we bringing back the Horse Program? The photos of our growing horse population at camp has caused quite the stir. We've had medical bills and feed donated along with the loan of four horses. two minis named Lady and Lucy and just recently two larger Arabian horses named Bonnie and Betty that we have been nursing back to health. After what appears to be some years of neglect for the two of them, we are thankful to be able to give them their final home and give them some love. So, to answer the question, we are bringing a new skill called Horse Care in which we will be teaching kids how to care for horses and develop skills needed to ensure their horse is healthy and happy. Long-term we still hope to bring back saddle riding as volunteers and donations permit.

Summer 2025:

Looking over the previous years, thinking about our tag line "A Place to Grow", we thought through this past summer's theme of "Growing Strong". We talked about how Jesus grew in wisdom and stature in Luke 2:52. Moving forward, we want to focus on discipleship and what it means to follow God in a world that seems to have forgotten about that critical call after accepting Him into our lives. For Summer 2025, we have chosen a theme of "Called" where we hope to challenge our campers to Go & Make Disciples. We are very excited to announce **registration is now open** with a pricing sale!!!!



Ice Fishing:

This February will be our 3rd annual Family Ice Fishing Derby. We have four ice fishing shacks and have had great fun learning about this great winter sport. We invite you all to join us this winter and rent our ice shacks or join us on Feb. 16th for the derby. We promise that we've caught fish here and are enjoying this great venture on the ice! Consider renting Redekopp Cottage and make a weekend out of it with your whole family! We'll take you out onto the ice if you don't have your own transportation and offer free wood for the shacks for the day. Join us for ice fishing fun for all ages!



Volunteer Needs:

It was volunteers that started camp 75 years ago. Volunteers have built the camp piece by piece through their hard work and time. And it will be volunteers that move camp into the future. We make this request all the time. But it has never been more needed than it is for the summer of 2025. Spring preparation, Summer maintenance, Fall cleanup and prepare for winter 2024/2025. It must all be done this coming year with volunteer workers. Please consider contacting us to serve at volunteer@camparnes.com or call us at 204-642-7618. Whether you want to commit to a day, a weekend, or a week, we would love the support to help camp.

Upcoming dates at Camp Arnes:

- February 16th - Family Ice Fishing Derby
- Spring 2025 Annual General Meeting
- June 7th - Family Fun Day – Bring your kids to explore our camp open house and have some free fun!
- July 7th - Summer kickoff – Please pray for camp!



Lastly, thanks to all of you for your continued support and prayer for Camp Arnes. We could not move forward without you saying yes! We also want to say a great big thank you to all the year-round staff, summer staff, board members, and volunteers who work hard to make camp possible. Please continue to pray for all those involved in camp and each person who sets foot on the camp premises. Please pray for strength, health, unity, and that God will stir in each heart as they interact with Camp Arnes.

