
The Patmos Newsletter

Fall 2008

MEMORIES FROM THE EARLY DAYS AT CAMP PATMOS

By Frances Greven as told to Marge Erickson

Frances Greven was one of the cooks that first summer at Camp Patmos in 1965. The Administration building at the top of the hill was used for the kitchen, dining room, chapel, sleeping quarters for the cooks, and nurse's quarters. The largest room would be set up with tables and chairs for breakfast. Immediately following breakfast, some campers were designated for folding up the tables and carrying them outside, and then lining up the chairs for the morning sessions of singing, Bible studies and Missions Hour. At noon the tables would be set up again for lunch. Since all the dishes were washed by hand, other campers were designated to wash and wipe the dishes. After supper, the tables would again be folded up, carried outside, and the chairs lined up for the evening evangelistic service. The campers thoroughly enjoyed "roughing it" and helping with these chores each day. For them it was an adventure!

In those early days the camp received many government commodities, including lots of butter. The cooks planned their menus according to the foods available. The two camp managers went each day to Walker to buy needed groceries and milk, after which they stopped at the post office in Hackensack to pick up the mail, which included letters for the campers. Mail call was held as the campers gathered for their noon meal.

The cooks used a combination cook stove which burned wood, and also had several gas burners. They also had a donated gas stove, which operated on bottled gas. One day the gas ran out, and none of the five or six cooks knew how to transfer to a new bottle of gas, so Muriel Lundell was designated to go

up and ask help from the men who were working on the new road leading into camp. It had been raining a lot, so "the road" was terribly muddy. No one had brought boots, so the cooks fashioned "boots" for Muriel out of plastic bread bags which they tied on above her ankles to protect her shoes from the mud!

Upstairs in the cooks' sleeping quarters, there were a few donated hospital beds, but not enough for all the cooks, so the rest of them slept on mattresses on the floor!

The cooks had a "Menus" book where they recorded menus they had used. Breakfasts included hot cooked oatmeal, sometimes pancakes, or their famous coffee cake which everyone enjoyed.

These were served with plenty of free butter. One year amongst the government commodities which they received, there were many cans of prune sauce. But the campers didn't especially care for the prune sauce! So the cooks put their heads together, trying to think of a way to use those good prunes. (Lydia Knake was one of the cooks that year.) Someone suggested making prune whip. At that remark, the cooks knew that if they called it 'prune whip' the kids wouldn't like eat it, so they made the prune whip, but they called it "**Lydia's Delight**" and it went over BIG!

Other cooks during those early years included Margaret Lindell, Dorothy Nye, Margaret Dahlgren, Naomi Culmer, Gladys Olson, Dorothy Hermanson, and many others.

For perhaps fifteen or twenty summers, Frances was one of the cooks at Patmos. Many of those years she served as head cook, she counts these memories as precious opportunities to serve the Lord!



Genesis: The Original Dining Hall & Chapel

<http://camp-patmos.org/>

We have the web-site up and running again. Check it out at <http://camp-patmos.org/>. There are pictures of the buildings, activities, and even a fisherman. Most important, the website tells everyone what we are all about, "to provide an inspiring setting for an encounter with Jesus."

Chapel Roof Replaced

For two weekends in May a large group of volunteers were busy replacing the roof of the Chapel. The prep work was done by our Camp Manager, Alan, so when the work crew got there they started right in tearing the old roof off. The next weekend the whole roof was re-shingled. Thank you to all who helped with this big project.

Pioneers

The Patmos Pioneers have been busy this fall with their continuing project of updating and remodeling the girls cabins. Also they have been replacing the sink and countertops in the women's bathroom next to the chapel. They also prepared the furnace room next to the Camp Managers house for the reinstallation of the wood furnace. If you would like to join the Pioneers contact Clay Brandt (612 869 2121) or Dick Nelson (651 452 8732).

Stony Lake Facts

The water level of Stony Lake fluctuates from year to year, but over the last 10 years the level has steadily gone down. The high over the last 10 years was 1375.36 feet above sea level and the low was 1371.80. There have been 275 readings taken. The latest reading was 1371.95 on October 31, 2008. Readings are taken by volunteers.

Thrivent Matching Gifts

Thrivent continues to offer a matching gifts program that can benefit Camp Patmos. There are forms in the Camp Patmos mail box. If you have investment products with Thrivent you may participate. Thrivent will match 50% of your gift. (If you give \$100.00, Thrivent will give a gift to Camp Patmos of \$50.00) The maximum Thrivent will match is your gift of \$600.00.

Senior Day at Patmos

Camp Patmos sponsored a senior's appreciation day at Camp Patmos on Thursday, September 25. It started early with a coach bus ride to camp. Along the way there was fellowship, treats, and a sing-along of old gospel songs led by Pastor Jim Gullickson. The weather at camp was great; as the bus pulled in the sun came out. Allan had prepared a traditional Camp Patmos lunch of grilled cheese sandwiches, tomato or chicken noodle soup, and salad, along with donated bars for dessert.

After lunch Allan pulled up alongside the dining hall with the "Gator" and a trailer with seats on both sides for 6-8 people to take a tour of the camp to see the changes that had been made since they were last at Camp. Some people even took the tour twice.

After a rest on the patio outside the dining hall overlooking beautiful Stony Lake we all posed for a picture and then hopped back on the bus for a pleasant ride home. About 35 people attended this event.

Upcoming Events at Camp Patmos:

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| Jan. 16 - 18 | Women's Retreat |
| Jan. 23 - 25 | Trinity Jr. High Retreat |
| Feb. 6 | Annual Meeting and Pancake Supper |
| May 15 - 17 | Emmaus Youth Retreat |
| May 23 - 26 | Memorial Family Work Weekend |
| June 12 -15 | Anderson Family Retreat |
| June 19 - 27 | Emmaus Family Camp |
| June 27 - 7/5 | Trinity Family Camp |
| July 5 - 24 | Trinity Youth Camp |
| July 26 - 8/22 | Concordia Language Village |
| Sept. 18 - 21 | Winterize Weekend |
| Sept. 25 - 27 | Trinity Men's Retreat |
| Oct. 2 - 4 | Trinity Women's Retreat |

Contact the Patmos Board

There is a Camp Patmos e-mail address for communicating with the board. Feel free to drop us a note with comments and encouragement.

Camp_patmos_inc@yahoo.com

We'd like to hear from you.