

# The Wilderness Way



Wilderness Way Camp School Newsletter

Volume 27, Number 3, August 2018

## SAVORING THE JOURNEY

This coming Labor Day weekend will be a busy time around Wilderness Way Girls' Camp. Staff and staff families of similar camps from South Carolina, five other states and Canada will gather here for three days of training, sharing and having fun together. This is the annual conference of the Wilderness Road Therapeutic Camping Association, a group of camps committed to the model for helping troubled youth and their families pioneered by Campbell Loughmiller. Many of the member camps participate in a rotation of serving as the host camp and this is our year. Plenty of our local community has stepped up to help us in hosting this event, which we appreciate greatly.



Chief Lock

This year's focus will be on the founder, Campbell Loughmiller. Campbell, or Chief Lock, had been active in Dallas, Texas, working with youth within the welfare system and through an organization called The Salesmanship Club. He was directing a summer camp used to serve disadvantaged and sometimes troubled youth from the Dallas area. In the late 1940s some boys were kept throughout the year as it was apparent that they were making gains in overcoming their troubles through the camp experience. Year round therapeutic was born and developed over the next decade.

Chief Lock himself was known as a lover of people and never in too much of a hurry. He took the time to get to know the people he crossed paths with. He was always curious to hear their stories and help them sense their importance and self-worth. Chief Lock was also often intrigued by nature, looking closely at the details of plants and critters. Both interests led to widely distributed books in past years, not to mention books describing the camping program.

This unhurried interest has been the catalyst for our conference theme this year: ***Savoring The Journey***, stressing the idea of having the focus of building into the lives of the boys and girls we serve. ***Savoring The Journey*** will look, too, at the need in our own lives of an unhurried attentiveness to God's work as He grows us into who He made us to be.

-- Bill Collins



These pictures show youth using the therapeutic camping program – founded by Chief Lock.

# *THE POTOMAC RIVER TRIP*

The July homestays ended and only a few days went by before the girls and some of our staff packed up and headed up to the Potomac River! 'The Potomac Trip' was in planning for many weeks and it was finally time to leave!

This trip was uniquely special because both the Pathfinders and Trailblazers were able to do this trip 'together'. While they stayed with their respective groups, they left only within a day of each other and have similar experiences to share from the trip.

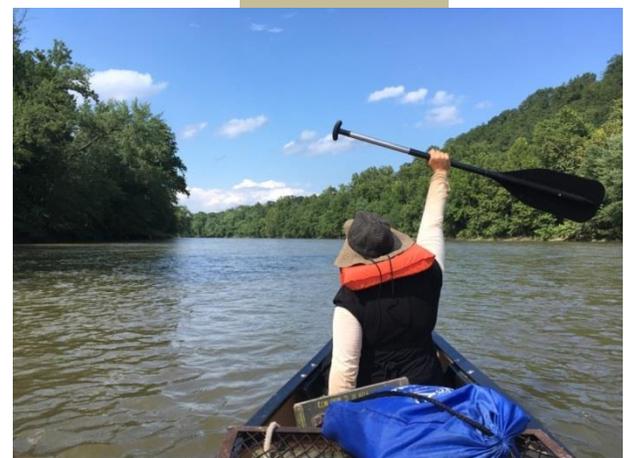
We hope you can get a glimpse into the fun and the learning experiences that the girls encountered from the great Potomac!



## ***A few facts and a bit of history...***

In 1608, Captain John Smith was able to explore the then called 'Patawomek' River. Different parts of the river had acquired various names from some of the local Indian tribes during that time. Captain Smith's drawings and renditions of his explorations were published in London in 1612. The river got its official name of the 'Potomac' in 1931 by the Board of Geographic Names.

The Potomac River runs from the Potomac Highlands of West Virginia into the Chesapeake Bay. It is approximately 405 miles long which makes it the 21<sup>st</sup> largest river in the United States! While the girls and staff didn't canoe the entire length of the river, they were able to conquer about 80 miles of it!



## *THE POTOMAC TRIP CONTINUED...*



One morning we woke up and packed canoes. Then, we ate breakfast and guess what the sun was shining! We got to say good bye to our tire swing and our tire trampoline we named them. We got on the river and started to canoe the Potomac River once again. It was great going on the Potomac River. We stopped to get water once have bathroom breaks. Then, we ate lunch at the boat ramp and a lady helped us out with the weather and she was very nice. Then, we did devotions before lunch, very loud. It was super funny. Then, we found a campsite and set up campsite very fast. Bye now see you in my next article. LILY OUT OF TOWN! PS. I have a very funny song in my head.

--Lily P.



The groups paddled many miles and got to experience the beauty of God's creation through the Potomac River. There were a handful of 'rain days' on this trip but those just made the sunshine so much sweeter!

On the last day of the trip, everyone was able to meet up with Chief Brian and Miss Angela (from Allegany Boys Camp) for some home-made ice cream and fellowship. What a great way to end two weeks out on the river!

***Camp is looking to bring on a few more people to help staff here at Wilderness Way. Please see the positions below; if any of them interest you, please contact us or visit our website! We would be happy to talk to you and see how you can help and impact at Camp.***

- **Camp Cook(s)** – Do you enjoy being in the kitchen? Camp is looking to bring in at least one more cook to help serve our staff and girls. This position would include being involved with some Camp duties outside the kitchen as well. We are looking to have the position filled as soon as possible.
- **Group Chief(s)** – Camp is looking to fill upcoming positions for group Chiefs. If God is calling you to serve in this way, please call our office and ask to speak with Chief John Bowman.
- **Receptionist/Secretarial Assistant** – Our secretaries are the voice and face of Camp by welcoming visitors, new campers, and new staff. The role includes answering phones, typing weekly articles the campers write, decorating for special events and occasions, as well as a host of other office and administrative items. A typical week is Monday – Friday, having off on Saturday and Sunday. Along with these tasks the assistant has the opportunity to be involved in the campers' lives by playing games with groups, being a chaperon for shower shifts, and the occasional task of sleeping down trail with the groups in campsites.



Wilderness Way Camp School, Inc.  
175 Camp School Ln.  
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hurting girls and their families.**

**wildernesswaycamp@gmail.com  
www.wildernesswaycamp.org**

***You are invited...***

***To the Wilderness Way 'Dîner en Blanc' fundraiser!***

**Date & Time:** *Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 | 6 – 9:30PM, EST*

**Location:** *Announced 24 hours prior to the party*

A quick recap of what a 'Diner en Blanc' even is. In a nutshell, it is like a large, community picnic where attendees dress in white. It began back in France about 30 years ago and it is a tradition that has expanded world-wide. (A simple Google search will give you a more detailed insight.) Supper is provided by the guest(s) attending at your table. We at Wilderness Way will provide the drinks, dessert, and entertainment!

And how are you supposed to attend a party if you don't know, quite literally, where on earth to go? Part of the dinner tradition is only letting RSVP'd guests know 24 hours prior to the picnic where you will be enjoying dinner. *(Since we have readers outside of the SC state; we do want to make note that the event will be held somewhere here in the Upstate of SC.)*

If this sounds like something you and a few friends or family would enjoy, head over to [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com) and look up our event (Girls' Camp Fall Diner en Blanc)! There are more informative details on the page – we at Camp would enjoy giving you a fun, unique, and memorable evening!

*Proceeds from the evening will benefit Wilderness Way.*