



MOOSE RIVER OUTPOST



DEER RUN



BROOK WOODS



Christian Camps
and Conferences

2019
Annual Report



Dear Camp Family

What a privilege to be a part of the camp family in 2019. We observed in so many ways how camp has made a lasting impact on the lives of young men and women for the past 75 years. At Camp, both campers and staff experience spiritual growth through godly role models, adventure, the study of God's word and time spent in His wonderful creation. These moments take place on the shores of Heald Pond, on the fishing boat in Lake Winnepesaukee, paddling the Allagash River, or in a conversation at the Brookwoods Conference Center between a youth pastor and high schooler seeking God during a weekend retreat.

Positive lasting impact happens on many fronts—summer campers, leadership development program participants, and seasonal summer staff, who are surrounded with a supportive Christian community where friendships thrive.

In July, we welcomed 400 alumni back to Brookwoods to celebrate 75 years of ministry. Alumni from every decade attended, including Don Pauley, one of the original 8 campers back in 1944. Former campers and staff told stories and shared remembrances over campfires and pancakes at breakfast cookouts, participated in camp activities, told funny stories, and sang camp songs throughout the weekend. The celebration culminated with a worship service with 800 people under the tent on the front lawn. (Check out our YouTube channel "SummerFunatCamp" to see the 75th Anniversary weekend highlights.)

Moose River Outpost had an outstanding summer in 2019, giving us more cause for celebration. Camp was full, reaching another huge milestone for the ministry. Starting this coming summer, we will expand the camp season in Maine to 8 weeks from the previous 6 weeks. Ken Olsen's original gift of a rustic "fishing camp" (7,000 acres) in 1999, has now grown into an incredibly special ministry that impacts hundreds of kids each season.

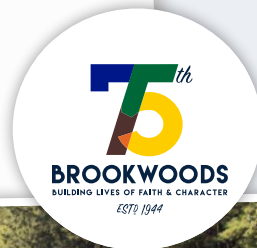
We are now looking ahead to the next 75 years and how we can continue to make an impact on all aspects of the ministry to this generation and the next. It is a wonderful God-given legacy, and we want to continue to be good stewards of the blessing that God has provided.

To everyone who is included in this Annual Report, and to those who donated time and resources anonymously or behind the scenes—Thank You! The role you played in making camp "work" was tremendous. Each and every gift made our goals of excellence and positive impact a reality in 2019. I am privileged to see the results each day, and I hope this Annual Report will provide you with a glimpse of the life changing results YOU have enabled.

I love serving this ministry!



Bob Strodel, Executive Director



HIGHLIGHTS

Fundraising

Thank you for supporting camp with your charitable giving in 2019. A healthy Annual Fund keeps the ministry strong and brings more kids to camp to hear about the life changing love of Jesus.

On the Northern Front ...

This past year, Moose River Outpost in Maine saw a record number of monther campers (48), a full WILD 1 group (for only the 2nd time in its history), broke ground on the new skeet shooting range, and served more campers than ever! We are so thankful that more and more campers are discovering this unique and beautiful 7,000 acre property.

The Brookwoods and Deer Run Cabins are Looking Good!

We are making progress with our cabin renovations project with Beaver and Bear getting the standard Brookwoods upgrade (extra room, new electrical, and an expanded bathroom). At Deer Run, Reindeer received a new porch and Elk and Antelope now have new floors and upgraded sinks and countertops. We are especially excited about the work that was completed in 2019 on the Badger cabin. Two new wings were added to accommodate the male SALT 1 and SALT 2 (Servant and Leadership Training) participants. We are delighted that this newest leadership program has been well-received and is consistently filled.

A new face in the kitchen:

We were pleased to welcome Jon Cooper as our new Food Service Director in May of 2019. He and the family were barely settled in when the campers began streaming through the gates on Incoming Day. Jon rose to the challenge and treated the campers and staff with some new creations like gutter sundaes and 100 foot subs. We can't wait to see what he comes up with this year!

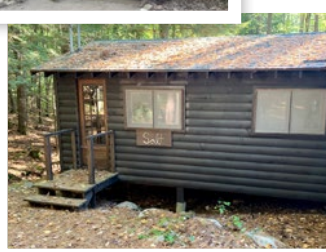
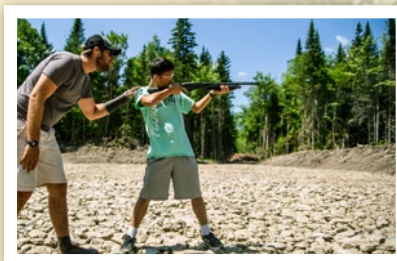


"75 for 75" Weekend of Giving: We held a successful Weekend of Giving once again over Changeover Weekend with a special theme for Brookwoods' 75th year. Thanks especially to those 18 donors who *Joined the Journey* for the first time during this weekend.

Anniversary Auction: Another Anniversary themed event was the silent auction held to boost our Scholarship Fund. The Auction yielded \$3,600 to bring kids to camp with some vintage Brookwoods signs receiving the most bids.

Year End Goals: Once again, our faithful ministry partners helped us meet our year-end goals. We are especially grateful to our donors for providing \$252,000 in donations to cover the financial assistance given to campers in 2019!

Giving Back: The Campfire Circle Monthly Donor Program and the 1944 Heritage Society continues to gain members. For more information on these special donor programs, visit christiancamps.net/give-back/



What a Weekend!

In July 2019, Camp Brookwoods hosted over 400 camp alumni who returned for a special Anniversary Weekend Celebration to give thanks for 75 years of God's faithfulness. It was a special time of fellowship, campfires, remembrances, and special programs. The weekend concluded with a joint worship service of 800 combined campers and alumni praising God together under the tent on the front lawn!





Lives Transformed

Colin Wolgemuth
Moose River Outpost Staff

I was invited to work at Moose River Outpost (MRO) during a crisis time in my family. My parents had recently separated, and I was struggling with confusion and grief in the wake of it all. Already having a love of Christian camping, I applied for a counselor position at MRO. The thought of working at a Christian camp in the wilderness of northern Maine gave me hope, and six weeks later I was driving north from Pennsylvania to Maine!

I am happy to say that being a part of the ministry and mission of MRO last summer lifted me out of a season of sorrow and gave me new zeal for the future. I came alive in the atmosphere of love, joy, and unity built on a foundation of faith in Jesus. Though we were working hard six days a week, camp was still a place of refreshment. The Lord picked me up and strengthened my faith in Him.

Being a staff member at MRO was like being welcomed into a family. From the first, MRO Director, Seth Coates, and his wife, Cathy, treated the counselor staff like their own children, caring deeply for us. They were consistent and kind, wanting the best for us as we led and cared for campers. This trust relationship helped the staff to bond as we learned to do our work well.

During the summer, I was often reminded of the beauty of God. As counselors shared testimonies, I heard about the Lord's goodness. As we walked outside each day by the lake, I saw it! As campers began to experience the truth of the gospel, I sensed it. Through moments of being tired from work and caring for campers, God gave us joy. At the end of the summer, I realized that I didn't want to be finished with MRO. The door opened for me to return! I am so thankful for this place, the work that God is doing here, and the chance to take part in it again.



Colin (back row, far left) with a group of campers ready for a new adventure!

Rene Santos Brookwoods Staff

There have been moments in my life where I have asked myself "How did I get so blessed to end up here?" I found myself having this thought as I was looking at the sunset from the Bear Cabin at Brookwoods this past summer. As my 2019 Spring semester was coming to an end at Azusa Pacific University in California, I had a conversation with my professor and mentor Cheryl Crawford that would change my life. Amongst her encouragement to me to be obedient to God's call for my life, she extended an invitation for me to be a part of something that would not only affirm my passion for discipleship but also help me discover a newfound admiration for God's creation through nature. I accepted and came on staff as the Brookwoods Bear counselor. Singing around a campfire, canoeing down

the Saco River with the Bears and Impalas, going on three-day hikes in the White Mountains, and the evening cookouts are among my favorite memories of the summer. These activities helped me recognize that Christ was at the center of it all. Fellow staff members and campers were willing to be vulnerable about where they stood in their relationship with Christ and as we came alongside one another we grew in love towards one another and towards our Heavenly Father. I also had the privilege to witness three of my Bear campers being

baptized and making the decision to commit their lives to living in a way that brings glory to God. I will forever cherish my friendship with Cheryl Crawford and the staff at Brookwoods for giving me the opportunity to serve and lead the future generation in the path of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



We are blessed to have Rene returning to the Brookwoods staff in 2020. He is pictured here (seated, center) with a few of the 2019 Bears and Impalas.

Christie Knubel Holmes Deer Run Director, 1990-1992

I first went to Deer Run as a month camper and was placed in the Impala Cabin. Despite a disastrous first backpacking experience, I returned to Deer Run for 11 summers. My years at Deer Run added a consistency of relationship and experience through the remainder of my high school, college, and graduate school years. When there was so much change in my life, camp was a constant. I created relationships, memories, and was given leadership opportunities that define me to this day. The weekend of the 75th Anniversary was very nostalgic for me. It was wonderful to get reacquainted with people I had not seen for 30 years—to be reminded that relationships that lay dormant for a long time can be picked up without skipping a beat. And to discover that the impact people make continues through time, writing on my heart and story. I realized that the grit, courage, and spirit that I cultivated when hiking in the White Mountains, traversing the ropes course, training to lifeguard, and forging friendships while pounding ice cream at Kellerhaus are all woven into my DNA and inform my vision and courage as a mom and an entrepreneur. While I enjoyed the wonderful anniversary weekend, up in northern Maine, at Moose River Outpost, my daughter was creating memories and having experiences of her own. I wondered what she was doing and if she would have the resilience to turn those experiences into a life-long legacy of her own. I had done my best to encourage her to embrace all the opportunities that Northern Maine has to offer. I have no assurances that her experiences will measure up to mine. That will be up to her. I had only done what a lot of parents do, set her up for adventure, cover her in a lot of prayer, and wait to see where she landed.



Christie works for Global CommUnity which provides opportunities for families to learn about different cultures while traveling abroad. She is pictured here (second from right) during the Anniversary Weekend with Mark Russell and Dave and Judy Gleason.

2020

Moving Forward

2 More Weeks of Adventure at Moose River Outpost: 8 WEEKS!

We are thrilled that MRO reached a milestone for campers in 2019 which will allow us to add two more weeks of camp to the season in Maine. All we can say is Go MRO!

Preparing for The Next 75 Years

We are looking forward with expectation to how God will use Camp Brookwoods, Deer Run, and Moose River Outpost to expand the gospel in the coming years. We invite you to partner with us as we prepare to serve future generations of campers. Be on the lookout for an announcement about what we have planned!



31 States & 14 Countries
represented at Summer Camp



40
Campfire Circle Monthly Donors



6,422
Conference Guests at MRO & Brookwoods



242 Campers received Scholarship Assistance

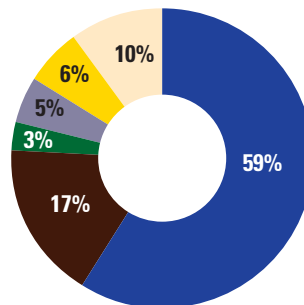


1,122
Campers in 2019



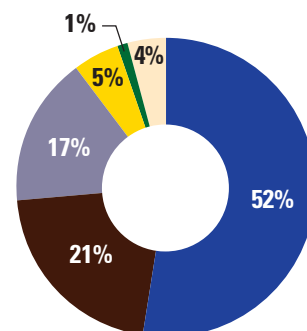
6,336
Eggs fried up for Breakfast Cookouts

Financials



Support & Revenue FY 2019

Summer Tuition	\$ 2,387,618
Conference Income	\$ 731,698
Timbering & Sugaring	\$ 213,405
General Donations	\$ 120,943
Scholarship Donations	\$ 251,931
Other Designated Gifts	\$ 394,963
Total	\$ 4,100,558



Expenses FY 2019

Summer Programs	\$ 2,018,476
Conference Ministry	\$ 802,239
Management & Operations	\$ 579,185
Alumni Relations & Development	\$ 208,385
Timbering & Sugaring	\$ 62,362
Capital Improvements	\$ 139,850
Total	\$ 3,810,497

Donations 2019

Endowment:	\$ 17,445
MRO:	\$ 11,220
General Donations:	\$ 120,943
Scholarship:	\$ 251,931
Other Designated Gifts:	\$ 394,963

242 Campers in 2019 received Scholarship Assistance (22%).

* Numbers are not audited at time of printing





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Mary Beth Bowling
Deer Run Director

Seth Coates
Moose River Outpost Director

Debbie Strodel
Director of Finance

Ann Higgins
Development Director

Melissa Yonan
Alumni Director

Our Mission at Christian Camps and Conferences is to foster vibrant Christian communities located in awe-inspiring outdoor settings in which young people are spiritually transformed through Christ-centered relationships.



**Christian Camps
and Conferences**

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*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*



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