



CAMP PADDY RUN

News

PADDY RUN OUTDOOR MINISTRY COMMITTEE

FALL 2006

WWW.CAMPPADDYRUN.ORG

A DRY SUMMER FOR CAMP PADDY RUN

The rain wasn't the only thing missing this summer at Camp Paddy Run. Since early springtime, the property's well system had been lacking enough water pressure to function properly. There was no easy solution since the problem could have been caused by several factors. A highly recommended local contractor from Strasburg was called in to investigate the source of the problem. Repairing a chewed wire, cleaning the filters and replacing parts on the pump heads were the first items needing attention, though they still did not restore our well system. Finally, pressure testing revealed a hole in the pipes. Our worst fear was realized!

Despite having little to no water on the property, we managed to make do through several events: a volunteer work day and the Kickball Tournament in May, June's Parish of the Valleys



Day Camp, a handful of summer rentals, and a Back-to-School Teen Retreat in September. Port-o-johns, bottled water, and the occasional water truck delivery kept Paddy Run afloat for the season, but the lack of running water was a major bump in the road for a committee anxious to bring more visitors to Paddy Run.

Having no other choice, the pipes were pulled from the 600-foot-deep well. Pulling the pump proved a great challenge as several attempts were made unsuccessfully. Whether it was a shift in the underground rock formations or old debris at the well's floor, something was hindering retrieval of the underground pump- making it impossible to replace the pipes and rendering the well useless.

So what's next?

At the September 12th Council meeting, members of the PROM Committee requested the remaining net assets for Paddy Run to be used to finance a new well project. This money, given



specifically for Paddy Run, is a fund that we had hoped would be able to finance our programs for years to come. However, given the dire situation, we had no other choice than to use the full extent of these funds, if need be, to restore water to Paddy Run.

After Council approved the expenditure, a permit was applied for and received Shirley Well Drilling was chosen to perform the work. We are currently awaiting results of one final attempt to restore the old well before drilling a new one. We are praying for the best!



Above: This new cross was erected at the campfire circle on the May 12th work day.



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Going back to Prom!...

When our volunteers convened in March of this year, a first order of business was naming the new committee. We didn't want to be known as the 'camp committee', because that seemed too limiting. Paddy Run isn't just a great place to camp- it's a great place to get away, reflect, study, and meditate. We wanted our focus to be on Outdoor Ministry: Christian nurture in a natural environment. And since we specifically are focused on Camp Paddy Run, the 'Paddy Run Outdoor Ministry Committee,' or 'PROM Committee' for short, was formed!

The mere words 'PROM Committee' bring to mind bustling teenagers getting ready for the BIG EVENT- decorations, music, food... all the things necessary for a great time. Well, to that extent, I don't think this PROM Committee is too far off. We're here to help you enjoy Paddy Run- to understand its full potential and help you create an unforgettable event for your youth and adults.

Also, ironically, by serving on this PROM Committee, I had the opportunity to work with today's teenagers. Thinking back to our own high school Proms, it was a simpler time where our most tragic events were failing a test or breaking up with our high school sweetheart. It doesn't take but a quick glance at national headlines to know that today's teens are different. But are they really? Or has their world just changed?

The Parrish Day Camp saw a record breaking 24 teenagers come to day camp this summer. I had the pleasure of helping out with Friday's campout- a privilege that only the older youth can attend. Sitting there at the campfire circle, almost unaware of the adult presence, I was amazed at what I heard: stories of abusive boyfriends, classmates that had taken their own lives, and their parents' financial difficulties. I silently wept for these young men and women.

Again, I was confounded how in the midst of these struggling adolescent lives, there was a deep sense of resolve. There was an understanding among them that although they couldn't change today, they had a choice about how they would move forward in the future.

I was thankful there was a place like Paddy Run where they felt safe, accepted and most importantly, loved for who they were. I thanked God for the positive influences in these kids' lives- their parents, peers, and their Christian family. 'Someone is doing something right', I thought to myself.



Above: Youth close September's retreat by singing one of their favorite songs, 'You are my All in All.' Below: IHOP goes outdoors! Teens & adults enjoy a campfire-cooked breakfast.



As is Paddy Run tradition, everyone helps out with worship. That night, as the teens lead us through prayer, songs, and scripture, it occurred to me: maybe I needed some sort of reassurance too. As the kids embraced one another and lead us in the closing song, "You are my All in All," through tearful eyes I lifted my heart in prayer saying "Thank you, Lord, for these boys and girls. If they are the future of this country, that is alright with me." AMEN!

Now more than ever, we need a place like Paddy Run.

Amy Tubbs
Chair, PROM Committee



10 FUN THINGS TO DO AT PADDY RUN:

1. **Rock Hopping:** Bring an extra pair of shoes and enjoy a hike on the wet 'n wild side— not *along* the run, but right through it!
2. **Flashlight Games:** The remote wide open spaces make Paddy Run an ideal location for a variety of nighttime fun in the dark!
3. **Campfire Cooking:** S'mores aren't the only tasty treat you can make over flames. Enjoy chicken 'n dumplings, donuts, apple cobbler and cheese fondue to name a few.
4. **Parachute Sleepout:** Forget the cabins!... spread out the big parachute and enjoy sleeping under the shooting stars!
5. **Trust Hike:** Older youth and adults enjoy this opportunity to have a little faith. Blindfolded, you'll weave your way through trails and try to guess trees by the feel of their leaves.



6. **Scavenger Hunt:** Kids can learn nature basics, such as the best place to find a pine cone is under a pine tree!
7. **Arts & Crafts:** Whether it's the inspirational sunset or the amount of natural material available at Paddy Run, you can spend a day painting the mountain views or making vine wreaths.
8. **Water Olympics:** Paddy Run's shallow pool is great for hosting a variety of wacky pool games.
9. **Boat Races:** Using leaves and sticks, everyone gets to design their own champion vessel. The boats will wonder down Paddy's Run and the first one not to get hung up on a rock and reaches the finish line wins!
10. **Solar S'mores:** Kids will learn in a most delicious way the powers of solar energy!... construct a simple aluminum foil oven and let the sun toast your marshmallows!



Above: Paddy Run is known for its breathtaking sunsets.

PROM COMMITTEE OFFICERS:

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Property Caretaker:

Helen & Emra Orndorff
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We'd love to hear from you!

Visit www.CampPaddyRun.org



IDEAS TO PLAN FOR IN 2007:

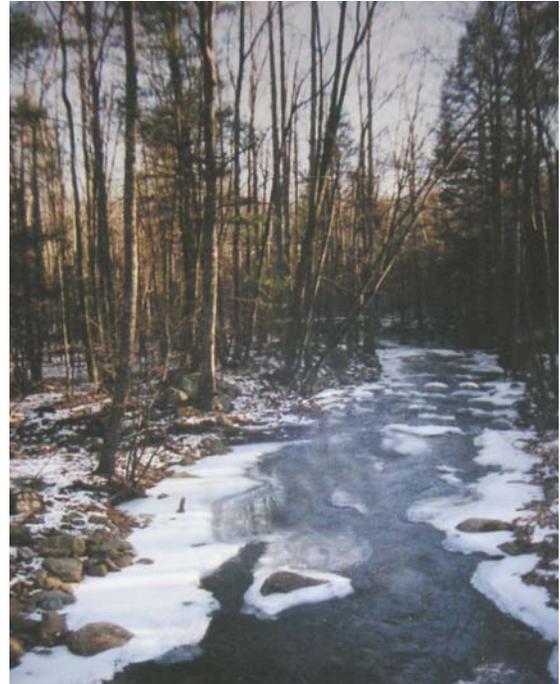
Add an overnight camping component to your Vacation Bible School curriculum. Talk about changing things up!... Kids will love the opportunity to enjoy worship and Bible study in a new place!

Plan a congregational retreat. Spice it up with a chili cook-off or an ice cream social. With a pool and ample field space for softball and games, you simply can't go wrong!

Planning a Mission Trip? Why not host your training sessions at Paddy Run? You can prepare for the journey by living off of the bare basics here in the wilderness.

Service Projects. Did you know the Volunteer Farm in Woodstock is just 30 minutes away? Literally just 5 turns down beautiful back roads from Camp Paddy Run. Plan an event that helps the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank and brings new light on feeling thankful for what we have. Please visit www.volunteerfarm.org for more information on this wonderful service opportunity.

Email reservations@camppaddyrun.org today!



OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE:

Consider putting Paddy Run on your Christmas list this year. Here are some things that we could really use:

Paint: \$25 per gallon (for painting cabins, pool area, lodge deck) Quantity needed: 15 gallons.

Furniture Cushions: \$43 each for new covers. Currently the lodge has 2 chairs, a love seat and a sofa totaling 14 total cushions.

Plastic Tarps: \$10 each. (9x12) Quantity needed: 4

Volleyball net: \$75. (32 feet long, used item is OK)

Basketball hoop and net: \$40, used item is OK)

Fire ring for Lodge area: \$250 is the catalogue price. (However, one can be built with an extra large tire rim and grate. If you have these items, please contact us!)

Cash donations are always appreciated.

Donated items can be picked up. Checks can be made payable to 'Camp Paddy Run' and sent to:

Lori Orndorff
35749 Roundleaf Court
Round Hill, VA 20141

Winter is coming!... but Paddy Run is still open for business. With a comfortable lodge that sleeps 20 and a wood stove, it's a great place to host a cozy gathering-- for Bible Study, board games, scrapbooking or a quilting bee.... Paddy Run's beauty doesn't fade in the sparseness of winter!

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE:

We're always looking for more volunteers to help out!

Do you have a general love for nature and recreation? Do you have special skills that can be used in an outdoor setting? Woodworking, using a GPS, identifying plants, bird watching? We'd love to hear from you!

Currently, we're searching for a Programs Chair: someone that can help coordinate activities and events at Paddy Run.

Volunteers are also needed in a variety of other ways too: cooking, data entry, making phone calls, conducting research. There's so many small things to do that make a BIG difference!