



# Tecumseh Tales

Camp Tecumseh YMCA Outdoor Center

## February 2011

*Our goal is for every camper to have a positive, safe, fun-filled experience!*

### Why Parents Love Camp Tecumseh

- ▶ “It’s one of the few places that our children can live their faith with their peers and be away from the pressures of our society – all while having an absolute blast!” *(Parent of 11 year old)*
- ▶ “My daughter was in Equestrian Camp and the counselors were great. They were excited about everything. She made friends she keeps in touch with. As parents we want to thank you for your commitment to excellence and continuous improvement. We look forward to next year!”
- ▶ “Another great experience at Camp T! Again he came home more confident, respectful, and mature. Thanks to all the Camp T staff for working so hard to make it such a wonderful place!” *(Parent of 14 year old)*
- ▶ “It was one of the best experiences of my life. I loved all the activities like mud hike, banana death march, chapel and singing, and all the friends you make!” *(10 year old camper)*
- ▶ “My 12 year old loves the week at camp each summer...literally CANNOT wait for the next year! We feel Camp Tecumseh is one of the BEST places for a child. Male counselors are encouraging and make every child feel valued and more confident. We love the chapel and spiritual values taught. Our son grows both spiritually and in confidence. Thank you for being such a positive influence in his life.” *(Parent of 12 year old)*
- ▶ “This was my 10 year olds first time at sleep-away camp and he had the time of his life...so much fun he didn’t want to leave! He said his counselors were great and you laugh a lot!”
- ▶ “As a parent I have seen her grow to be more confident, caring, responsible, and totally committed to living her life with a heart for God, and sharing it with others . . . This all because six years ago when she came back from her first week there, I could feel the uplifting change in her. It was even more profound because it came at a time of particular difficulty for her and our family. Thank you all so much.” *(Mom of 16 year old)*

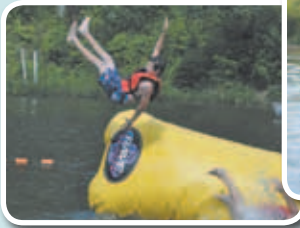


YMCA Camp Tecumseh is a charitable organization whose Mission is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

## Richard G. Marsh Lake

Lake activities continue to rate as a favorite among many campers. There are plenty of opportunities to try new things and the variety keeps the lines short.

**Water Slides**  
**Rope Swing**  
**Cargo Net**  
**Trampoline/Blobs**  
**Canoeing & Kayaks**  
**The Saturn**  
**Paddle Boats**  
**Sand Castles**  
**Volley Ball • Tube Slide**



## Equestrian Camp -vs- Horsemanship Clinic

Horsemanship is offered to resident campers as one of their three morning skill clinics. This is great for those that love horses but still want to take other skill clinics. Preregistration is required.

Equestrian Camp is for boys and girls ages 11-15 who want to focus their attention on horses while still enjoying some of the other traditional camp activities. There is the option of riding English or Western and classes are divided by ability. In addition to riding, all campers will learn grooming, bridling, saddling, and horse safety.



## Adventure Trips

Hey Teen! This is your invitation to Adventure! A great chance to broaden your horizons as you travel with friends your

age. There are still spaces available on both the Whitewater Rafting and Horse Pack trips.

## Partner's Service Day

May 7, 2011

A great way to spend time with your family and friends while modeling volunteerism. We always have a good time. Lunch is provided. Contact Vince at [vincep@camptecumseh.org](mailto:vincep@camptecumseh.org) for more information.



## Bringing Joy to Others

*"It was the best week of my life!" • "Everyone is so nice here."  
"I had my own bed and three meals a day. It was great."*

Thanks to the generosity of many camp friends, families, and former staff members, more than 2200 campers received some level of financial assistance during 2010 so they could experience the joy of camp! For many it was their first time away from home for more than just a night. Eating around a table 'family style' and giving thanks before the meal were new experiences. Learning about the great outdoors; developing the teamwork of paddling a canoe, belonging to a special group like Cherokee or Fox or whatever cabin is YOURS.

Donors to the **Making a Difference** campaign helped expand the world and brighten the lives of a lot of great kids last year. Our thanks go out to each of them and *our invitation* goes out to every Camp Tecumseh YMCA family to be part of making a difference for other youngsters this year. It gives them experiences that last a lifetime! Send your contribution to Camp Tecumseh YMCA, Making a Difference Fund. Contributions are tax deductible if you itemize. You can **Make a Difference – help send a child to camp!**

## Staff Spotlight

Many of you call every year and speak with an office staff person. They are dedicated to answering the phones as well as their other many responsibilities that help keep Camp running smoothly.

Kathy – “My goal is to meet everyone with a warm and inviting smile and make them feel important. I want the person on the other end of the phone to hear the smile in my voice and to know that their call is most important. I hope my joy becomes contagious and that His light shines through me. It is always a great day at Camp. Keep Smiling!”



Christa – “It is difficult to narrow down what I love most about Camp. Each day is a joy to come to work and a blessing from God. I love seeing the campers have fun in the summer, I enjoy speaking with our parents as well as meeting and working with Quilt Campers. God plays such an active role in all that we do. I love my job!”



Bonnie – “I really enjoy my work here at Tecumseh. Camper parents have blessed me for 25 years just by talking to them over the phone. I am confident in saying that your child will have the time of their life this summer!! ‘Camp is where the Son always shines,’ is one of my favorite sayings.”



Winnie – “I was a counselor and met my husband at Camp in 1979. Both my kids have been campers and have worked at camp. We have lived here now for 10 years and I have worked in the office for the last 8 years. So many people have been touched by Camp Tecumseh. I never want to take for granted that God has truly blessed us with a wonderful place to work and play.”



Allison – “Camp truly is a blessing to everyone who gets to experience it whether as a guest or staff member. Looking out my office window and seeing the campers have such a great time makes me want to go out and join in the fun! I love to see the enthusiasm and love for Camp Tecumseh in the campers and staff alike!”



## Educators Forever

Porter and Vivian Myers were life-long teachers. They each touched the lives of hundreds of students over their lifetime. They loved young people and they loved that Camp Tecumseh could combine a Christian component to the growth that happens to children at camp. Over the years they helped sponsor many campers who could not have attended otherwise.

Vivian passed on in 2005 and Porter joined her last year. They had been members of camp’s Trailblazer Society for several years so it was known that a bequest would be coming to the camp Endowment Fund. What we didn’t know was that it would be more than \$75,000.

In keeping with their commitment to education, the earnings from the Porter and Vivian Myers Fund are designated for training of camp’s staff. They realized that camp counselors, program directors, and other camp leaders need regular training to provide our campers with the best experiences possible. This gift, given through their will, ensures funds will always be available for that purpose.

As with other funds that have been created in the Endowment, the Myers contribution is a ‘forever gift’. The principal of the contribution can never be depleted. Only the interest/appreciation of the gift may be used for the purposes identified by the donor (if restricted).

We hope all camp families, former counselors, and others who believe in the positive power of a Camp Tecumseh experience, will include camp in their long term plans. What better way could there be to bring joy to young people and also help build solid citizens for the future of our country.

*For more information about the Trailblazer Society and Endowment Fund opportunities contact*  
**Dave Wright, Executive Director at:**  
**[dwright@camptecumseh.org](mailto:dwright@camptecumseh.org) or visit:**  
**[www.camptecumseh.org/donations/wills.php](http://www.camptecumseh.org/donations/wills.php).**



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## Notes From Dave



The cold days of winter often make us think ahead to the warm days of Summer. It is so nice to think of campers here wearing short sleeves and lining up at the drinking fountains. Maybe we will have a few good old water fights too~just to cool off a bit after a hike or a game. We are looking forward to warm weather!

But you may be wondering what we are actually doing here in the winter. Much of the winter is actually dedicated to the summer! Many hours have already gone into the planning for Summer Camp. The staff can hardly wait to get started!

So what happens between now and then? The biggest thing is interviewing prospective counselors for next summer. Many of your favorites will be back from last year! Many prospective new counselors have been recommended to us by former counselors. They help identify people they think will be excellent Tecumseh staff members. Of course some of our best Day Camp staff are now in college and



will be joining the resident camp staff. They always bring an extra measure of enthusiasm!

We know that great counselors are what make a terrific camp experience, so we are putting lots of time and energy into staff selection. We think you will really be happy with the results this summer!

See you this summer!

Dave Wright  
Executive Director