



# THE SOUTH MOUNTAIN YMCA CAMPS

# ARROWHEAD

## SUMMER 2015



## Mark Your Calendars for Alumni Reunion Day 2015

We hope you'll attend Alumni Day for an afternoon of fellowship and fun. Join us on July 18th from 3-8 pm and rekindle the **fires of friendship**. Whether you'd like to see if you "still have it" on the archery and trap ranges, or you simply want to hike the grounds and relive the good memories, you are welcome on the mountain. The day will conclude with dinner at the dining hall, a brief chapel ceremony, and a campfire at the Council Ring. For additional details or to RSVP call camp at **610-670-2267**.



## Summer Fun Raffle



Tickets are now available for this year's **Summer Fun Raffle**. The proceeds of this year's raffle will help send deserving children to Camp Conrad Weiser. Tickets are \$10 and the drawing will be held August 22, 2015. Contact the Camp Office to purchase your tickets at **610-670-2267**.

- First place prize is a choice of a Two-Week Session of YMCA Camp Conrad Weiser or a red Emotion Spitfire sit-a-top kayak
- Second place prize is the choice of a Family Camp Weekend for four or a GoPro Hero 3 camera
- Third place prize is the choice of a One-Week Session of Bynden Wood Day Camp or an ECEEN solar backpack

**The South Mountain YMCA Camps: Igniting the Fires of Friendship**

## Women's Wellness Weekend

Last year, we expanded our Women's Retreats to include Women's Adventure Weekend. In May we welcomed 100 women to the mountain for target sports, rock climbing, zip lining, canoeing and much more.

On September 25-27, we are welcoming those participants and more to join us for Women's Wellness Weekend. This special event offers wellness workshops and speakers intermixed with fun and exciting camp activities.

Join us for hors d'oeuvres, wine and live entertainment in Bynden Wood Lodge on Friday night. We take care of the details so you can enjoy a weekend playing, laughing and learning with both old and new friends.

For more information contact Euan Walker, Outdoor Center Director, at **610-670-2267** or via email at [ewalker@smymca.org](mailto:ewalker@smymca.org).

## Check Out South Mountain Adventures

Escape to the mountain with your family, friends or co-workers for a unique adventure. Join us for a morning, a day or a weekend. However long the stay, we know you'll want to come back for more.

### Adventure Programs include:

- Zip Line & Climbing Wall
- Aerial Adventure
- Mountain Boarding
- Target Sports
- Canoeing
- Zorb Balls
- Trap Shooting
- Trail Rides
- Sailing
- Kayaking

All Adventure Programs require a signed release by each participant (or parent/guardian for minors). Groups *larger than 8* should call for individualized rates and schedules. Online registration is for *groups of 8 or less*.

After booking, our staff will contact you regarding details of your adventure including appropriate apparel, meeting location, etc. All Adventure Experiences are "rain or shine." For additional information contact Cory Evans, Adventure Program Director, at **610-670-2267** or at [cevans@smymca.org](mailto:cevans@smymca.org).



## Save the Date for the 18th Annual SMYMCA Golf Classic

***The 18th Annual Golf Classic will be held on Monday September 21st at Galen Hall.***

For their registration fee golfers receive a lunch buffet, 18 holes of golf with a cart, and a raw bar & steak dinner at Camp. Non-golfers are welcomed to purchase a ticket and attend the raw bar and dinner.

***Proceeds benefit the South Mountain YMCA Camps' Annual Campaign***—Reach Out For Youth (ROFY). ROFY provides scholarships for deserving children to attend summer camp and outdoor education programs. ***Have fun for a great cause!*** Attend our 18th Annual Golf Classic at Galen Hall on Monday September 21st. Don't delay, register today. Only nine foursomes remain.

***Sponsorships are still available***, contact Michele M. Reinert, Director of Development, at **610-670-2267** or [mreinert@smymca.org](mailto:mreinert@smymca.org) for additional information.







the  **CREATING A CAMP...  
FOR ALL.**

A Capital Campaign  
ensuring our future impact.



**SOUTH MOUNTAIN YMCA CAMPS**

Bynden Wood Day Camp \* Camp Conrad Weiser  
Duberstein Equestrian Center \* The Outdoor Center

**ONLY**



# Creating a Camp for All.

Whether sharing a sunny day or a star-filled night, friendships made on the mountain never fade. The magic and memories made here last a lifetime. Known for our high-quality programs, professional staff and pristine setting, the South Mountain YMCA Camps have built a well-deserved reputation as a community asset. The impact of our programs past and present is unmistakable.

***Now, the time has come to focus on the future, to focus on expanding that impact—to focus on creating a camp for all!***

Even with the range of life-changing programs and activities our camp programs provide children, families, schools and community groups, we have the potential to enrich many more lives by making several much-needed improvements.

## The Pool Complex Renovation

Swimming is, of course, an important part of our summer camps, and our pool gets maximum use. While it has been painstakingly maintained, it is now more than 70 years old and is not very accessible to young children, seniors or those with limited mobility. This campaign will provide funds for:

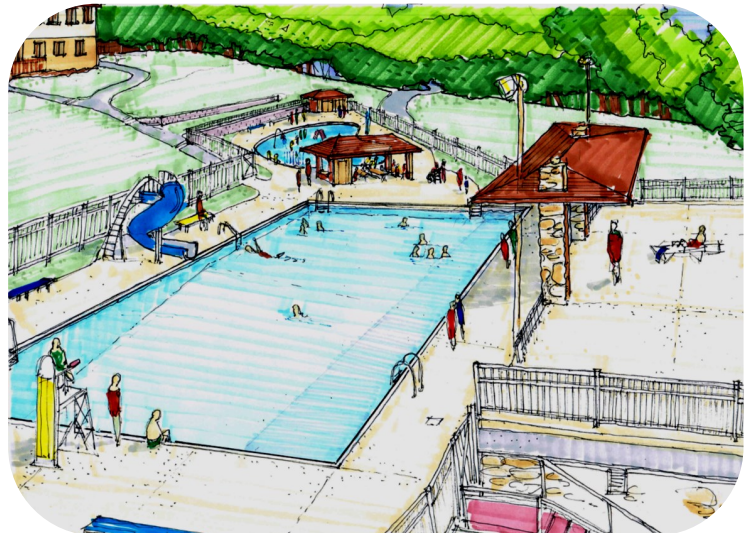
- Improvements to, and renovations of, the Pool Complex
- Addition of a smaller, zero-entry pool for special populations and young children
- Addition of water features attractive to both children and families
- Improved access to the pools complying with ADA regulations
- Replacement of the basin of the existing pool

## Renovating Our Historic Dining Hall



While lovingly maintained, this nearly 70 year-old structure needs renovation and expansion to better serve today's campers and guests. This campaign will enable the South Mountain YMCA Camps to provide:

- A much needed renovation of, and addition to, our historic hall
- Addition of restrooms to the building complying with ADA regulations
- Expansion of the hall to increase ease of access for all, as well as increasing the seating capacity
- Renovation of the 70 year-old kitchen, as well as its appliances and equipment to meet modern food service demands
- Septic and water upgrades





# Renovations to the Duberstein Equestrian Center

Horseback riding, as well as the care of horses, has always been a cornerstone of the summer camp experience. Beyond Camp, we've also offered the community riding lessons and trail rides as the seasons permit. The demand for riding facilities and programs is now greater than we can provide. This campaign will address:

- The expansion and renovation of the Duberstein Equestrian Center
- The facilities accessibility needs with an eye on providing therapeutic riding programs
- Additional pasture space
- An indoor riding arena for year-round use



## Better Serving Special Populations

Who are the special populations we hope to better serve? They are seniors, adults with special needs, children with developmental and cognitive challenges, and people of all ages with limited mobility. Our goal is to better accommodate all of our friends and neighbors and truly make a positive impact in their lives. This campaign will allow us to better serve people of different abilities in ways that they desire and deserve by providing funds for:

- Additional facilities and equipment to serve special populations across our 600 acre campus
- Improved accessibility at all existing South Mountain YMCA Camps' facilities
- The development of the Martin Property as a special needs camp facility for children and adults focusing on program spaces, accessible paths and ramps around the property and the waterfront and docks around a 3-acre pond



## A Testimonial

For the past 12 years, the South Mountain YMCA has been a home for me. I can't think of a better place to spend my summers. ***It helped me develop into who I am today.*** Looking back on my camp experience, I have gained so many life skills and become more culturally aware of things, which would not have happened anywhere else. Camp is about helping others and putting people before yourself. So now on to the next chapter of my life. I am joining the United States Coast Guard. In the Coast Guard I will be going into the rescue swimmer program because I feel that is the most direct way to help people. I support Camp so that another camper can have a life changing experience like I did. I have nothing else that I would rather spend money on than this. I owe so much to camp because it helped shape and mold me into who I am today, and no object on this earth could ever thank you enough for that.



**Devin Cheifetz,**  
***Bynden Wood Day***  
***Camp,***  
***Camp Conrad***  
***Weiser &***  
***Staff Alum***

## How can I help?

We are so glad you asked! We hope all of our camp family, friends and supporters will join us in making this a ***Camp For All!*** To learn more about these projects and our plans for the future, call Camp (**610-670-2267**) and ask to speak with our ***CEO, Nathan Brant,*** or our ***Director of Development, Michele Reinert.*** We would be happy to visit with you on the phone or in person. We are also available to be engaged as speakers if you would like to have us visit your service club or other organization.

Many people have made a "pledge" to the campaign that they will fulfill over 1 to 3 years. They tell us that by doing so they can give more than would be possible with a single outright gift. And as some pointed out, a \$1,000 3-year pledge is equivalent to less than a dollar per day. Regardless of the amount, and whether it be a pledge or an outright gift, we need your help.

If you are ready to make a gift today please mail your pledge form, available on the SMYMCA website as a downloadable form at ***smymca.org***, mail your gift, or make your donation online at ***www.smymca.org/donate*** and specify Capital Campaign in the note section.

## Ensuring our Future Impact

Most of our summer campers, children attending Camp Conrad Weiser or Bynden Wood Day Camp, are from Berks and surrounding counties. Approximately 10% of our summer campers come from overseas, enriching the experience for all of our participants. While many of our friends and supporters think of us strictly as a summer camp site, we serve children, families and community organizations in the Fall and Spring as well.

Thousands of community residents attend our free Family Fun Day Events, our Fall Festival and our Egg-Stravaganza Egg Hunt. We also offer Family Camps, Riding Lessons, Swim Lessons and many more programs for our community.

In addition to our community events, we provide outdoor environmental education and teambuilding to our local schools, colleges and universities.



This capital campaign, ***A Camp For All,*** will help ensure our impact for generations to come. ***We hope you can join us in supporting this effort!***



Goal  
\$3,000,000





## South Mountain YMCA Camps Wish List

Do you have any of these items that are no longer of use to you, or that you would like to purchase for Camp? Call the Camp Office (610-670-2267) about tax deductible donations to your favorite YMCA Camp!

- 2 Golf Carts, 2 Utility Carts
- 25 hp boat motor for the boating and sailing program
- 7 passenger mini-van
- Pressure Treated Lumber
- 3PT Post Hole Digger
- 120 Pressure Treated 1x4x8's
- Atom 80x Mountain Board
- Atom 95x Mountain Board
- 2 New Zorbs
- 6 Sets Mongoose BMX Gel Knee and Elbow Pads

## The 2015 Reach Out For Youth Campaign

While we are currently engaged in raising funds for our capital campaign effort, **A Camp For All**, children, families, schools and community organizations count on us to raise scholarship dollars to ensure that everyone can enjoy a camp program this year.

How are the **Camp For All** and **Reach Out For Youth** campaign efforts different? Our **Camp For All** capital campaign is intended to raise funds for construction and facility needs around our campus. The **Reach Out For Youth** campaign is an annual fundraising effort to provide scholarships for deserving children, families and schools that could not take part in our programs without financial support.

We hope you will be able to support both of these efforts! [www.smyymca.org/donate](http://www.smyymca.org/donate)

## Labor Day Family Camp

Start a new family tradition and join us for Family Camp on Labor Day Weekend. Bring the whole family for a fun, relaxing weekend on the mountain! Develop strong family bonds during this special time away from the hustle and bustle of the everyday world as you enjoy a camp experience everyone will remember all year long. Let us do all the cooking and cleaning while you enjoy quality time with your kids. "Camptivities" are scheduled throughout the day so that your family members can participate as much, or as little, as they like. There are plenty of things to do for both the young and young-at-heart. Evenings are filled with themed all-camp programs. Past family camps have included hiking, field games, challenge course, archery, climbing tower, live reptiles, outdoor skills, arts & crafts, a square dance, a luau...and that's just the beginning!

Fees include beautiful surroundings, friendly staff, hearty meals, opportunities to make new friends, and create family memories that will last a lifetime. Come stay in one of our beautiful cabins for a memorable weekend on the mountain.

Many of our families have been making this a family tradition for decades. Start your new family tradition this year with Labor Day Family Camp.

For additional information, or to register, contact Amanda Griffith, Youth and Family Director, at **610-670-2267** or via email at [agriffith@smyymca.org](mailto:agriffith@smyymca.org).



**South Mountain YMCA Camps**  
**P.O. Box 147**  
**Wernersville, PA 19565**

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 479  
Reading, PA

Resident or



## Mark Your Calendar!

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| July 18th      | <b>Alumni Day Reunion Celebration</b>    |
| September 4th  | <b>Labor Day Family Camp</b> begins      |
| September 7th  | <b>Labor Day Family Camp</b> ends        |
| September 21st | <b>18th Annual Golf Classic</b>          |
| September 25th | <b>Women's Wellness Weekend</b> begins   |
| September 27th | <b>Women's Wellness Weekend</b> ends     |
| October 2nd    | <b>Fall Family Camp</b> begins           |
| October 4th    | <b>Fall Family Camp</b> ends             |
| October 16th   | <b>Mountain By Moonlight</b> 6:00-9:00pm |
| October 17th   | <b>Mountain By Moonlight</b> 6:00-9:00pm |
| October 23rd   | <b>Mountain By Moonlight</b> 6:00-9:00pm |
| October 24th   | <b>Mountain By Moonlight</b> 6:00-9:00pm |
| October 25th   | <b>Fall Festival</b> 2:00—4:00pm         |

**Shop For Camp!** Please think of South Mountain YMCA Camps when you shop on Amazon by going to <http://smile.amazon.com> When asked to select the charity you want to support select **South Mountain YMCA**.

## The Arrowhead

is a publication of the South Mountain YMCA Camps.

We love to hear what's going on with alumni, campers, staff and friends of camp. We want to share your graduations, weddings, and birth announcements. We continue to appreciate your support and input.

**Send any information or story ideas to:**

South Mountain YMCA  
201 Cushion Peak road  
P.O. Box 147  
Wernersville, PA 19565  
Phone: 610-670-2267  
Fax: 610-670-5010  
Email: [mreinert@smymca.org](mailto:mreinert@smymca.org)