

THE SOUTH MOUNTAIN YMCA CAMPS

ARROWHEAD

■ Spring 2011 ■

*The Newsletter for Friends, Alumni, Parents, and Campers
of Camp Conrad Weiser and Bynden Wood Day Camp*

2011 FAMILY FUN DAYS

If you missed the Family Fun Days in 2010, you missed:

Archery
Climbing
Face Painting
Pony Rides
S'Mores
Hay Wagon Rides
And More

Our 2011 Family Fun Days kick-off is on March 27th. There is no charge for this event. Other dates include April 3rd, May 1st, and May 15th. Each of the 4 events runs from 2-4 pm and is open to the community.

NEW PRICING STRUCTURE FOR SUMMER CAMP

The last several years of economic struggle have impacted Berks County and the nation. Bynden Wood Day Camp & Camp Conrad Weiser have responded by making their prices more affordable for families this year.

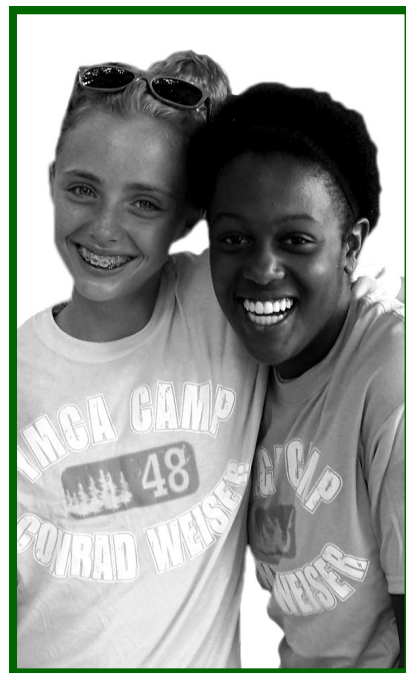
Bynden Wood Day Camp starts at \$160 per week and Camp Conrad Weiser starts at \$475 per week.

We hope these new rates help you spread the good word about all that Camp has to offer!

2011 REACH OUT FOR YOUTH CAMPAIGN

What makes our South Mountain YMCA Camps unique? Is it the programs we offer or the location we boast? Absolutely not. What makes us unique is that *every child can enjoy our camps regardless of a family's ability to pay our fees.*

Since its inception, the South Mountain YMCA has provided high quality programs and facilities that can compete with any private camp in the country. Our promise to provide day and resident camp programs for all children in our community has defined us. This year the need is greater than ever, and we hope you will find it in your heart to make a donation to our **Reach Out For Youth Campaign**. In addition to providing summer camp scholarships, this campaign helps keep our Outdoor Education programs affordable for schools. **Call 610-670-2267 to make a donation, or online at www.smyymca.org.** We thank you in advance for your generosity.



MOUNTAIN VIEWS — THE VALUE OF CAMP

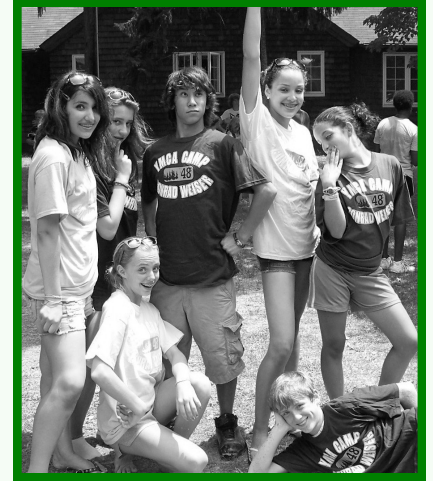
Why do we send our children into the woods each year for summer camp? For some it's a tradition, for others it's a rite of passage. Last year, I conducted a survey on LinkedIn and asked parents that very question: Why send a child to camp? People responded:

1. **48%** wanted their child go gain *independence*
2. **31%** of respondents hoped their young person increased *self-esteem*
3. **15%** sent their children to camp to make *new friends*
4. **5%** of parents hoped their campers learned *traditional values*
5. **2%** of respondents wanted their children to learn *new skills*

Summer Camp at Conrad Weiser or Bynden Wood accomplishes these goals. Campers gain independence and make new friends living with their peers and camp counselors hours away from their families. As young people tackle new challenges in archery, riding, or climbing a tower they learn new skill and gain self-esteem with each accomplishment. Our summer staff teach the YMCA values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility to everyone we work with. This is the good work we do every day—as we have for more than 60 years. We'll see you at Camp!

Keep the Fires Burning!

Nathan Brant, CEO



14TH ANNUAL SMYMCA GOLF CLASSIC



The 14th Annual Golf Classic will be held on May 9th 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, riding lessons, and outdoor education programs.

Have fun for a great cause! Attend our 14th Annual Golf Classic at Galen Hall.

Tickets for Golfers: \$150
Dinner-only Tickets: \$35

2011 FAMILY CAMPS

Each year the South Mountain YMCA Camps host 2 Family Camps—one on Memorial Day Weekend and one on Labor Day Weekend. Families have one of our new cabins to themselves for the 3-day weekend, and your camp staff takes care of everything: the cooking, the cleaning, and the entertainment. Sit by the pool, go kayaking or sailing at Blue Marsh, fish the Martin Pond, climb the tower, shoot some archery or ride a horse.

Start your new family tradition today—try Family Camp! The Memorial Day Family Camp is almost full, call to reserve your space today: 610-670-2267.



EGG-STRAVAGANZA!

Join us for spring family fun during the *1st Annual Easter Egg Hunt* at the South Mountain YMCA Camps. Festivities will include age-appropriate egg hunts with prizes, spring crafts, face painting, door prizes and a visit from the Easter Bunny himself!

The Easter Egg Hunt will be presented by age group for children 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, & 10-12. There will be plenty of eggs for all!

This community event is free and open to all. No one is too young or too old to enjoy a morning of magic on the mountain.

Date: Saturday, April 23rd

Time: 10 am—Noon

Cost: Free to All

RSVP: ***Please call camp at 610-670-2267 to RSVP***



SOUTH MOUNTAIN YMCA ALUMNI UPDATES:

- Congratulations to ***Greg Rider***, staff alum from 2008-2010, who just accepted a position as Bynden Wood Day Camp Director.
- Congratulations to ***Cathy Feiler***, SMYMCA Board Member, on her “Take the Lead Award” from the Girls Scouts.
- ***Aaron Bierly***, Summer Camp Counselor of the Year in 2010 and Outdoor Education staff member, landed a position as Geologic Trainee with the Southeast Regional DEP this spring.
- ***Cassie Klein***, Summer Camp and Outdoor Education staff member in 2010, started her new position as Education Specialist the Palm Beach Zoo.

DADDY-DAUGHTER DANCE

Calling all girls (K-6) and their dads (or any other special man in their lives) to dance the night away in the Wigwam. Glam it up for our photographer or bring your own camera to capture the memories. Enjoy the DJ, refreshments and door prizes. Tickets are available in the main camp office Monday-Friday from 8:30 am-5:00 pm or by calling 610-670-2267 to pay by credit card.

Date: Saturday, April 16th

Time: 6:30—8:30 pm

Cost: \$5 per person

Tickets: Call the camp office at 610-670-2267



PRESERVING OUR LEGACY

As we look forward to a future of serving kids and families from across Berks County and around the world, we must look at protecting the historic nature of our unique summer camp facility. We are fortunate to still be the caretakers of 4 buildings remaining from the Bynden Wood Hotel era (***Bynden Wood Lodge, Terrace Cottage, Roadside Cottage, & Crossroads Cottage***). Additionally we have 1 remaining stone building from the Cameron Estate (the ***Caretakers Cottage***), and the foundations of the mansion upon which we have built our high ropes course.

In the coming months, you will be hearing more about an effort to preserve, renovate, and use the historic buildings of the past for the campers and programs of today. Currently, Bynden Wood Lodge is entering the final phase of its renovation process to restore the auditorium and install a new state-of-the-art kitchen.

If you would like to be involved in these efforts, please contact Nathan Brant at 610-670-2267.

SOUTH MOUNTAIN YMCA WISH LIST

Do you have any of these items that are no longer of use to you? Call the camp office about tax-deductible donations to the YMCA!

1. Two Golf Carts
2. 3/4 ton, 4x4 pick-up truck for program and maintenance
3. Fishing Equipment (Fly & Reel)
4. 25 hp boat motor for rescue boat
5. Costumes (child and adult)
6. 7 Passenger Mini-Van or 12 passenger mini-bus
7. Computers for Digital Photography and Newspaper programs
8. Lead Lines for Horses (old tack in good condition)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 26th	<i>Town Hall Meeting</i> for Adult Alumni
March 27th	1st <i>Family Fun Day</i> of 2011
April 3rd	2nd <i>Family Fun Day</i> of 2011
April 16th	<i>Daddy-Daughter Dance</i>
April 23rd	1st Annual <i>Easter Egg Hunt</i>
May 1st	3rd <i>Family Fun Day</i> of 2011
May 9th	14th Annual SMYMCA <i>Golf Classic</i>
May 15th	4th <i>Family Fun Day</i> of 2011

**Spring Riding Lessons
Registering Now!**

**Camp Conrad Weiser
Registering Now!**

**Bynden Wood Day Camp
Registering Now!**

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THE ARROWHEAD
is a publication of the
South Mountain YMCA.

We love to hear what is going on with alumni, campers, staff and friends of the Y. 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

P.O. Box 147

Wernersville, PA 19565

Ph. 610-670-2267 Fax 610-670-5010

Email: ycamps@smymca.org

Browse our website at www.smymca.org.

Please take a moment to register on our alumni page.

**Visit us on the web at
smymca.org**

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