



ALLEGANY BOYS CAMP

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God is Good

God is good! All the time! And all the time, God is good. I look back at the past 5 years of Allegany Boys Camp and He has definitely been faithful and good. We've climbed some tall mountains, canoed long rivers and solved some big problems. We survived wind, rain, heat, cold, hail, sleet, snow and fire. We've made our beds, swept our tents, brushed our teeth, raked our trails, wrote our plans and built our tents. We've cut trees, played trees, planted trees, climbed trees and even fallen out of trees. We had cuts, bruises, broken bones, poison ivy, stinging nettles, bee stings, sunburns, coughs, colds, strep throat, warts, athletes foot and blisters, which have required many Band-Aids, Union Salve, stitches, Mucinex, Nyquil, Goldbond, ambulances, helicopters, state police and the such like. Barehanded we have caught frogs, turtles, spiders, fish, snakes, squirrels, and beavers just to name a few and even touched a wild black bear. We've survived a scorpion bite, snake bites, squirrel bites, bug bites and miscellaneous other bites. We've been trippin' all the way from as far north as New York and New Hampshire, south to Georgia and Florida, and as far west as Kentucky and Missouri. We've come all the way from east coast to west coast, from Oregon to Massachusetts and in be-



west as Kentucky and Missouri. We've come all the way from east coast to west coast, from Oregon to Massachusetts and in be-



tween places like Missouri, Kansas, and Iowa. We've started 3 groups, built 3 campsites, built 3 houses and married 3 supervisors, who now have 3 babies.

On September 8, 2011 the Woodsmen group started with 2 boys and gradually grew from there. The following January, the Pioneers started with 3 boys and then in May 2013 the Mountaineers began their ventures as the third group. Each group has been full at some time or another over the past several years; however, it wasn't until this session when we finally had all 3 groups full at the same time with 30 boys. And when did that happen? September 8, 2016. Exactly 5 years to the day when we got our first boys in the Woodsmen group. How amazing is that?

I think we can agree with what Paul says in 2 Corinthians 4, "We have been hard pressed on every side but not crushed, perplexed, but not in despair, persecuted, but not abandoned, struck down, but not destroyed." At times we have felt like we were being crushed, despair, abandoned or destroyed but God has been faithful and He has been good. We are more than conquerors through Him who loves us and is good to us. So, let us continue to fix our eyes on Jesus and run the race set out before us. God is good! All the time! And all the time, God is good!

Kevin Maust, Supervisor



Nature Corner - Honey Bee



We have been learning about honey bees this past session. A bee-keeper friend, Lee Lehman, generously brought six hives of bees to camp for us to observe. He also did a presentation for us with an observation hive that we could get up close to and watch the bees at work. We also got the opportunity to watch him split two colonies to create two new ones. Here are some of the the things we are learning about honey bees.



Believe it or not the honey bee is not native to North America. They came over from Europe with the early settlers. The Native Americans called them "White Man's Flies."

Honey Bees live in groups called colonies. In the spring and summer when nectar and pollen are the most plentiful, one colony consists of up to 80,000 female worker bees, several hundred to a couple thousand drones, and one queen honey bee.

Worker bees are the backbone of the colony. They are responsible to care for and feed the young, clean the entire living space (which they do meticulously), and forage for and store nectar and pollen which are vital to survival of future generations of the colony through the long cold winter months. They are also responsible to guard and defend the colony from predators. When a bee stings to defend its home it automatically forfeits its life. The barbed stinger gets stuck in the skin of the would be attacker and when it flies away, the stinger rips out of



the bee. As a result of its dedication to protect, it is mortally wounded.

The drone relies on the workers to gather food and feed it. It has one purpose and that is to mate with the virgin queen soon after she hatches. Upon mating with the queen the drone's usefulness is past and he dies shortly afterward.

The queen's job is to lay eggs to sustain the future of the colony. And lay eggs she does, at an outstanding rate! If she is in her prime and healthy she can lay 1,200-2,000 eggs a day. If you were to weigh all the eggs she laid on a good day they would weigh approximately as much as she does!

The pollen that the bees gather is used to feed young larvae. As the bees gather it they perform an invaluable service to human kind by pollinating fruits and vegetables. Nectar is gathered and dehydrated to make honey which the adult bees eat. A colony should have at least 50 pounds of honey stored up to survive the winter. Any surplus can be harvested so that you and I can enjoy the delicacy that these dedicated little creatures work their life away to create. In its short life time (around 4 weeks in the summer) a honey bee makes about 1/2 of a teaspoon of honey. Collectively the bees must fly about 50,000 miles to make 1 pound of honey - that's around the earth twice! In spite of these staggering numbers a colony can produce 60-100 pounds of surplus honey a year.

Leighton Martin, Supervisor

Camp Kindling ... small pieces of camp news and needs

- 🏠 Welcome to Jonny Stoltzfus from New Holland, PA. He arrived at camp this month to serve as a chief in the Pioneer group.
- 🏠 We say farewell to Ben Zimmerman. Ben spent the last 2 years serving as a chief in the Pioneer group.
- 🏠 Isabelle Claire (Bella) was welcomed by the David & Michelle Beachy family in July. Leighton and Amber Martin welcomed Harper Breeze to their family in August and Kyrell Bryce was welcomed by Kevin and Alissa Maust in September.
- 🏠 The Pioneers hiked 50 miles on the Foothills Trail in SC. They reported seeing some amazing scenery including several waterfalls.