

TO: Presbytery Life Committee
 FROM: Marie McNabb, Chairman; Dallas Curts; Autumn Hall
 RE: Report of the Camping Task Force
 DATE: December 20, 1984, Revised March 28, 1985

PURPOSE

A significant responsibility of the Presbytery is the evaluation of its camping program. In approaching such an evaluation, a basic question must be answered: Why is the Presbytery involved in church camping activities?

Obviously a wealth of knowledge about our Creator is revealed in the classroom of nature. All ages, especially youth, can be remarkably impressed by seeing the Sovereign Lord through what has been created. However, much more is accomplished through a diversified camping ministry.

Other Christians have found good reasons to be involved in structured camping programs. East Bay Camp of Hudson, Illinois, is a program of the United Methodist Church. Camp manager Marshall Fowler has expressed the conviction:

Life changing experiences and growth take place at camp that are some of the most meaningful for many people that we talk with. Experiences include:

- an awareness of love of Jesus Christ as it is experienced through others, prayer, and the scriptures.
- a desire to grow in the faith.
- friendships with others with a common Christian bond.
- serving God and being sensitive to Him.

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has an active program at the Walter Scott Camp & Learning Center near Dietrich, Illinois. They have identified certain expectations of their camp program:

- to provide an experience of living in the out-of-doors and to gain new knowledge of its resources and develop skills in using them.
- to help persons in their understanding of God and His purposes as they make their discoveries about His work in nature.
- to aid persons through small group experiences within the total camping group, to develop self-reliance and responsibilities as cooperative citizens of a Christian community.
- to aid in the process of developing genuine Christian fellowship based upon respect for individual worth.
- to relate Christian growth in camp to life at home, in the Church, and in the world.

In our own denomination, there are similar perceptions in neighboring presbyteries for the value of a camping ministry. Louis Sandos is the director of Geneva Center located near Rochester, Indiana. Mr. Sandos relates four basic reasons:

- One week of summer camp provides 144 hours of living together continuously, provides at least 70 hours of group building time, so that youngsters develop a

closeness and trust level with each other and their leaders that is seldom available elsewhere outside their homes.

- Stress on cooperation and team work, instead of competition and its trappings, provides a different set of values than those espoused by society in general.
- A life-style that stresses cooperation and sharing as part of the mission of Christian living together gives youth a model which we hope reinforces the teachings they receive in Christian homes and as members of the church.
- The values of honesty and trust and the belief in love and forgiveness have ample opportunities to be demonstrated. Church camps (at least as Presbyterians have envisioned them) are prime places for young Christians to experience the consistency of open, honest sharing of love, and the forgiveness which is required for dealing with our inconsistencies.

Consistent affirmations such as these speak clearly of the need for churches to support ministry through camping activities when being properly done.

If the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois can provide such an intentional structure of community living for youth and adults, it is impossible to calculate the full value to the Church. Particularly for young people, church camping activities provide a social context for learning better ways of relating to others. A week of camp involvement forces individuals to develop responsibility for others. Campers have intense opportunities to work toward cooperation, leadership development, and reconciliation as they encounter situations drastically different from normal homelife.

Likewise, there are opportunities for personal growth. Each camper achieves greater awareness of his or her own identity. A person's confidence is encouraged when acquiring new skills such as canoeing, building a fire, or repelling. At the same time, one's humility is enhanced by dependence upon others when carrying a canoe over land or when gathering firewood or when rock climbing while tied to a belay rope. Church camping can provide the variety of experiences necessary for molding healthy self-concepts.

Most crucial in terms of the Presbytery's ministry is the role which church camping plays in presenting the Gospel. Faith in God gains relevance in every aspect of life experienced by a camper. As church leaders effectively involve themselves with campers, a significant Christian emphasis results. One week of church camp offers a multitude of teachable moments for modeling a Christian lifestyle, often for young people who otherwise have no contact with the Church. For those youth involved in churches, the camping experience becomes one of few opportunities for our Presbytery to provide leadership development for the future of our Church.

Unfortunately the efforts of this Task Force cannot reveal the degree to which church camping within the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois results directly in church growth. Nevertheless, the continuous response of campers whose lives have been transformed confirms the need for this Presbytery to be actively supporting a church camping ministry. It is our intent to assist the Presbytery in determining the best means for achieving that goal.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Camp Task Force has:

examined Camp Carew's program and costs, explored program and costs of other camps, and looked at alternatives to our present program (day camping and site sharing), and therefore recommends that:

1. The Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois continue camp and conference programming out of Camp Carew.
 - The cost of programming at Camp Carew, per camper, is comparable to other camps in this area. In fact, we do well when compared to programs that have the benefit of year-round facilities or other subsidies. (Walter Scott Camp has capital expenses paid through preparation of Senior Citizen meals year round.)
 - We feel that there has been a significant gap in youth programming over the last 15 years in the denomination. With the Triennium cycle becoming established for Senior Highs, we feel it is important to continue regular summer programming, for Juniors, Junior Highs, and Senior Highs through Camp Carew as a feeder to the Triennium cycle. In addition, Camp Carew serves as an impetus to participation in other governing bodies' activities.
 - The church is about teaching peace and teaching people to live in community. The camp setting provides a unique 24-hour a day opportunity to model a Christian community and to learn the skills of living in community. (The church for all its fine words provides few opportunities to experience life in community.)
 - Camp and Conference programming is a very important source of leadership development for the whole church. To nurture future leaders is a long term commitment. We believe the Camp Carew program ought to be seen in this light rather than being thought of as "a little recreation for the kiddies".
 - An identifiable and reliable location is important in order to provide focus for summer youth programming and also to develop esprit de corps. To go to another church's camp would mitigate against Presbyterian identity.
2. The Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois make a serious, long-range commitment to summer youth programming in response to the Presbytery's own stated goal for 1984-88 of encouraging and developing Christian Education in the Presbytery.
3. The Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois therefore make a firm financial commitment to Camp Carew, in the form of agreeing to provide up to 50% of the Camp Carew Operating Budget, including the Camp Director's service contract, in 1986 and on a descending scale to a goal of up to 40% by 1991.

- It is the opinion of the Task Force that a permanent camp site at Carew offers this Presbytery an excellent base to do a much needed ministry of education and community life modeling for youth, and an opportunity to develop future leaders. It is our opinion that further thought and effort needs to be given to the financial support of this ministry.

4. The Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois recognize the need for funding from additional sources and authorize the establishment of a Camp Carew Foundation to receive donor contributions. The Presbytery should consider a fund drive to establish this Foundation fund. (Increasingly, other church camps are pursuing this funding route.)

In addition to these recommendations, the Camping Task Force came to the following conclusions:

1. The program and costs of program at Camp Carew compare favorably with other area church camps. The only major differences we found between Carew and the other camps were in the sources of funding.

- Other camps are year-round facilities or are linked with other camps for the ordering of supplies and materials or have additional income (such as the Senior Citizen Nutrition program). Thus the percentage of funding required from their presbyteries or denominational groups is less.
- The user fees at these other camps accounted for a larger percentage of their income than at Camp Carew.

2. The Camping Task Force came to its assessment independently of the Report of the 1980 Task Force on Camp Carew Funding. However, we find that report's recommendations similar to our own and we recommend that it be reexamined.

3. We support, with the 1980 report, the suggestion that camping in the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois might be expanded through a 2 - 3 year experiment of programming at another site, e.g. Walter Scott Camp or Kemmerer Village, in addition to set programs at Camp Carew.

4. We suggest encouraging adult groups in that geographical area to use Carew for day meetings during good weather - to increase the visibility of the site and the program.

REPORT OF CAMPING TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES

The Camping Task Force met three times, conferred by telephone, wrote letters of inquiry to other camps, compared this data, studied camping alternatives, and considered the camping program for the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois. We obtained resource material from a number of sources. The responses to our letters and the resource material are available on file. Copies of our findings and pertinent information are included with this report.

TIME ANALYSIS

The Camps and Conferences Committee Chairman reported that this Committee put in 720 person hours in preparation for the camping program.

The Camp Director reported 419 Staff Days went into the camping program, with most of them put in by overnight counselors. The Camp Director reported that the Camp Registrar spent approximately 200 hours in registering the summer campers.

At your request, we obtained this information. However, we were unable to get any figures from other camps to use as a comparison.

CAMP USE ANALYSIS

We find a steady use of Camp Carew by campers from all nine of the Mission Councils within this presbytery. More than one third of the campers have come from District I each of the last two years. (1983 - 36%, 1984 - 37 1/2%)

DISTRIBUTION	1983	1984
District 1		
Champaign	22	30
Decatur	8	9
Mattoon	34	46
District 2		
Vandalia	9	13
Olney	21	19
Centralia	23	28
District 3		
Harrisburg	4	12
Carbondale	40	30
Sparta	16	31
Other		
In Presbytery	0	3
Out of Presbytery	0	4
Out of State	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Total Number Campers	178	227

COST ANALYSIS - 1984

Budgeted Expenses for Camp Carew - \$39,200 (Actual - \$40,589*)

Camp Director's Service Contract - 8,238 (included, as it is a part of recommendation no. 3)

Total Budgeted Expenses - \$47,438 (Actual - \$48,827*)

Camper and Staff Days - 1635

Overnight Retreat Use - 587

Day Use - 202

Total - 2424

Budgeted Figures: \$47,438 divided by 2424 equals \$19.57 per person per day.

* Actual Figures: \$48,827 divided by 2424 equals \$20.14 per person per day.

* NOTE: These figures were updated after end of year figures were made available in February, 1985. All other camp figures are 1984 budget figures.

The Camping Task Force made inquiries of a wide variety of camps, both church-related and secular, in Illinois, Indiana, and Missouri. We received responses from 22 of the camps. 7 of these gave us data which is comparable for a cost analysis. In situations where we received information, we used their figures to come up with a cost per camper day. Many of these camps are much larger and can benefit from quantity purchases and year round use of their facilities. Other camps have additional sources of income, e.g. Walter Scott Camp pays for utilities and other fixed costs by providing a Senior Citizen meal program.

Compare the following 1984 budgeted figures:

Camp Carew	- \$19.57 (including Camp Director's Service Contract)
East Bay	- \$19.51 (plus capital improvements)
Geneva Center	- \$25.00
Walter Scott Camp	- \$15.00 - 18.00 (program costs only)
Camp Don Bosco	- \$30.08
Kiwanis Camp Wyman	- \$19.61
Camp Lakewood	- \$22.00

We found in our survey that it would be very expensive to rent another site, and the choice of dates available would be very limited, with most, if not all, of our program having to take place during the less desirable dates. The few that might have something available during our usual camping season are so large, that we would basically be worked into their program, rather than us developing our own distinct ones. (See Camp Study - Available Dates)

In addition to the initial cost, many of the camps have a variety of add-ons, depending on which facilities you use and what staff they find it necessary to provide. (See Camp Study - Cost and Staff)

CHART OF INCOME OF CAMPS

CAMP	CHARGE	-----INCOME-----		
		USER FEE	PRESBYTERY SUPPORT	OTHER
Stronghold	6 nites/\$95	69%	25%	6%
Geneva Center	6 nites/\$90	67%	20%	13%
Camp Carew	6 nites/\$76	42%	51%	7%

You will note above that our User Fees are considerably less than the other 2 camps that we have data on. If these fees were as high as the other 2 camps, our Presbytery support would not need to be as high. However, our Presbytery chose to keep user fees lower as part of their mission to the youth of our Presbytery.

HISTORY OF CAMP CAREW

The camp consists of approximately 56 acres of land, with 1 1/2 miles of shoreline. The camp includes two cabins (Knox and Witherspoon), 16 hogans, Calvin Hall (dining hall), a swimming area, a fire circle, and two "wild" areas.

The Presbyteries of Cairo and Ewing met in 1951 and approved the camp site development program.

The renewable lease was signed in 1952 with the Fish and Wildlife Service of the United States Department of the Interior. Goals were set and plans made for the camp.

In 1953 estimates of building sites and prices were made, then work camps were held.

The name of the camp, CAREW, was coined from the two presbyteries - CAiRo and EWing and adopted early in 1954.

Work continued on buildings and plans were made for a bridge. The dining hall was finished in 1956.

The toilet, showers, and laundry were built in 1957.

In 1958, the second floor addition to the dining hall was planned; construction done on the road from the dining hall to the beach, and the second floor of the kitchen wing was completed.

This is a report that was given to Presbytery a year ago, showing a camper's view of Camp Carew.

REPORT TO PRESBYTERY ABOUT CAMP CAREW - 09/14/83

Hello, I am very glad that Dick has asked me to come and talk to you about some of my experiences and some of my impressions of Camp Carew. As I have been to Camp Carew for the last five summers, I believe that I am entitled to an opinion.

The five camps that I have attended are all different. The first one was the General Camp, then the Adventure Camp, and the Wilderness Experience Camp, the Work Camp, and finally last summer I went on the Colorado Back Packing Trip. We went to the Collegiate Mountain Range and spent three days in Chalk Creek Pass. We also spent two days in Salida, Colorado, which is where I bought this shirt. Sunday morning in Salida we attended the early morning church service at Bob Leivers' church. Some of you may remember him from Sparta.

Although they were different camps they all have one thing in common - a very spiritual, close to nature and God setting, in which Bible study is a welcome activity in an attempt to become as close to God as we possibly can.

When I first came to Carew I realized that in every activity; Bible study, recreation, or planning we were never alone. With all of our decisions being made in a group, we got to know each other and it also gave us an insight into ourselves about how we react to group planning.

In the five years that I have gone to Carew there has only been one year that we have not gone to the SIU obstacle course. From the time you step out of the car, all emphasis is placed on complete group cooperation. Throughout the course, they give you many obstacles to maneuver around, through, over, under, down off of, and up on to; they stress that it is almost humanly impossible to complete the course without working together as a group and being willing to place all of your trust in each other. Basically what this does, is to develop the trust and cooperation that is necessary in a group function. I feel that I have prospered greatly from these experiences.

Every year that I have been to Camp Carew we have had a study on some portion of the Bible. I not only learn from what the scripture itself says, but we usually discuss what this means to us and the world around us. This discussion gives me an idea about what the scripture means to other people and that helps me understand it better.

Each year that I have attended Camp Carew, I have made many new and wonderful friendships as well as strengthened ones that were present even before that year's camp. Out of all of these, there is one in particular that I really must mention. This is a friendship that has developed and strengthened over the period of five years. I am speaking of my very good friendship with Dick Ryman, who even though he is the director of the camp, he is the easiest person to get along with from the very start of the camp. At this point there are two powers at work, the wonderfully unique personality of Dick and

also the influence of the camp setting. This setting makes it possible to get along with people that you never dreamed you would get along with, do things that you never thought you would ever do, and to really get an understanding of Christ that you might not ever get in a Sunday School room.

There are few things that I think I will remember all of my life. But I am sure that until the day I die, I will always remember Dick Ryman, Camp Carew, and all of the wonderful experiences that I have had in the past five years. I think I might be able to speak for every person who has ever been to Camp Carew, if just for a weekend, that I am very glad to have had the chance to come to this camp. I have whole pages worth of praise for the people that first had the idea to open a camp like this in our Presbytery. Please go and tell the children and young people in your church about Camp Carew. It is a very wonderful experience that no young person should miss.

Next summer will be the last year that I will be eligible to come back as a camper; and I do plan to go to Camp Carew next year, and enjoy every minute of it!!!

Thank you very much for letting me speak to you. Good-bye.

APPENDIX B
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PRESBYTERY LIFE
March 28, 1985

The Camping task force rationale for its recommendations to the Committee on Presbytery Life and the General Council:

FIRST RECOMMENDATION (a) -

The cost of programming at Camp Carew, per camper, is comparable to other camps in this area. In fact, we do well when compared to programs that have the benefit of year-round facilities or other subsidies. (Walter Scott Camp has capital expenses paid through preparation of Senior Citizen meals year round.)

We feel that there has been a significant gap in youth programming over the last 15 years in the denomination with the Triennium cycle becoming established for Senior Highs, and therefore, it is important to continue regular summer programming for Juniors, Junior Highs, and Senior Highs through Camp Carew as a feeder to the Triennium cycle. In addition, Camp Carew serves as an impetus to participation in other governing bodies' activities.

The church is about teaching peace and teaching people to live in community. The camp setting provides a unique 24-hour a day opportunity to model a Christian community and to learn the skills of living in community. (The Church for all its fine words provides few opportunities to experience life in community.)

Camp and Conference programming is a very important source of leadership development for the whole church. To nurture future leaders is a long term commitment. We believe the Camp Carew program ought to be seen in this light rather than being thought of as "a little recreation for the kiddies".

An identifiable and reliable location is important in order to provide focus for summer youth programming and also to develop esprit de corps. To go to another church's camp would mitigate against Presbyterian identity.

THIRD RECOMMENDATION (c) -

It is the opinion of the Task Force that a permanent camp site at Carew offers this Presbytery an excellent base to do a much needed ministry of education and community life modeling for youth, and an opportunity to develop future leaders. It is our opinion that further thought and effort needs to be given to the financial support of this ministry.

FOURTH RECOMMENDATION (d) -

The Presbytery should consider a fund drive to establish this Foundation fund. (Increasingly, other church camps are pursuing this funding route.)

CONCLUSIONS OF THE CAMPING TASK FORCE:

1. The program and costs of program at Camp Carew compare favorably with other area church camps. The only major differences we found between Carew and the other camps were in the sources of funding.

Other camps are year-round facilities, or are linked with other camps for the ordering of supplies and materials, or have additional income (such as Senior Citizen Nutrition program). Thus, the percentage of funding required from their presbyteries or denominational groups is less.

The user fees at these other camps accounted for a larger percentage of their income than at Camp Carew.

2. The Camping Task Force came to its assessment independently of the Report of the 1980 Task Force on Camp Carew Funding. However, we find that report's recommendations similar to our own, and we recommend that it be reexamined.

3. We support, with the 1980 report, the suggestion that camping in the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois might be expanded through a 2 - 3 year experiment of programming at another site, e.g. Walter Scott Camp or Kemmerer Village, in addition to set programs at Camp Carew.

4. We suggest encouraging adult groups in that geographical area to use Carew for day meetings during good weather, to increase the visibility of the site and the program.

- Nashville Session \$1500
A computer for use in its Christian Education program.
- Shelbyville Session \$ 300
To up-grade its puppet ministry.

21. MOTION: that the Committee consider financial needs of sessions requesting Small Church Mission Project grants, reporting to General Council and the Presbytery the per capita giving, the budget and the mission giving for each applicant.

DIRECTIONS

22. MOTION: that the letter to the Committee on Directions from the Korean Church be appended to Council Minutes [See Appendix A, General Council Minutes - White] and distributed to the Presbytery, that appropriate recognition be given to the Church at a Presbytery Stated Meeting and that the Committee report to Council how the recognition may be properly handled.

PRESBYTERY LIFE

The Chair of the Committee on Presbytery Life presented the following report of the Committee:

23. MOTION: that the report of the Camping task force be reviewed and discussed.

24. RECOM: that General Council recommend to the Presbytery the adoption of the following recommendations [See Appendix B, General Council Minutes the rationale for Recommendations a, c & d - goldenrod]:

a) that the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois continue camp and conference programming out of Camp Carew.

b) that the Presbytery make a serious, long-range commitment to summer youth programming in response to the Presbytery's own stated goal for 1984 of encouraging and developing Christian Education in the Presbytery.

c) that the Presbytery, therefore, make a firm financial commitment to Camp Carew, in the form of agreeing to provide up to 50% of the Camp Carew Operating Budget, the service contract for the Camp Director, and the Camp Director's travel in 1986 and on a descending scale to a goal of up to 40% by 1991.

d) that the Presbytery recognize the need for funding from additional sources and authorize the establishment of a Camp Carew Foundation to receive donor contributions [See Appendix C, General Council Minutes, Proposed Trust Agreement - goldenrod].

25. MOTION: that the Committee prepare a Mission Advocate questionnaire for the May Docket folders.

26. MOTION: that the Committee prepare a questionnaire for the September Docket mailing to determine in advance perceived needs and desires of presbyters relating to requests for large blocks of program time at Stated Meetings. [Note: questionnaire to be in Stated Clerk's office by August 7th.]

STATED CLERK

27. MOTION: that the tentative docket as prepared by the Stated Clerk for the May Stated Meeting be approved.

MISCELLANEOUS

28. MOTION: that Council authorize a questionnaire directed to sessions re pipe organ maintenance.

At 3:00 p.m., the Council adjourned.

Jackson L. Hale, Secretary

Cost of meeting	
food	\$ 86
travel	<u>150</u>
	<u>\$236</u>

Camp Carew

P. O. BOX 172
COBDEN, ILLINOIS 62920

PHONE 618-893-2039

CAMP CAREW is a special place. It is located in a part of Southern Illinois known as the Illinois Ozarks, and is in an area called the Shawnee Hills, a band of woods and bluffs that stretch between the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers.

The camp's size is 56 acres. The terrain is wooded and hilly. CAREW has lake frontage of about a mile and a half on Little Grassy Lake. The lake is 900 acres and offers many opportunities for recreation on the water: swimming, canoeing, boating, fishing, sailing, and exploring. Little Grassy Lake is 9 miles southeast of Carbondale, Illinois.

An added attraction to the camp is the short distance to the other scenic areas: Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge, Giant City and Ferne Clyffe State Parks, and the Shawnee National Forest. For anyone interested in scenic beauty, it's hard to match the land and rock formations, sandstone cliffs, canyons and caves. Naturalists call Ferne Clyffe Park the "botanical center" of the United States because of the range and variety of plants in the region. There are over two thousand species of blooming plants nearby.

CAMP CAREW is operated by the Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and is accredited by the American Camping Association. During the summer there are many different kinds of camps: Mini camps for children in grades 3 and 4, and General camps for Juniors and Junior highs. High school students can choose from Work, Counselor-In-Training, and Travel camps. Other specialty camps include Arts and Crafts, Wilderness, and Adventure camps.

One of the purposes of CAMP CAREW is to provide a setting in which the Christian faith can be experienced in fellowship with others. Campers from our churches can attend with friends from their own area, and they can meet new friends from other places. The program is that of a small group camp. At times there may be two or three different camps going on at the same time.

Campers stay in hogans, a small building with a shingle roof and canvas sides, in one of the four campsites. The sites are: Arrowhead Point, Lakeview Circle, Hickory Hill, and Oak Crest.

CAREW is available as a retreat center during the fall and spring of the year. Facilities include tent and trailer sites (without hook-ups), washhouses, a kitchen and dining hall, swimming beach, athletic areas, boat dock, and beach houses. Knox and Witherspoon cabins can house about ten persons each, and Calvin Hall serves as a kitchen, dining hall, and recreation area. For more information, contact the Director, Richard Ryman.