



**THE LANCASTER CAMP MEETING & CHURCH
ASSEMBLY ASSOCIATION, INC.**

"...it's not where you live... but how you live.."

The Camp Ground News

Volume 9, Issue 12

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This is an official publication of the Lancaster Camp Meeting & Church Assembly Association, Inc. Published Monthly and distributed without charge and for the benefit of all cottage owners at the Lancaster Camp Ground, 2151 West Fair Avenue, Lancaster, OH 43130.

BOARD MOTIONS:

The following motions were passed at the November 19, 2007 board meeting:

1. That a fund be created at the Fairfield Foundation.
2. That the Lancaster Camp Ground Board of Trustees authorizes the Fairfield County Foundation to utilize funds from the Lancaster Camp Ground Auditorium Preservation Fund to pay current and future construction costs and engineering fees related to the preservation of Davis Auditorium.



MANAGER'S NOTES:

It is hard to believe that 2007 is coming to an end. Where has the time gone? It seems like just yesterday that we were anticipating Spring and looking forward to the 2007 Camp Ground Season. Now here it is, the Christmas Walk has come and gone and Christmas and the new year are upon us. Overall, I think 2007 has been a good year for everyone and for Lancaster Camp Ground. Yes, there are peaks and valleys, but I have seen progress in the Camp Ground family coming together.

A heartfelt *Camp Ground Thank -You* goes out to all of the volunteers that made the 2007 Lancaster Camp Ground Christmas Walk a huge success. Without you...none of this is possible. Each and every one of you should be very proud!

I want to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Camp Ground Staff, to thank everyone for their generosity for the Staff Christmas gifts. It is very rewarding to know our efforts are appreciated.

OFFICE CLOSINGS FOR HOLIDAYS:

The office will be closed Monday and Tuesday, **Dec. 24 and 25**, for the Christmas Holiday and Tuesday, **January 1** for New Years. Staff personnel will be on call. In case of an **emergency**, please contact the manager or a board member.



*Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year from all the Staff*

Winter Office Hours - Closes Noon on Wednesdays thru March 2008

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: *Cut this out and put it on your fridge!!*

Office Closed – Christmas Eve	Monday	December 24		
Office Closed – Christmas Day	Tuesday	December 25	(no trash pick-up until 12/26)	
Office Closed – New Years Day	Tuesday	January 1		
Program Committee	Monday	January 14	6:00 p.m.	Unit 1
Personnel Committee	Tuesday	January 14	1:00 p.m.	Office
Monthly Potluck	Tuesday	December 11	6:00 p.m.	Activity Bldg
Finance Committee	Thursday	January 17	9:00 a.m.	Office
Grounds Committee	Friday	January 18	11:00 a.m.	Office
Board Meeting	Monday	January 21	6:00 p.m.	Unit 1

Note: you can see an on line calendar at <http://calendar.yahoo.com/lcgsecretary>

PRAYER LIST: (Please notify the office when someone on this list has had their prayers answered)



Rosemary Garrison	Mac Cottrill	Art Newland	Judy Ruh
Bill Graybill	Mitch McClave	Virginia Pletcher	Doyle Garrett
Leonard Dougherty	Norma Jane Yeager	Dick Webb	Ruth Ernsberger
Joan Glick			

Should you Pray for the sick? Read James 5:14-16

911 - USE IT - and keep the Camp Ground safer!

We want to make all Camp Ground residents aware that you are the eyes and ears of the Camp Ground. Times are changing and crimes increase as the population rises. It is important that every knows ~ if you see anything suspicious occurring on the grounds that you need to **call 911 right away** and report it. Especially if it is during the night. They do patrol the grounds but cannot be here all the time. So just be aware of things going on around you and your neighbors.

Reminder:

If you change your phone number or address

please notify the office in case of package delivery or emergencies.

It also helps to get current information for the new directories that the office will be working on in January '08. Email is beginning to be a quick way to get messages to everyone. If you would like to have your email on the list simply email the office at **lcgsecretary@yahoo.com**

LEAF COLLECTION:

Our leaf collection project has been temporarily slowed by weather but we plan to resume and collect as long as the weather permits. Please contact the Camp Ground office if you have leaves piled and we will gather them as soon as possible. Your cooperation is appreciated.

PAPER RECYCLING UNIT:

By now you have noticed the green and yellow paper recycling unit in the front parking lot. Only newspapers and magazines may be placed in the unit. The Camp Ground will be reimbursed for newspapers and magazines recycled and these funds will go directly to the **Auditorium Preservation Fund**. The unit was placed toward the front of the entrance in hopes that people from off the grounds will also participate. Please contact the office if you have any questions. You will find a recycling box beside trash can, near mail boxes for junk mail - **finally - something to do with junk mail!**

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Just a reminder. . . 2008 members are welcome and needed. Just send your \$8.00 check (LCG Historical Society) to Treasurer, Jim Morgan, % LCG office, 2151 W. Fair, Lancaster 43130. Our next meeting will be March 25, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in Creighton Corners. Hope to see you there. Happy New Year!

AUTOS:

The board may authorize the Manager to have motor vehicles that are not registered with the Camp Ground office to be towed off the grounds. All registered vehicles must display a Camp Ground sticker in windshield.

A Shortened History of Christmas

Societies of people around the world have used the end of the harvest period, the solstices and equinoxes as reasons for ceremonies or celebrations. In general the ceremonies include special foods, festive clothing & giving gifts to the poor. The idea to celebrate Christmas on December 25 originated in the 4th century. The Catholic Church wanted to eclipse the festivities of a rival pagan religion that threatened Christianity's existence. The Romans celebrated the birthday of their sun god, Mithras during this time of year. Although it was not popular, or even proper, to celebrate people's birthdays in those times, church leaders decided that in order to compete with the pagan celebration they would themselves order a festival in celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. Although the actual season of Jesus' birth is thought to be in the spring, the date of December 25 was chosen as the official birthday celebration as Christ's Mass so that it would compete head on with the rival pagan celebration.

Most of us know that many customs associated with modern Christmas were derived from pagan festivals: the Christmas tree originated with the Roman New Year festival, Saturnalia, the Yule log (northern Europe), the holly (Druidism), and a recent addition, Rudolph the red nosed reindeer compliments of that 1940s cowboy, Gene Autry. As Christians we don't celebrate or worship Rudolf or the Christmas tree but we do enjoy the fun associated with them. On the other hand, Christ's Mass (Christmas) is a celebration of the birth of the Christ.

We appreciate all you have done!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The seventh annual Christmas Walk went off as a great success story for this campground. The comments from area residents who attended was met with "a great time" "the people were so warm and friendly" ... "my children loved the live nativity" "the dinner was delectable" "the welcome center was warm and inviting" and on and on. We also had a positive income this year from the event...that not only covered expenses but gave us a boost toward upcoming program events. Many volunteer hours went into the event happening.....we have around 75 people who stepped up to the plate and pitched in and help make this event an area public service that says were here...and we want you to come back to share the campground and all the facilities and events that we plan throughout the upcoming years...to share with area residents' the good news of Christ birth...and the peaceful home place that the Lancaster campground offers to the community... The program committee and this chair, sends our to you a world of thanks! Please keep this committee in your constant prayers as we move forward in 2008. Good health and god's blessings sent to your for the new year.
Barbara Holycross /chair

Email received about the Christmas Walk we thought we'd share with you:

Subject: Re: Christmas Walk - Lancaster Campground 12/01/07

We really had a wonderful time. We enjoyed the Camp Ground and all the cabins with lights. The kids were really impressed with the Live Nativity, so much so, that they want to do it for church. We may be short on numbers and short stature. The four and five year old boys want to be the wise men!!!! Our oldest children participating are 9 and 10 years old. The fellowship was really great too. Everyone was so welcoming. Our group had a lot of fun just arriving. It was our first outing in the bus. Phil was the bus driver. That's why he had the "hat". I guess we should have been concerned that the driver's hat was a hard hat.

Thanks, R. Stevens



SHELTER FOR CAMP GROUND CHILDREN:

The guardhouse at the entrance to the Camp Ground will be left unlocked so that the Camp Ground children can use it for shelter while waiting on their school buses. The building will be unlocked and available until Spring.

AUDITORIUM PRESERVATION FUNDING COMMITTEE

A display table in the Activity Building during the Christmas Walk netted \$96.00 for the Fund through the sale of notepads, a picture, donations of cash. Also, David Roe, a Cottage owner, donated \$5.00 per book from the sale of his book "A Civil War Soldier's Diary". As of December 3rd, the total of the fund, including a pledge, was \$68,012.00. A request has been made by an adult choir "Voices of Ohio" to do a benefit concert for the Fund. A spring date will be set when a large venue is found to accommodate the group.

The next planning meeting will be held in Unit One at the Camp Ground on Thursday, January 24, 2008 at 6:00. Plans are being completed for an Arts and Crafts Fair on July 12, 2008 and a golf outing and dinner in the spring. Your help will be appreciated. Everyone is welcome.

Marjorie Roe, chairperson

EMERGENCY WATER PROBLEMS:

If you encounter a water problem, such as a water line break, when the office is closed and the maintenance staff is off duty, please contact the following personnel for assistance: Greg White; Tom Doan; or Bobbi Kutasy. The maintenance personnel cannot make repairs inside your cottage but they can turn the water off outside to prevent as much damage as possible.

MAILROOM LIGHT:

Some of you may have noticed a new light on the corner of the office by the mail boxes. This is to help everyone who has the question "is the mail in yet?" When the mail person delivers the mail they will turn it on, as the office staff leaves at night it will be turned off. Normally it is here well before 4:30 so there is no need for it in the evening. Of course, this light is dependant on us remembering the on and off deal. It may take us a little time to get into the habit, but bear with us and before long, this will help everyone as they walk or drive by know *if the light's on - the mail's in!*

CAMP GROUND INCIDENT

Recently, a man, selling frozen meat, went to a cottage on a Saturday morning. He made his sale pitch and, in the process, gained entrance into the cottage. He would not leave until the residents agreed to purchase meat, resulting in a sale of \$90.00. If you do not know someone knocking at your door, do not let them inside your residence. If you have any doubts at all, call the Lancaster Police Department 911 and they will respond. It is important as well, to obtain license numbers or any other information that may be helpful.

DOG OWNERS – YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE

Complaints continue to come into the Camp Ground office regarding dog owners not cleaning up after their pets. Please refer to the Camp Ground Rules, Pet Rules Section, rule #8: "All droppings must be picked up when walking a pet. This includes the yard around the pet owner's cottage. The community green refuse cans are not to be used for disposal of droppings." Droppings should be collected daily by the pet owners. If the situation is reported to the manager, addressed with the pet owner, and not corrected, the rule violation procedure will be initiated. In addition, trash collection and access to the area around the cottage may be suspended. Please contact the office if you have questions.

A Different Kind Of Christmas

by Joanna Fuchs

*Sometimes Christmas is just overwhelming, it seems, As we rush around buying up stuff.
We spend without end, and we rack up those bills, But it feels like it's never enough.
So this Christmas, let's all take a different approach: Let's try to be more in accord
With God's Christmas gift, the best one of all-- Our sweet Jesus, our Savior, our Lord.
We'll be gentle and patient, and loving and kind, And we'll keep our priorities straight;
The gifts of the Spirit, the gifts of the heart Are the ones that we'll all celebrate.
And our stress will decrease, and we'll feel more at peace, As we decorate, package, and trim;
Our new Christmas will be a pure joy and delight, As we try to be much more like Him.*

