



Wabanna News



May 2005

CHANGING THE WORLD ONE CHILD AT A TIME

Hello from the new Executive Director, Mark Bates

My name is Mark Bates. In March, the Board of Directors for Wabanna Camp and Conference Center gave me the honor of becoming the new Executive Director. My wife Dianne, and our children, Matthew, Kaylee, and Garret, are enthusiastic about being a part of the Wabanna community. We are grateful to have been given the opportunity to use our gifts, skills, and experiences to serve children, youth, adults, families and God in an environment we deeply love. We are dedicated to ensuring that the rich history and vision of Reverend William A. Emmans continues to be fulfilled so that youth from Maryland and beyond may have life changing experiences here. We especially appreciate the legacy of the past directors, staff and campers who came before us and made Wabanna what it is today!

I believe that God has prepared me throughout my career to be the Executive Director of Camp Wabanna. I have had the privilege of working in camps, recreation departments, churches, and community youth programs in Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. I have also served in the local churches and in

various camp capacities from counselor to Executive Director. In addition, I am a member of the American Camp Association (ACA) and have been active in continuing my education with ACA.



Mark Bates, new Executive Director

Thank you for the warm welcome to the Wabanna community that we have received. I want to encourage you to continue your support and interest in spreading the love of Jesus to youth and adults seeking a fun, faith-filled adventure on the Chesapeake Bay.

Please stop by anytime. I'd love to meet you!



Campers enjoying the banana boats!

Summer Camp 2005 is Here!

Once again, the sun is glistening off the Chesapeake Bay and the birds are chirping to mark that spring is here. That means summer camp will begin in just a few short weeks! Our staff will be arriving on June 8 for ten days of staff training before camp starts on June 19. We anticipate a great summer as new and returning staff grow together in living out their dedication to God and our campers. We are excited to have over fifty percent of our positions filled by former summer staff. God uses this passion and devotion to Wabanna to help transform lives for Christ summer after summer.

Every year we look forward to the energy that overwhelms our property as kids enjoy things like the giant swing and the banana boat, and this summer we have added new high ropes initiatives and waterfront equipment that will help to create an even more memorable experience. While they encounter new adventures, barriers are broken as God uses these activities to direct children to Christ, sometimes for the first time. This is the truly exciting aspect of camp programming!

Please join us in our commitment to Wabanna as summer camp nears. Pray that God directs the words and actions of our staff, moves in the lives of the campers that will be in attendance, and provides safety. You are part of the life-change that happens at Wabanna; thank you for your devotion.



Hospitality

We know that you are just getting excited about summer, but it is not too early to begin planning a fall or winter retreat. October, November, December, January and February are great months to have a retreat. Why not take your youth group, men's group, women's group, board or staff to Wabanna where they can come to fellowship, plan, pray and commune with God? Because these months are a little quieter at Wabanna, we can usually offer a great choice of dates and savings. Call Guillermo at 1-410-798-0455 or email him at glarzabal@campwabanna.org for more information and to schedule your event with us.

Outdoor Daytrip Program (ODP)



Happy OPD Campers

We are currently into our 2nd year of the ODP at Wabanna, and we have enjoyed working together with so many schools! We have spent many summers investing in and ministering to the kids of this community; therefore, the opportunity to keep them coming throughout the school year has been a rich blessing.

The goal of our ODP is to assist schools (public, private, and home) in supplementing instruction for educational and recreational purposes. The schools do not come for an overnight retreat, but rather an action-packed day filled with different sessions. Some of the activities and courses offered in our ODP are: Environmental Education, Guided Nature Walks, Natural Arts & Crafts, Low Elements/Team Building, High Ropes Initiatives, Climbing Walls, Canoeing/Kayaking, Orienteering & Maps, Botany, and Wetland Education.

It is an incredible experience to combine the natural beauty that God has created here, with the young minds in our schools. We hope to expand our program each year, and build relationships with many schools in the Annapolis, Baltimore, DC area. For more information on our ODP, or to schedule a school field trip, please contact our main office at 410-798-0455.

Good Samaritan Program

Since it's beginning, Camp Wabanna has strived to love and minister to kids from all areas of life through an enjoyable, positive summer camp experience. It has always been part of our mission to help families, who cannot afford camp, send their children. Our Good Samaritan Program identifies those families with the help of people in the community, and has been able to sponsor them through generous donations. Last year, over 120 children were able to experience a week at Camp because of your donations to the Good Samaritan Program. For the summer of 2005, we would like to see that number increase, so more children can hear the gospel while having a blast on the Bay. We need your help to reach our goal! Please prayerfully consider giving to the Good Samaritan Fund so our ministry can reach even more children.



Good Samaritan Program Recipient with Counselor Adam Nordyke

Welcome to the Bates Family

Our staff family is excited to welcome the Bates to Camp Wabanna. Mark and Dianne have 3 children. Matthew is four years old. Kaylee is two, and Garret is 7 months old. They have settled into the Reichard's old house giving the rest of us the happy sounds of children's laughter in their backyard once again.

Goodbye Anne Beth Queen

Anna Beth Queen left Wabanna in February after being a full time staff member for 4 years. She has moved back to Macon, Georgia to be with her family. Anna Beth was Wabanna's bookkeeper. She was also greatly involved in the Before and After School Program. Although we miss her, it's exciting to see God at work in her life!

Going Global

We also have several previous staff members working with ministries in foreign countries. Please pray for them as they work with children around the globe. Shannon Covington in England. Beka Schuppe in Uganda. Laura Gillaspay in Ghana. Beth Theobald in Honduras.



Mark Bates with his wife Dianne, and their children, Kaylee, Matthew, and Garret

2005 Summer Needs



- Weekend Cooks
- Waterfront Manager (June, July, August)
- Washing Machines
- Sailing Vessels (e.g. Sunfish)
- Power Boat for skiing/towing
- Craft Supplies (colored paper, tempera paint, construction paper, Elmer's glue)
- Sports Equipment
- Canoes

- 4 Vacuums
- 4 Metal Crabbing Pots
- Sound System for the Dining Hall
- Plants for Campus Beautification
- Pool Toys
- Pool Chairs
- Volunteers to help with check-in on Sundays and Mondays
- Volunteers to help with Bulk Mail-outs



Volunteer Paul Perry

A special Thank-You to Paul Perry for donating his time and wood working skill in making new sign holders for the Camp Sunday Registration. God is using people like Paul in all aspects of our ministry to children and families. Thanks again Paul!

Upcoming Events

SUMMER CAMP 2005

JUNE 19 - AUGUST 12

SPACES ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR BOTH DAY CAMP AND RESIDENTIAL CAMP!

REGISTRATION FORMS CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM WWW.CAMPWABANNA.ORG.

Lodge Renovations Update!



Safe Harbor Volunteers

In early 2004, a dedicated group of men from Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EP) of Annapolis committed to renovating nine rooms and a section of hallway in the W. A. Emmons Lodge.

Throughout the winter months of 2005, Jim Burge, the project coordinator, and this tireless group of volunteers have continued their labor of love and have completed four additional rooms in the southeast wing of the Lodge. They do everything from raising the money needed for the materials such as drywall, insulation, and electrical wiring to providing the labor, including skilled tradesmen!

After seeing the incredible work that EP was doing on the lodge, Christian Graham, the Youth Minister from Safe Harbor Presbyterian Church in Kent Island volunteered a group of 15-18 year olds to renovate a room and a portion of the north hallway. They were joined by 6-8 skilled craftsmen led by Mr. Fred Koch. They too donated money, materials, time and talents!

Praise God for these wonderful volunteers! It is impossible to adequately express our gratitude to this dedicated group of God's servants for helping to bring our dream of renovating the Lodge a reality!

We hope to finish the last twelve (12) north rooms in early 2006. If you know of a group looking for community service work, let them know about this initiative. We welcome all who would like to join us in seeing it completed.

Prayer Corner

We ask prayer for:

- The lives of the children coming to Wabanna this summer camp season
- God's protection and guidance upon every child. Staff and volunteer during this summer season
- Funding for the Good Samaritan Program to help more children participate in camp
- Food Service personnel for some of the weeks this summer
- God's continuous provision toward the many needs of our ministry

We give Praises for:

- Mark Bates and his family becoming the newest members of the Camp Wabanna community
- A great Hospitality Spring Season full of retreats, picnics & school trips
- A blessed Family retreat with 13 families represented
- God's continuous provision toward the many needs that our ministry

Camp Wabanna was established, has progressed, and will proceed through prayer



Wabanna Camp & Conference Center
101 Likes Road
Edgewater, MD 21037
410-798-0455
www.campwabanna.com

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 101
Edgewater, MD