

News from Mountain Friends Camp

A Quaker Summer Camp for All, Affiliated with Intermountain Yearly Meeting

July 2011 ● Volume 1, Issue 2

We Need Your Help!

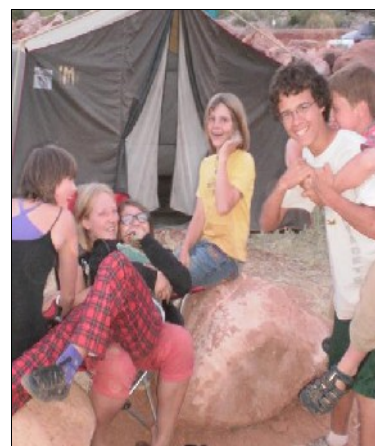
We need counselors, camp supplies, land, and lots of friends to spread the word and hold us in the light. In addition we need the financial support of our community. Help support our operating costs or sponsor a camper with a "campership". To donate, mail a check made out to "IMYM" with "Mountain Friends Camp" note to:

Claude Weil (IMYM treasurer)
1441 Snowmass Court
Boulder, CO 80305

Thanks to: donors Colorado, Arizona, Phoenix, Logan, and Ft. Collins Meetings, and Robert Werge, Susan Warren, and Sue Hobza and Kathryn White, our committee and volunteer staff and hosts for making this year possible! We kept under budget this year, but as our goals for next year include doubling the length of camp and providing a small stipend for staff, with the same level of support from IMYM we need your contributions

Thank you all so much for putting this together! I know its not just me saying this (you can ask ANYBODY) but this has been a highlight of my summer. . . no year. . . NO! Life :D and I'm so thankful for everybody!
Sincerely, Quetzal G. (camper)

made a solar shower complete with smooth rock "tiles" and big rock "benches", and each morning one group helped in the kitchen to prepare dinner and lunch. Afternoons included free time, games, tie-dying, worship groups, and silk screening. One hot afternoon we created a water slip n' slide. We took an excursion to a nearby pond and then leaped across rocks in a gorgeous canyon. In the evenings we usually had a campfire that went along with games and s'mores as we watched the full moon slowly rise over the mountains.



We met up with friends new and old. Before we had a chance to realize it, we were all a family. We hope with years to come our camp family will grow even bigger.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kim Wells, Quetzal Gallagher, Rosalea Anderson, Eric Wright
Epistle Committee, Mountain Friends Camp 2011

Our First Epistle

To all Friends everywhere,

We send our greetings from the second annual session of the Mountain Friends Camp. This year it was in Castle Valley, Utah from June 12 to June 18. We are a group of four previous campers, six new campers, and six adult counselors. The campers this year ranged in age from 11-15. This year, the camp was held on the property of Chris Viavant and Emily Box. The camp was surrounded by beautiful rock formations such as The Priest and the Nuns, and the majestic Castleton Tower. We have had a mix of windy and calm days, but no matter how hard the wind blew, it never took away our smiles.



We camped under the ever so watching starry sky. We cooked our wonderful meals in an open camp kitchen that was under the frequently flapping tarp. Our brave cook and his trusted camper volunteers made meals that would knock the socks off of even the harshest food critics. Our meals accommodated vegetarian and vegan diets. After Breakfast and clean up, we met for morning worship in the hot rays of the sun or in the shade. The rest of the morning was spent on what we call Plork (a mixture of play and work at the same time). We dug 18 holes for trees to be planted later in the fall. We cleaned up the scattered trash such as barbed wire fencing and rusted metal.

We put tarps on the kitchen and covered an old chicken coop frame for shade,



Mountain Friends Camp Song

Tune: *Railroading on the Great Divide*

New words by Eric Wright (staff)-Live Video on Facebook!

**Chorus: Mountain Friends Camp is like heaven, they say
Surrounded by the beauties of nature each day
By working together work turns into play
And the friendships we make will be with us always.**

The food was so awesome we all ate a lot
Those who eat animals and those who do not
Even the vegans had plenty to eat
And frozen bananas were our favorite treat.

About the winds up in Utah we learned quite a bit
You can't see them coming 'til right when they hit
Then the tarps all start flapping and the dirt starts to fly
And lawn chairs and dishes all take to the sky.

We all worked on projects in our morning plork hours
We set up a kitchen, and an outdoor shower
We dug eighteen holes in long wavy rows
Where someday an orchard of fruit trees may grow.

All around us the rock walls made a beautiful sight
Lit up by the sunset or the moonlight at night
So surrounded by beauty on every side
Our hearts felt a new sense of beauty inside.

We gathered in small groups and each person shared
Each person counted and each person cared
And our friendships grew stronger as each day passed by
With our hearts filled with memories we said our goodbyes.

the afternoon group sharing with queries? "Kitchen ogre was the best cook ever" "Food was awesome and the location was really nice cause you could see a lot of wildlife." "I think you should change the word Plork to just Play... at least thats what it felt like for me." "Morning work was great! It taught me to work better in a group." "Afternoon interest groups were a blast!" "Counselors were fun, quirky, and it was a pleasure getting to know them." "Counselors were

Evaluation Highlights (read full evals on our website!)

1. *How was your experience at Mountain Friends Camp?*
"Fantastic! I love it here with all of my friends and the beauty of nature." "amazing! I think this is the most fun I've had working in a loooong time" "Great experience for me, especially the sense of community, the group of campers, and the relaxed shared time! Far exceeded my greatest expectations." "My experience at MFC will forever hold a place in my mind and heart."

2. *What did you like most?*

"I liked being able to create better friendships with both those I knew and those I came to know better" "I liked that the schedule was flexible and that the campers had a lot of control over what they did." "Worship sharing, food, swimming" "I loved every second of every day, from jumping into the frigid water, to battling the barbed wire." "I liked plork and freetime and especially the slip n' slide."

3. *What would you change?*

"All of the bugs/Nothing! Its perfect well maybe it should be longer." "A time for staff together at the beginning would probably help avoid some tensions that came up as we were 'winging it.'" "I wish that "bed times" were more lenient." "I wouldn't change anything it was great :)"

4.-7. *Food? Location? Morning plork? Afternoon and evening activities? Counselors/staff? Morning worship and*

great, helping when we needed it, but not overbearing." "Group sharings were amazingly awesome." "I like the Quakerliness because it feels like we are in a Quaker society, it should stay that way."

Haikus by Brianna W. (Camper)



The Kitchen

the awesome kitchen
full of tasty cooking food
and singing campers



The Sky

The beautiful sky
so blue with white puffy clouds
always watching us



Dirty Trash

so dusty of dirt
rubbery trash on the ground
waiting to be found

Stay in Touch!

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<http://imym.org/mtnfrcamp>

Find us on Facebook!
Ana Easterling-editor and acting director. Eric Wright and Valerie Ireland-rising Mountain Friends Camp Committee Conveners