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St. John Bosco Camp Association, Spring 2011



The Bosco Wilderness

The Newsletter of the St. John Bosco Camp Association

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

There is an ageless lure that draws on us to return to St. John Bosco Camp... and we all do return. There are the animated campers and staff who return to camp year after year. There are the tireless Board members who return to camp all throughout the year to ensure it stays alive. There are those who return to camp with all the fond memories they hold.

In these last two years I have wandered far from camp. It seemed I would only return to camp by sharing my memories with others along life's trail. But as camp continually rose to mind, I was constantly reminded of its enchantment. St. John Bosco Camp is one of the last true frontiers on this great planet. It is a place where we tread untouched lands and paddle ancient waters. A place where we are challenged to reach further than we thought possible then fall asleep with unshakable smiles on our faces.

Return. Return often. Return as a camper, a Board member, an alumni, a staff member or through the fantastic memories you have made at St. John Bosco. However you decide to come home, be sure to share it with those around you. Like me, sharing Bosco may see you returning enthusiastically closer than you anticipated.

Till we meet again this summer!
David Plemel, Camp Director



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to 2011! Only a few short months ago I wrote a message thanking all our wonderful staff and volunteers for their tireless effort in making the summer of 2010 a success. Time flies, but never faster than when there is so much to do and so many wonderful projects on the go. I encourage you to visit our website often to see what is going on and ways you can participate in the Bosco spirit all year long.

I welcome David Plemel to the position of Camp Director. We as a Board look forward to working with David in making the 2011 season rewarding for campers, staff and volunteers alike. I would also welcome our newest addition to the board, Kimberly Stonechild.

Exciting events lay ahead. One of those events is a steak night fundraiser planned for March 19. Plan to invite a guest, come get reacquainted with old friends, meet some new ones and support a camp that has made a difference in so many lives.

So again I say welcome and let's work together to make this the best year yet!

Cheryl Kirzinger
President, SJBWC Board of Directors

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

There are still a lot of opportunities available to earn **Bosco Bucks** to use towards 2011 camper fees and canteen!

We have bingos coming up on March 12, April 9, May 14 and June 11. All of these bingos are on Saturdays from 11:30 am to 6:00 pm. We need workers for whole shifts as well as partial shifts. Also, we are currently selling tickets for our annual quad raffle fundraiser and need people to sit at ticket tables or take tickets to sell. Shifts are available in Saskatoon February 11-27 and March 4-20, and in Lloydminster March 20-26.

If you can spare a few hours to help out, we'll throw some **Bosco Bucks** your way! For more information, please contact the camp office at johnboscocamp@sasktel.net or phone (306) 978-0019.

We have also been the lucky recipients of two donated candy machines to use in our fundraising. However, we still need a great place to put them! If anybody is willing to donate space in their business to host a machine, or knows someone who might, please get in touch!

HERE COMES SUMMER 2011

Have we got an amazing summer lined up for you!

- 1st camp: July 6-16 (10-17 for Juniors)
- 2nd camp: July 20-30 (24-31 for Juniors)
- 3rd camp: August 3-13 (7-14 for Juniors)

Juniors, Intermediates, Wilderness Skills, Canoe Out-Tripping Skills and Wilderness Out-Tripping Skills will run all 3 sessions. Aspiring ALE'ers have two options for their adventure of a lifetime: from July 6-30 or July 20-August 13.

2011 camper fees have been posted on our website. We are excited to offer both early-bird and alumni pricing this year! Early-bird prices run until April 30th and will save you \$40 per camper (\$80 for ALE) off our regular camp fees. On top of that, alumni - former campers or their siblings, or the children of former campers or staff - will receive an additional \$15 (\$30 for ALE) off the early-bird fees, if registered and paid in full by March 31st!

See the website, or call or email us for more information!

FAREWELL AND WELCOME BACK

The Board of Directors wishes to thank our departing Office Assistant, Darlene Urquart, for all her hard work over the years. Darlene has been with Bosco since December 2007 and has moved on to full-time work with St. Joseph's Parish. We will miss you Darlene!

In her place we are excited to welcome Nikki Creighton back to the Bosco family. Nikki is a former camper and staff member who spent much of the 1990s at Bosco and we are looking forward to working with her!

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STEAK NIGHT!

Come join us in Saskatoon for a fundraising steak night!

Saturday March 19th at 6:00 pm
David's Lounge and Restaurant, 294 Venture Crescent

All ages are welcome! The cost is \$12 for your choice of steak (with garlic toast, Caesar salad and fries) or a vegetarian stir fry. A kid's meal (chicken fingers and fries) is also available for \$8 for those aged 8 and under.

This promises to be a fun night with prizes, a silent auction and good Bosco cheer! Come and support our fundraising efforts, reconnect with Bosco folks and get geared up for summer 2011! We are in need of door prizes and silent auction items, so if you can help us out please get in touch!

This event is advance ticket only so get your tickets early by contacting any Board member or the camp office at johnboscocamp@sasktel.net or phone (306) 978-0019.

AND THE WINNER IS...

The winner of a \$20 canteen card for completing this year's evaluation survey was Ethan Pasloski! Congratulations Ethan - watch your mailbox for your prize!

Thanks to everyone who filled out the survey; your feedback is invaluable to the Board in planning an awesome summer!

NOW HIRING!

Are you interested in working at Bosco for a week, a month, or the whole summer? We are still looking for some spirited staff to round out our 2011 contingent! Positions still available include head cook and lifeguard, but anyone interested in any position is encouraged to submit an application! Forms are available on our website under "Jobs" or contact David Plemel at director@johnboscocamp.com.

2011 MAY LONG WORK WEEKEND

Come join us for a traditional Bosco work weekend, May 21-23, 2011. Come for one day or the entire weekend! Help us clean, set up, and get camp ready for the 2011 season. Jobs include clearing deadfall, cleaning buildings, setting up tent sites, putting in the docks, finishing work on projects, and more. Many hands make the jobs go quickly! Food, lodging, and great company are provided. If this weekend doesn't work for you, we could use a hand on some projects at other times. Contact the office for more details or to RSVP!

THANK YOU!

We are blessed with a long list of generous people and organizations to thank. So many, in fact, that we've had to move the list to our website! Visit us at www.johnboscocamp.com and click on the "Thank You!" button.

We are a non-profit corporation and a registered charity. Camper fees do not come close to covering the cost of operating camp. Therefore we rely on volunteer labour, grants and donations to help us offer our unique wilderness experience at a reasonable cost. St. John Bosco Camp would not be the camp that it is without the grants and sponsorships that we receive from our sponsors, or the time and effort of our tireless volunteers. If you are interested in making a monetary donation or volunteering in any way to help at camp or with other activities throughout the year please contact us.